

Thursday April the 4th 1706.

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The Councill in Assembly Sate present as Yesterday

His Ex^{ncy} acquainting the Boarde that Cap^t Jno Yoakely who arrived yesterday from Lisbon Assures him that her late Ma^{ty} Catherine the Queene Dowager of England is lately dead there and that he Saw her carryed in State in Order to her funeral Obsequies. It is advised by the Boarde that his Ex^{ncy} give Orders to the Clergye that she be left out in the Publick Prayers.

And accordingly the said Ord^r were issued & sent to the Clergye of this Province.

M^r Muschamp and eleaven other Members bring the Houses returne to his Ex^{ncys} Speech. Viz.

May it please your Ex^{ncy}

We her Majesty's most Dutiful & obedient Subjects the Representatives of the Inhabitants of the Respective Countys of this Province convened in this Present Generall Assembly Do Give your Excellency hearty thanks for your Gracious Speech to us at the Opening of this Session.

S^r Wee have a Deep sense of the Princely Care And generous Regards that the Best and most Benign of Princes our most Gracious Queen hath upon all Occasions demonstrated to us for our protection and Wellfare and Wee do p. 11 hope that the Royal Care and Benificence will at all times be a motive productive of our Sincere & hearty Allegiance togethery with our assiduous & fervent Prayers to Almighty God for her Majesty's Long Life & happy Reign over us.

As to the Erecting Ports and Townes we are resolved to take that Affair into our consideration, with all the Speed and Dispatch that a Concerne of such Importance is Capable of and as to all other matters which your Ex^{ncy} now hath or shall think fitt to lay before us and which may any ways Relate to her Majestys Royal Instructions and to the good and Wellfare of this her Majestys Province Wee will with all Carefullness and assiduity apply ourselves and be Unanimous in our Councils to the Discharging the Dutys incumbent on us.

S^r We want words to Express to your Ex^{ncy} the great thankfulness and gratitude with which our most Gracious Sovereign by her nobleness & Princely goodness hath filled our hearts but Wee hope that all our present and future actions will demonstrate us to be no other than a dutifull & thankfull people to all those Blessings of favour and Protection with her Majesty of her grace & goodness has bestowed upon us