

A sufficient Number of Delegates to compose a Lower House of Assembly, being convened at the Stadt-House,

ORDERED, That Mr. *John Goldsborough*, and *Thomas Ringgold*, Esq; do acquaint his Excellency the Governor therewith.

J. Ridout, Esq; and Col. *Hooper*, from the Upper House, acquaint Mr. Speaker, that the Governor requires the Attendance of the Lower House immediately, in the Upper House.

Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and (with the rest of the Members of the Lower House) attended his Excellency in the Upper House, where the Governor made the following Speech, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN of the Upper and Lower Houses of ASSEMBLY,

HAVING found, by Experience, that many Gentlemen cannot attend here on the Public Business at that Season of the Year when you was last convened; and, apprehending it would be convenient for the Members of both Houses to meet at this Time, in order to frame such new Laws as the present Circumstances of the Country require, and to continue any that may have been useful, and will otherwise expire before the End of the Year, I now give you an Opportunity of doing so, not doubting but your Proceedings during the Course of the Session will shew that you come together with Minds sincerely disposed to promote the Tranquility and Welfare of the Province.

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

The Governor's Speech was Read by the Clerk, and Ordered to lie on the Table.

ORDERED, That *J. Hall*, Esq; do acquaint the Rev^d. Mr. *Robert Read*, that he is requested by this House to Read Divine Service at a Quarter of an Hour before Nine o'Clock in the Morning, and at Five Afternoon, during this Session.

The House appointed Mr. *J. Goldsborough*, Mr. *Sullivan*, Mr. *Wright*, Mr. *Hanson*, and Mr. *R. Goldsborough*, a Committee of Accounts.

Mr. *Tyler*, Mr. *Parran*, Mr. *Henry Hall*, Mr. *J. Hall*, of *Baltimore*, Mr. *Chase*, Mr. *Worthington*, Mr. *Wilson*, Mr. *Hammond*, Mr. *Plater*, Mr. *Ringgold*, Mr. *Wolstenholme*, and Mr. *John Hall*, of *Annapolis*, a Committee to inspect into the several Papers and Records in the Public Offices, and to Report to the House the State and Condition thereof, and to annex to their Report an exact List of the several Books of Record remaining in the separate Offices.

On Reading the Governor's Speech the Second Time, Ordered, That Mr. *Murdock*, Colonel *Filghman*, Mr. *Hammond*, Mr. *Wilson*, Mr. *J. Hollyday*, Mr. *J. Hall*, of *Annapolis*, and Mr. *Wolstenholme*, do prepare and bring in an Address in Answer thereto.

ORDERED, That the following Rules be observed as such during this Session, *viz.*

I. That no Member of the House shall use any Reviling Speeches, or name any Member by his proper Name, otherwise than for Distinction's Sake; but shall rather use some other Signification, as, *The Gentleman that spoke last*, or the like.

II. That no Member speak above once upon any Debate, without Licence of the House, declared by the Speaker; and, if Two Persons shall rise up together, the Speaker shall appoint who shall speak first; and no Member shall interrupt any other, until the Gentleman speaking hath ended.

III. That none shall deliver his Opinion, or speak to any Bill or Debate, unless he shall stand up, and reverently direct his Speech to the Speaker.

IV. That every Bill proposed by the House, shall be Read Two several Days, before it is sent to the Upper House, and once after, before it be Ingrossed; and that between every Reading, One Day shall be intermitted; and that in that Time, the Bill be laid on the Table, for the Perusal of all the Members; unless, on very urgent Occasions, Mr. Speaker, with the Consent of the House, shall dispense therewith; and then One Bill being Read Twice at One Sitting, shall be as sufficient as if Read several Days, when so entered in the Clerk's Journal.

V. That no Person come into the House of Assembly, while the same is Sitting, with Sword, or other Weapon, upon Penalty of such Fine as shall be imposed on them by the Speaker, not exceeding Five Shillings for any one Offence.

VI. That if any Member, bound to attend this Assembly, shall be absent at the Hours and Place appointed, after the Number of Twelve of the Members, with the Speaker, are met, according to the Order for Sitting, shall be fined, according to the Discretion of the Speaker, not exceeding Five Shillings for any Offence, unless upon such lawful Excuse as the Speaker shall admit of.

VII. That all Misdemeanours which shall happen in the House, shall be censured and fined in the House.

VIII. That no Bill shall be Read at any Time during this Session, till all the Members in Town be called in, except on some Excuse, to be admitted by the Speaker.

IX. That if any Member of this House do depart, without Leave from the Honourable Speaker, and the House, such Member shall forfeit all his preceding Allowances due to him for his Attendance that Session.

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