

I am desired by the Government of Virginia, to lay before you, the Draught of an Act passed the last Session of their Assembly; for Erecting a Light House on Cape-Henry; to which they desire the Concurrence of this Province, by a like Act to be made here: It has been a Matter so long talk'd of, that you must be best apprized of the Usefulness of it.

I think I need not recommend to you, the careful Pursuit of our Common Interest, in Advancing the Staple of Tobacco; but as you best know the Evils that at present debase it, you can best advise the Way to Relief.

I shall now leave you with a Word or two, concerning My self. As nothing can be more Shocking to an ingenuous Mind, than a Distrust of profess'd Sincerity; so I hope you will exert that peculiar Characteristick of Englishmen, call'd Good Nature, and not be mistrustful of Me, because I am your Governour; as some Persons, void of all Principles of Honour, would without Doors suggest; but rather believe, that (as I have the Honour to Descend from Those who were the Nursing Fathers of this Colony, when I may say it was yet at the Breast) Their Affection for this Province, with Their Blood descending, is equally infused in Me: And that I want nothing so much, to aliken My self yet more to them, but such a Confidence from you, as They from your Ancestors enjoyed: Be then assured, That as far as the engaged Duty of my Station will admit, I will readily Co-operate with you in any thing you desire: And I hope you will never press me to any thing that a Negative must attend, since I cannot deny you, without the most sensible Regret.

My frequent Indispositions threaten me with a short Continuance amongst you. Wheresoever I may be, (if on Earth,) every Faculty of my Mind, and Body, will ever be devoted to the Service of the Province of Maryland.

After which, Mr. Speaker lays before the House the Oath, mentioned in the Governour's Speech; which Oath is order'd to be enter'd as follows, viz.

The Form of an Oath for Judge or Justice.

YOU shall Swear, That as a Justice of the Provincial Court of Maryland, in all Articles of His Lordship's Commission to you directed, You shall do equal Law and Right to all the King's Subjects, Rich and Poor, according to the Laws, Customs, and Directions of the Acts of Assembly of this Province; and where they are silent, according to the Laws, Statutes, and reasonable positive Customs of England, as have been used and practis'd in this Province; and not delay any Person of Common Right, for any Cause or Pretence whatsoever. And in Case any Letters shall come to you, contrary to Law, that you do nothing by them, but cause them to be entred on Record, and certify the King, the Lord Proprietary, or the Governour, for the Time being, of them; and proceed to execute the Law, notwithstanding the said Letters; That you shall hold your Courts according to the Acts of Assembly, and the Directions in your Commission: That you shall do and procure the Profit of the Lord Proprietary, in all Things, where you may lawfully and reasonably do the same: And that you shall not debar or hinder the Prosecution of Justice; nor take any Gift, Bribe or Fee, for delaying or rendring of Judgement, but shall behave your self justly, honestly, and faithfully, to the best of your Knowledge and Understanding, so long as you shall continue in the said Office. So help you God.

Mr. Beale, one of the Members of this House, and a Magistrate, being order'd to administer the several Oaths by Law requir'd, in order to qualify Mr. Thomas Jobson, for Serjeant at Arms, to this House, and Mr. Moses Adney, Door-Keeper; he returns, and acquaints the House he did the same.

Order'd, That his Honour the Governour's Speech be referred to the Committee of Laws; and that they prepare an Answer thereto; and that they likewise take into their Consideration, the Oath of Judge or Justice, recommended in the Governour's Speech.

Mr. Thomas Werthington is order'd to acquaint the Rev. Mr. Humphreys, That this House desires him to read Divine Service during this Session, at half an Hour past Seven in the Morning, and at Four o'Clock in the Afternoon; who returns and informs the House that he deliver'd the said Message.

The House adjourn'd 'till To-morrow Morning 9 o'Clock.



(Die Sabbati, Octobris 5, 1728.)

THE House met this Day according to Adjournment, The Members were call'd over, and all present as Yesterday, except Mr. Robert Gordon, absent thro' Infirmary of Health. Yesterday's Proceedings were Read.

The Petition of Thomas Canner, Son and Heir of Edward Canner, of Dorchester County, lately deceas'd, being Read, is refer'd to be consider'd of, till next Sessions of Assembly, at which Time all Persons concern'd are to have due Notice.

The Petition of Thomas Hill, a languishing Prisoner of Talbot County; and of Nathaniel Wright, and Richard Edwards, languishing Prisoners of Queen Anne's County, were read; and it is Order'd, That Bills be brought in for the Petitioners Relief.

Order'd, That Mr. William Turbut, be added to the Committee of Accounts.

The following Message being prepar'd, is Order'd to be enter'd, viz.

By the Lower House of Assembly, October 5. 1728.

May it please your Honours,

This House, in order to dispatch the Publick Business, as much as in them lie, hath entered a Resolve to sit from Nine in the Morning, till Four o'Clock in the Afternoon; and desire to know whether the Time proposed, be agreeable to your Honours.

This Message was sent to the Upper House, by Mr. James Holliday and Mr. Thomas Tolley; who return, and acquaint the House they deliver'd the same.

Col.