

HORATIO SHARPE, Esq; Governor.

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These, *Gentlemen*, are Circumstances that present to our View no very agreeable Prospect, and I doubt not but the Repetition of them, makes every One of us burn with Resentment, and urges us to take the most speedy and effectual Measures, to prevent the dreadful Calamities that our Posterities must otherwise feel, from the Vicinity of such a People.

What Resolutions the *Virginians* have hereupon taken, I apprehend you are no Strangers to; and I am encouraged to hope, that the other neighbouring Governments, whom I have solicited, will shew an equal Zeal, and emulate their Conduct. That your Resolutions will confirm the Opinion his Majesty has been pleased to entertain of you, and merit the Confidence that He has thought fit to repose in the Affections and Loyalty of His *Maryland* Subjects, by distinguishing their Governor with the Honour of Commanding the combined Forces that shall be assembled to oppose the Enemy's hostile Attempts, I entertain the most sanguine Hopes; and that you will generously concur with the neighbouring Provinces, to enable me to answer his Majesty's Expectations and Royal Intention, in honouring me with such a Commission. A Commission, also, from his Lordship the Lord Proprietary, whereby his Lordship, from an earnest Desire and Solitude, to contribute to the Restoration of Peace and Tranquility to this, and the other *British* Colonies, has been pleased to dispense with my temporary Absence from his Government; that I may pay the most ready and punctual Obedience to his Majesty's Commands, shall, with the Royal Commission, be laid before you: And I will assure you, that the View of being thereby enabled to contribute, in a more particular Manner, than I could have otherwise done, to the Security and future Quiet of this Province, makes me receive these Testimonies of his Majesty's and his Lordship's Favour with infinite Pleasure, and enter on the Service with the greatest Alacrity. And, *Gentlemen*, as my future Reputation will, in a great Measure, depend on the Issue of this Meeting, I cannot help again repeating my Hopes, that your Resolves will be such, as must demand my Acknowledgments, and make it my future constant Study to express my Gratitude, by my Endeavours to promote, to the utmost of my Ability, the Welfare and Prosperity of the People you are here to represent.

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

The House proceeded to choose a Clerk, and made Choice of Mr. *Michael Macnemara*. Ordered, That Mr. *Robert Lloyd* and Col. *John Henry* do acquaint his Excellency with the Choice this House hath made of a Clerk, and to desire his Approbation thereof: They return, and acquaint Mr. Speaker, they delivered the Message, and that his Excellency was pleased to approve the Choice. Ordered, That Mr. *Robert Lloyd* and Col. *John Henry* do go with Mr. *Macnemara*, to the Upper House, to see him qualified as Clerk of this House: They return, and acquaint Mr. Speaker they saw him take the several Oaths to the Government, sign the Oath of Abjuration, repeat and sign the Test, and take the following Oath of Office; *viz.*

YOU *Michael Macnemara* do swear, that, as Clerk of 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 said House you shall not divulge, to the Prejudice of the House, or any Member thereof; but shall in all Things, as Clerk to the said House, well and truly demean yourself according to the best of your Knowledge. So help you God.

Ordered, That his Excellency's Speech (a Copy of which having been delivered to Mr. Speaker) be read, which was accordingly, and ordered to lie on the Table.

The House appointed Mr. *George Johnson* Serjeant at Arms, and *Richard Goldsmith* Door-keeper, to the Lower House of Assembly: And, Ordered, That Col. *Robert Jenckins Henry* do administer to them the several Oaths to the Government, and Oath of Office.

Col.