

Maryland &c.

Journal of the House of Burgesses.

May the 6th A. D. 1696.

Whereas this House by his Ex^{ty}. Francis Nicholson Esq^r. this
Maj^{ty} Gov^r in Chief and over the said Province and Territories therunto
belonging) was prorogued from ye fifth day of this Month until this
day being the 6th Instant according to ye said prorogation, they met
and Mr. Speaker taking the Chair Ordered ye House to be called
over.

Upon which ye following Members were absent.
Mr. John Watton, Capt. Thomas Mawhop, Col. Hans Hansson, Capt. Richard
Hill, Mr. Francis Butcher, Mr. Edw. Boothby, Mr. Robert Smith, Mr. William
Helmsly, Mr. Matthew Scarborough, Mr. Francis Jenkins, Col. Casparus Stamen
and Col. F. Ledges Collier

Major Hammond, Mr. Mason, Mr. Clarke, Capt. Tubbs, Major Smith
and Major Thompson. Sent up to his Ex^{ty} to acquaint his this House had met
according to prorogation yesterday, and desire his Ex^{ty} would impart to them
what he has to offer to this House.

Appointed of the Committee of Grievances.
Major Smithson, Mr. Saunders, Mr. Fairly and Col. Piers.

of the Committee of Laws.
Major Dent, Mr. Boothby, Mr. Clarke, Mr. Low, Mr. Thompson.

Then also appointed of the Committee of Accounts.
Mr. Mason, Major Smith, Mr. Pollard, and Mr. Lingham.

Major Hammond and ye Rest of ye Members - Return to ye House and
say they have delivered their Message.

The Hon^{ble} John Addison, and Thomas Brooks Esq^r came down
from his Ex^{ty} and signified that his Ex^{ty}. Required their Attendance
immediately at the Council Chamber.

There being admitted his Ex^{ty}. thus he spoke them, that he was sorry
that he should come into the Country, when it was so much in debt, and not
only so, but ye people divided amongst themselves, yett he hoped they had
now forgot all differences and would bend ye utmost of their Endeavour
for his Maj^{ty} and the Country Service, and proposes that to answer ye Ends
of this Province they would lay an additionall duty of 10^s upon Negroes and
also Continue ye additional duty of 3^s of hogheads, whereby the Country
would not only be enabled to go through with what they had already undertaken
but also disengage themselves from their present incumbrances, he also told
them that, he that once puts his hand to ye plough ought not to look backe