

U. H. J. Several other proposalls being considered of by this Board are Ordered to be fair drawn forth against the morning in order to be laid before the House

May the 28th 1697. The Council again sate and were present

His Excellency Francis Nicholson Esq^r Captain General &^{ca} Sir Thomas Lawrence Baronett Secretary, Thomas Tench Esq^r Col^o Henry Jowles Col^o Nicholas Greenberry Col^o Charles Hutchins Col^o John Courts

Brought from the House of Delegates by Captain Hill and nine other members the following Message viz.

By the House of Delegates May the 28th 1697

That we may not err in our dutiful Respects to your Excellency, yet maintain our own Rights and priviledges as the representative Body of this province first we being informed by our Committee of laws that their Clerk is taken into Custody by the Sheriff of Ann Arundell County by a Precept from your Excellency and his Majestys honourable Council for what Reason we know not which we humbly Conceive to be a great Breach of the Priviledges of this House.

^{2^{dly}} We humbly desire your Excellency and the honourable Council will please to signify to us the Reasons of such his Commitment

Signed p Order

W Bladen Clk Delegates

p. 926 The messengers return acquainted that this Board were not sensible of any Employment William Taylard Clerk had from the House neither did he himself Intimate the least thing thereabout but they are told that the Cause of his Commitment proceeded from a Complaint made by the honourable his Majestys Secretary of this province for the said Taylards detaining in his Custody a Book of Fees belonging to the Secretarys Office notwithstanding he the said Taylard had taken an Oath formerly before his Excellency in Council that he had delivered up all Publick Books Papers &c into that Office therefore does suppose that the House will not go about to protect a person charged with such a crime but see him severely prosecuted Requiring the Messengers to make the like Report Accordingly to the House