

Thursday Sep^r 14. 1704

Original
Journal.

Council Sate Present as yesterday

A Bill directing the manner of suing out Attachments &c read and passed the second time for Engrossing

A Bill for Limitation of Certain Actions for avoiding Suits at Law read the second time & does pass for engrossing

A Bill against Reqrators and Ingrossers read the second Time & passed for Ingrossing

A Bill declaring the altering or Scratching out the mark of Tob^o or altering the Quality thereof after received without Lawful Order or Warrant shall be deemed felony read the second time and passed for Engrossing with the addition of these Words (or discovered) at the End of the Law

And A Bill for publication of all Laws read the third Time and passed for Engrossing and sent to the house by M^r Sanders & M^r Coursey

Ordered that a Copy of what his Ex^{cy} was pleased to say to the Popish Priests be delivered M^r Coursey

The following Petition preferred and read at the Board

Maryland Sct.

To his Ex^{cy} the Governour and her Majest^{ies} honble Council of this Province

The Petition of Thomas Cockshutt Joseph Colebatch and Henry Hall Clks Humbly Sheweth

That Whereas we are informed that Joseph Holt Clk for some misdeameanours laid to his Charge has been lately suspended by your Ex^{cy} and this Honble Board ab officiis et Beneficio which penalty we are perswaded in our Consciencs cannot be inflicted upon him by any Civil Power whatsoever as such but only by his Bishop and that too according to the Canons of our Church and only by Virtue of the Authority Committed to him by Christ our Lord for our office as ministers of Christ is purely Spiritual and therefore we cannot be deprived of it or the Exercise thereof by any Lay Person or Persons how great Soever without Sacrilegiously usurping upon the Divine Authority Committed by Christ to his Church which we hope is not designed by the late Suspension nor can we see how M^r Holt could in Conscience Submitt to it if any such Thing were intended thereby we therefore humbly beseech your Ex^{cy} and this honble Board that if the said M^r Holt has transgressed the Laws he may be proceeded against as they direct and not be interrupted in the Exercise of his Office 'till such time as by his Bishops Authority he may (as upon a legal Enquiry he shall appear to deserve) be punished by sus-