

missioners from one Neighbouring Province only, having attended at the Place and Time appointed

L. H. J.  
Liber No. 54  
Sept. 25

I have the Honour of a Letter from his Excellency Lord Botetourt, Governor of Virginia, written at the Request of the House of Burgesses of that Dominion, which I shall also order to be laid before you. His Lordship's earnest Sollicitude, and my Persuasion of the Propriety and Utility of the Measure, call upon me to recommend it to you in the strongest Manner to join the Colony of Virginia in erecting and supporting a Light House on Cape Henry. Permit me to desire also your peculiar Attention to the State of our Criminal Law. What Defects you shall discover therein, it is in your Power to remedy. I have already experienced the Want of Precision on this Head, to be productive of very great Inconvenience.

Gentlemen of both Houses,

Be assured that the Sanction of my Authority shall be given with the utmost Alacrity and Satisfaction to all such Regulations as your Experience has found to be most conducive to the Prosperity of the Province and your Prudence and Regard for the Public Good shall adopt and propose.

M.<sup>r</sup> Speaker (with the rest of the Members) returned to the Lower House, and resumed the Chair.

Ordered, That the Governor's Speech be read, and it was read accordingly.

M.<sup>r</sup> John Paca, M.<sup>r</sup> Aquila Hall, and M.<sup>r</sup> John Matthews, Members returned for Baltimore County; M.<sup>r</sup> Robert Henly Courts, a Member returned for Charles County; and M.<sup>r</sup> Joseph Gilpin, a Member returned for Cæcil County, appeared in the House.

Ordered, That M.<sup>r</sup> Ward and M.<sup>r</sup> Ware do go with those Gentlemen to the Upper House to see them qualified. They return and acquaint M.<sup>r</sup> Speaker they saw them qualified in the usual Manner. The Gentlemen took their Seats in the House—

Ordered That M.<sup>r</sup> Wright and M.<sup>r</sup> Griffith do wait on his Excellency and inform him that this House hath made Choice of M.<sup>r</sup> John Duckett to be their Clerk in the Room of M.<sup>r</sup> Turbutt Wright who has resigned and to desire his Approbation—They return and acquaint M.<sup>r</sup> Speaker his Excellency approved the Choice

Ordered, That M.<sup>r</sup> Worthington and M.<sup>r</sup> Luckett do go with M.<sup>r</sup> Duckett to the Upper House to see him qualified as Clerk of this House. They return and acquaint M.<sup>r</sup> Speaker they saw M.<sup>r</sup> Duckett qualified by taking the several Oaths to the Government required by Law, subscribing the Oath of Abjuration repeating and signing the Test and by taking the following Oath Viz.<sup>t</sup> "You John Duckett do swear, that as Clerk of the Lower House of Assembly, you shall true Entries make of all such Matters and Things as by the Honourable Speaker for the Time being and that House shall be to you