

Mr. *Wootton*, from the Committee to enquire into the State and Condition of the Arms and Ammunition, and the Accounts relating thereto, acquaints Mr. Speaker, that the Committee had made Choice of Mr. *Thomas Jennings* for their Clerk. The House Approves of the Choice.

Wm. Stoughton, Esq; from the Committee of Laws, acquaints Mr. Speaker, that the Committee had made Choice of Mr. *Vachel Denton* for their Clerk. The House Approves the Choice.

Maj. *Henry Hall* is Ordered to Qualify Mr. *Richard Dorsey*, Mr. *Thomas Jennings*, and Mr. *Vachel Denton*, the abovementioned Clerks.

Maj. *Hall* acquaints Mr. Speaker, that he had Administred the several Oaths to the Government, to Mr. *Richard Dorsey*, Mr. *Thomas Jennings*, and Mr. *Vachel Denton*; and that they had Signed the Oath of Abjuration, Repeated and Signed the Test, and had taken the following Oath of Office:

YOU A. B. do Swear, that as Clerk to the Committee of-----, you shall true Entries make of all such Matters and Things, as by this Committee, for the Time being, shall be to you directed; the Secrets of the said Committee you shall not divulge, to the Prejudice of the said Committee, or any Member thereof, but shall in all Things, as Clerk to the said Committee, well and truly demean yourself, according to the best of your Knowledge. So help you God.

Col. *Henry*, and Mr. *Thomas Hammond*, acquaint Mr. Speaker, that they saw Mr. *Thomas Wilkinon*, and Mr. *Grundy Pemberton*, Members Returned for *Queen Anne's* County; and Capt. *Selby*, and Capt. *Oутten*, Members Returned for *Worcester* County, Qualify themselves, by taking the several Oaths to the Government required by Law, Signing the Oath of Abjuration, and Repeating and Signing the Test. The Gentlemen take their Seats in the House.

The House Approved the following Rules, and Ordered that they be Observed this Session:

I. That no Member of this House shall use any reviling Speeches, or name any Member by his proper Name, otherwise than for Distinction's Sake; but shall rather use some other Signification, as, *The Gentlemen that speak last*, or the like.

II. That no Member speak above once at the reading of any Bill or Debate, without License of the Speaker, and the House; and if two Persons, or more, shall rise up together, the Speaker shall appoint who shall speak first, and no Member shall interrupt any other until the Gentleman speaking hath ended.

III. That none shall deliver his Opinion, or speak to any Bill or Debate, unless he shall stand up, and reverently direct his Speech to the Speaker.

IV. That every Bill proposed to the House shall be read Two several Days before it is sent to the Upper House, and once after, before it be Ingrossed; and that between every Reading one Day shall be intermitted, and, That in that Time the Bill be laid on the Table for the Perusal of all the Members; unless on very urgent Occasions, Mr. Speaker, with the Consent of the House, shall dispense therewith; and then One Bill being read Twice at one Sitting, shall be as sufficient as if Read several Days, when so entered in the Clerk's Journal.

V. That no Person shall come into the House of Assembly, whilst the same is sitting, with Sword or other Weapon, upon Penalty of such Fine as shall be imposed on them by the Speaker, not exceeding Five Shillings, for any Offence.

VI. That if any Member bound to attend this Assembly, shall be absent at the Hours and Place appointed, after the Number of Twelve of the Members with the Speaker are met, according to the Order for Sitting, shall be fined according to the Discretion of the Speaker, not exceeding Five Shillings for any Offence; unless upon such lawful Excuse as the Speaker shall admit of.

VII. All Misdemeanors which shall happen in the House, shall be censured and fined in the House.

VIII. That no Bill shall be read at any Time during this Session, till all the Members in Town be called in; except on some Excuse to be admitted by the Speaker.

The following Resolves, Ordered to be Entered as the Resolves of this House:

Resolved by the House, That the Members who are appointed as Members of the Committee of Aggravances, have likewise the Character of Committee for Courts of Justice, and that that Character, and the Duty of such Committee, be annex'd to the said Committee of Aggravances, as a standing Part of their Duty.

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