

*John Ridout*, and *Walter Dulany*, Esqrs. from the Upper House, and *Mr. Upton Scott*, Clerk of the Council, came into the Stadt-House, in whose Presence the aforesaid Delegates took the several Oaths to the Government, required by Law; subscribed the Oath of Atjuration, repeated and signed the Test.

*Benedict Calvert*, and *John Ridout*, Esqrs. from the Upper House, acquaint the Members of this House, that the Governor requires their Attendance in the Upper House.

The Members of the Lower House went to the Upper House. His Excellency required them to return to the Lower House, and chuse a Speaker. They returned, and unanimously made Choice of ROBERT LLOYD, Esq; a Delegate returned for *Queen-Anne's County*, to be their Speaker, and placed him in the Chair.

*Mr. Thomas Kinggold*, and *James Hollyday*, were sent to acquaint the Governor, that this House hath made Choice of a Speaker.

*Benedict Calvert*, and *Daniel Dulany*, Esqrs. from the Upper House, acquaint the Members of this House, that the Governor requires their Attendance in the Upper House, to present their Speaker.

The Members of the Lower House went to the Upper House, and presented to the Governor. ROBERT LLOYD, Esq; as their Speaker. His Excellency approved their Choice, and made the following SPEECH:

“ GENTLEMEN of the Upper and Lower Houses of ASSEMBLY,

“ SINCE the last Session of Assembly, I have received Letters from *Sir William Johnson*, his Majesty's Superintendant of *Indian Affairs* in this District of *North-America*, relative to a Representation which had been made to him, on Behalf of the *Maryland Indians*, some of whom, are, it seems, desirous to remove to *Ostfinsgo*, and to be incorporated with the Six Nations, if they may be permitted to dispose of the Lands, which, by the Legislature of this Province, were heretofore appropriated to the Use of these Peoples Ancestors.

“ Together with *Sir William's Letters*, I shall communicate to you a Petition, that hath been presented to me, by several of those *Indians*, also the fullest Information I have been able to get, concerning their Number, and the Lands they occupy or claim, so that you may be the better able to judge what Compensation it will be reasonable to give them for their Rights, should you think fit to repeal the Laws, by which they are at present restrained from selling the Lands they possess.

“ As the Person who is authorized by *Sir William Johnson*, as well as by the *Indians* to act for them, on this Occasion; will wait here, for the result of your Deliberations, I must commend this Business, in the first Place, to your Consideration.

“ GENTLEMEN,

“ The frequent Disputes, and great Contention, occasioned in this Province, by the Loss of Boundaries, and the Variation of the Compass, are Matters well worthy your Notice: Some Remedy, for so great an Evil, is indisputably wanting; but it might perhaps be difficult to point out one adequate and unexceptionable: That a just and equitable Regard may be shewn to the Rights of all concerned, the utmost Caution and Foresight, as well as the strictest Impartiality, are requisite.

“ The Defects of our present Road-Laws, are obvious and striking: You must be sensible what great Advantages would arise to the Community, from the Public Roads being made more direct, and kept constantly in good Repair; I hope, therefore, you will take this Matter likewise into Consideration.

“ I must also observe to you, Gentlemen, that an accurate Review of the Criminal Laws, made, or introduced here, seems to be highly expedient: When it becomes a Question, whether a Law is in Force, or not, a Tenderness towards Convicted Persons, they may not seem to deserve, usually takes Place, and, by that Circumstance, Encouragement is probably given to the Commission of Crimes. Let, therefore, some Criterion be established, so plain and explicit, for determining what Criminal Laws are in Force here, that all Doubts, on this Head, may in future be prevented.

“ GENTLEMEN of both Houses,

“ The Proofs, I have, on all Occasions, endeavoured to give, of my Desire to promote the Welfare and Happiness of the People, over whom I have the Honour to preside, make it, I hope, unnecessary for me, now, to assure you, that you will always find me ready to concur with you, in every proper Measure you can propose for the Public Good.”

*Mr. Speaker* (with the rest of the Members) returned to the Lower House, and resumed the Chair.

*The House adjourns till To-Morrow Morning IX o' Clock.*

WEDNESDAY,