

of the House of Delegates

U. H. J.
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The hon:ble	}	Col Nich ^s Lowe	}	Mr Solomon Wright
		Maj ^r George Gale		Mr Nathan ^l Dare
		Mr Robert Tyler		and
		Mr Robert Skinner		Mr John Salter

The Conferees first proceed to take into Consideration her Majesty's recommendation that the Gauge of Tob^o Hhds in this Province should be the same with those of Virginia

In reference to which the Conferees are in Consideration thereof unanimously agreed that her Majesty may be addressed that our former Gauge may be continued for that the Tob^o in Virginia being thick & waxy they can pack thereon 400 pds Tob^o in Cask of their Size more than we can in Cask of our Size our Tob^o being thin & Chaffy and that till her Majestys Pleasure be known therein our Gauge be 48 Inches the length of the Stave & the Diameter of the heading be thirty Inches not exceeding thirty two Inches and that a Forfeiture of five hund^d pounds of Tob^o for each Cask Exceeding the Gauge be imposed on every Person or Cooper making or Setting up any other Cask. And that if any master mate or Person belonging to any Ship or Vessel shall crop squeeze or deface any Tob^o Shipped on freight The master forfeit & pay five hund^d pds of Tob^o for every Hhd so crompt squeezed or defaced And in Case any Hhd exceeding the s^d Gauge shall happen to be taken on board by any master undiscovered at the Time of taking the same It shall be lawful for such masters to put such tob^o on Shoar there to lye at the owners risque

As to that part of his Excell^s Speech relating to Divulgers of false news &c

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It is likewise unanimously agreed by the Conferees that the Justices of the several Countys have Authority to bind such Persons over to their next Courts wh^o have power to punish them as Disturbers of the Peace and that they cannot find any way to make a Law to restrain such Reports but what will Expose Innocent Persons to the malice of Informers

And as to that part of his Excell^s Speech in relation to Sr Tho^s Lawrences Complaints touching Ordinary Licences

It is the opinion of the Conferees that Sr Tho^s Lawrence has no right to the fine on ordinary Licences that a full answer be drawn to his Complaint and sent to her Majesty for her better Information & that it be therein mentioned that the fees of the Secretarys Office are vastly Increased of Late through the multitude of Business therein and that by means of the late war the product of this Province is become of little value that the ordinary Licence mony be continued to her Majesty as an