

Mr. *Beale*, and Mr. *Crabb*, were order'd to acquaint his Excellency the Governor, that they had made Choice of a Speaker: Who return and say, they deliver'd their Message.

Benjamin Tasker, and *Philip Lee*, Esqrs; from the Upper House, acquaint the Members of this House, that His Excellency the Governor requires their immediate Attendance in the Council Chamber, in order to present their Speaker, and to receive his Speech; and so withdrew.

Whereupon the Members of this House went to the Upper House, where they presented to His Excellency the Governor, Col. *John Mackall*, as their Speaker; who likewise was pleas'd to approve of the said Speaker; and made the following Speech.

Gentlemen of the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly,

I AM heartily concerned for the calamitous Condition the Country is in, occasioned by the Decay of its Trade, and the Lowness of its Staple; and I cannot but think it an Aggravation of our Misfortunes, that several well-meaning honest Men should seem so far to despair of any Relief from the Legislature, as to have been seduced to countenance and encourage the Cutters up of Tobacco Plants, in their late tumultuous and violent Proceedings; which, had they not been happily suppressed, must have been attended with the most fatal Consequences.

IT is from the Legislature, that People ought to expect a Relief from their Grievances, and a Reformation of what is amiss in Public Affairs, and not from Violence and popular Tumults, which can only add to our Misfortunes: Our Staple, low as it is, may yet be raised in its Value, by proper Laws, with due Care taken for their Execution: Upon this your Happiness depends, therefore I promise my self You will All unite as One Man in the faithful Discharge of so necessary a Duty, as is the relieving Your Country from its present Distress, and securing its future Prosperity and Peace; wherein you may depend on my Concurrence, and all the Assistance I can give You.

HIS Lordship, in Regard to the Difficulty his Tenants may be under to comply with his Rents, according to the Tenor of their Grants, is willing to renew the Revenue Bill, now near expiring.

AS to the Act concerning the Paper Currency, His Lordship thinks it is of the greatest Importance to the Country, therefore is resolv'd to consider it in the best and most deliberate Manner, before he comes to a final Resolution concerning it; and as his Lordship has the Prosperity of the Country sincerely at Heart, there is no doubt, but a due Regard to its Welfare will determine his Lordship in his Dissent or Assent to That, or any other Law, his Tenants shall desire.

Gentlemen of the Lower House of Assembly,

I have received some Letters of Consequence from the President of the Council at *New-York*, which I shall order to be laid before You; and must recommend it to You to consider the most proper Methods to secure Yourself and your Posterity against any Designs that may be formed to your Prejudice.

Gentlemen of both Houses,

AS this is the first Opportunity I have had of meeting You in Assembly, so I embrace it, to assure You, that I will always do every Thing in my Power to serve the Country; and, as I am commanded by your

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