

Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and (with the rest of the Members of the Lower House) went to the Council Chamber; where his Excellency made the following SPEECH:

GENTLEMEN of the Upper and Lower Houses of ASSEMBLY,

IT gives me much Pleasure to have an Opportunity of Congratulating you on the many great and signal Successes with which GOD hath bless'd his Majesty's Arms, both by Sea and Land, in divers Parts of the World, through the Course of the last Year; which, it was hoped, would have inclined his Majesty's Enemies to Peace, and to accept of such Terms as may have been consistent with his Honour, and the Interest of all his Subjects.

This good End, however, not having been yet obtained, but the *French* King, on the contrary, still persisting in his unbounded Ambition, and seeming determined to prosecute the War with fresh Vigour, his Majesty our most gracious Sovereign, in order to render the Designs of his Enemies abortive, and having Nothing so much at Heart, as to improve the great and important Advantages gained in *North-America* the last Campaign, hath been pleased to command his Excellency General *Amherst*, to proceed in the Reduction of *Canada*, as you will see by the General's Letter, which, together with One that I had very lately the Honour to receive from one of his Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, shall be laid before you. From these Letters you will also learn, that his Majesty, hoping all his faithful and brave Subjects in *Maryland*, as well as in his other Colonies, will at this Juncture, cheerfully co-operate with and second to the utmost, the extraordinary Succours which have been supplied by the Kingdom of *Great-Britain* for our Preservation and future Security, hath been pleased to Order me to convene you without Delay, and to press you to raise with all possible Dispatch, as large a Body of Men, as the Number and Situation of our Inhabitants can allow, that the same being Formed into Regiments, may be ready by the Tenth of next Month, to march to such Place of Rendezvous as may be appointed, and afterwards to act in Conjunction with the King's Regular Forces, in such offensive Operations, as shall be judged by his Majesty's General most expedient for annoying the Enemy. That the Service recommended might be the less Burthensome to us, the King's Commissaries are ordered to Victual all the Provincial Troops in the same Manner as the Regular Forces are Victualled; nor doth his Majesty expect any Thing more from the Colonies than that they will defray the Expence of Levying and Cloathing their respective Troops, and provide Pay for them during the ensuing Campaign: And that his Majesty's Subjects here may be encouraged to exert themselves to the utmost, he is moreover pleased to permit the Secretary of State to assure us, that strong Recommendations will be made to Parliament in their Session next Year, to grant a proper Compensation for such Expences as the several Provinces may be at, according as their active Vigour and strenuous Efforts shall appear to merit.

The Secretary of State, and General *Amherst*, having been very explicit as to what is expected from us, it only remains for me to exhort you to take their Letters into immediate Consideration, and shew by your Proceedings thereupon, that altho' the unhappy Issue of our late Sessions, gave sufficient Room for the Censure contained in Mr. Secretary *Pitt's* Letter, yet that it was by no Means owing to any Want of Loyalty, Affection, or Gratitude, to our most gracious Sovereign. And,

Gentlemen of the Lower House,

I think it my Duty to intreat you in particular, cautiously to avoid at this Time, the Rock on which you have heretofore Split: And since you will find by the Opinion of his Majesty's Attorney-General, which I shall communicate to you, that the Supply-Bill, which you offered the Year before last, and again last Year, to the Gentlemen of the Upper House, is deemed such a one as they could not, consistent with their Duty, nor, without violating our Constitution, give their Assent to; permit me to hope, that you will now Frame such a Bill as may be judged unexceptionable, so that the Conclusion of this Session may efface the Remembrance of all past Failures, and demonstrate that we likewise are animated with the same laudable Spirit, which hath, since the Beginning of this War, so remarkably excited our Fellow Subjects to exert their most vigorous Efforts.

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

Ordered, That the Governor's Speech (a Copy of which he delivered to Mr. Speaker) be Read by the Clerk; which accordingly was, and Ordered to lie on the Table.

His Excellency communicated to Mr. Speaker, the following Letters:

S I R,