

*Benedict Calvert*, and *John Ridout*, 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.

*Stephen Bordley*, and *John Ridout*, Esquires, from the Upper House, acquaint 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 returned for *Dorchester County*, to be their Speaker, and placed him in the Chair.

Mr. *John Goldborough* and Mr. *Robert Lloyd* were sent to acquaint the Governor, That this House hath made Choice of a Speaker.

*Stephen Bordley*, and *John Ridout*, 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:

GENTLEMEN of the Upper and Lower Houses of ASSEMBLY,

YOU are at this Time convened in Obedience to his Majesty's Commands, signified to me by the Right Honourable the Earl of EGREMONT, one of his Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, and his Excellency Sir JEFFERY AMHERST, by whose Letters you will find, that the King, our most Gracious Sovereign, having seen his good Disposition and Endeavours to restore the Public Tranquillity, entirely frustrated by the Infincerity and Chicane of the Court of *Versailles*, hath resolved to prosecute the War with the utmost Vigour, in Hopes of reducing the Enemy by such Measures to the Necessity of accepting Peace, on Terms of Glory and Advantage to his Majesty's Crown, and permanently beneficial to his *American* Subjects.

Convinced that nothing can so effectually contribute to this great and essential Object, as his being enabled immediately to employ in Offensive Operations against the Enemy, such Part of his Regular Forces still in *North-America*, as may be adequate to some great and important Enterprize, the King hath ordered the Commander in Chief of his Forces on this Continent to take Measures, and proceed accordingly; and that the full and entire Security, as well of his former Dominions, as of those, which, in the Course of the War, have been acquired by Conquest in *North-America*, may, during the Absence of such Regular Forces, be effectually provided for, his Majesty is pleased once more to call upon his good Subjects on this Continent for such a Supply of Provincial Troops, as their Circumstances, Situation, and Number of Inhabitants, may allow or enable the several Provinces to raise, cloath and pay: That the Burthen on the Colonies may be as light as possible, the Men will be supplied with Arms, Tents, and Provisions, in the same Manner as are the Regular Forces; and that even the Expence of raising, cloathing, and paying the Provincials required, may be lessened, and no Encouragement be wanting to incite the Colonies to the fullest Exertion of their Force, his Majesty hath been most graciously pleased to permit the Secretary of State to assure us, that strong Recommendations will be made to Parliament in their Session next Year, to grant a proper Compensation for such Expence, according as the active Vigour and strenuous Efforts of the respective Provinces shall justly appear to merit.

As you, *Gentlemen of the Lower House*, must be the best Judges of the Circumstances of your Constituents, and what Number of Troops it would be possible to raise here for the Service of the ensuing Campaign, I leave that Matter entirely to your Determination; but as it is very essential to the Services Sir JEFFERY AMHERST hath in Command from the King, that you would come to a speedy Resolution, and the General be informed what Number of Men he may expect from this Province, and when the *Maryland* Troops will be ready to march, I intreat you to take the Earl of EGREMONT's and his Excellency's Letters immediately into Consideration, and with the utmost Dispatch to prepare a Bill for raising, in the most expeditious Manner, the Number of Men you may agree to furnish as the Quota of this Province.

*Gentlemen,*

Relying on your Desire to preserve this Province from the dreadful Consequence, which the Earl of EGREMONT, by his Majesty's express Command, tells us cannot fail to attend the obstinate Pursuit of the Measures, that have unhappily given Occasion for the very severe Reprehension contained in his Letter; on your Zeal to promote the Honour, Glory and Service of a Sovereign, whose unwearied Application, constant Attention and Study, to preserve and advance the Happiness and Prosperity of his People, have rendered him extremely dear to all his Subjects, throughout his extensive Dominions; on your Gratitude for the innumerable and inestimable Blessings the Inhabitants of this Province, in common with their Fellow-Subjects, enjoy under his auspicious Reign; and, on your Wishes to see our present Security firmly established by a safe and honourable Peace, for which Security we are indebted to the wise and vigorous Measures of a most excellent Sovereign, and the extraordinary Efforts of the Mother Country in our Defence, at a Time when we were on the Point of falling a Prey to a barbarous Enemy: I am persuaded it would be unnecessary for me to urge any Arguments in Addition to what are contained in the Letters I shall lay before you, and flatter myself, that your ready Compliance with his Majesty's Requisitions, will, at the same Time it redounds to the Honour of this new Assembly, incline our most Gracious Sovereign, as well as his Ministers, and the Commander in Chief of the King's Forces on this Continent, to entertain the most favourable Opinion of the Loyalty, Affection and Zeal, of the Inhabitants of *Maryland*.

Mr. Speaker (with the Rest of the Members) returned to the Lower House, and resumed the Chair.

The House proceeded to choose a Clerk, and made Choice of Mr. *John Allen Thomas*.

Ordered, That Mr. *Edward Tilghman* and Mr. *John Goldborough* do acquaint his Excellency with the Choice which this House hath made of a Clerk, and to desire his Approbation.

They return and acquaint Mr. Speaker, That they delivered the Message.

Ordered,