

Your Committee have also Inspected the State and Condition of the Commissary General's Office, and do find, so far as they could Examine, That the Wills, Inventories, and Accounts, are Entred to *December 1738*, and the Books and Papers appear in good Order.

Your Committee, Demanding by what Authority the Fees of the said Office were Charged, were Answered, By virtue of a Regulation made by his Lordship's Proclamation; and Enquiring further, Whether they took any, and what, Security for Fees in the said Office? received for Answer, that they took none for Fees arising on the Transitory and Current Business of the Office, except some Times promissory Notes, but more generally, only Orders in Writing to the Clerks to do the particular Business required, and that such Fees were only charged in Account: But that upon Granting Letters Testamentary, or of Administration, they took Testamentary or Administration Bonds, in the Conditions of which Bonds, among other Things, Security was included for their Fees, arising by means of the Administration or Executorship, by the following Clause, ' And also (*that the said Executor or Administrator*) shall pay all such reasonable Charges and Fees as have arisen, or shall arise or become due to his Lordship's Officers from the said (*Executor or Administrator*) on account of the said Deceased or his Estate.'

Your Committee most humbly conceive, that the taking such Bonds as aforesaid, is Illegal, and more especially for Fees before the same become due, is Extortion: But the same is humbly submitted to the Consideration of your Honourable House.

Signed *per* Order of the Committee, *S. Bordley*, Clerk.

On Consideration of this Report, *Ordered*, that the same be withdrawn, and that the State and Proceedings of and in the several Offices be separately Reported.

An Account of the Attendance of several Persons that went by directions of the Governor and Council, to discover Indians supposed to have committed Murder on some of the back Inhabitants, was *Read* in the House, and *Ordered*, that the several Persons be allowed according to the Allowances in the Militia Law, and that the Committee of Accounts enquire into the Truth of the Charge, and that the Allowance be made accordingly.

The House Adjourns to Monday Morning at 9 of the Clock.

Monday Morning, May 28. 1739.

THe House Met according to Adjournment.

Col. *Gale*, from the Upper House, delivers Mr. Speaker the Bill, entituled, *An Act for Limitation of Officers Fees*: Indorled, ' By the Upper House, *26th May 1739*, Read the First Time, and Ordered to lie