Liber No. 52 May 19

L. H. J. of the Prisoners confined in Ann Arundel County Goal beg leave to Inform your Honble House That they have Visited the said Goal and find that the same is kept so filthy and Nasty that it is excessively Nauseous In so much that Your Committee are Apprehensive that the Prisoners are in Great danger from its offensive Stench

That your Committee could not make any Enquiry concerning the facts Set forth in the said Petition of the Sherriff himself he now being out of Town, But from the Information of the Goaler who Attended your Committee at the said Goal your Committee find that the Prisoners confined therein have not any Allowance of Victuals, but instead thereof, the Sherriff hath allowed and given to each Prisoner thirteen Coppers by the Week and Salt and Water for their whole Subsistance until last Monday when two Coppers more were given to each Prisoner for the present Weeks Subsistance

p. 368

That the Prisoners on Examination alledge that the Allowances for Subsistance hath not been given by Agreement and consent and that they have had but four Cords of Woods found them by the Sherriff ever since before Christmas but have been kept without Wood unless what they can beg from the Prison Windows ever since the Month of March nor have they any means to lay out their Allowance in Provisons but by entrusting it to Passers bye and therefore they are constrained to lay it out in Bakers Bread, the small quantity of which that can be Purchased for their Allowance they Assert and your Committee believe is not Sufficient of itself to Support Nature

Signed p Order Henry Wilkins Clk

On reading the said Report the first and Second time the House concurs therewith Ordered that the Serjeant at Arms do Summons Joseph Galloway Esq: high Sherriff of Ann Arundel County to Attend at the Bar of this House on Wednesday morning next to Answer the Complaint of several Poor Prisoners now Confined in Ann Arundel County Goal Reported by the Committee of Grievances and Courts of Justices to this House

R: Lee Esq: from the Upper House delivers to M. Speaker a Petition of Thomas Schley and John Jeremiah Myer a Petition of the Subscribers Merchants and others Inhabitants of the Town of Baltimore in Baltimore County a Petition of sundry the Parishoners of Stephen Parish Part whereof is in Somerset County and Part in Worcester County A Petition of the Inhabitants of the Town of Baltimore in Baltimore County. Severally Indorsed (By the Upper House) referred to the consideration of the Lower House

Which Petitions were read here the first time and Ordered to lye on the Table