

L. H. J.

Saturday Sep<sup>t</sup> the 19<sup>th</sup> 1696.

House met, And adjourned till 6 of the Clock on Munday Morning

Monday Sept<sup>r</sup> 21, 1696.

House mett. Message from his Ex<sup>cy</sup> by the hon<sup>ble</sup> Colonel Robotham and Colonel Addison.

Sept 18<sup>th</sup> 1696

The Gent<sup>m</sup> Professing the law (now in Town) being summoned to appear at this board do pursuant to order come up viz:

M<sup>r</sup> Cheseldyn, M<sup>r</sup> Soll<sup>r</sup> Gen<sup>l</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Clarke, M<sup>r</sup> Watkins, M<sup>r</sup> Boothby M<sup>r</sup> Hemsley. To whom his Ex<sup>cy</sup> was pleased to say that the occasion of his sending for them at this tyme was, that he understood there was a person made choice of to be a member in the house of Burgesses that was ordayned a priest, and therefore demanded their opinion whether he could be admitted to sitt as a member of the house of Burgesses, telling them of an Example of England in that case and another of this Province that have denied Clergymen that priviledge, and the Question is further put, whether a priest can dispriest himselfe

The said Questions being seperately answered by the said Gent<sup>a</sup> are all of opinion that no person in holy orders is qualified by law to sitt in the house of co<sup>m</sup>ons, and so by consequence, not in the house of Burgesses here, and that it is an indelible Character Stamped on them which be taken off but by the ordinary or power by which it was conferred

Henry Denton Clk Council

Put to the Question whether it shall be asked Col. Cood if he be in holy Orders, carried by Majority of voices in the Affirmative

And thereupon the Question being asked Col. Cood he replies if ev disabled himselfe, by accepting and

Military Comission.

Ordered that the Comittee of Elections and priviledges go and make their Reporte d Col. Cood qualified to sitt as a member of this house, with power to examine persons &c.

Comittee of Elections and priviledges enter the house, and present the following Reporte in relation to Col. Cood being qualified to sitt as a member of this house.