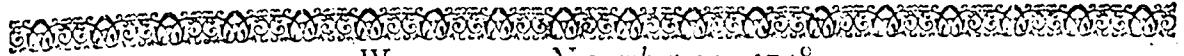


T H E No. 187a
M A R Y L A N D G A Z E T T E

Containing the freshest Advices, Foreign and Domestic.



WEDNESDAY, November 23, 1748.



The **SPEECH** of the Honourable Sir *William Gooch*, Bart. Governor of *Virginia*, to the General Assembly of the said Colony, on the 27th of *October*, 1748.

Gentlemen of the Council, Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Burgesses,

HO* there is not any thing more conducive to our common interest, than a mutual agreement between both houses, yet it is an observation the usual harmony of our assemblies would have restrained me from making, even after a new election, had it not been, must I say unfortunately? discontinued the last session, when to you may accrue the applause of restoring it in this. For, since by an event as pernicious to the government as the most inveterate opposition, you are fully convinced, that the happiness we are deputed to procure, can be derived only from union, the nourisher of all social virtues; I am encouraged to hope, the very pressing necessity for erecting a royal council, which I am obliged with uncommon earnestness to recommend to you, will, at least, moderate all future controversy. Indeed, when I consider that we are not only deprived of commodious apartments for your reception, but destitute of a court for the administration of justice; which, as our sovereign's presence is always to be presumed in the exercise of his authority, require decency in their structure and forms, as well as rectitude in the managers of their proceedings; and that these defects undoubtedly demand the chief attention of the legislature; I have a greater degree of assurance, that when this important and affecting debate shall be resumed, such motives will induce you unanimously to concur, in speedily redressing to extensive a grievance.

But because Providence, since our last meeting, seems to have interposed with a design of diverting our thoughts from the pursuit of every distant scheme; give me leave briefly to explain and urge the force of that sentiment, without using for any other concessions than what your own prudence shall inspire.

This town being entirely purged from the virulence of the Small-Pox, we have here a city of refuge for all persons who are anxious of escaping that malignant disease; from which, as we may reasonably apprehend it will be some years before the colony will be totally exempted, what less serious reflection can to awakening a circumstance suggest to us, than now we shall avail ourselves of this dispensation: For instance, whether in this ex-reignty we shall persevere in our ruling principle, the good of the whole country, and build in this place of safety; where we are sure the frame of our excellent constitution, worthy of our utmost caution, will be under the regular and uninterrupted protection of the wisdom of our assemblies, and the justice of our general courts; and where the most timid of our inhabitants may attend, and prosecute their business with either, fearless of contagion, in an air so well purified? or whether we shall remove to another situation, where the same cause producing the same effect, and high and low terrified with the dread of infection, we are no less sure all authority and power must be again suspended; the government, in the absence of it's guardians, exposed to insupportable difficulties; and the subject made liable to the additional vexation of the like expensive delays they suffered during the late visitation?

These considerations, I freely own, have made me an advocate for building upon the old foundation: And as you have the same right to judge for yourselves, I must leave them to you to be weighed and discussed; not doubting, if this reasoning should be approved by the people without doors, which, from the natural desire of all men to self-preservation, may well

be expected, it will for their sakes have a due influence upon you; whose propensions, I am assured, are directed to such resolutions as shall be deemed most beneficial to the public weal; wherein, however, the settled discipline of our establishment is principally to be adher'd to.

In short, Gentlemen, when such cogent reasons invite on one side, and the imminent danger of the return of so severe a calamity deter on the other; when, granting the suspicion only probable, you have full scope to gratify your laudable intentions, and in all likelihood to obtain a general acquiescence; surely, without attempting to determine you by divine speculations, I may be allowed to suppose it impossible for you, in a concern so interesting and universal, to hesitate in making the happier choice.

Prompted by the same sincere and ardent zeal for your prosperity in trade, I am next to put you in mind, how much it behoves you to be singularly careful of your exports, particularly Tobacco: by compelling the Inspectors to a punctual discharge of their duty; which the many complaints at home, and from abroad, abundantly testify some of them have most shamefully and scandalously neglected.

The committee for the Revival of the Laws, having performed their laborious task, and prepared a work for you to finish, which, with the other matters that must unavoidably fall under your deliberations, will require a considerable time to perfect, patience and application will make the best dispatch.

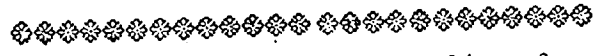
Gentlemen of the House of Burgesses,

The prisoners on board the captures brought hither by his majesty's ships, and other vessels with letters of marque, having for their subsistence during as short a stay as possible, and for the transportation of most of them to the French and Spanish settlements, to be exchanged, put the country to some charge; I trust the accounts, when laid before you, will be found consistent with the rules of frugality, and the measure of humanity which is due to an enemy. And as we are all of us sensible, the several services I have recommended to you, can't, without a subsidy, be defrayed by the funds already appropriated; I shall readily give my consent to any aid you shall think fit to constitute for satisfying such demands, being persuaded the most equitable means will be preferred.

Gentlemen of the Council, and House of Burgesses,

After solemnly protesting, that the arguments I have adapted to reconcile you to the first and grand article of this speech, are the result of the most serious meditation, and the advice of a mind always disposed to advance your real felicity; I have only to hope they will have the conciliating virtue of prevailing with you to resolve, without delay, upon the execution of that momentous point, on which our future tranquility apparently depends.

So pious an example of resignation to our supreme benefactor, so dutiful a regard for the honour of our sovereign; and such an illustrious proof of a tender affection for your fellow subjects, will intitle us to the most honourable reputation.



From the GENTLEMAN'S MAGAZINE for July, 1748.

I T A L Y.

HIS Sardinian majesty has evacuated Savona; and the Corsicans are left to make their submission to their old masters,