

## Votes and Proceedings, February, 1758.

*Post-Meridie.* The House met according to Adjournment, &c.

Mr. *Rayn* appeared in the House.

His Excellency the Governor communicated to Mr. Speaker, the following Message, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN of the Lower House of ASSEMBLY,

I AM sorry I was laid under the Necessity of doing a Thing, which, by your Account, has caused great Disquiet to some of the People of this Province; but as I had good Reason to apprehend, that the Soldiers which had been raised for the more immediate Defence of our Frontier Inhabitants, would disband themselves, when they found that the Assembly had broke up without making any farther Provision for their Support, I thought it my indispensable Duty to order Two Companies of Militia to the Frontiers, lest the People that are settled there, being left without any Hopes of Assistance or Protection, should desert their Plantations, or fall an easy Prey to the Enemy. By Virtue of the same Law, that obliged the Detachments of Militia to march, that I ordered to the Frontiers, at the Desire of the late Lower House of Assembly, the 26th of September, 1756, any of the Men that have now marched, would doubtless have been punished, if they had refused to do so.

I cannot, *Gentlemen*, lay before you all the Orders that have been issued by my Direction, relative to the Marching and providing Subsistence for the Militia abovementioned, as the Originals are in the Hands of the Gentlemen to whom they were directed, and I have not Copies of them by me; but inclosed you have some Orders and a Preis-Warrant, which are similar to those that have been issued, and which I propose to send to Captain *Brome*, and the Preis-Masters of *Calvert* County, whenever I find myself under a Necessity of ordering another Company of Militia to march to the Assistance of the Frontier Inhabitants.

and February, 1758.

H O R °. S H A R P E.

Which was Read, and Ordered to lie on the Table.

On Motion, That a Militia-Law made in *March*, 1732, be now Read; also the Governor's Message to the Lower House dated 26th September, 1756; his Excellency's Orders to the Colonels of *Prince-George's* and *Baltimore* Counties, with their Answers thereto; also his Excellency's Message of the 29th of September, 1756; to the Lower House of Assembly; and the Address of the Lower House of the 30th of September, 1756, in Answer thereto; the same accordingly were severally Read and Considered.

*The House adjourns till the Morrow Morning at IX of the Clock.*

F R I D A Y, February 24, 1758.

THE House met according to Adjournment: The Members were called, and all appeared as Yesterday, except Mr. *Reeder* and Mr. *Sudler*. The Proceedings were Read.

Mr. *Reeder's* Family being very sick, he is excused from Attendance.

*The House adjourns till II of the Clock.*

*Post-Meridie.* The House met according to Adjournment, &c.

*Richard Lee*, and *Benedict Calvert*, Esquires, from the Upper House, acquaint Mr. Speaker, That the Governor requires the Attendance of the Lower House immediately in the Upper House.

Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and (with the other Members of the Lower House) went to the Upper House; where his Excellency made a Speech to both Houses of Assembly; a Copy of which he delivered to Mr. Speaker.

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

Ordered, That his Excellency's Speech be Read by the Clerk; which is as follows:

GENTLEMEN of the Upper and Lower Houses of ASSEMBLY,

YOU will learn from the Copy of a Letter received this Morning from the Earl of *Loudoun*, which I shall order to be laid before you, that his Lordship is determined to pursue vigorous and offensive Measures this Spring against the Enemy that has lately so much annoyed these Colonies, if they will, on their Part, agree to support and assist him in carrying his Plan into Execution: You will see likewise, that for this Purpose, his Lordship desires and expects, that we will raise and provide for the Cloathing and Payment of an additional Number of Troops, over and above the Five Companies that have been already raised here, and that are now posted in the Two Forts, which have been built within this Province.

As the Earl of *Loudoun*, in order that the Expence to your Constituents might be as light as possible, will give