

## Votes and Proceedings, September, 1756.

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Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and (with the rest of the Members of the Lower House) attended the Governor in the Upper House; where his Excellency made the following **SPEECH**, viz.

*Gentlemen of the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly,*

**I** HAVE been obliged to call you together, before the Time to which you were Prorogued at the Conclusion of the last Session, by some Letters that I have lately received from one of his Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, and the Earl of Loudoun: By the first I am required to recommend it to you in a particular Manner to make Provision, out of the Fund that is already raised in this Province, for repaying the Masters of such Indented Servants as have been entertained or may enlist in his Majesty's Forces, the Money paid by the said Masters upon the original Contract, in Proportion to the Time such Indented Servant had or may have to serve at the Time of their engaging in his Majesty's Service: That these are his Majesty's Instructions and Expectations, you will see by one of the Letters that will be laid before you; and as nothing but the Interest of your Constituents seems to be consulted thereby, I doubt not but you will, out of Regard to them, as well as in Obedience to his Majesty's Commands, readily appropriate to this Use part of the Sum which was lately granted for his Majesty's Service, and is yet unexpended. By the Earl of Loudoun's Letter, you will find, that the present Situation of Affairs on this Continent lays his Lordship under a Necessity of conjuring and requiring you, in the most earnest and importunate Manner, to levy a Number of Men in this Colony, with the utmost Expedition, for the Regiment which his Majesty has graciously ordered to be raised in America, for the Defence of these Colonies. What makes his Lordship so urgent, and induces him to press you for a Number of Recruits at this Juncture, rather than Aid in any other Shape, you will learn from his Letter: And as his Majesty has signified his Pleasure, and expects you will apply the Money that you have raised or may grant for the Public Service, as the Commander in Chief of his Majesty's Forces on the Continent shall direct, I persuade myself you will not hesitate to appropriate Part of the Money already Granted, in the Manner that his Lordship requires, especially as you must all be convinced, that by these Means you can most effectually promote his Majesty's Service, and the Welfare and Safety of this and the neighbouring Colonies. On the Receipt of his Lordship's Letter, I sent Instructions to the Commanding Officers of the Militia to enlist Men in their respective Counties for the *Royal American Regiment*; a Copy of the Instructions I shall lay before you, hoping you will make Provision for repaying the Money that might be expended on that Service, and that my ready Compliance with his Lordship's Requisition, will meet with your Approbation.

You will observe, *Gentlemen*, that we are called on to lay an Embargo on Outward Bound Vessels laden with Provisions, and (as the Northern Governments have already done) to Prohibit, for a Time, the Exportation of any out of this Province: I hope you will immediately proceed to Frame a Bill for this Purpose; and that you will also very speedily enable me to send acceptable Answers to the Letters which you shall have to peruse.

*Gentlemen of the Lower House of Assembly,*

I have several other Matters to communicate to you, but shall postpone the Mention of them till I understand that you have come to some Determination on those which I have now submitted and recommended to your Consideration."

Mr. Speaker (with the rest of the Members) returned to the Lower House, and re-assumed the Chair.

On Motion, *Ordered*, That his Excellency's Speech be Read by the Clerk, which was accordingly.

*Ordered*, That his Excellency's Speech be laid on the Table for Consideration on the Morrow Morning.

*Ordered*, That the Gentlemen who were on the Committee of Grievances and Courts of Justice, on the Committee of Accounts, on the Committee of Elections and Privileges, and on the Committee to inspect the Arms and Ammunition and the Accounts relating thereto, appointed by this House last Session, be continued thereon this Session.

*Resolved*, That the Rules of the House, agreed to last Session, be observed by the Members as such during this Session.

*Resolved*, That the Hours of sitting, for Dispatch of Public Business, this Session, be from IX of the Clock until XII before Noon, and from II of the Clock until V Afternoon.

On Motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. Speaker do issue his Warrant to the Deputy-Secretary of this Province, to make out a Writ of Election, directed to the Sheriff of *Somerset* County, to elect a Delegate or Burgess to