

them to returne to their own house Imediately to make Choice Lib. R. U.
of a Speaker.

After which the said members returned and there unanimously made choice of Coll Mathew Tilghman Ward a member returned to serve as a Delegate for Talbott County for their Speaker who in his place disabled him selfe to undergoe soe weighty a Charge and Earnestly desired them to proceed to a new Choice which being denied and he placed in the Chair—

Then he prayed they might give him leave to disable himselfe to his Excellency.

After which Coll Phillip Hoskins and Cap^t Codd are sent to acquaint his Excell^{ny} that the Delegates have made Choice of their Speaker and to know when his Excellency will have him presented for approbation

They returne and Say they acquainted his Excellency thereof.

Whereupon L^t Coll Young and Coll Addison from the upper house acquaint the Delegates that his Excell^{ny} Comānds them to p^rsent their Speaker before him in the upper house.

Whereupon the house repaired to his Excell^{ty} as aforesaid and p^rsent Coll Mathew Tilghman Ward for their Speaker to his Excell^{ty} the Govern^r where the said M^r Speaker decently and Submissively addressing himselfe to his Excell^{ty} offered severall reasons disabling him from Serving in that Station, and therefore made humble Suit to his Excellency to be discharged, and that his Excell^{ty} will be pleased to Comānd the Delegates to make choice of an abler person which Excuses his Excell^{ty} would noe ways admitt of, being well Satisfied of the skill and knowledge of the said Coll Mathew Tilghman p. 137
Ward in the Publick affairs of this Province and required him in his Lordship the Lord Proprietary's name to accept of the said place.

After which M^r Speaker in the name of the whole Lower house desired his Excellency on his Lordship the Lord Proprietary's behalfe that the Delegates of this Assembly may have the freedom of Speech as of right and by Custome they have used and all their ancient and Just priviledges and Liberties allowed them and that in any thing he shall deliver in the name of the Lower house if he shall Comitt any Error noe fault may be imputed to the Lower house but that he may resort to them againe for declaration of their true intent and that his Error may be pardoned.

And Lastly as often as necessity for the Right Hoñble the Lord Propriarys Service and the publick good shall require