

L. H. J.
Liber No. 54
June 15

Maryland, in which I am well assured, I shall be assisted by the Concurrence, not only of the new Proprietary, but also of the Guardians of his Minority.

M.^r Speaker and Gentlemen of the Lower House,

If the Inconvenience of this Season be such, as that a Meeting at another, would be more agreeable to you, I will, upon being informed of your Inclinations, prorogue this Assembly to a Time more convenient to your private Affairs; but should you think proper to enter upon, and proceed in, a general Course of Business, I shall with the greatest Pleasure, attend the Duties of my Department, and most cheerfully concur with you, Gentlemen of both Houses, in establishing such Acts of Assembly, as may be conducive to the publick Utility.

M.^r Speaker with the rest of the Members returned to the Lower House.

M.^r Speaker resumed the Chair

The House proceeded to choose a Clerk and unanimously made Choice of M.^r John Duckett as their Clerk

Ordered, That M.^r Key and M.^r Hammond do acquaint his Excellency that this House hath made Choice of M.^r John Duckett to be their Clerk and desire his Excellency's Approbation.

They return and acquaint M.^r Speaker they delivered the Message and that his Excellency signified his Approbation

Ordered That M.^r Thomas and M.^r Turbutt Wright do go with M.^r Duckett to the Upper House to see him qualified as Clerk of this House.

They return and acquaint M.^r 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.^t "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"

Ordered, That his Excellency's Speech, a Copy of which having been delivered to M.^r Speaker, be read; and it was read accordingly.

The House being informed that M.^r Josias Beall, a Delegate returned for Prince George's County, was attending; Ordered, That M.^r Sim and M.^r Contee do go with that Gentlemen to the Upper House to [see] him qualified.

They return and acquaint M.^r Speaker they saw him qualified in the usual Manner.