

10012 1767 Proclam
256 VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS, SEPTEMBER 1770.

ORDERED, That Mr. *Johnson* and Mr. *Hall* do acquaint his Excellency that this House has made Choice of a Speaker.

John Ridout and *John Beale Bordley*, Esquires, from the Upper House, acquaint the Members of this House, that the Governor requires them to present their Speaker to him.

Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and (with the Members of the Lower House) went to the Upper House, where he was presented by the Members of the Lower House to his Excellency. His Excellency approved the Choice, and made the following Speech:

Gentlemen of the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly,
HAVING regard to the temperate Season of the Year, the stated Terms of the Courts of Justice, and to the Convenience of your private Affairs, I have called you together at this Time, which, on those Considerations, will, I hope, prove agreeable to you.

Gentlemen of the Lower House,
Some Papers concerning *Indian Affairs* I shall order to be laid before you. Considering the peculiar Circumstances of this Country, the Incertainty with Respect to the Part the other Colonies might be induced to take in this Business, and the Manner in which it was communicated to me, it did not strike me as an Object of so great Importance as to require a particular Meeting of the General Assembly at a very inconvenient Season, and therefore I reserved it for your Deliberation at this Time, to which I now recommend it, and that you will make such Provisions on the Subject as you may deem to be expedient; this Business remaining yet unsettled, Commissioners from one neighbouring Province only having attended at the Place and Time appointed.

I have the Honour of a Letter from his Excellency Lord *Botetourt*, Governor of *Virginia*, written at the Request of the House of Burgesses of that Dominion, which I shall also order to be laid before you. His Lordship's earnest Sollicitude, and my Persuasion of the Propriety and Utility of the Measure, call upon me to recommend it to you, in the strongest Manner, to join the Colony of *Virginia*, in erecting and supporting a Light-House on *Cape-Henry*. Permit me to desire also your peculiar Attention to the State of our Criminal Law; what Defects you shall discover therein it is in your Power to remedy. I have already experienced the Want of Precision on this Head to be productive of very great Inconvenience.

Gentlemen of both Houses,
Be assured that the Sanction of my Authority shall be given, with the utmost Alacrity and Satisfaction, to all such Regulations as your Experience has found to be most conducive to the Prosperity of the Province, and your Prudence and Regard for the publick Good, shall adopt and propose.

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

ORDERED, That the Governor's Speech be read, and it was read accordingly.
Mr. *John Paca*, Mr. *Aquila Hall*, and Mr. *John Matthews*, Members returned for *Baltimore County*. Mr. *Robert Henly Courts*, a Member returned for *Charles County*; and Mr. *Joseph Gilpin*, a Member returned for *Cecil County*, appeared in the House.

ORDERED, That Mr. *Ward* and Mr. *Ware*, do go with those Gentlemen to the Upper House to see them qualified. They return, and acquaint Mr. Speaker they saw them qualified in the usual Manner.

The Gentlemen took their Seats in the House.
ORDERED, That Mr. *Wright* and Mr. *Griffith* do wait on his Excellency, and inform him, that this House hath made Choice of Mr. *John Duckett* to be their Clerk, in the room of Mr. *Turbutt Wright*, who has resigned, and to desire his Approbation. They return, and acquaint Mr. Speaker his Excellency approved the Choice.

ORDERED, That Mr. *Worthington* and Mr. *Luckett* do go with Mr. *Duckett* to the Upper House, to see him qualified as Clerk of this House. They return, and acquaint Mr. Speaker, they saw Mr. *Duckett* qualified, by taking the several Oaths to the Government required by Law, subscribing the Oath of Abjuration, repeating and signing the Test, and by taking the following Oath, viz. "You *John Duckett* do swear, that as Clerk of the Lower House of Assembly, you shall true Entries make of all such Matters and Things, as by the Honourable Speaker, for the Time being, and that House shall be to you directed: The Secrets of the said House you shall not divulge to the Prejudice of the House or any Member thereof; but shall in all Things, as Clerk to the said House, well and truly demean yourself according to the best of your Knowledge: So help you GOD."

Mr. *James Hollyday*, a Member for *Queen-Anne's County*, is in Town sick and unable to attend. The House appoints *Robert Reynolds* Door Keeper.

ORDERED, That the Clerk of this House do inform Mr. *Ghiselin* thereof, and request him to qualify said *Reynolds* as Door Keeper to the Lower House of Assembly.

The House adjourns till III of the Clock Afternoon.
Post Meridiem. The House met according to Adjournment.

Mr. *Selby*, Mr. *Purnell* and Mr. *Wootton* appeared in the House.
ORDERED, That his Excellency's Speech be read a Second Time; which was read accordingly.

ORDERED, That Mr. *Johnson*, Mr. *Tilghman*, Mr. *J. Hall*, Mr. *Ringgold*, Mr. *Chase* and Mr. *W. Paca*, do prepare and bring in an Address to his Excellency, in Answer to his Speech.

RESOLVED, That the Hours for sitting for Dispatch of the publick Business, during this Session, be from Eight o'Clock in the Morning until One o'Clock in the Afternoon.

ORDERED, That Mr. Speaker do issue his Warrant to the Secretary of this Province, requiring him to make out new Writs of Election, directed to the Sheriff of *Queen-Anne's County*.