

To his Excellency Horatio Sharpe, Esq; Governor and Commander
in Chief in and over the Province of Maryland:

L. H. J.
Liber No. 49
Oct. 8
p. 30

The humble Address of the House of Delegates.

May it please your Excellency,

It is with the greatest Satisfaction we observe, from your Excellency's Message of the Seventh Instant, your early Endeavours to lessen the Number of Soldiers proposed to be sent hither for Winter Quarters; and as we are persuaded your Excellency has considered the Circumstances, and consulted the Ease, of our Constituents, we beg you would accept our sincere Acknowledgment for this Mark of your Attention and Regard to their Welfare.

Which was Read and Assented to, and Signed, by Order of the House, by the Honourable Speaker.

Ordered, That Mr. Lloyd and Col. Henry do acquaint his Excellency, That this House hath prepared an Address, to be presented to him, and desires to know when and where he will please to receive it: They return and acquaint Mr. Speaker, They delivered the Message, and that the Governor was pleased to signify he would be ready to receive the Address immediately in the Conference Chamber.

Ordered, That Mr. Goldsborough, with Seven more, do present the Address to his Excellency.

It appearing by Evidence at the Bar of this House, that Hercules Coutts, Sheriff of Kent County, at the late Election of Representatives to serve in this General Assembly for the said County, was absent and intoxicated with Liquor the greatest Part of the Time, from the Opening to the Closing of the Polls;

Resolved, That the said Hercules Coutts be taken into Custody by the Serjeant at Arms.

Resolved, That the said Hercules Coutts be Reprimanded by the Speaker, at the Bar of this House.

The said Hercules Coutts being brought to the Bar, and having confess'd the said Offence, was Reprimanded by the Speaker in the following Words:

Mr. Coutts,

You having at the Bar of this House confessed, that you, as Sheriff
of Kent County, have been Guilty of a manifest Neglect of your
Duty, in being absent and intoxicated with Liquor the greatest Part
of the Time between the Opening and Closing of the Polls, at the
late Election of Representatives to serve in this General Assembly
for said County, it is the unanimous Opinion of this House, that
you be Reprimanded by me at the Bar of the House, and that you
ought to receive very severe Treatment, in order to deter other
Sheriffs from being Guilty of Breaches of their Duty in Affairs
of so great Importance and Concern to the Community; but yet,

p. 31