

This house do not see any necessity for making such a Law being well Satisfyed that Servants have always had Justice done them by way of petition. Upon proposall whether the practice of sending out veneire facias by the Clk: of Indictments ag<sup>t</sup> Severall that have bastards being too chargeable and dilatory, whether it may not be convenient to have a more expeditious way if possible found out.

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Referred to the Comittee of Laws to draw up a bill for remedy thereof. It being recomended that some means or other be used to restreine the refractoriness of Seamen.

Thought that the Laws of England and of this province have sufficiently provided therefore.

Upon proposall that care be taken about regulating of ordinaryes and that none be suffered except such as will comply with the Law.

This house dos think it absolutely necessarily that ordinary's be kept att Severall places in the Severall Countys altho' the persons desireing to keep the same be not Capable of Complying with the Act now in force, for That some people by reason of the situation of their houses so near the Roads are so pressed by coasters and Travellers Expecting free quarters that they are not that able to keep their houses open without keeping ordinary. And for that by ordinarys kept in such places by such persons tho' indifferently qualifed private houses are not so over much burthened by Strangers and Travellers.

That some ordinance be made for the Better secureing all Lre<sup>s</sup> brought in by M<sup>rs</sup> of Ships.

The house conceive it will be in vaine to make such ordinance ag<sup>t</sup> the Masters of Ships because they take in and bring such letters upon Courtesey and under no compulsion in England.

That some better care be taken about Orphans. The Laws already made have sufficiently provided that Encouragements be given to Coopers and Carpenters. Their wages is conceived to be sufficient encouragement. That there be certaine forme of oaths prescribed to be taken by the Severall officers within this province and charge for the Grand Juryes.

Referred to the Comittee of Laws to Enquire and make reporte to the house therein.

House adjourned till 7 of the clock to Morrow Morning att Colonel Robathams Chamber.

Wensday March the 23<sup>d</sup> 1697/8.

The house being mett was called over. Then read what was done Yesterday.