

## 2 VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS, OCTOBER 1771.

*Benedict Calvert and Walter Dulany, Esqrs.* of the Upper House, attended by *Dr. Upton Scott*, Clerk of the Upper House, came into the Coffee House, and the aforesaid Delegates took the several Oaths to the Government required by Law, signed the Oath of Abjuration, repeated and signed the Test, in the Presence of the Two Gentlemen of the Upper House.

*Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer and George Plater, Esqs.* from the Upper House, acquaint the Members of this House, that the Governor requires the Attendance of the Lower House immediately in the Upper House.

The Members of the Lower House went to the Upper House. His Excellency required them to return to the Lower House and choose a Speaker.

They return, and unanimously made Choice of *Mr. Edward Tilghman*, a Delegate returned for *Queen Anne's County*, to be their Speaker, and placed him in the Chair.

*Mr. Worthington* and *Mr. Chamberlaine* are sent to acquaint his Excellency, that this House hath made Choice of a Speaker.

*Daniel Dulany and George Stuart, Esqrs.* from the Upper House, acquaint the Members of this House, that the Governor requires their Attendance in the Upper House to present their Speaker.

The Members of the Lower House went to the Upper House and presented to the Governor *Mr. Edward Tilghman* as their Speaker.

His Excellency approved the Choice, and made the following Speech, viz.

*Gentlemen of the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly,*

**W**HILST engaged in enacting Regulations conducive to the Welfare of the Province, you will, I hope, find the Season convenient to your private Affairs.

The State of the criminal Law, which I recommended to the Consideration of the late Assembly, permit me again to press, as an Object that deserves your most deliberate Attention.

The Provision hitherto made, for repairing and keeping in Order the public Roads, having proved very ineffectual, let me also beg your peculiar Regard to this Subject; our Situation for Commerce has many natural Advantages, which will be diminished or improved, in Proportion to our Neglect or Care, in shortening Distances, and facilitating the Carriage of our native Produce to Market.

*Gentlemen of the Lower House,*

Nothing could be effected at the last Session, in Consequence of his Excellency the late Lord *Botetourt's* Letter, soliciting a Contribution towards defraying the necessary Expence that would attend the Erection and Maintenance of a Light-House on *Cape Henry*. I have, pursuant to the Address of the late Assembly, directed the Naval-Officers to furnish me with an Account of the Tonnage, which I shall order to be laid before you; as also a Letter from the Speaker of the House of Burgesses of *Virginia* to your Speaker, containing, as I am informed, the like Account of the Tonnage of that Province; and I must now request the Establishment of some Fund, for a Service in which the Trade of *Maryland* is so much interested.

*Gentlemen of both Houses,*

Be assured of my most cheerful Concurrence in every Measure tending to promote the real Interests of this Country, and that I shall deem myself happy, in Proportion to the Prosperity the People of this Province shall derive from my Administration.

*Mr. Speaker* (with the rest of the Members) returned to the Lower House. *Mr. Speaker* resumed the Chair.

The House proceeded to choose a Clerk, and unanimously made Choice of *Mr. John Duckett*. ORDERED, That *Mr. Beall* and *Mr. Tyler*, do acquaint his Excellency, that this House hath made Choice of *Mr. John Duckett* to be their Clerk, and desire his Excellency's Approbation.

They return, and acquaint *Mr. Speaker* they delivered the Message, and that his Excellency signified his Approbation.

ORDERED, That *Mr. Contee* and *Mr. Wootton*, do go with *Mr. Duckett* to the Upper House to see him qualified as Clerk of this House.

They return, and acquaint *Mr. Speaker*, that 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 *John Duckett* 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."

*Mr. John Hall*, a Delegate returned for the City of *Annapolis*, and *Mr. John Hammond*, a Delegate returned for *Anne Arundel County*, appear in the House.

ORDERED, That *Mr. Johnson* and *Mr. Worthington*, do go with those Gentlemen to the Upper House to see them qualified.

They return, and acquaint *Mr. Speaker* they saw them qualified in the usual Manner.

The Gentlemen take their Seats in the House.

ORDERED, That his Excellency's Speech (a Copy of which having been delivered to *Mr. Speaker*) be read; and the same was read accordingly.

The House appointed *Mr. Allen Quynn* Serjeant at Arms, and *Mr. Robert Reynolds* Door-Keeper. ORDERED, That they be qualified.

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