Misdeamanors of the Sheriffe.

And now as they that seeke to doe wrongs can little prevaile by reyninge their tonnes of lawe, yeinge they bee never soe well furnished wth retaynors and followers and engaged wth all, unlesse wth all by the helpe of the Sheriffe and his ~~and his~~ Clarke shire, men bee retaynd and put into the pannell as they ytide themselves should nominated and like. Even soe this statute seemes that taxes in lawe depend not losse upon the priviledge of the Sheriffes service, then dothe the doore upon the hooke, by the meane of wth it openeth and closseth at pleasure, they egaw in the finete place noted two generall misdeamenors of that officer, and egaw referred memors of the same to this court blo assemblie in the Starrgamber. Yeyne is the untrue demeanuge of the Sheriffe in makinge pannell, Yeyther is his ~~e~~ falsehood in other returnes. By the pannell is meant the Catologue or role where in the names of 24 good and lawfull men orgaet to bee returned by the Sheriffe, out of weom the number of 12 are to bee tryed and sworne, and to yelde their verdict upon eate matter in issue that is tryable by Jurie between man and man, and the same or a greater number of them to bee searched for inquirie or the behalfe of the Kinge.

The ills of this misdeamenor

An wthgat yet the Sheriffe shall apply himselfe not to serve the Court and Justice weyse Minister gee is, but the one or the other ytide weye shall torrnethid wnne him. They shall not the better tarse but the fuller purse prevaile, and it shalle all one weyther they ytide bee indge of his owne matter or cause sued himselfe shall nominate to passe upon the matter in tryall for him.

And as in this yet of his office the good demeanor of the Sheriffe makite mete to the frieteranes of right and is torrnot dealinge maie equalie advante in suria and wronge, see also by all other returnes and answeres of his servite to his Maiestie Court yee maie greatlie helpe or hinder the matter in question, either in winninge tyme aga the pte by dilatorie returnes of his writes and ~~gaes~~ or wringinge the deeste by untrue answeres made of that wth he gate in strange or abusinge bote them and the Court by sendinge in no returne at all.

The part of such misdeamenors

In all or the most yet of wth trasse altbouge they ytide defrauded by him maie sentynde helpe himselfe by averrm aga his returne sentynde by tomp lt to the Court where the suite depend stie, and other tynde maie find amendes by an action upon the tase of his abuse, yet the lawe seemes that Justice is many tymes bote delayed and denied by sute, unfaitefull servites gate first tonteninge pannelle gendallie provided by the statute 42: E: 3: 28: ca: ff: 34: E: 6: ca: 4: et 11: for the better direction of the Sheriffe in that behalfe that upon payne to bee fined before the quantitie of the trespasse aga the Kinge and to loose the quantitie of the damage sustayned by the ytide, in all manner of pannells there sonde should bee put, that bee most substantiall, worthie of faith, and not suspected nor ~~gaued~~, but ~~gaueinge~~ best knowledge of the truth, and beinge most nigh to the place where the question in lawe doth arise. And: 13: ff: 6: ca: 14

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