

Votes and Proceedings, October, 1758.

A sufficient Number of Delegates, to compose a Lower House of Assembly, being convened at the Stadt-House, Mr. *John Goldborough*, a Delegate returned to serve in this Assembly from *Talbot County*, and Col. *Edward Tilghman*, a Delegate returned to serve for *Queen-Anne's County*, attended on his Excellency the Governor, to acquaint him therewith.

Benedict Calvert, and *Daniel Dulany*, Esquires, from the Upper House, and Mr. *John Ross*, Clerk of the Council, came into the Stadt-House; in whose Presence the aforesaid Delegates took the several Oaths to the Government required by Law, subscribed the Oath of Abjuration, repeated and signed the Test.

Col. *Hammond*, and Col. *Tasler*, from the Upper House, acquainted the Members of this House, That the Governor requires their Attendance in the Upper House.

The Members of the Lower House went to the Upper House. His Excellency required them to return to the Lower House, and choose a Speaker.

They returned, and unanimously made Choice of Col. HENRY HOOPER, a Delegate of *Dorchester County*, to be their Speaker, and placed him in the Chair.

Mr. *Lloyd* and Mr. *Goldborough* were sent to acquaint his Excellency, That this House hath made Choice of a Speaker.

Benedict Calvert, and *Daniel Dulany*, Esquires, from the Upper House, acquaint the Members of this House, That the Governor requires their Attendance in the Upper House, to present their Speaker.

The Members of the Lower House went to the Upper House, and presented (to the Governor) Colonel HENRY HOOPER, as their Speaker.

His Excellency gave his Approbation of their Choice; and made the following SPEECH, viz.

GENTLEMEN of the Upper and Lower Houses of ASSEMBLY,

AS many of you are already acquainted with what passed between the Two Houses of Assembly, during our late Sessions, and the Rest of you may easily inform yourselves by recurring to their Journals, I will not enter into a Detail of the Measures which were then pursued; but shall only observe to you, that they were such as unhappily gave Occasion for an odious Distinction to be made between the Inhabitants of *Maryland* and those of the neighbouring Colonies; and inclined his Majesty's Generals, who were appointed to command his Forces in these Parts, to entertain a very unfavourable Opinion of the People of this Province.

Being however well satisfied myself, that it was far from the Desire of the People in general, to be exempted from contributing their Quota for the Expedition, which General *Forbes*, in Obedience to his Majesty's especial Order, was then about to undertake, and in the Event whereof none could be more interested than themselves, I thought it my Duty to assure the General when I paid him a Visit on the Frontiers of *Pennsylvania*, that if such Aids as he might have expected from us were not Granted, it ought not to be attributed to a Want of Inclination in the People of *Maryland* to promote the Service, but to an accidental Difference in Opinion, and an unhappy Disagreement between the Two Houses of Assembly about the Mode of raising the necessary Supplies, which I flattered myself would not be the Case at any future Session.

By this Representation the General was induced, as you may learn from a Letter of his which shall be laid before you, to advance a Sum of Money on the Credit of the Province, to encourage the *Maryland* Troops to continue in the Service during the Campaign, and until the Legislature should meet again, and agree on a Bill for reimbursing his Excellency, and paying off the Arrears that might be then due to Lieutenant-Colonel *Dagworthy*, and the Companies under his Command. You will also see, that in Compassion to Mr. *Ross*, who having Victualled our Troops at *Fort Cumberland* and *Fort Frederick*, in Consequence of an Agreement made last Year with the Agents, was greatly distressed by the Assembly's breaking up without putting it in those Gentlemen's Power to pay him, his Excellency hath been pleased to advance him likewise some Money, to support his Credit, until Supplies shall be raised, and the Agents be empowered to pay, what, upon a Settlement, shall appear due to him. I do not exactly know what Mr. *Ross's* Claim, and the Arrears of Pay that are now due to our Troops, amount to; but I believe the Whole doth not exceed Thirteen or Fourteen Thousand Pounds at the most; a Sum that is very inconsiderable in Comparison of the Supplies which have been Granted this Year by the other Colonies for his Majesty's Service, and much less, I am persuaded, than the Inhabitants of this Province can afford, and would cheerfully give, for the same Purpose.

GENTLEMEN,

What has been now communicated to you, I am desired to recommend, in the first Place, to your Consideration; and that your Attention might not be diverted, I decline mentioning any other Matters, until you shall