

They return and acquaint Mr. Speaker they delivered the Message.

George Plater, Esq; from the Upper House, acquaints Mr. Speaker, that the Governor requires the Attendance of the Lower House immediately in the Upper House.

Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and (attended by the Members of the Lower House) went to the Upper House; where his Excellency made the following Speech, *viz.*

Gentlemen of the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly,

THE Possibility of your undergoing any Inconveniences from being convened at this early Season, would have determined me against meeting you so soon, had not the Receipt of a Letter from the Governor of Virginia, made me apprehensive, the Welfare of this and the neighbouring Colonies might suffer from any longer Delay.

Alarmed at the Prospect of seeing our common Enemy Masters of all the Country adjacent to the inhabited Parts of these Provinces, his Majesty's faithful Subjects in Virginia, solicit our Aid to defeat their ambitious Enterprize; in the Event of which, I am persuaded, you will think this Province too much interested not to exert yourselves on this Occasion. Lest my enlarging on the many obvious Motives, which must incite you to answer our Neighbours Expectations, should be construed to imply a Suspicion, for which your late Address on the Earl of Holderness's Letter, leaves not the least Room, I shall only communicate to you the Letters which I have received from his Majesty's Governors on the Continent, respecting this Affair, and also one from the Lords of Trade, whereby we, as well as the other Colonies, are required to send Commissioners to Albany this Summer, with a Present to the Indians, as a Means of securing the Affections of those People at this critical Juncture, when, their being alienated from the English Interest, would threaten us with the most fatal Consequences. Your Results on these several Letters, I have the most sanguine Hopes, will give the strongest Testimony of your Zeal for his Majesty's Service, and demonstrate you to be truly Guardians of the Interest, Safety, and Honour of your Constituents.

Mr. Speaker (with the other Members) returned to the Lower House, and re-assumed the Chair.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. Speaker do issue his Warrant to the Secretary of this Province, forthwith to make out a Writ of Election, directed to the Sheriff of Kent County, to elect a Delegate to serve in this Assembly, in the room of Mr. William Rasin, who hath, since his being elected a Delegate for that County, accepted the Office of Sheriff.

Ordered, That the Gentlemen who were of the several Committees from this House last Session, be continued thereon this Session.

The House adjourns till the morrow Morning at 9 of the Clock.

Wednesday, February 27, 1754.

THE House met according to Adjournment: The Members were called and all appeared as Yesterday. The Proceedings were read.

On reading his Excellency's Speech, at the Opening of this Session,

Ordered, That the Committee of Laws do prepare an Address thereon.

On motion, *Resolved*, That this House will take into Consideration, on the morrow Morning, the Subject Matter contained in his Excellency's Speech.

The House adjourns until 2 of the Clock Afternoon.

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