

What we shall do upon this Occasion, or whether in Consequence of that Letter we shall do anything, it is not Our present Business to Communicate to your Excellency; but of this, be pleased to be assured, that we cannot be prevailed on to take no Notice of, or to treat with the least Degree of Contempt, a Letter so expressive of Duty and Loyalty to the Sovereign, and so replete with just Principles of Liberty; and your Excellency may depend, that whenever we apprehend the Rights of the People to be affected, we shall not fail boldly to assert, and steadily endeavour to maintain and Support them, always remembering, what we could wish never to be forgot, that by the Bill of Rights it is declared, That it is the Right of the Subject to Petition the King, and all Commitments and Prosecutions, for such Petitioning are illegal.

Lib. C. B.
No. 20

Signed by Order. Rob^t Lloyd, Speaker.

On Consideration of the foregoing Address, This Board are unanimously of Opinion and advise his Excellency to Prorogue the Assembly immediately, and in Case it shall at any time thereafter appear to him that the Lower House of Assembly hath proceeded contrary to the Spirit of the Earl of Hillsborough's Letter, that he then issue Proclamations to Dissolve them.

p. 25

At a Council held at the Council Chamber on Monday the 27th Day of June in the Eighteenth year of His Lordship's Dominion Anno Domini 1768.

Present

His Excellency Horatio Sharpe Esq^r Governor.

The Honble Benedict Calvert, Daniel Dulany, John Ridout and Walter Dulany Esq^{rs}

This Day being appointed for the hearing of the Complaint of Edward Talbot against William Ireland, Edward Talbot appeared in his proper Person, and William Ireland by Council, when several Depositions and Matters relative thereto were Read, and the Testimony of Aaron Williams was heard he having been first duly sworn, but in as much as Ellis Slater the Deputy Clerk did not attend according to Order, and it being alledged that Sundry Depositions offered by Col^o Ireland were not taken in the presence of Edward Talbot the Complainant, It is Ordered that the Consideration of the Complaint be referred, in Order that the Complainant may Examine on his part the Persons whose Depositions have been taken on the behalf of Col^o Ireland, at the taking whereof the Complainant was not present, and also of Examining Ellis Slater the Deputy Clerk, on Interrogatories in Writing, and it is further