

(*Die Veneris Octobris 4, 1728.*)
TH E Members present Yesterday, in Conformity to their Adjournment, met this Day; and being incapable of proceeding any further in Business (with Conveniency) thro' Want of a Clerk; they make Choice of Mr. *Michael Macnemara*, as Clerk of this House, to succeed Mr. *Jenifer*, the last Gentleman in that Office, lately deceased.

Robert Gordon, Esq; a Member return'd to serve for the City of *Annapolis*, enter'd the House this Day; and Mr. *Richard Warfield* and Mr. *Edmund Jennings*, were Order'd to repair to the Upper House, to see the said Mr. *Gordon*, qualify'd according to Law: They return, and acquaint the House, they saw the said Mr. *Gordon* qualify himself, by taking the several Oaths to his present Majesty King *George* the Second, required by Law, repeating the Test, and also by signing the several Oaths of Abhorrence, Allegiance, and Abjuration, and Test. Upon which the said Mr. *Gordon*, took his Place in the House.

The House proceeded to name the several Committees; and appointed them in the manner following, *viz.*

Mr. *Walter Smith*, Mr. *Ralph Crabb*, Col. *Ephraim Augustine Herman*, Mr. *Robert Hanson*, and Mr. *James Holliday*, as a Committee of Elections and Priviledges.

Mr. *James Harris*, Mr. *Daniel Dulany*, Mr. *Joshua George*, Mr. *Samuel Hanson*, Mr. *Jennings*, Mr. *Philip Key*, and Major *Samuel Perrie*, as a Committee of Laws.

Mr. *Beale*, Mr. *Worthington*, Mr. *Holliday*, and Mr. *Chamberlaine*, as a Committee of Accounts.

Mr. *Warfield*, Col. *Belt*, Mr. *Beale*, Col. *Kendall*, Mr. *Matthews*, Mr. *Magruder*, and Mr. *Hamilton*, as a Committee of Aggrievances and Courts of Justice.

Mr. *Beale*, and Mr. *Dulany*, were Order'd to attend his Honour the Governor, in order to acquaint him, that this House had chose Mr. *Michael Macnemara* to be their Clerk. And that the House desire His Honour to give his Approbation thereto. Who return, and acquaint Mr. Speaker they did the same; and that his Honour was pleas'd to approve of the said *Macnemara*.

Resolv'd, That the Time of Sitting of this House, to dispatch Business, be from Nine of the Clock in the Forenoon, to Four of the Clock in the Afternoon, during this Session of Assembly.

Order'd, That Mr. *Beale* and Mr. *Dulany*, go to the Upper House, and see Mr. *Macnemara* qualify'd as Clerk to this House; they return, and acquaint the House they saw him qualify'd, by taking the several Oaths required by Law, repeating the Test, signing the said Oaths and Test, and taking the Oath of Office, according to the Form following, *viz.*

You *Michael Macnemara*, do swear, That as Clerk to 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 House you shall not divulge, to the Prejudice of the House, nor any Member thereof; but shall, in all Things, as Clerk to the said House, well and truly demean your self, according to the best of your Knowledge. So Help you God.

The House continues Mr. *Thomas Johnson* in the Office of Serjeant at Arms; and Mr. *Moses Adney* as Door-Keep'r to the House; and Order, That they severally take the respective Oaths to the Government, and the Oath of their several Offices.

Col. *Tilghman* and *John Rousby*, Esq; from the Upper House, acquaint Mr. *Speaker*, That His Honour the Governour, requires him and the whole House to attend him immediately, in the Council Chamber. The whole House accordingly went, and return. Mr. *Speaker* re-assumed the Chair, and Reported, that His Honour the Governour was pleas'd to make the following Speech, *viz.*

Gentlemen of the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly,

TH E Prosperity of the Province of *Maryland*, is the Subject of my daily Wishes; as it ever shall be, of my constant Endeavours: And I embrace, with Pleasure, every Opportunity to advance it. Hence arises the Satisfaction, with which I meet You at this Time. The Choice of Representatives which the Country seem to have made, gives me the agreeable Prospect of an happy Issue to our Consultations; whereby the Sovereign Interest of the Crown, the Government of the Lord Proprietary, and the Welfare of the People, may be happily improved, to mutual Satisfaction.

I have it in Command, from His Lordship, to assure You, That nothing could ever be more disagreeable to Him, than the least Appearance of Difference between Him and His Tenants. Some former Votes in the House of Burgesses, did first alarm his Lordship, and put him on his Guard, lest by joyning therein, or in some Consequences of them, he should be led, insensibly, into Resolutions of the Nature of the Sovereign Right of the Crown of *England*, to this Province; an Inquisition equally nice and dangerous: From hence arose a cautious Regard, to every thing that might seem any Ways to interfere with a Title so far above his Conscience. 'Tis from a like wary Concern, that he has found himself obliged to Dissent to the late Act prescribing *The Oath of Justice*; forasmuch as the Words thereof, not only seem to reflect on the Crown, but may also be genuinely construed, as intended to affect his Majesty's Royal Prerogative. in several of its Branches, as well in those reserved peculiarly to his Sovereign Person, as in those delegated to, or rather deposited and trusted by, the Charter to the Lord Proprietary; for the safe Guarding of which, from Diminution, his Lordship is as strictly accountable, as for any ill Use he could make of them: His Lordship, in Duty to his Trust, and in Justice to himself and you, has hitherto, and will ever preserve the Royal Charter inviolable, on his Part. And whatsoever is the Constitution of this Province by the said Charter, as well as all consequential Rights, Customs and Usages, his Lordship is most willing to secure to you; and has therefore order'd me to lay before you, *the Form of an Oath*, whereby the same Measure of Law and Right, will be preserved to you and your Posterity, which your Ancestors and your selves have ever enjoyed.

I am also to acquaint you from his Lordship, That the General Address of the last Sessions of Assembly to his Majesty, has been presented by his Lordship, and by his Majesty most graciously received.

I am