

Original Journal. Upon that his most sacred Ma<sup>ty</sup>s Royall Instruction requiring the Test and Association to be signed & the Oaths &c to be taken Ordered that the hon<sup>ble</sup> Colonel Henry Iowles Thomas Tench Esq<sup>r</sup> and Colonel John Courts go downe to the house attended by the Clk of this Boarde and administer the Oathes appointed by Act of parliam<sup>t</sup> instead of the Oathes of Allegiance & Supremacy to M<sup>r</sup> Speaker and the rest of the house of Delegates. Who goe downe to the house and bring upp the Test and Association Signed by M<sup>r</sup> Speaker & the severall Members of the house of Delegates and likewise reporte that they had Administred the said Oaths which M<sup>r</sup> Speaker & the severall Members tooke.

The a<sup>d</sup> Colonel Henry Jowles Thomas Tench Esq<sup>r</sup> & Colonel John Courts sent to Comānd M<sup>r</sup> Speaker and the house to attend his Ex<sup>ncy</sup> in Councill.

The a<sup>d</sup> Gent<sup>n</sup> returne and say that Mr Speaker and the house are ready to attend his Ex<sup>ncy</sup> in Councill.

His Ex<sup>ncy</sup> is pleased to Comūnicate to the Boarde what he intends to lay before the house of Delegates And desires their opinion whether there was any thing omitted which might be necessary to be further added thereto Whereupon they make Answer that they see nothing amiss but what is very fitting therein.

Came Mr Speaker Attended by the house of Delegates and p. 5 being Admitted his Ex<sup>ncy</sup> was pleased thus to bespeake them

Gentlemen

Since his Maty amongst the rest of his many Graces to me has been pleased to hono<sup>r</sup> me with the Comānd of this his province, I shall never be wanting to make it my uttmost Endeavours to discharge that duty Incumbent upon me with all Zeal to his Maty and the Welfare and Advantage of this place. I have Allready had the honour of Serving his Maty in a Governm<sup>t</sup> in America, And in Justice to his Subjects in those parts where I have been; No people that have the happiness of his Matys Governm<sup>t</sup> and p<sup>te</sup>ction can be or are more ready and forward to Demonstrate their Satisfaction then the Inhabitants there. I do not in the Least doubt but I shall find the same good Harmony here.

I need not Enumerate the many blessings & benefitts this province has received (which you Cannot but be very Sencible of) by his Matys now Imediate Eye upon you and takeing you under his own protection for which we can never do Enough in bending all our thoughts & Endeavours to Exert and Give some Signall a prooff of our uttmost Loyalty and Gratitude to so great and Glorious a prince as we have the blessing to be