

POST-MERIDIEM. The House met, &c.

Samuel Chamberlaine, Esq; from the Upper House, delivers to Mr. Speaker, the following Message, viz.

By the UPPER HOUSE of ASSEMBLY, November 14, 1765.

G E N T L E M E N,

THIS is attended with two Petitions from *Baltimore* and *Worcester* Counties, desiring that the Inhabitants of those Counties may be relieved from the great and heavy Charge arising from the Allowances made for the Maintenance and Support of the Poor.

The Burthen occasioned by our present Method of providing for the Poor, is generally felt and complained of, and we could wish to see some better Regulation of this Matter, universally introduced into this Province. Upon having Recourse to the last Year's Levy Lists, returned to the Clerk of the Council, for Ten Counties only, (the Returns from the Counties of *Frederick*, *St. Mary's*, *Worcester*, and *Queen-Anne's*, not having yet been made,) we find the Amount of the Poor's Rate therein, including Sheriff's Commission, to be One Million Three Hundred Seven Thousand Six Hundred and Forty-two Pounds of Tobacco.

Whether the Erection of Work-Houses, and Houses of Correction, in all the Counties, would not give great Relief to the Inhabitants in the annual Levies, afford a more regular and better applied Provision for the Poor, check the Disorders committed by common Beggars and idle Vagrants, and lay a Foundation for useful Industry, we refer to your Consideration.

Signed by Order, U. SCOTT, Cl. Up. Ho.

And a Petition of the Inhabitants of *Baltimore* County; and a Petition of the Magistrates, and sundry other Inhabitants of *Worcester* County, praying to have a House for the Reception of the Poor, and a Work-House, erected in said Counties; Indorsed, "By the Upper House, Referred to the Consideration of the Lower House."

Which Petitions were here Read the first Time, and Ordered to lie on the Table.

Benedict Calvert, Esq; from the Upper House, delivers to Mr. Speaker, a Petition of *Anne Ogle*, of *Annapolis*, Widow, *Benjamin Tasker*, and *John Hammond*, Esqrs. praying Leave to bring in a Bill to sell Two Tracts of Land lying in *Anne-Arundel* County, the one called *Hickory-Ridge*, containing 260 Acres; the other called *Greenland*, containing 100 Acres. And a Petition of the Inhabitants of *Anne-Arundel* County, praying Leave to bring in a Bill for the erecting a Work-House, or Hospital, for the Reception of the Pensioners, or Poor, of the said County; severally Indorsed, "By the Upper House of Assembly, Read and Referred to the Consideration of the Lower House of Assembly."

Which Petitions were here Read the first Time, and Ordered to lie on the Table.

On Motion, Mr. *Sullivan*, Mr. *Parran*, Mr. *Lecompte*, and Capt. *Ware*, have Leave of Absence for a few Days.

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

F R I D A Y, November 15.

THE House met. All the Members appeared as Yesterday, except Mr. *Parran*, and Capt. *Ware*.

On Motion of Col. *Tilghman*, That a Committee be appointed to consider, and Report their Opinion, by what Right the Lord Proprietary of this Province, takes the Fines and Forfeitures arising at Common Law: Whether they ought not to be applied to the Support of his Government here? And, Whether an Account of such Application ought not to be rendered, or stated, for the Satisfaction of the Public? Also to enquire into, and Report, the annual Amount of all Duties, Imposts, and Sums received and collected by the said Lord Proprietary, or his Officers, for his Use, by or under Colour of Laws or Customs of this Province, for the Support of his Government here, distinguishing the same under proper Heads; and their Opinion, Whether the Application of all the Monies, so collected, ought not, by regular Accounts, to be made apparent to the Public.

—ORDERED, That *James Hollyday*, *Thomas Johnson*, *Edmund Key*, *Samuel Chase*, *John Hammond*, *Samuel Wilson*, *William Murdock*, *Thomas Ringgold*, Esqrs. Col. *Tilghman*, and Mr. *J. Hall*, be a Committee for that Purpose, and that they make Report thereof to the House.

On Motion of Col. *Tilghman*, That a Committee be appointed to enquire into the several lucrative Offices in this Province, and of the annual Profits arising from each Office: Ordered, That Mr. *Worthington*, Mr. *Grahame*, *Daniel Wolstenholme*, *Henry Hollyday*, Esqrs. Mr. *Earle*, Mr. *Hanson*, Mr. *Harris*, and Mr. *Beall*, be a Committee for that Purpose; and that they make Report thereof to the House.

The Petition of *Mary Covington*, Administratrix of *Philip Covington*, of *Somerset* County, deceased, was Read the second Time. Ordered, That *Samuel Wilson*, *J. Hollyday*, Esqrs. Mr. *John Adams*,