

on the Subject of a Supply Bill; and whether the Sums which have at Times been voted for his Majesty's Service, shall be raised by that particular Mode of Taxation, which those, who are fond of Innovations, seem intent on introducing and establishing in this Province, his Lordship, I am confident, is very far from being averse to contributing in Proportion with the Inhabitants of this Province towards Supplies for his Majesty's Service, though I don't suppose he would wish, however zealous he might be to promote his Sovereign's Service, or desirous to advance the Reputation of *Maryland*, to have either Branch of the Legislature give their Assent to any Measure, which they should be of Opinion, would, in it's Consequences, tend to subvert the Constitution, or sacrifice one Part of the Inhabitants to the Caprice and Humour of the Rest. You will, I hope, *Gentlemen*, excuse the Liberty I take in just mentioning my Opinion of this Matter nor think it assuming in me either to judge for Myself, or to intimate my Sentiments; it would indeed be a little hard, if I alone, in such a Government as this, where every Subject thinks he has a Right to speak his Sentiments on every Matter, should be debarred the Liberty of thinking and judging of the Expediency or Propriety of any Scheme whatever, or be more afraid to communicate my Thoughts, than if I was at *Venice* under Awe of their State Inquisitors. Happy in knowing by Experience, that the Commission I have the Honour to bear, was given me by one who wishes not to make any Encroachments on the Liberties or Privileges of others, and conscious of the Uprightness of my own Intentions, I can venture to appeal to my Conduct for my Justification: This being the Case, I can Read, without the least Emotion, those Parts of your Address, which Discontent and Disappointment seem to have dictated, nor shall I take any Notice of your ungentle Language. If the Ministry have done nothing in Consequence of the Information I took the Liberty to give Mr. *Pitt*, when I intimated to him, that I was afraid no Supplies for the King's Service would be granted in this Province, unless his Majesty should be pleased to have the Dispute thoroughly examined into and finally settled, Can you, with the least Appearance of Justice, lay the Blame at my Door, or whether I am supposed to have concealed from his Majesty's Ministers the Transactions of the House of Delegates, or to have sent the Ministry a full Account of the Proceedings of that House, contained in their own Journals, will you, in either Case, take Offence at my Behaviour? If, for the Information of the Secretary of State, I had, with the Bill, transmitted that Message only, wherein the Gentlemen of the Upper House had particularized their Objections to it, I should indeed have acted disingenuously, but in sending also the Answer of the Lower House to that Message, together with the Reply, I gave the fairest and fullest Information concerning the Dispute between the two Houses that it was possible for me to give, nor do I think you could have said his Majesty or his Ministers would have determined on an *ex parte* Representation, had the Determination been upon mature Consideration of the Bill and those Messages; unless it can be supposed that those who framed the Bill, would not, when they were justifying or defending it, say every Thing they could urge on Behalf of their favourite Offspring. But, you are pleased to ask, "Have they determined the Disputes? Has any Thing ever been laid before us, pointing out in Terms precise and explicit that Branch of the Legislature which is charged with Obstinacy in adhering to their former Conduct?" And pray, *Gentlemen*, When did I ever that there has? You did indeed yourselves, by your first Address, put in for at least a Share of the Reprehension contained in the Secretary of State's Letter; for my Part I did no more than Caution you against the Measure which late Lower Houses had pursued, lest the not granting Supplies at this Time (whether through the Fault of the Upper or the Lower House, it was the same Thing) might be attended with fatal Consequences to the Province. But rather than engage any farther in a Dispute, which can answer no End but to protract the Session, and increase the Public Debt, already exorbitant, I will admit, that the Words "Your Province will not obstinately persist" (in the Earl of *Egremont's* Letter) must refer to the Gentlemen of the Upper House alone, and that the Persistency of the Lower House in resolving again to offer a Bill, which the Upper had rejected eight or nine Times, without obviating the Objections the Upper House had made to it, is an Instance of the latter's Obstinacy. Nevertheless I cannot help thinking, that rather than bring on the Province or the Inhabitants in general, his Majesty's Displeasure, it would have been better for your House to have at this Time waved the Dispute, and offered a Bill on some or other of the various Plans, by which Money has been heretofore raised in this Province: At least such a Proceeding, would have manifested an earnest Desire on your Part to comply with his Majesty's Requisitions, and quite the contrary on the Part of the Upper House, had they refused a Bill for granting Supplies to his Majesty, on a Plan which they had never objected to, when Money was thereby to be raised for other Purposes.

April 23, 1762.

HOR^o. SHARPE.

The Report from the Committee to inspect the Public Offices, was Read the second Time, and the House Concurs therewith.

Benedict Calvert, Esq; from the Upper House, delivers to Mr. Speaker, a Bill, entituled, *An Act for destroying Crows and Squirrels in Baltimore County*; thus Indorsed, "By the Upper House of Assembly, 23d April, 1762. Read the second Time, and will Pass."

Which was here Read, and Passed for Ingrossing.

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

SATURDAY, April 24, 1762.

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

An Ingrossed Bill, entituled, *An Act to prevent any future Loan of the Bills of Credit in the Paper Currency Office, &c.*

An Ingrossed Bill, entituled, *An Act for destroying of Crows and Squirrels in Baltimore County*;

Were sent to the Upper House, with the Paper Bill, by Mr. *J. J. Mackall* and Mr. *Waring*.

Col. *Robert Jenkins Henry*, from the Upper House, delivers to Mr. Speaker, the Journal of Accounts; thus Indorsed, "By the Upper House of Assembly, 24th April, 1762. Read and will not be Assented to."