

You Thomas King do swear, that you will faithfully, diligently, and honestly discharge the Office of Serjeant at Arms to the Lower House of Assembly; and you shall not disclose or reveal the Secrets thereof. So help you God.

L. H. J.
Liber No. 46
May 10

You Thomas Sparrow do swear, that you will faithfully, diligently, and honestly discharge the Office of Door-Keeping to the Lower House of Assembly; and that you shall not disclose or reveal the Secrets thereof. So help you God.

Dr. Carroll, from the Committee appointed to search in the Offices for Precedents in the Journals, relating to the manner of choosing and appointing Clerks, delivers to Mr. Speaker the following Report :

To the Honourable the House of Delegates.

In Obedience to an Order of your honourable House, we have made search in the Offices for Precedents in the Journals of Assembly, relating to the Manner of choosing and appointing of Clerks; and do find, that in a Trunk in the Provincial Office are kept, in loose Paper-Books, Journals of the Assembly, from September Session, 1664, until the Year 1705, which are imperfect, some being lost; and others partly torn away; out of which, in the best manner we could, we have made the following Abstracts; viz.

We find, that in September Session, 1664, William Bretton acted as Clerk to the Lower House; but that Journal not beginning with a new Assembly, no mention is made how, or in what manner he was chosen or qualified. p. 815

In April Session, 1666, is the following Entry; ' And being come into their House, they elected Mr. William Bretton Clerk of the Lower House of Assembly.'

We cannot find any Journal from 1666 'til 1671, at which Time Robert Carville acted as Clerk; but the former Part of that Session being lost, we cannot discover how, or in what manner, the said Carville was chosen or qualified.

In May Session, 1676, we find the following Entry: ' Mr. Speaker, in Behalf, and by Order of the whole House, humbly requests of his Lordship Liberty to chuse their Clerk; which his Lordship grants them as a particular Favour to them, and not to be construed as their Right to elect; but that his Lordship may appoint whom he pleases to be Clerk of this House. They elect Robert Ridgely to be their Clerk; his Lordship approves of him, and they retire to their own House.'

In the Journal of 1694 we find, that the Speaker and the House desire that Cleyborn Lomax may be admitted their Clerk; which was granted, and a Commission given him under the Lesser Seal of this Province; and at the same Time had administred to him the Oaths