

## MARYLAND GAZETTE.

Containing the freshest Advice Foreign and Domestic.

TUESDAY, March 18, 1746.

## ANNAPOLIS.

A sufficient Number of Delegates not appearing on Tuesday last, to compose a Lower House of Assembly of this Province, the same was prorogued to the next Day; when they met, and unanimously made choice of the Honourable Col. Edward Sprigg, a Member for Prince George's County, for their Speaker, and of Major William Gilgman for their Clerk; both of which being approved of by the Governor, his Excellency opened the Session with the following Speech.

Gentlemen of the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly,

It is much against my Inclination that I am obliged to meet you at this early Season; but as the Safety of his Majesty's Subjects, in this and the neighbouring Provinces, is the Motive, I am persuaded you will cheerfully submit to some little Inconveniencies for the public Good.

In a Letter I have received from Mr. Clinton, the Governor of New-York, he represents in strong Terms, that the Solicitations and Arts practised by our Enemies the French, and their Political Emisaries, have rendered the Fidelity of the Six Nations of Indians greatly to be suspected; and that there is too much Reason to apprehend that they will be seduced and drawn off from our Alliance, unless speedy and proper Methods be taken to prevent it.

This is the Purport of Mr. Clinton's Letter; and I think it incumbent on me particularly to recommend this Affair to your serious Consideration. It is a Matter which, as it offers you an Opportunity of shewing your Care for the public Safety, so it gives you a fair Occasion of manifesting your Duty and Zeal for his Majesty's Person and Service; an Occasion the more readily to be embraced at this Time, as we are yet not informed of the Issue of that unnatural and wicked Rebellion, broke out in Great-Britain, in Favour of a Popish Pretender.

I can not help adding, these poor Indians have at all times, we duly consider their Circumstances, a Claim to our Compassion and Assistance; but in our present Situation, when their Friendship is of great Importance to us, it would be highly improper to leave them to be seduced by our Enemies, who will not fail of putting them to such temptations, as they give us an Opportunity of relieving. I am persuaded you will come to such a Resolution, as will secure the Fidelity of these Nations, and prevent the Schemes of an insidious Enemy of our Majesty, and as many Slaves as are now in the Possession of the French will be sold before you.

To his Excellency THOMAS BLADEN, Esq. Governor and Commander in Chief in and over the Province of MARYLAND;

The humble Address of the Upper House of Assembly.

May it please your Excellency,

WE return you our hearty Thanks for the Speech you was pleased to make at the Opening of this Assembly; and as we are well satisfied that nothing but the Safety of his Majesty's Subjects is the Motive of your meeting us at this Season, so we assure you of our Disposition, not only now, but at all Times, to submit to some Inconveniencies for the Sake of the public Good.

We are very sensible of how great Importance it is to us, to preserve the Fidelity and Friendship of the Six Nations of Indians, especially under our present Circumstances; and we assure you that we will cheerfully concur in the most proper Measures to prevent and disappoint the Designs of our Enemies, or any of their Jesuitical Emisaries, either amongst the Indians, or elsewhere.

We shall gladly embrace every Occasion of manifesting our Duty and Zeal for his Majesty's Person and Service, and to testify our Abhorrence and Detestation of that wicked and unnatural Rebellion, raised in Great-Britain, in Favour of a popish Pretender.

And as we are fully convinced that we should be greatly wanting, not only in our Duty to his Majesty and the Public, but in the Care of our own Safety, should we leave those Indians under the Temptations which their Necessities may induce them to, of yielding to the Seducements of our Enemies; so we shall very readily join in every Thing that may be proper to secure them to our Interest, which we think ourselves obliged to in good Policy, as well as Humanity.

March 14, 1745-6.

B. TASKER, President.

To which his Excellency was pleased to return the following Answer.

Gentlemen of the Upper House of Assembly,  
I Thank you for your Address; your Professions of your Loyalty to our Sovereign, and Detestation of that horrid Rebellion, carried on against his Person and Crown, are I am persuaded, very sincere, and, as such, give me the highest Satisfaction.

T. BLADEN.