

They returne and say they saw him Sworne.

Upon calling over this house they find that Mr. James Round a member of this house for Somerset County is lately dead. Therefore warrt. be prepared to the Honble Secretary to make out a writt for Election of a Member to serve in his place and place.

Mr. Speaker is desired by this house to prepare answer to his Ex^{ty} Speech to be ready here to morrow Morning.

Of the Committee of Elections and Priviledges, are appointed. Mr. Thomas Greenfield, Mr. Elepha Hall, Mr. Phillimon Loyd. Mr. Sam^l Suckmore Mr. Hugh Eccleston.

The house adjourns till to morrow Morning seven a Clock.

Friday the 9th May 1701.

The house were Called over and present as Yesterday, only Mr. Jacob Loocherman Sick.

The Answer to his Ex^{ty} Speech by the Honble Speaker prepared and brought into the house and the same being read and approved of was Ordered to be drawne over faire, which is as followth.

May it please your Ex^{ty}

The Ease with which his Maty^{ty} Subjects in this Province were immediately sensible of at the first Comeneing of your Governmt^{ty} and the exact Constancy of it in its progress assures us that it is the Innate and benow Disposition of your Ex^{ty} to felicitate the people under your Conduct and as we have found your Ex^{ty} allways and at all times Just and prudent in publick Affaires and Sincere and Candid in personall doe shall you find a cheerefull Obedience and Ingenious dealing from us and a ffect desire the least of Law of Contentions and inviolably to Maintaine that sweet harmony and Corresponding which hitherto we have kept and have the same thoughts with your Ex^{ty} and Councill that the usuall Method of Message and Conference conduces much thereto.

Neither the Dissolution of the last Assembly nor any act of your Ex^{ty} hath been Displeasing to us and altho' at this present Meeting you may see some new faces yett you shall find in the whole the old disposition of his Maty^{ty} service and the goods of this Province which we hope will never look different ways.

What of late may have prevented Shippes and consequently kept us in the Dark as to the State of our Laws we know not, but since we enjoy the present Comfort of them and are assured they are in the hands of soe Good a Prince and Nation we will bitt downe in hopes of an Answer to our Satisfaction being now ready to receive what proposall shall be sent to us from your Ex^{ty} and his Maty^{ty} Hon^{ble} Councill

The Committee of Elections are sent out