

Be it enacted by His Excellency the Governor, Council, and Assembly, and by the Authority of the same it is hereby enacted, That the Overseers of the Poor of the Town of Halifax be, and accordingly they hereby are authorized and impowered, when and so soon as the said House of Correction shall be built and finish'd, to agree with some discreet and fit Persons to be the Master and Keeper, and needfull Assistants for the Care of the same; and to provide, as there shall be Occasion, suitable Materials, Tools, and Implements, necessary and convenient for keeping to work such Persons as may be committed to the said House; and generally, to inspect and direct the Affairs of the said House, and from Time to Time, to make such Rules and Orders as they shall judge best for the good Government thereof.

And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawfull for the Justices of the Peace in their General Sessions, or for any one Justice of the Peace out of Court, to send and commit to the said House of Correction, to be kept, govern'd, and punish'd according to the Rules and Orders thereof, all disorderly and idle Persons and such who shall be found begging, or practising any unlawfull Games, or pretending to Fortune-telling, common Drunkards, Persons of lewd Behaviour, Vagabonds, Runaways, stubborn Servants and Children, and Persons who notoriously mispend their Time to the Neglect and Prejudice of their own or their Family's Support; upon due Conviction of any of the said Offences or Disorders.

And be it further enacted, That the Master or Keeper of the said House of Correction, shall have Power and Authority to set all such Persons as shall be duly sent or committed to his Custody, to work and labour, if they be able, for such Time as they shall conspire and remain in the said House; and to punish them by putting Fetters and Shackles upon them, if necessary, and by moderate whipping, not exceeding Ten Stripes at once, which (unless the Warrant of Commitment shall otherwise direct) shall be inflicted at their first coming in, and from Time to Time afterwards, at his Discretion, in Case of their being stubborn or idle, and neglecting to perform such reasonable Tasks as shall be assigned them, and to abridge them of their Food, as the Case may require, untill they be reduced to better Behaviour.

And be it further enacted, That no Person committed to the said House of Correction, shall be chargeable to the Government for any Allowance, either at going in or coming out, or during the Time of their Abode there: But shall be maintain'd out of their Earnings, and the Remainder thereof shall be accounted for, by the Master or Keeper of the said House; who shall keep an exact Account thereof, and render the same upon Oath, if required, to the said Overseers when demanded.

And be it further enacted, That if any Person or Persons committed to the said House of Correction be Idiots, or Lunatic, or Sick and weak, and unable to work, they shall be taken Care of and releiv'd by the Master or Keeper of the said House, who shall keep an exact Account of what Char-