

At a Council held at the Governours on Sunday the 12 day
of November in the Ninethenth Year of his Lordships Dominion Anno 1769.

Were Present.

His Excellency Robert Eden Esq. Governor
The Honble Daniel Dulany Esq. John Deale Wordley Esq.
John Airdout Esq. George Stewart Esq.

His Excellency is pleased to acquaint this Board that he has received Instructions from his Lordship the Right Honourable the Lord Proprietary to appoint William Fitzhugh Esq. a Member of his Lordships Council and the Upper House of Assembly of this Province who being present took the several Oaths to the Government required by Law as also the usual Oath of Councillor repeated and subscribed the Oath of Abjuration and Test and then took his seat at the Board accordingly. —

His Excellency is pleased to lay before this Board the following Draught of a Speech to both Houses of Assembly which being Read is approved of —
Gentlemen of the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly.

From my desire of accommodating the public Business to your private Affairs, I have delayed calling you together, nor should I, did not the exigencies of Government make it necessary, now meet you, merely to Notify the Lord Proprietarys Appointment of me to succeed Colonel Sharpe as Governor of this Province, to merit which Honor, and the Trust thus reposed in me, I shall ever consider it to be my indispensable Duty to promote on all Occasions the Prosperity of Maryland. —
Gentlemen of the Lower House.

Convinced, as I am, that the real Interests of the Lord Proprietary, and the People of this Province are inseparable, I meet this Assembly with the most agreeable Prospect. From your Attachment to the Welfare of your Country; from your knowledge of its Circumstances, and from your Moderation and Prudence, I derive the most persuasive and pleasing Expectation, that this Session will be distinguished by the Benefits which a dispassionate and amicable Intercourse cannot fail to produce, by the Propriety of your Proceedings and the Utility of those Laws which shall be Enacted. —

His Lordship has been pleased to assure you in the Message I am now to have the Honour of delivering to you, that if you will prepare the Plan for the further Improvement of the Province, his Encouragement shall not be wanting. Though I warmly wish that a well founded Provision for a more liberal Institution of Youth may be established here, yet, I do not undertake at this time to Recommend particular Objects to your Attention. The Observations I have made during the short Interval since my arrival not affording me sufficient grounds, and if that Interval had been much longer, your Experience would probably anticipate my Recommendations: but give me leave to assure you, you may always rely upon my most cordial Concurrence in every Measure you may propose conducive to the Welfare and Happiness of the Province. —
Gentlemen of both Houses

I am sensible I shall be judged of by my Actions and not by any Assurances I may now give you of my future Conduct: To that Test I most readily submit, and shall