

Lords of Trade and Plantations after the Case so often adjudged we cannot say but must be plain in telling you we cannot approve thereof and wonder in a Matter the Country is like to receive so little Benefit by you should trifle away so much Time, letting your Prejudice to S<sup>r</sup> Tho<sup>s</sup> Lawrence over balance the true Interest of your Country. We desire you will once more duly consider the Nature of her Majesty's Commands so very urgent and often reiterated lest your Neglect thereof should lay the Country under her Displeasure when by a chearful Compliance with what she has dictated you might expect in proper Time to be heard and relieved in a Matter you think so hardly imposed upon you. And now that we may not be wanting to enforce her Majesty's Commands and endeavour to demonstrate the true Interest of the Province, we desire you will appoint such and so many of the Members of your House as you shall think fit to confer with four of the Members of this Board upon the subject Matter now in Hand.

L. H. J.  
Lib. 41

Signed p Order W Bladen Cl. Council

Read, debated & ordered the following Message be sent.

By the House of Delegates  
9<sup>th</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup> 1713.

Your Message by the Hon<sup>ble</sup> Col<sup>o</sup> Greenfield and three other Members of your Board we have read and considered and are sorry your Honours should think we have any Prejudice against S<sup>r</sup> Thomas Lawrence or any other Person and that we are not allowed to shew our Reasons against the false Allegations laid against us even to your Board. We cannot think her Majesty or the Lords of Trade and Plantations will deny us Justice. We never desired you to approve our Address, Only sent it you that you might see our Reason for not passing an Act. ffor your Wonder we should trifle away so much Time in a Thing the Country will receive so little Benefit by we do admire and believe some Persons are less concerned for the Country's Interest than their own particular. What Effect our Address may have or the Consequence thereof we know not but are sure the granting S<sup>r</sup> Thomas's Request will much impoverish the Country Neither can we think it will lay us any Ways under her Majesty's Displeasure. You have sufficiently enforced her Majesty's Commands to us and we have as effectually complied therewith as is possible in Equity and Justice to ourselves and Country. There have been many Conferences formerly on this Subject who always agreed 'twas none of Sir Thomas Lawrence's Right and