

U. H. J. after the Publick Good. We heartily condole with Your Excellency upon the untimely Death of that promising Branch of your Noble family, who, if Providence had spared his life, had already during his short stay among us, given an Earnest of becoming an Ornament to the Country.

It is with a great deal of pleasure, Sir, that We accept and highly approve of Your Excellency's good Offices, in Settling a Correspondency with the Government of Virginia. We acknowledge likewise, the favour of laying before this House, the Scheme of a Tobacco Law formed there. This House hath not as yet, enter'd upon the Consideration thereof, but are Unanimously resolv'd with Vigour and Application, to Join with the Lower House of Assembly, in all such reasonable Measures as shall be proposed for the Advancement of Our Trade, and the Improvement of Our Staple of Tobacco, as the most Effectual nay, almost only means of procuring the happiness and prosperity of the Good People of this Province.

We heartily thank Your Excellency for the good Advice given to both Houses, being well Assured, that Unanimity, regulated by Wisdom and Moderation, can only furnish the means of retrieving a Trade almost lost; of advancing a Staple now, render'd almost worthless and incapable of Supporting the manufacturers; and lastly of recovering the Good People of this province, from those languishing Circumstances, which the late great Decay of Trade and Mismanagement of the Staple, both here and in Great Britain hath reduced them unto.

As it is the Principal Business of Legislation to Establish as a foundation, all the possible and most probable means of promoting the happiness of the people, and our Country, as We conceive, do expect nothing less from the Proceedings of this present Sessions of Assembly, We are therefore in hopes, that no difference upon this critical Conjuncture will interrupt, or in any manner Obstruct the bringing about the publick Good, seeing that Your Excellency hath been pleased in so Generous and publick a manner, to assure us of
p. 8 your own good Inclinations towards the promotion of the real happiness of His Lordships Tennants, the Inhabitants of this Province.

Which Address was Subscribed by all the Members present
Adjourned till to Morrow morning Eight of the Clock.

May 23

Saturday morning 23^d May 1730.

This House met again according to Adjournment

Present as yesterday.

The following Message being preparèd is Sent to the Lower House by Benjamin Tasker Esq^r