

Altho' we are not insensible of the Danger which, in Time of War, we may be liable to, from the Nearness of the French and their allied Indian Nations; yet the Happiness of Peace, we hope, will be a Means of present Security. And inasmuch as the People of this Province receive no Benefit from Traffick, or are provided with suitable Presents for those Indians in Alliance with the English; nor will our Circumstances admit of laying any new Burthens for procuring such; we therefore cannot, consistent with our Duty, increase any Charge upon our Constituents for that Purpose.

L. H. J.
Liber No. 47
May 22

Which was read and assented to, and signed, by Order of the House, by the Honourable Speaker.

The House adjourns until Tomorrow Morning at 9 of the Clock.

Thursday Morning, May 23, 1751.

May 23

The House met according to Adjournment: The Members were called, and all appeared as yesterday. The Proceedings were read. p. 119

The Bill entituled, An Act for issuing Writs of Replevin, &c. The Bill entituled, a Supplementary and Explanatory Act to the Act entituled, An Act for the Ease of the Inhabitants, &c. And the Bill entituled, An Act to prohibit the raising of Swine in the Town of Bladensburg, &c. Were severally read the second Time and passed, and sent to the Upper House by Mr. Stoddert and Capt, Travers.

Col. Hooper, from the Committee of Grievances, delivers to Mr Speaker the following Report; viz.

By the Committee of Grievances and Courts of Justice, May 22, 1751.

Your Committee conceive it their Duty to represent to your Honourable House, that the Growth of Popery within this Province may (if not timely check'd by some additional Laws, or putting in Execution the Laws now in Being) become dangerous to his Majesty's Dominion and his Lordship's Government, as it now is manifestly prejudicial to the Protestant Interest, and a growing Grievance. That the Papists within this Province, contrary to known Laws, send their Children to foreign Popish Seminaries, there to be bred and trained up in the Popish Religion, out of the King's Obedience, and where they imbibe Principles destructive of our Religious and Civil Rights; many of which return Priests or Jesuits, and here live together in Societies, propagating with great Industry their Doctrine. That such, and other Seminary Priests, or Jesuits, so living together in Houses of their own, with public Mass-Houses; some taking upon them to teach Youth, purchase many Tracts of Land and Plantations, which they pretendedly hold in their own Right, extending such their Settlements to the back Parts of this Province. That as Numbers of Germans, French, and other Foreigners, come into and settle the back and remote Parts, among which are divers