

U. H. J. Col<sup>o</sup> John Cood to sit in this House as a Burgess and that we might be fully Informed in the premises have appointed our committee of Elections and Priviledges to inquire and examine into the same who have accordingly done so and made their Report thereof thereupon it was put to the Vote whether the House should concur with the said committee that the said Cood was not qualified to sit here or not and thereupon it is carried and Resolved by Majority of Voices in this House that the said Cood is qualified to sit as a member whereupon we humbly present him to have the usual Oaths administred

Signed p Order W Bladen Clk Assembly.

An Answer to the foregoing Message was Ordered to be drawn up & as follows Viz<sup>t</sup>

By his Excellency the Governor and Council &c  
September the 21<sup>st</sup> 1696.

The Message by Major Smallwood and M<sup>r</sup> Hutchinson in relation to M<sup>r</sup> Cood was Received and read here and this Board does conceive that the question thereabout put is not rightly answered for that it is not disputed whether he is rightly chosen but whether he is a deacon or Priest and so not qualified to sit by the Law of England an answer thereto is by this Board Possitively demanded

p Order Hen Denton Cl Council

The said message being sent down to the House came answered as follows viz<sup>t</sup>

By the House of Burgesses September 21<sup>st</sup> 1696

This House before sending the last message in relation to Col<sup>o</sup> Cood did examine as well of his Qualification to sit as of the dueness of his Election and it did Appear to us that he was not only duly Elected but also Legally qualified to sitt as a member of this House notwithstanding what was alledged therefore humbly pray as in our former message have prayed

Signed p Order W Bladen Clk Assembly

An Ans<sup>r</sup> thereto was drawn up & sent as fol<sup>s</sup>

By his Excellency the Governor and Council &c September  
21<sup>st</sup> 1696.

The last message from your House touching the case of M<sup>r</sup> Cood was Received whereby this Board does find that the