

Besides the several Papers from the Governors of *New-York* and *Pennsylvania*, relating to the *Indian*, which I now lay before you, I could not but be under a good deal of Concern, on Account of the Shortness of our Crop of Corn the last Fall; and if we had not been favoured by Providence with a mild Winter, many People, especially of the poorer Sort, might have wanted, not only Provision for their Cattle, but Bread for themselves; which will naturally lead you to consider, whether it may not be for the Public Service, to leave a discretionary Power with the Government, or to prohibit the Exportation of Corn whenever it shall arise to a certain Price.

As the Happiness of any Country must be always greatly promoted by the Goodness of it's Highways; I cannot help recommending this Matter particularly to your Consideration.

While other Nations are improving their Commerce, by opening Canals, and shortening and mending their Roads, we are lengthening Ours in many Parts of the Province, by Windings and Turnings, and obstructing their Passage with Gates and other Incumbrances; which deserves our Attention the more, as this is certainly the proper Time to lay them strait and open, before we begin to bound our Fields with Ditches, and other fix'd Fences, which good Husbandry, if not Necessity, may probably bring us to in a short Time.

Nothing could give me more Pleasure, than to see a general Spirit of Improvement spread itself throughout the Province, which it is our Duty to promote as much as we can, in our Legislative Capacity; and I flatter myself, that the visible Advantages we have reaped from our Inspection Law will not only incite our Endeavours to bring it to the utmost Perfection, but be an Encouragement to us to enter into the Consideration of such other Laws as may tend to advance the Trade and Prosperity of the Province in every Respect.

In whatever you undertake for the Public Good, you may be assured of my hearty Concurrence, and best Assistance; and I cannot but hope, that you will, on your Parts, give such reasonable Support to the Government, as may be necessary for your own Safety and Security.

I desire no Increase of Power, but to enable me to promote your Happiness the more effectually; my greatest Ambition being to make the Province flourish and prosper under my Administration.

Mr. Speaker (with the other Members) returned to the Lower House, and resumed the Chair.

The Governor communicated to Mr. Speaker some Papers relating to the *Indians*.

Mr. *John Tillotson*, a Member returned to serve in this Assembly for *Queen Anne's County*, appeared in the House. *Ordered*, That *Capt. Hopper* and *Mr. Davis* do go with *Mr. Tillotson* to the Upper House, to see him qualified: They return, and acquaint Mr. Speaker they saw him qualified in the usual Manner. The Gentleman took his Seat in the House.

His Excellency the Governor's Speech was read, and ordered to lie on the Table.

The several Papers, communicated by his Excellency to Mr. Speaker, were read, and ordered to lie on the Table.

The House adjourns until 2 of the Clock.

Post Meridiem.

The House met according to Adjournment.

Ordered, That the Rules of the House, observed last Session, be observed as such this Session.

Ordered, That the Gentlemen that were on the several Committees last Session, be continued thereon this Session.

Resolved, That the Hours of sitting this Session, be from 9 of the Clock in the Morning until 12; and from 2 of the Clock in the Afternoon until 6.

Ordered, That *Mr. Warhington* do acquaint the Reverend *Mr. Malcolm*, That he is desired by this House to read Divine Service, Morning and Evening, during this Session.

Ordered, That Mr. Speaker do issue his Warrant, directed to the Secretary of this Province, forthwith to make out a new Writ of Election, directed to the Sheriff of *Baltimore County*, to elect a Delegate to serve in this Assembly, in the Room of *Major Thomas Sberedine*, who hath, since his being