

His Excellency observing what white Servants are or have been for some Years last past been imported into this her Majesty's Province are generally Irish Papists who are induced to come hither by the false & specious Pretences of the free Exercise of their superstitious worship, and having Lands at the Head of the Bay settled on them at the Expiration of their Times of Servitude, so that many hundreds have been lately imported is pleased to ask the Advice of the General Assembly whether on due Consideration thereof, are not apparent Reasons her Majesty's Loyal good Subjects should be apprehensive of that growing Evil and more especially since those sort of People are foisted in Great Numbers in Baltimore County and at the Head of the Bay frontiers of this Province most liable to the Invasion of the common Enemy; wherefore in case the Country saith this deserves their Notice his Excellency desires they will advise what Measures are to be taken for the Prevention thereof for that the Duty of twenty Shillings of Poll is not any Discouragement to that Importation and whether it be not reasonable by some Law to forbid the Sale of Protestant Servants to Masters of the Romish Church they being generally joined in their Religion or otherwise misled in their Persons. Signed by Order  
W. Bladen (C. Council)

Which being read it's resolved that a Bill be prepared to forbid the Sale of any Protestant Servants to any of the Romish Church.

The Petition of the Inhabitants of Annapolis read with the Indorsement from the Honble Council and resolved that this House cannot concur with the Indorsement for that they are of Opinion the Inhabitants thereof ought to lay out their Lots at their own proper Charge.

The Honble James Saunders Esq; from the Council enters the House and delivers Mr. Speaker the Lords of Trade and Plantations Letter together with Sir Thomas Lawrence's Letter relating to Ordinary Licenses.

Referred till Afternoon for Consideration.

The House adjourns till two o'Clock Afternoon.

Last Mercurium the House met according to Adjournment, and were spent as before in the Morning.

Mr. William Stone's Letter of Excuse read & allowed of by the House.

The Paragraph of his Excellency's Speech relating to Ports and Towns being read & debated. Put to the Question whether Ports and Towns shall be erected in this Province or not? Carried in the Affirmative and Resolved a Bill be prepared and laid before the House for that Purpose.

The Paragraph in the same Speech relating to protested Bills &c. being also read (and)