

Benedict Calvert and *John Ridout*, Esquires, from the Upper House, acquaint Mr. Speaker that the Governor requires the Attendance of the Members of the Lower House immediately in the Council Chamber.

Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and, attended by the Members of the Lower House, went to the Council Chamber, where his Excellency made the following Speech, *viz.*

Gentlemen of the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly.

PRESUMING this to be a Season convenient for a longer Session than the last, I shall recommend to your Consideration sundry Matters that appear to me necessary and likely to be conducive to the general Welfare.

In a former Session I recommended joining with our Sister Colony of *Virginia* in the Erection and Support of a Light House on *Cape Henry*, and you seemed convinced of the Necessity and Utility thereof. It is my Duty now to inform you, that Two Acts of Assembly have been passed there, to carry this very important Object into Execution; Copies of these Acts, and the Proceedings subsequent thereto, shall be laid before you.

Permit me to recommend to your Reflections, the extensive Utility which cannot fail to flow from an Establishment, in this Province, of a regular Seminary for our Youth, liberally instituted and supported, and to express my warmest Wishes that it may engage your peculiar Attention.

The frequent vexatious and expensive Law Suits, concerning the Boundaries of Land, occasioned by the Variation of the Compass, have been already severely felt, and unless some Remedy be applied, must increase; wherefore I hope you will maturely consider the Nature and Degree of this Mischief, and put an effectual Stop to it by prudent Provisions.

The State and Condition of our publick Roads, the Defects of the present Laws for keeping them in Repair, and the general Advantage which will result from opening a Communication between our Merchants and distant Settlers, deserve your Attention: And I have experienced so much Inconvenience, from the Want of a precise Rule, by which the Extent and proper Application of the penal Statutes of *England* may be sufficiently ascertained, that I must again earnestly recommend this Topick to your Consideration.

It will give me great Pleasure to co-operate with you in ordaining such Laws as may be conducive to the Welfare of this Province, as well in respect of the Subjects I have taken the Liberty to mention, as of any other that may occur.

Mr. Speaker, attended by the Members of the Lower House, returned. Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair.

ORDERED, That the Governor's Speech, a Copy of which was delivered to Mr. Speaker, be read; and the same was read accordingly.

The House adjourns till 3 o'Clock.

P O S T M E R I D I E M.

The House met.

RESOLVED, That the Hours for sitting for Dispatch of the publick Business, during this Session, be from Nine o'Clock in the Morning, until One in the Afternoon: and from Three till Five.

ORDERED, That a Message be prepared to the Upper House, acquainting them therewith.

The following Message, *viz.*

By the LOWER HOUSE of ASSEMBLY, October 13, 1773.

May it please your HONOURS,

THIS House hath appointed from Nine o'Clock in the Morning until One in the Afternoon, and from Three till Five; for it's sitting every Day during this Session, for the Dispatch of the publick Business.

Signed by Order,

JOHN DUCKETT, Cl. Lo. Ho.

Was sent to the Upper House by Mr. *Thomas* and Mr. *Hammond*. They return and acquaint Mr. Speaker they delivered their Message.

ORDERED, That the Rules of last Session, be observed this Session.

The following Resolve.

RESOLVED *by the House*, That the Members who shall be appointed as Members of the Committee of Aggrievances, have likewise the Character of a Committee for Courts of Justice; and that that Character, and the Duty of such Committee, be annexed to the said Committee of Aggrievances, as a standing Part of their Duty: And, that it be an Instruction to the said Committee of Courts of Justice, that they observe the Nature of all the Commissions to the several Courts of Judicature within this Province; and that they especially observe any Alterations that may at any Time happen, by accidental Omission or otherwise therein; and particularly relating to such Words therein, as require the several Judges and Justices to hear, try and determine, according to the Laws, Statutes, Ordinances, and reasonable Customs of *England*, and of this Province, or to such other Words as have Relation thereto; and that they shall immediately make Report to the House, of any Alteration that shall at any Time happen in such Commission; and likewise to have Regard, as near as may be, to observe wherein they differ