

Original
Journal. Whereupon put to the Question if a Bill shall be drawn up to restraine such their p'sumption or not, and carried by the Majority of voices in the negative.

But Resolved nemine Contradicente that his Ex^{cy} be addressed to issue his proclamation to restreine such their extravagances and p'sumptions.

House adjourned till one of the Clock in the afternoon.

Post Merediem. House Mett. absent M^r Ashman.

Resolved the following address be sent to his Ex^{cy} the Gov^r

By the house of Delegates March the 21st 1697/8.

p. 176 Upon Reading a certaine Letter from a Reverend Minister of the church of England which your Ex^{cy} was pleased to communicate to us complaining to your Ex^{cy} how that the popish priests in Charles County do of their own accord in this violent and rageing Mortality in that County make it their business to go up and down the County to persons houses when dying and phrantick and endeavour to Seduce and make proselytes of them and in such condition boldly p'sume to adminis^r the Sacrem^{ts} to them. We have put it to the vote in the house, if a Law should be made to restreine such their p'sumption, and have concluded not to make such Law att present, but humbly to entreat your Ex^{cy} that you would be pleased to issue the proclamation to restreine and prohibite such their extravagante and p'sumptious behaviour.

Signed p order. W Bladen, Ck: house Delegates.

Sent by M^r Staley and M^r Young, who returne and say they have delivered their Message.

A protested Bill of Exch: due from the Country drawn by M^r Samuell Cooksey Nav^l Officer of potomack upon Cap^t Petre Paggen payable to M^r James Dowling of S^t Mary's County being considered by the house, Resolved the said Bill and the damage of the protest be paid M^r Ben: Hall who is intermarried with the said M^r Bowlings Executrix by the publick Treasurer of the Western Shoar.

His Ex^{cy} the Governour having acquainted the house that it was wished a method of holding the Assemblies might be ascertained.

The house taking the same into consideration do unanimously resolve that they will draw up no methods of holding assemblies, but continue in the forme they have done, but as they shall gain Experience will endeavour to come nearer and nearer to the practice of the parliament in England as the constitution of this province will admitt.