

U. H. J. ing to our Neighbouring Colonies doth daily happen by Ships leaving this Province by Reason of the two Great Strictness in taking Security from the masters of Ships which is very difficult to procure and Imposing Oaths on them and unless his Excellency can abate the Severity thereof here or procure the same Strictness in our Neighbouring Colonies it may prove of ill consequence to this province

By the House of Burgesses die & Anno Suprad

The house humbly desire his Excellency would be pleased to represent the same to the Commissioners of the Customs or take such other measures therein as he shall think fit

Approved of by his
Majestys honble Council
Signed p Order
W Bladen Clk Assembly
Hen Denton Clk Council

His Excellency is pleased to say that as to taking other measures he cannot comply therewith Contrary to the directions of the Law but will Represent the same to the honble the Commissioners of his Majestys Customs according to the request of the House

Brought from the House the following Message by Captain Dent and several other members of the House viz^t

By the House of Burgesses May the 13th 1696

In Answer to what his Excellency and the honble Board have been pleased to recommend to this House viz^t that his Excellency and his Majestys honble Council should
p. 886 be Joyned to the Committee appointed by this House for Laying the public Leavy we say that as it is the undoubted right and Priviledge of the Representative Body of this Province to Consent to the raising of Money upon the Inhabitants so likewise it is to Levy the same when raised therefore humbly pray the honourable Board would not press a matter so much Intrenching upon the antient rights and Priviledges of his Majestys Subjects of this Province

Signed p Order
W Bladen Clk Assembly

Ordered that three of the Gentlemen of the Council go down to the House and Acquaint them that his Excellency requires their Attendance here presently and to bring with them what Bills are Assented to

The honble Col^o Robotham Col^o Hutchinson and Col^o Addison went upon the said Message