

ROBERT EDEN, Esq; GOVERNOR.

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

ORDERED, That a Message be prepared to the Upper House, acquainting them therewith.

ORDERED, That the following Rules be observed during this Session:

- I. That no Member of the House use any reviling Speeches, or name any Member by his proper Name, but shall use some other Distinction, as, *The Gentleman who spoke last*, or the like.
- II. That no Member speak above once on any Debate, without License of the House declared by the Speaker; and, if Two Persons or more shall rise up together, the Speaker shall appoint who shall speak first; and no Member shall interrupt any other until the Gentleman speaking hath ended.
- III. That none shall deliver his Opinion, or speak to any Bill or Debate, unless he shall stand up, and reverently direct his Speech to the Speaker.
- IV. That every Bill proposed by the House shall be read Two several Days before it is sent to the Upper House, and once after, before it be engrossed; and that between every Reading One Day shall be intermitted; and that in that Time the Bill shall be laid on the Table for the Perusal of all the Members, unless on very urgent Occasions, Mr. Speaker, with the Consent of the House, shall dispense therewith; and then One Bill, being read Twice at One Sitting, shall be as sufficient as if read several Days, when so entered in the Clerk's Journal.
- V. That no Person come into the House of Assembly, while the same is sitting, with Sword or other Weapon, upon Penalty of such Fine as shall be imposed on them by the Speaker, at the Discretion of the House.
- VI. That if any Member, bound to attend this Assembly, shall be absent at the Hours and Place appointed, after the Speaker and Twelve of the Members are met, according to the Order for sitting, shall be fined according to the Discretion of the Speaker, not exceeding Five Shillings for any Offence: unless upon such Excuse as the Speaker shall admit of.
- VII. All Misdemeanors which shall happen in the House shall be censured or fined in the House.
- VIII. That no Bill shall be read a Second Time during this Session, till all the Members in Town shall be called in, except on some Excuse to be admitted by the Speaker.
- IX. That if any Member of this House do depart, without Leave from the Honourable Speaker and the House, such Member shall forfeit all his preceding Allowances, due to him for his Attendance that Session.

The following Resolves, viz.

RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE, That the Members, who shall be appointed as Members of the Committee of Aggrievances, have likewise the Character of a Committee for Courts of Justice; and that that Character, and the Duty of such Committee, be annexed to the said Committee of Aggrievances, as a standing Part of their Duty: And, that it be an Instruction to the said Committee of Courts of Justice, that they observe the Nature of all the Commissions to the several Courts of Judicature within this Province; and that they especially observe any Alterations that may at any Time happen, by accidental Omission or otherwise therein; and particularly relating to such Words therein, as require the several Judges and Justices to hear, try and determine, according to the Laws, Statutes, Ordinances, and reasonable Customs of *England* and of this Province, or to such other Words as have Relation thereto; and that they shall immediately make Report to the House, of any Alteration that shall at any Time happen in such Commission; and likewise, to have Regard, as near as may be, to observe wherein they differ from the Forms of the several Sorts of Commissions to the Judges and Justices in *England*; and also, to enquire and report, whether it appears that the several Magistrates in this Province have been duly qualified agreeable to Law.

RESOLVED ALSO, that this Province is not under the Circumstances of a conquered Country; that if it were, the present Christian Inhabitants thereof, would be in the Circumstances, not of the Conquered, but of the Conqueror; it being a Colony of the *English* Nation, encouraged by the Crown to transplant themselves hither, for the Sake of improving and enlarging its Dominions; which, by the Blessing of GOD upon their Endeavours, at their own Expence and Labour, has been in a great Measure obtained: And 'tis unanimously RESOLVED, That whoever shall advance, that his Majesty's Subjects, by such their Endeavours and Success, have forfeited any Part of their *English* Liberties, are not Wellwishers to the Country, and mistake its happy Constitution.

RESOLVED ALSO, That if there be any Pretence of Conquest, it can be only supposed against the native *Indian* Infidels; which Supposition cannot be admitted, because the Christian Inhabitants purchased great Part of the Land they at first took up, from the *Indians*, as well as from the Lord Proprietary, and have ever since continued in an amicable Course of Trade with them, except some partial Outrages and Skirmishes, which never amounted to a general War, much less to a general Conquest, the *Indians* yet enjoying their Rights and Privileges of Treaties and Trade with the *English*.

RESOLVED FURTHER, That this Province hath always hitherto had the Common Law, and such general Statutes of *England*, as are securitative of the Rights and Liberties of the Subject, and such Acts of Assembly as were made in the Province to suit its particular Constitution, as the Rule and Standard of its Government and Judicature, such Statutes and Acts of Assembly being subject to the like Rules of Common Law, or equitable Construction, as are used by the Judges in construing Statutes in *England*.

Were read and unanimously approved of.

ORDERED,