

L. H. J. a Sufficient number of Members are met to make an house. They return and say they Delivered their Message.

Coll. Holland from the Upper house Acquaints M<sup>r</sup> Speaker that his Hon<sup>r</sup> the Governour requires him and the whole house to attend him immediately in the Upper house and with drew.

There upon M<sup>r</sup> Speaker with the whole House go to the Upper House.

Afterwards M<sup>r</sup> Speaker w<sup>th</sup> the whole House return where M<sup>r</sup> Speaker resumes the Chair and Reports that his Hon<sup>r</sup> the Governour was pleased to Express himself in the following words viz:

Gentlemen of the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly.

It is with the Utmost regret that I found my self under a Necessity of Convening you at this Unseasonable Time of the Year but as the Occasion is so evident it ushers with it a due Apology. For Very few of the Tobacco Makers can Conscientiously Comply with the Oaths prescribed in the Late Act for Meliorating Tobacco which puts such a Stop to trade as neither planter or Merch<sup>t</sup> is the better by that Law; for if the people will not freight their Tobacco the Consequence to them and the Merch<sup>ts</sup> is too evident to need a Coment If they strip without Complying with the Law it may Create greater Troubles to the Courts and Charge to the people than indeed ought to be wished: But as tis allowed that a Melioration of Quality was and still Continues Necessary which is the Chief designe of that Act I doubt not, but you'l readily agree That there is a necessity for An Explanation or Amendment to the Law for my Part there is Nothing that is proper for you to ask and me to grant but I shall hartily concurr in for the good of Maryland.

In as much as through the indispensable Necessity of the above Occasion you are met; I thought it my duty to acquaint you that Our most Gracious Sovereign in a Late Speech to the Brittish Parliament has taken the Low State of our Trade, into his Princely Consideration and for our relief, recommended the making of Navall Stores in the[se] Parts, such instances of his paternall, and royall Care of us must certainly more and more indear him to all his good Subjects, and to show our gratitude to the best of Kings, the least we can do is to conform (what we can) with his royall Inclinations by Encouraging the Hemp Trade, which our own Interest and the Soil of the Province in many places, invite us to. Some advances were made last Sessions in relation to hemp to pay Debts contracted, in that Comodity at six pence p pound which