

ing several reasons offerd agt the said petition, & signed by severalls, was referred, made Report: That after Reading of both the sd petition and reasons agt it, and several debates yrupon, It being by the sd Chairman putt to the vote of y^e said grand Committee, whether the sd Bridge should be built over the navigable part of Chester Creek, as is petitioned, It was Carried in the negative, nemine Contradicente. Adjourned to 2 in the afternoon.

POST MERIDIEM.

Att a Council Held at Philadelphia die Lunæ, P. M. 24th May, 1697.

PRESENT:

WM. MARKHAM, Esqr. Governor undr Wm. Penn, &c. et ysdem ut supra, except ut antea.

The Gor desired the Secrie to acquaint the House of Representatives, that Hee and the Council waited for ym; Who returned that they would attend him forthwith.

Mr. Speaker & the whole house of Representatives appearing, The Governor Caused the Secrie to read Mr. Blaithwait's Letter to him about the association to be taken in this province; as also, the act of parliament, Entitled *As also, a fair draught of the association, taken from that which Mr. Blaithwait sent him,* and desired that the representatives both for Council & assembly, would with him sign the same. And accordinglie, the Governor & those members who wer free so to doe, signed the association in terminus, as also the Secrie; And those whois principles and religious persuasions would not allow them to sign the same in Terminus, presented to the Governor a paper which they had drawn up, entitled: A declaraon of the people called Quakers, representatives in Council and assemblie for y^e province of Pennsylvania and territories thereunto belonging, mett att philadelphia in the 3d mo. 1697, with respect to our Loyaltie to the king, and fidelitie to His Government, and in reference to the late association.

Then the Governor askt both Council & Assemblie whether they had prepared anie other bills for his assent, or whether they had anie other bussines at this time; who answered no.

Then the Governor said: Gentl, I doe dissolve you, and you are hereby dissolved.

The End of the 5th Sessions of Council and assembly.

[9th Febr, 1697-8.

Att a Council Held att Philadelphia Die Mercury, 9th Febr, 1697-8.

PRESENT:

WM. MARKHAM, Esq., Governor undr Wm. penn, &c.

The Governor exhibited to the Council a Lettr from the proprietor, directed for him, to be opened only and read in a full Council; Which being thought to be as full a Council as could be got in such a season of y^e year, It was yrfor Resolved that the sd Lettr should be opened and read which was done. The contents prof wer as follows, verbatim, viz: "London 5th 7 m., 1697. Friends, The accusations of one sort, & the reports of another that are come for England agt yor government, not only tend to or ruin, but disgrace. That you wink at Scotch trade and a Dutch one too, Receiving European goods from the latter, as well as suffering yors, agt the Law & English interest, to goe to the other; Also, that you doe not onlie wink att but Imbrace pirats, Shipps and men. These are yor accusaons, and one Fra. Jones of philadelphia has Complaind of them to Gor Nicholson, becaus it was not redrest in the government. The Reports are, and a nameless Lettr is come to me besides from Philadelphia, to y^e same purpose, that there is no place more overrun with wickednes, Sins so very Scandalous, openly Comitted in defiance of Law and Virtue: facts so foul, I am forbid by Comon modesty to relate ym. I do yrfore desire and charge you, the Gor & Council for the time being, to issue forth some act or acts of state forthwith to suppress forbidden trade and piracy, and also the growth of vice and Loosness, till some severer Laws be made agt them: And I do hereby charge that no Licence be granted to any to keep publick houses, that do not give great securitie to keep Civil houses, and are not known to be of a sober Conversaon, and that the Courts of Justice in each County have the approbaon, if not Licensing of ym, In order to prevent such acts of the Lewdness and Idleness as are too often seen in such places; And that you take Care that Justice be Impartially done upon transgressors, that the wrath and vengeance of God fall not upon you to blast your so very flourishing beginning. I hasten to you as fast as y^e Complaints here agt you will give me leave, that make my presence now but too necessary. Let neither base gain nor a byast affection mak you partial in these Cases, but for my sake, yor own sakes, and above all for God's sake, Let not the poor province Longer suffer under such grievous and offensive Imputations; and will oblige him that loves you, prays for you, and prays to be with you, and is with true Love your real friend & affectionate proprietary. WM. PENN."

The Contents whereof, & the Complaints yrin mentioned being strictlie inquired into, The Gor did appoint Samll Carpenter, Joseph Growdon & Wm. Clarke a Committee of Council further to peruse the sd Letter, & to inquire into the sd Complaints, & to make report prof to the Gor & Council next day, by way of ansr to y^e sd Letter. Adjourned to 10th instant.

[10th Febr, 1697-8.

Att a Council Held att philad die Jovis, 10th February, 1697-8.