

agreeing to the Amendments now proposed. Your published Resolve, that "The Act for the Establishment of Religious Worship in this Province according to the Church of England, and for the Maintenance of Ministers," is not in Force, cannot regularly affect the Question, whether it is or not, a valid, existing Law. All the Members of your House have heretofore, in a very great Variety of Instances, expressed a different Sentiment in the regular Course of solemn Legislative Acts, and should this Act be established by the proper, legal Authority, the Planters may think it an Hardship to be compelled to pay 40 instead of 30 per Poll in inspected Tobacco, and the Farmers, and others, not making Tobacco, to be under the Disadvantage of making a Composition for the 40 per Poll, instead of being allowed to discharge the Claim, at an easy fixed Rate in Money. The Proposal respecting the Claim of the Clergy, which we made at the late Convention, if you should think proper to agree to it, would guard against these inconvenient Consequences of your Opinion, should the proper, regular, legal Authority determine the Act for the Establishment of Religious Worship, &c. to be in full Force, and the proposed Alternative give a Prospect of great Relief to the Planters. Many, at least Nine Vacancies by the Death and Removal of Ministers, have happened since October Session, 1771, when this Alternative on their Death, or Removal, was first proposed, and, upon the happening of such Events hereafter, the Makers of Tobacco may regret their not being allowed to pay in Tobacco or Money, at the easy Rate of Four Shillings. As a Law, (the Claim of the Clergy to merchantable Tobacco being considered) calculated merely for the Regulation of this Staple, and to ascertain its merchantable Quality, may prove to be inconvenient, so we have proposed a Duration for Three Years only.

Signed by Order,

U. SCOTT, Cl. Up. Ho.

Which said Message and Amendments were severally read the first Time and ordered to lie on the Table.

The House adjourns till To-morrow Morning 9 o'Clock.

F R I D A Y, November 26, 1773.

THE House met. All Members present as on Yesterday. The Proceedings of Yesterday were read.

The Message brought from the Upper House Yesterday, concerning the Inspection Bill, and the Amendments proposed, were severally read a Second Time, and the Amendments were agreed to, and the Bill passed for ingrossing.

Mr. Funk, being unwell, hath Leave of Absence.

The House adjourns till 3 o'Clock.

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

The House met.

John Ridout, Esq; from the Upper House, delivers to Mr. Speaker a Petition of sundry subscribing Inhabitants of Baltimore County, praying that an Act may pass similar to the Act passed in the Year 1768, for the Relief of the Poor in that County. And further praying, that a Sum of Money not less than Four Thousand Pounds Current Money may be appropriated to the Purpose of building and erecting an Alms and Work-House in the said County. And also, praying that the said Sum may be paid and advanced by the Commissioners or Trustees of the Paper Currency Office, out of the Interest Money or any other Money that may come to their Hands, and that the said Money be repaid to the Public, with Interest, by the County; thus indorsed: "By the Upper House of Assembly, November 26, 1773: Read and referred to the Consideration of the Lower House of Assembly.

Signed by Order,

U. SCOTT, Cl. Up. Ho."

On Motion, ORDERED, That Mr. J. Hall, Mr. Chase, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Paca, Mr. Chamberlaine, Mr. Griffith, and Mr. Beall, do prepare a Message to the Upper House in answer to their Message of Yesterday.

Mr. Ridgely hath Leave of Absence till Monday next.

Mr. Parran, Mr. Lloyd, Mr. Tolly, Mr. Reeder, and Mr. Weems, have Leave of Absence for a few Days.

The House adjourns till To-morrow Morning 9 o'Clock.

S A T U R D A Y, November 27, 1773.

THE House met. All Members present as on Yesterday, except Mr. Reeder, Mr. Ringgold, Mr. Sudler, Mr. Parran, Mr. Lloyd, Mr. Hammond, and Mr. Funk. The Proceedings of Yesterday were read.

Mr. Contee, Mr. Richardson, and Mr. Hawkins, have Leave of Absence for a few Days.

The Bill, entitled, *An Act to explain an Act, relating to Leases, made by the Rector, Vestrymen, and Churchwardens of Saint Anne's Parish;* The Bill, entitled, *An Act for quieting sundry the Inhabitants*