

1752.

14 Jan.  
Rhode  
Island.

[166.] [Reference to the Committee of the petition of John and Thomas Peirce, yeomen of Rhode Island, that the Superior Court for the county of Providence may be directed to allow them to appeal from several judgments in favour of John Rice, whereby the petitioners are dispossessed of two fiftieth parts of their inheritance and may be dispossessed of 47 other fiftieths.] [p. 438.]

13 Feb.

[On the Committee report of 11 Feb., order is given as desired, upon 100*l.* security being given for prosecuting the appeal before his Majesty in Council. This had been denied by the Rhode Island court on the ground that the matter in question—the two fiftieths—did not appear to be of the value of 150*l. sterling.*] [pp. 491–2, 497.]

21 Jan.  
Plantations.

[167.] [The Committee, approving the representation of the Board of Trade on the revision of the laws of Virginia (*see* 155), that the framing a new body of good and well-digested laws in all the colonies will be of great use to the inhabitants, direct the Board of Trade to prepare additional instructions to the Governors for this purpose.] And Whereas some of the Proprietary and Charter Governments in America tho' empowered to make Laws are not required to transmit such Laws to His Majesty for His Approbation or Disallowance Yet in regard Appeals are frequently brought before His Majesty in Council from the Judgments and Decrees made in the several Courts of Judicature within the said Governments the Determination whereof depends upon being duly informed of the Laws subsisting there. It is therefore thought expedient that those respective Governments should transmit hither as soon as conveniently may be a true and Authentick Copy of all their Laws now in force. [The Board of Trade are ordered to prepare instructions accordingly.]

[pp. 459–60.]

[On the Committee report of 26 March, the instructions are approved. P.R.] [pp. 561–2; XIV. p. 30.] 14 April.

[168.] [Reference to the Committee of a letter from the Earl of Holderness, Secretary of State, with a paper] con- 23 Jan.  
Plantations.