

of our natural Enemies the *French*, to shew our high and just Esteem of his Majesty's good Opinion and Confidence in us, and to these Ends, according to our Abilities, to enable your Excellency to execute that important Trust reposed in you by his Majesty's Commission, which you have been pleased to lay before us, and upon which we beg your Acceptance of our very hearty Congratulations.

We receive with great Pleasure, that Mark of his Lordship's Regard to his Majesty's *American* Dominions in general, and to this Province in particular, manifested by his dispensing with your temporary Absence from this your Government; our Concern for the Necessity of which, is only alleviated by the great Hopes of a full Execution of the Royal Commands, and the greater Security to his loyal tho' remote Subjects, from your Excellency's Conduct, personal Resolution, and Vigour.

The earnest and tender Regard your Excellency expresses for your Reputation in this important Service, affords us the greatest Satisfaction, as it is the surest Indication of real Merit, and we hope the Issue of our Resolves will meet your Approbation.

Your past Conduct persuades us of your good Intentions for the future, and gives us the strongest Assurance of your utmost Endeavours to promote the general Happiness and Prosperity of our Continent.

Which was read and assented to, and signed, by Order of the House, by the Honourable Speaker.

*Ordered*, That Col. *R. Jenckins Henry*, and Mr. *Bordley*, do acquaint his Excellency, that this House hath prepared an Address to be presented to him, and desire to know when, and where, he will please to receive it: They return and acquaint Mr. Speaker, that the Governor was pleased to signify he was ready to receive the Address immediately in the Conference Chamber.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Hammond*, and Twelve more, do present the Address.

On motion, That the Subject Matter contained in his Excellency's Speech be taken into Consideration on Monday next, at two of the Clock Afternoon,

*Resolved*, That this House will take the same into Consideration on Monday next, at the Call of the House Afternoon.

On motion, That a Bill be brought in, *For taking and detaining able-bodied Men for his Majesty's Service*; Leave is given:

*Ordered*, That the Committee of Laws do prepare and bring in a Bill accordingly.

On motion, That a Bill be brought in, *For the more effectual Discovery of Persons disaffected to his Majesty's Royal Person and Government, within this Province*; Leave is given:

*Ordered*, That the Committee of Laws do prepare and bring in a Bill accordingly.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Jonas Green* do print the Sermon preached at *St. Anne's Church*, in the City of *Annapolis*, before his Excellency the Governor, and the Members of the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly, on Friday the 13th Day of *December* Instant, by the Reverend Mr. *James Sterling*, and that he be paid by the Public for 300 Copies; five of which to be delivered to his Excellency the Governor, four to each Member of the Upper House, four to each Member of the Lower House, to be distributed