

L. H. J. to send some of his Ma^{ty}s hon^{ble} Council to administer unto them the Oaths appointed by Act of Assembly and of the Oaths of Allegiance and Test.

M^r Henry Denton Clarke of the hon^{ble} Council came downe to the house and say that his Ex^{cy} commanded him to Acquaint the house that Col: Cood one of the members desired to be sworne is a priest and therefore uncapable of Sitting in the house of Assembly.

Whereupon Resolved unanimously the following Message be sent to his Ex^{cy}

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By the house of Burgesses Sept^r the 18th 1696.

Your Ex^{cy} having made this house acquainted by the Clarke of the Council that Lieut^t Col: John Cood is a Priest and therefore by law uncapable of sitting in this house.

Thereupon we humbly acquaint your Ex^{cy} that we find the said Lieut. Col: Cood is a member duly elected, that he hath satt in the Generall Assemblys of this Province for almost twenty years together that he hath also had severall Comissions as well from the Lord Baltemore as his Present Sacred Ma^{ty} for the executing and exercising both Judiciall and Ministeriall offices as other his Ma^{ty}s Subjects being laymen have accustomed to doe.

We humbly conceive ourselves proper Judges of our own members.

And therefore have Resolved that the said John Cood is legally qualified to sitt as a member in this house.

Signed p Or^d W Bladen Clk: Assembly.

Col: Beall Col: Hynson, Maj^r Hamond, Major Barton, Cap^t Jenkins, M^r Saunders &c. was sent up with said Message.

House adjourned for two hours.

Post Merediem House mett Col. Beall and the other members sent returne and say they have delivered their Message.

Resolved the following Message be sent to his Ex^{cy}

By the house of Burgesses Sept^r the 18th 1696.

We humbly desire your Ex^{cy} will be pleased to send downe some of his Ma^{ty}s hon^{ble} Council to administer the usuall Oaths to the new Elected Members according to our late request to the end we may proceed to business.

Signed p Order, W^m Bladen Clk: Assembly