

The punishment of the offender if he be not able to pay the money forfeited.

Searchers of pewter and brass within a city or borough, to be appointed by justices of the peace.

Made perpetual by 4 H. 8. c. 7. f. 6.
See 25 H. 8. c. 9.
33 H. 8. c. 4.

the one half to the King, and the other half to the party that therefore shall sue by action of debt; (12) and that in the said action no protection nor essoin shall be allowed; and also the said party so offending shall forfeit his beams to him that shall seise it; (13) and if the said offender or offenders be not sufficient to pay the said sum or sums by them so forfeited, that then it shall be lawful to the mayors, bailiffs, or other head officers of such place or places where any such offender or offenders shall be found, to put them in the stocks, and them so to keep till the next market-day next adjoining, and in the market-place to put them in the pillory all the market-time. (14) And furthermore, That it be lawful by the said authority, That the master and wardens of the said craft of *Pewterers*, within every city and borough of this realm where such wardens are, and, where no such wardens are, the head or governor of the same city or borough, to appoint certain persons most expert in the knowledge of the same, to make search within the said cities or boroughs where they dwell. (15) And over this, the justices of peace with in every shire, at their general session holden at *Michaelmas*, shall assign and appoint two certain persons having experience therein, to make search in the premisses in every part of that shire, as well within the franchise as without, saving in cities or boroughs where searchers be appointed by the heads and governors of the same; (16) and that of all such unlawful pewter and brass as the said searchers shall find, the one half to the use of your grace, and the other half to the said searchers; (17) and that in the default of the said masters and wardens of the said occupations not searching in form as is aforesaid, and whereby that any such unlawful metal is cast or made, or unlawful weights used, that then it shall be lawful to any person or persons having sufficient cunning and knowledge in the said occupations, by oversight of the mayors, bailiffs, and head officers of the said cities and boroughs, to search all the said places, and to put the said authority and act in execution in form aforesaid. (18) Provided alway, That this present act continue and endure to the next parliament and no longer.

CAP. VII.

For making of statutes by bodies incorporate.

Hob. 210.
15 H. 6. c. 6.

PRAYEN the commons in this present parliament assembled, That where in a parliament holden at Westminster the fifteenth year of the reign of the blessed King Henry the Sixth, for that that masters, wardens, and people of guilds, fraternities, and other companies corporate, dwelling in divers parts of the realm, oftentimes by colour of rule and governance to them granted and confirmed by charters and letters patents of divers Kings, made among themselves, many unlawful and unreasonable ordinances, as well in prices of wares as other things, for their own singular profit, and to the common hurt and damage of the people: (2) it was enacted, That there should from henceforth no such masters, wardens, nor companies, make nor use no ordinance

nance in disheritance or diminution of the prerogative of the King, nor of other, nor against the common profit of the people, nor none other ordinance of charge make and use, but if it were first discussed and proved by good and reasonable advice by the justices of the peace, or the chief governors of cities, and before them entered of record, (3) and that upon pain to lose and forfeit the force and the effect of all the articles in their said letters patents and charters contained concerning the same, and over that to lose and pay x. li. to the King for every ordinance that any of them made or used to the contrary; (4) and this ordinance to endure at the King's pleasure, as in the same act it appears; (5) which act is now expired, and sith the expiring of the same, divers and many ordinances have been made by many and divers private bodies corporate within cities, towns, and boroughs, contrary to the King's prerogative, his laws and the common weal of his subjects: (6) Be it therefore ordained, established, and enacted by the King our sovereign lord, by the advice of the lords spiritual and temporal, and the commons, in this present parliament assembled, and by authority of the same, That no masters, wardens, and fellowships of crafts or mysteries, nor any of them, nor any rulers of guilds or fraternities take upon them to make, any acts or ordinances, ne to execute any acts or ordinances by them heretofore made, in disheritance or diminution of the prerogative of the King, nor of other, nor against the common profit of the people, but that the same acts or ordinances be examined and approved by the chancellor, treasurer of England, or chief justices of either benches, or three of them, or before both the justices of assize in their circuit or progress in that shire where such acts or ordinances be made, upon pain of forfeiture of xl. li. for every time that they do contrary. (7) And over that it is enacted, That none of the same bodies corporate take upon them to make any acts or ordinances to restrain any person or persons to sue to the King's highness, or to any of his courts for due remedy to be had in their causes, ne put ne execute any penalty or punishment upon any of them for any such suit to be made, upon pain of forfeiture of xl. li. for every time that they do the contrary. And this act to begin and take effect at the feast of Pentecost next coming, and from thenceforth.

Enforced by
22 H. 8. c. 4.

No masters or
wardens of
fellowships
shall make any
new ordinances
without the consent
of the chancellor,
treasurer, or justices.

28 H. 8. c. 5.

No order shall
be made to
restrain suits
in the King's
court.

CAP. VIII.

Shewage, scavage.

TO the King our sovereign lord, prayen the commons in this your present parliament assembled, That where the merchants and inhabitants of divers cities, boroughs, and towns within this realm, and as well divers tenants of our said sovereign lord the King, as of other, that have by grants made by the noble progenitors and predecessors of our said sovereign lord, as well to them by such name or names as they or any of them be corporate, as by grants made unto divers lords both spiritual and temporal, and by prescription, that they, their tenants, servants and inhabitants within their several lordships, boroughs, and towns,