

Resolved also, That this Province is not under the Circumstances of a conquered Country; that if it were, the present Christian Inhabitants thereof would be in the Circumstances, not of the Conquered, but of the Conquerer, it being a Colony of the English Nation, encouraged by the Crown to transplant themselves hither, for the Sake of improving and enlarging it's Dominion; which by the Blessing of God upon their Endeavours, at their own Expence and Labour, has been in great Measure obtained: And 'tis unanimously *Resolved*, that whoever shall advance, that his Majesty's Subjects, by such their Endeavours and Success have forfeited any Part of their English Liberties, are not Well-wishers to the Country, and mistake it's happy Constitution.

Resolved also, That if there be any Pretence of Conquest, it can be only supposed against the Native Indian Infidels, which Supposition cannot be admitted, because the Christian Inhabitants purchased great Part of the Land they at first took up from the Indians, as well as from the Lord Proprietary, and have ever since continued in an amicable Course of Trade with them; except some partial Outrages and Skirmishes, which never amounted to a general War, much less to a general Conquest; the Indians yet enjoying their Rights and Privileges of Treaties and Trade with the English, of whom we yet frequently purchase their Rights, of such Lands as we take up, as well as of the Lord Proprietary.

Resolved further, That this Province hath always hitherto had the Common Law, and such General Statutes of England, as are securitative of the Rights and Liberties of the Subject; and such Acts of Assembly as were made in the Province, to suit it's particular Constitution, as the Rule and Standard of it's Government and Judicature; such Statutes and Acts of Assembly being subject to the like Rules of Common Law, or equitable Construction, as are used by the Judges in construing Statutes in England: Which happy Rules have, by his Majesty and his Royal Ancestors, and also by his Lordship and his noble Ancestors, or some of them, been hitherto approved, by having the Commissions of Judicature, to include Directions of that Nature to the several Judicial Magistrates; unless those Words have at any Time been casually or carelessly omitted by the Officers in this Province, that drew such Commissions.

Mr. John Courts and Mr. William Wilkinson, two returned Members for Charles County, appear in the House.

On motion of a Member, for Leave to bring in a Bill for the Tryal of all Matters of Fact in the several Counties where they have arisen or shall arise; Leave is given, and Ordered, that the Committee of Laws prepare and bring in a Bill accordingly.

Mr. Philip Hammond, from the Committee of Laws, delivers Mr. Speaker the following List of Laws which are to expire at the End of this present Session; *viz.*

An Act for the speedy Recovery of small Debts, out of Court, before a single Justice of the Peace.

An Act reviving an Act entituled, An Act for relieving the Inhabitants of this Province from some Aggrievances, in the Prosecution of Suits at Law, and for reviving and continuing the supplementary Act thereto.

An Act for the Advancement of Justice.

An Act reviving an Act entituled, An Act for the better Relief of poor Debtors.

An Act to prevent the ill Practices of Sheriffs, in the Collecting and Payment of the public and County Levies.

Which being read, Ordered, that the Committee of Laws prepare and bring in Bills to continue the said Laws.

Mr. Smallwood and Mr. Harrison are sent to the Upper House with Mr. Courts and Mr. Wilkinson, to see them qualified: They return, and acquaint Mr. Speaker, they saw them qualified in the usual manner.

The Gentlemen take their Seats in the House.

The House adjourns 'til 2 of the Clock.

Post Meridiem.

The House met, according to Adjournment.

Col. King, a return'd Member for Somerset County, and Col. Henry, a return'd Member for Worcester County, appear in the House.

Mr. Worthington acquaints Mr. Speaker, that the Rev. Mr. Gordon will comply with the Request of this House to read Divine Service.

Col. Dashiell and Mr. Purnell are sent to the Upper House with Col. King and Col. Henry, to see them qualified: They return, and acquaint Mr. Speaker, they saw them qualified in the usual Manner. The Gentlemen take their Seats in the House.

Dr. Carroll, from the Committee of Laws, delivers Mr. Speaker a Bill entituled, An Act continuing an Act entituled, An Act for the Advancement