

"that I will not divulge the Secrets of the said House, or of any Committee thereof, but will in all Things well and truly demean myself according to the best of my Skill and Knowledge. So help me GOD."
R. GHISELIN.

ANNE-ARUNDEL I HEREBY certify, that on the 13th Day of October, 1773, came Benjamin Ford before me the Subscriber, one of the Justices of the Peace of the said County, and took the several Oaths to the Government required by Law; subscribed the Oath of Abjuration, repeated and signed the Test, and took the following Oath, viz. "I Benjamin Ford do swear, that I will true Entries make of all such Matters and Things as shall be to me directed by any Committee of the Lower House of Assembly for whom I shall act as Clerk, and that I will not divulge the Secrets of the said House or of any Committee thereof, but will in all Things well and truly demean myself according to the best of my Skill and Knowledge. So help me GOD."
R. GHISELIN.

The House adjourns till 3 o'Clock

P O S T M E R I D I E M.

The House met.

Mr. Lloyd brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker the following Address to his Excellency.

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,

WE his Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects, the Delegates of the Freemen of Maryland in general Assembly convened, return your Excellency Thanks for your Speech at the Opening of this Session. The different Topicks which your Excellency has been pleased to recommend to our Notice are of Consequence and require a very deliberate Consideration, but Matters of an important Nature, more immediately affecting the Welfare of the Province demand a previous Attention.

This Season of the Year being the most convenient to our private Affairs we shall cheerfully proceed now in a general Course of Business.

We are extremely happy in your Excellency's Assurance, that it will give you great Pleasure to co-operate with us in ordaining such Laws as may be conducive to the Welfare of this Province, as from thence we have Reason to expect our Endeavours will not be frustrated again by an abrupt Prorogation whilst we are engaged in Deliberations of Moment to the Community.

Which was read the first Time and ordered to lie on the Table.

On Motion, Leave is given to bring in a Bill relating to Leafes by the Rector, Vestrymen, and Churchwardens of Saint Anne's Parish.

On Motion, ORDERED, That Mr. Beall and Mr. Chase be a Committee to enquire what Laws will expire with the Close of this Session, and report the same to the House.

Upon reading a second Time the Address to his Excellency, the Question was put, That the Words "As from thence we have Reason to expect our Endeavours will not be frustrated again by an abrupt Prorogation whilst we are engaged in Deliberations of Moment to the Community" be left out of the said Address? Resolved in the Affirmative.

For the AFFIRMATIVE.

Messieurs	Bond,	Parran,	Ward,	Beall,	Holland,
	Key,	Lyles,	Veazy,	Sim,	Purnell,
	Worthington,	Chamberlaine,	Gilpin,	T. Wright,	Wootton,
	J. Hall,	Thomas,	Hyland,	Chaille,	Hagar.
	Weems,	White,			

For the NEGATIVE.

Mess	Barnes,	Johnson,	Courts,	Tyler,	Hammond,
	Maxwell,	Chafe,	Lloyd,	Page,	Griffith.

ORDERED, That the Committee appointed to prepare and bring in the Address, amend the same agreeable to the above Resolution of the House.

Daniel of Saint Thomas Jenifer, Esq; from the Upper House delivers to Mr. Speaker the following Message.

By