

§ 124 *cont.*]

1704.

12 out of 22 should form a quorum, and the order of the Assembly making 15 a quorum is irregular. The absentee members might be proceeded against in the ordinary courts for misdemeanour and contempt of her Majesty's authority; but it is submitted whether such action without an application from the Assembly might not tend to her Majesty's disservice by creating an uneasiness in the Assembly and unwillingness to serve therein; (f) B. of T. report of 20 Feb. 1705, submitting the opinion of the law officers; (g) Order of reference back to the law officers with a petition on behalf of the absent members, 22 Feb. 1705; (h) Northey's report of 28 March 1705 repeating the former opinion. The particular case of the petitioners depending before the B. of T. had not been referred to his consideration. The power of the Assembly to expel members, and an agreement made by members to forfeit four shillings per hour (up to 20 shillings a day) for voluntarily absenting themselves, do not exclude her Majesty from punishing the members for contempt; (i) B. of T. report of 23 Nov. 1704, for the taking of depositions on the complaint of seven members of the Assembly against Governor Grenville and Alexander Skene, the Secretary; and also in the case of the suspended councillors (*cf.* previous section).

[125.] BARBADOS. *Cowse v. Sharpe*. Committee report. 6 Dec.

II. p. 365.

[126.] BARBADOS. *Leave of absence*. B. of T. report on 13 Dec.
petition of E. Chilton.

II. pp.

476-7.

[127.] ST. CHRISTOPHER. *Two Acts approved*. B. of T. 14 Dec.
representation.

II. p. 852.

[128.] NEW YORK. *Act reversing attainders*. B. of T. 15 Dec.
representation. Those who acted innocently against Bayard II. p. 414.
and Hutchins must be safeguarded by the recognizances of
the latter to bring no actions against them, or by amending
the Act.