U. H. J. Gentlemen of the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly

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

p. 525 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 Publick 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 Botetourts 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

Adjourned until 3 of the Clock in the Afternoon

Eodem Die post Meridiem

The House met again according to Adjournment

Present as in the Morning

Mess.^{rs} Beall and Tyler from the Lower House acquaint His Excellency that their House hath made Choice of M.^r John Duckett for their Clerk and hope for His Excellency's Approbation to whom his Excellency is pleased to declare that he Approves their Choice

Walter Dulany and Daniel of Saint Thomas Jenifer Esq.^{rs} are appointed a Committee to prepare and bring in an Address in Answer to His Excellency's Speech

p. 526 Mess. rs Worthington and Johnson attend with M.r John Hammond a Member Elected for Ann Arundel County, and M.r John