

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Bulkeley* do carry the above Bill to the Council and desire their Concurrence. Sent to the Council.

The Committee appointed to report on the Laws which are near expiring made a Report to the House of the same, which was read, and

*Ordered*, That it do lie on the Table.

Pursuant to leave given, Mr. *Pyke*, presented a Bill in Amendment of an Act, intituled, an Act for the speedy and effectually collecting such Town Rates and Taxes as may be assessed on the Inhabitants of the Township of *Halifax*, and the same was read a first Time. Bill in Amendment of the Act for Collecting Rates and Taxes on the Town of *Halifax*, read first time.

*Resolved*, That the said Bill be read a second Time.

The Committee appointed to examine into the present State of the Poor House at *Halifax*, made a Report to the House, which was read, agreed to; and is as follows. Report of the Committee on State of Poor House.

“ That the Poor House appears to be kept with that Order, Neatness and Propriety, which does honor to the Humanity of those concerned in the Superintendancy of it.

“ That the Number of Paupers under the Denomination of transient Poor amount at present in the whole to Eighty three Persons, Men, Women and Children, Forty four of which Number are now maintained in the Poor House, and the remainder are out-Pensioners.

“ That it appears to the Committee, that many of them ought not to be considered as transient Poor, but belong more properly to the Class of County Poor.

“ That altho’ they conceive the Sum expended for the Maintenance of the transient Poor is very great and Burthensome to the Province, yet they are fully persuaded, that the expenditure has been fairly and justly made, and the Books very clearly and regularly kept.

“ That the Paupers at present in the Poor House appear to be such as are intitled to the Public Charity and Attention, but they are not able to form a Judgement of the Out Pensioners.

“ The Committee are at a loss what Remedies can be applied either to lessen the Number of transient Poor, or to render their Maintenance less expensive; they conceive however, that a Law to oblige all Masters of Vessels on their Arrival from Foreign Countries or from our Sister Colonies to give Security not to leave behind them any Persons incapable of maintaining themselves, and obliging all Inn-keepers and other Persons keeping Lodging Houses to make report of such Persons not belonging to the Province, as shall from time to time remain at their Houses more than Twenty four Hours would be very salutary.

“ The Committee also recommend a Law ascertaining what Persons shall in future be denominated transient Poor, and appointing One or more Commissioners or Overseers of such Poor in each County subject to such Regulations as may be thought necessary.”

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