

that the committee, according to order, had taken under their consideration the state of the province, but not being able to go through the same, had directed him to move for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this convention will, on Monday next, resolve itself into the said committee.

Convention adjourns till Monday morning half after 9 o'clock.

#### MONDAY, December 18, 1775.

Convention met. All members present as on Saturday, except Mr. Gantt, Mr. Sim, and Mr. Sudler. The proceedings of Saturday were read. Mr. William Baird, a member for the upper district of Frederick county, appeared and took his seat in the house.

The petition of Thomas McCobb of Lincoln county, in the colony of Massachusetts bay, was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

The Rev. Mr. Patterson, according to order, was brought before the convention in custody of a guard of four of the militia of captain Johnson's company. The proceedings of the committee of Kent county, respecting the conduct and behavior of the said Rev. Mr. Patterson, were read; and he was informed by Mr. President, that the convention would hear any thing he had to offer in his defence. Mr. Patterson was then heard and ordered to withdraw.

*Ordered*, That he attend in the afternoon at three o'clock.

Adjourned till three o'clock.

#### POST MERIDIEM.

Convention met, and took Mr. Patterson's case into consideration, and thereupon *Resolved*, That Mr. Patterson be informed by the president, that it is not the intention of this convention to preclude the inhabitants of this province from judging of their proceedings with decency and temper; but that those who apprehend any defect therein, ought to apply for such alterations and amendments, as may be thought proper and necessary; and such applications will always be attended to and duly considered. And in the mean time this convention expects an acquiescence in such measures as may be thought necessary for the safety of the country, until the same are reconsidered by the representative body of the people. That the expressions and declarations made use of by the said Mr. Patterson were highly indecent and intemperate, for which, and for his disrespectful conduct to the committee of Kent county, he deserves the censure of this convention. That the president do accordingly censure Mr. Patterson for the indecency and intemperance of his expressions and declarations, reflecting upon