

To his Excellency ROBERT EDEN, Esq; Governor and Commander in Chief in and over the Province of Maryland.

The humble ADDRESS of the HOUSE of DELEGATES.

May it please your EXCELLENCY,

THE close Attention given to the Bill for amending the Staple of Tobacco has necessarily delayed our taking into Consideration the several Matters recommended to us, by your Excellency, at the Opening of this Session.

We have now appointed a Committee to look into the State of the criminal Law, and report their Opinion to this House. Your Excellency will perceive, by several Resolutions, a Copy of which is herewith presented, the Sense of this House on the other Matters recommended by your Excellency to our Consideration; and that we judge it necessary, before any Thing can be finally concluded, respecting a Light-House, in Order to apportion the Expence, that the Quantity of Tonnage of all Vessels in each Province should be ascertained, and transmitted to each respectively; we therefore request your Excellency will be pleased to order to be laid before this House, an exact Account of the Quantity of Tonnage of all Vessels, as well Country Bottoms as others, entering and trading into this Province from any Colony or Place other than *Virginia*, that the same may be transmitted to the House of Burgesses of that Colony.

Which was read and assented to, and signed, by Order of the House, by the honourable Speaker.

ORDERED, That Mr. *W. Paten* and Mr. *Mackall* do acquaint his Excellency, that this House hath prepared an Address to be presented to him, and desires to know when and where he will be pleased to receive it.

They return, and acquaint Mr. Speaker, that the Governor was pleased to signify he would receive the Address in a few Minutes, in the Conference Chamber.

ORDERED, That Mr. *Chase* and Mr. *Tilghman* do present the Address to his Excellency.

They return, and acquaint Mr. Speaker they delivered the Address, with a Copy of the Resolves therein mentioned, to his Excellency.

*William Fitzhugh*, Esq; from the Upper House, delivers to Mr. Speaker, the Bill, entitled, *An Act for the Trial of all Matters of Fact in the several Counties where they have arisen or shall arise*; thus endorsed: "By the Upper House of Assembly, October 18, 1770: Read the First Time" and ordered to lie on the Table.

Signed by Order,

U. SCOTT, Cl. Up. Ho."

"By the Upper House of Assembly, October 23, 1770: Read the Second Time, and will not pass."

Signed by Order,

U. SCOTT, Cl. Up. Ho."

*William Hayward*, Esq; from the Upper House, delivers to Mr. Speaker, the Paper Bills, N<sup>o</sup>. 8, 9, 10, 11; severally endorsed, "By the Upper House of Assembly, October 23, 1770: The engrossed Bill, whereof this is the Original, is read and assented to."

Signed by Order,

U. SCOTT, Cl. Up. Ho."

Mr. *N. Thomas* brings in, and delivers to Mr. Speaker the following Report:

By the COMMITTEE appointed to inspect into the Facts set forth in the Petition of Francis Baker.

YOUR Committee find, by an authenticated Copy of the Last Will and Testament of *Henry Baker*, that the same was executed the 24th Day of June 1768: That in the said Will is contained the Paragraph as set forth in the said Petition: That *Henry Baker* constituted, by the said Will, *Jeremiah Baker*, to be his sole Executor: That the said *Jeremiah Baker* renounced the Executorship; and that Letters of Administration, with the Will annex'd, were granted to the said Petitioner: That the said Petitioner appraised the Estate of the said *Henry*, and returned an Inventory thereof, with a List of sperate and desperate Debts, into the Prerogative-Office: The said Inventory amounting to £. 707 : 4 : 7. The sperate Debts to £. 199 : 4 : 8½; out of which, that the said *Francis Baker* hath disbursed £. 692 : 17 : 7, as appears to your Committee by an Account allowed by the Commissary-General: That there is a List of desperate Debts returned by the said Administrator, amounting to £. 2815 : 6 : 1 Currency; out of which, from the Information of one of your Committee, not more than £. 150 will probably be recovered: That the Claims against the Estate, by Judgments, Obligations, Notes and otherwise, remaining unpaid, amount to £. 2142 : 12 : 10, as appears to your Committee, by the Oath of the Petitioner, endorsed upon a List of the said Debts: That *Samuel*, the Son of *Francis*, the Petitioner, and *Henry*, the Son of *Henry*, the Testator, are Infants; and that *Jeremiah Baker*, Son of the said *Henry Baker*, who is of full Age, hath consented, by Writing under his Hand, that all the Residue of the Lands, included in the Paragraph of the Will, set forth in the Petition as aforesaid, shall be sold.

Signed per Order,

RALPH DOBINSON, Cl. Com.

Which was read; and the Petition of *Francis Baker* was read a Second Time.

Leave given to the Petitioner to bring in a Bill according to the Prayer of the Petition.

*Walter Dulany*, Esq; from the Upper House, delivers to Mr. Speaker, the Bill, entitled, *An Act to unite the Free Schools of Somerset and Worcester Counties*. And,

The Bill, entitled, *An Act to enable the Justices of Dorchester County Court, to assess and levy on the taxable Inhabitants of the said County, a Quantity of Tobacco, for the Purpose of building a Court*