Maryland Ss

At a Session of Assembly begun and held at the City of Annapolis in Ann Arundel County on Monday the twenty Ninth Day of November in the Seventh Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lady Anne Queen of Great Britain France and Ireland and the Dominions and Territories thereto belonging Defender of the Faith &c. Annoq Dom 1708 by Virtue of her Majesty's Writs of Election directed to the several and respective Sheriffs of the several Counties of this Province and to the Mayor Recorder and Aldermen of the City of Annapolis requiring the said Sheriffs to Summon and call together the Freeholders of the respective Counties to elect and choose four Deputies and Delegates to serve as Representatives for their Several Counties and the said Mayor Recorder and Aldermen of the said City to elect and choose two Citizens to serve for the said City Representatives in this present General Assembly which Writs bears Date the Day of October last past return able this Day at which Time assembled in the State House several of the Members elected who having acquainted his Excellency the Governor of their Meeting were commanded immediately to attend him in the Council Chamber whither they went and being admitted his Excellency was pleased to say that since they were a sufficient Number to compose a House he required them to repair to their own House and there make Choice of their Speaker and present him. Whereupon the Members returned to the State House and made Choice of Mr. Robert Bradley a Member returned for Prince George's County to be their Speaker and place him in the Chair and then go and present him to his Excellency the Governor where being admitted Mr. Speaker made a short excusatory Speech disabling himself by Reason of some Imperfections and desired his Excellency to order the House to make Choice of some more able and sufficient Person for their Speaker which his Excellency would not admit of but concurred with the House in their Choice and commanded him to take the same upon him.

Then Mr. Speaker in the Name of the House desired the ancient Privileges of the House might be confirmed to them and that if any Thing happened amiss his Excellency would not attribute it to the House but to his Weakness and that he might have Recourse to his Excellency at upon all Occasions. All which his Excellency was pleased to grant And Mr. Speaker in the Name of the whole House returned his Excellency hearty Thanks.

Then his Excellency was pleased to declare to the House the Occasion of his now (calling)