

Which Report was read and concurred with.
Mr. Edward Tilghman also brought in, and delivered to Mr. Speaker, the following Report.

By the COMMITTEE of GRIEVANCES and COURTS of JUSTICE.

YOUR Committee beg Leave to report, that upon Complaint of several of the People of Prince-George's County, of excessive Charges of Fees upon Re-surveys of Lands, did inspect several others which were laid before them, and were of Opinion, the Fees were charged in a Manner not to be supported by the Table of Fees established by Law; but the Cases being very complicated, and the Application made late in the Session, your Committee thought it would be proper to refer the Matter for full Consideration to the next Session of Assembly: And as your Committee, from what has appeared to them in the Course of their Enquiries this Session, from the Diversity in the Manner of charging County Clerks and Surveyors Fees, and from general Report, cannot but be of Opinion, that the Officers of this Province, in general, pay too little regard to the Regulation established by Law, in charging their Fees, humbly submit it to the Consideration of the House, whether it would not be proper for the Members of the respective Counties, to examine in their several Counties, as far as they can, into the Charges made by the several Officers, and bring such Accounts as to them may seem exorbitant, to the next Session, for Examination and full Consideration.

Your Committee beg Leave further to report, that they did expect several Letters laid before them, from St. Mary's County, relative to some irregular Conduct of a Parish Priest there, but the Letters being long, and the Session drawing near a Conclusion, your Committee were of Opinion, the full Consideration of that Matter also would be well to be referred for a more full Examination than the present severe Season will admit of. All which is humbly submitted to the Consideration of your honourable House.

Signed per Order,

HENRY GASSAWAY, Cl. Com.

Which was read, and referred to the Consideration of the next Session of Assembly.

The engrossed Bill, entitled, *An Act for the Relief of certain languishing Prisoners in the several Gaols therein mentioned*, read and assented to, and with the Paper Bill thereof, sent to the Upper House by Mr. Beall, and Mr. Buchanan.

The engrossed Bills, entitled, *An Act to repeal Part of an Act to encourage the destroying of Wolves, Coons, and Spiders*.

An Act to appropriate the Half Acre of Ground therein mentioned to the Use of the public School in Frederick County.

A Supplementary Act to the Act, entitled, *An Act ascertaining the Height of Fences, &c.*

And, *An Act for the speedy and effectual Publication of the Laws of this Province, and for the Encouragement of Anne Catharine Green, of the City of Annapolis, Printer*, were, with the Paper-Bills thereof, sent to the Upper House by Mr. Beall, and Mr. Buchanan.

The Bill, entitled, *An Act for imposing a further additional Duty of Ten Pounds Current Money per Poll on all Negroes imported into this Province*. Sent to the Upper House by Mr. Hayward and Mr. Contee.

The Bill, entitled, *An Act to aid the Navigation on the River Patowmack*. Sent to the Upper House by Mr. Johnson, and Mr. Luckett.

The Bill, entitled, *An Act for preventing the Evil occasioned by the Continuance of Suits at Law on suggestion of Want of Evidence from the beyond Sea*, read the Second Time, and will pass. Sent to Upper House, by Mr. Paca, and Mr. Dickinson.

The Governor communicated to Mr. Speaker the following Message:

G E N T L E M E N,

December 19, 1769.

YOUR Address of this Morning contains an heavy Charge against Mr. Lee, the Sheriff of Charles County: Be assured, that I shall immediately proceed to make a full and strict Enquiry on the Subject; for as, on the one Hand, Officers who faithfully discharge their Duty are entitled to my Protection; so, on the other, I shall ever think it incumbent on me to give the greatest Discountenance to those who do not.

ROBERT EDEN.

William Fitzhugh, Esq; from the Upper House, delivered to Mr. Speaker, the several Paper-Bills sent up this Day, by Messieurs Beall and Buchanan: Which were thus severally endorsed:

"By the Upper House of Assembly, December 19, 1769. The engrossed Bill, whereof this is the Original: Read and assented to. *Signed by Order,* U. SCOTT, Cl. Up. Ho."

The Bill, entitled, *An Act for the building of a Parish Church in Christ's-Church Parish, in Calvert County*, read the Second Time, and will pass. Sent to the Upper House by Mr. Mackall, and Mr. Graham.

The Bill, entitled, *An additional Supplementary Act to the Act, entitled, An Act to prevent the Abuse of concealing convicted Felons, and other Offenders imported into this Province, and for the better Punishment of them*, read the Second Time, and will pass. Sent to the Upper House, by Mr. Harrison.