

Lib. C. B. At a Council held at the Governor's on Sunday the 12th day
No. 20 of November in the Nineteenth year of his Lordship's Do-
P. 83 minion Anno 1769.

Were Present.

His Excellency Robert Eden Esq^r Governor

The Hon^{ble} { Daniel Dulany Esq^r John Beale Bordley Esq^r
 { John Ridout Esq^r George Steuart Esq^r

His Excellency is pleased to acquaint this Board that he has received Instructions from his Lordship the Right honourable the Lord Proprietary to appoint William Fitzhugh Esq^r a Member of his Lordship's Council and the Upper House of Assembly of this Province who being present took the several Oaths to the Government required by Law as also the usual Oath of Councillor, repeated and Subscribed the Oath of Abjuration and Test and then took his Seat at the Board accordingly.

His Excellency is pleased to lay before this Board the following Draught of a Speech to both Houses of Assembly which being Read is approved of.

Gentlemen of the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly.

From my desire of accommodating the public Business to your private Affairs, I have delayed calling you together, nor should I, did not the Exigencies of Government make it necessary, now meet you, merely to Notify the Lord Proprietary's Appointment of me to Succeed Colonel Sharpe as Governor of this Province; to merit which Honor, and the Trust thus reposed in me, I shall ever consider it to be my indispensable Duty to promote on all Occasions the Prosperity of Maryland.

Gentlemen of the Lower House.

Convinced, as I am, that the real Interests of the Lord Proprietary, and the People of this Province are inseparable, I meet this Assembly with the most Agreeable Prospect. From your Attachment to the Welfare of your Country; from your knowledge of its Circumstances, and from your Moderation and Prudence, I derive the most persuasive and pleasing Expectation, that this Session will be distinguished by the Benefits which a dispassionate and amicable Intercourse cannot fail to produce, by the Propriety of your Proceedings and the Utility of those Laws which shall be Enacted.

His Lordship has been pleased to assure you in the Message I am now to have the Honour of delivering to you, that if you will prepare the Plan for the further Improvement of the Province, his Encouragement shall not be wanting. Though