

L. H. J.  
Liber No. 47  
December 12

The Petition of John Paca, and others, complaining of an undue Election in Baltimore County came on to be heard at the Bar of the House this Day.

Upon hearing the Allegations, Proofs, and Defence, and after mature Deliberation, it appears to the House, that the Sheriff of the said County did not give ten Days Notice of the said Election, agreeable to the Tenor of his Writ: That the Clerk who took the Poll was not sworn, as by Law he ought: And likewise, That altho' many of the Candidates requested and agreed, that the said Sheriff might adjourn the Election to the next Day, he omitted so to do; whereby p. 202 many Voters were deprived of an Opportunity of giving their Votes.

Resolved therefore, That the same is a void Election; and that Mr. William Govane, Mr. Lloyd Buchanan, Mr. Thomas Franklin, and Major Charles Ridgely, are not duly elected Delegates for the said County, and that they be dismissed from any further Attendance.

Ordered, That Mr. Speaker do acquaint those Gentlemen with the Resolution of the House; which he did accordingly. The Gentlemen withdrew.

Resolved, That Major Thomas Sheredine be fined the Sum of Twenty Shillings Sterling Money, for his Misconduct at the late Election for Baltimore County.

Ordered, That the Committee of Accounts do tax the several Fees due to the Officers of the House, and to Witnesses summoned for their Attendance, relating to the Petition of John Paca, and others, and make Report to the House.

Ordered, That Mr. Speaker do issue his Warrant to the Secretary of this Province, to issue a new Writ of Election directed to the Sheriff of Baltimore County, to elect four Delegates to serve in this present Assembly, in the Room of those whose Election is declared void.

The Governor communicates to Mr. Speaker the following Message; viz.

Gentlemen of the Lower House of Assembly,

You will see by the Letter from Mr. Phipps, the Lieutenant-Governor of the Massachusetts Bay, which I here send you, what is expected from us; and I hope yo uwill enable me to comply with the Draught made on me, as well as the Money demanded for the Prisoners at Canada, and sent from Quebeck to Boston.

Sam. Ogle.

Ordered, That the Serjeant at Arms, attending this House, do take into his Custody the Body of Major Thomas Sheredine, and him safe keep, until he be discharged by Order of the House.

The House adjourns until Tomorrow Morning at 9 of the Clock.