

That there be an Ordinance of Assembly made to be published that the County has fully satisfied all publick debts and Claims though his Excellency found the County in debt both in Money and Tobacco upon score of the revolution and in former Voyages and he had more times which he thought fit to be done to prevent after illegal Claims by reason there are some persons give out they are not yet satisfied for a Madman of Calvert County for bringing up the Records Mayor Dowry Robert Hancock and others therefore was also proposed that a Law be made to punish such persons as shall make such false reports and that the people be given to understand that when a Bargain for any publick work is made the person Contracted with is to be looked upon and not to have every one such persons Employes to trouble the Assemblys Account

March the 16th 1697

The Council again sate and were Present
His Excellency Francis Nicholson Esq Captain General
Colonel Henry Jones, Colonel George Robotham Thomas Tench Esq
(7) Colonel Charles Hutchins, Col John Addison Thomas Brooks and James Fry Esq
Produced by his Excellency to the Board a letter by him received from his Grace the Arch Bishop of Canterbury dated the 18th of 7^{ber} 1697 the part whereof was read and ordered to be laid before the House viz

Wth Having this opportunity I am willing to Embrace and to acknowledge by it the Receipt of yours by the last Ships I have spoken to the Attorney General about the laws he will not be wanting on his part and for that especially of Free Schools nothing shall be wanting

Produced and read a letter by his Excellency received from the right Honourable the Lords of the Council for Trade and Foreign Plantations bearing date the 17th day of 9^{ber} 1697 the following Paragraphs were ordered to be read out and laid before the House viz that about Pursall of the Journalls, Laws, that about Coins and that about Soldiers and White Servants

March the 17th 1697

The Council again sate and were Present as yesterday excepte Colonel Addison who came and was added

His Excellency is pleased to acquaint the Board that he has heard several Reports of my Lord Baltimore being restored to the Government herewith has given occasion to the Roman Catholics and other disaffected persons to be high and lofty and not only breeds Great divisions Faction among his Majesty's good Subjects here but tend to the disturbance of his Majesty's happy Government here established and is also pleased to acquaint them with a Message lately brought from the House by Major Walter Smith and Wth Benjamin Hall to the Clerk of the Board for some Council Papers which his Excellency is pleased to say he takes to be an Answer to the House whom he thinks to send for to confer with them about some other matters and Friends likewise to talk with them about some other things

Read over the several Proposals considered at this Board and read over the 15th Instant which were Ordered to be laid before the House together with several other papers formerly Ordered to be Referred

A letter from one Wth Sutton to his Excellency about Turkey's Wild Deer &c read

His Excellency is pleased to direct the honourable Thomas Tench Esq and Colonel John Addison to go and command the Speaker and the whole House to attend his Excellency in Council presently or otherwise to signify that if the Speaker was very much indisposed as it is Represented that he is not able to come so far, His Excellency is pleased to signify that he will come down to the Speakers Chamber

The said Gentlemen return and say they have delivered their message and that the Speaker