

House again met [Mr Boothby] and Major Thompson  
returne and say they have delivered their [message]

Original  
Journal.

The hon<sup>ble</sup> Colonel George Robotham Col. Charls Hutch-  
ins & Colonel John Addison came down to the house and  
bring with them the sev<sup>r</sup>all Bills this Day sent up to his Ma<sup>tys</sup>  
hon<sup>ble</sup> Council except the Bill for laying the publike Levy of  
this province which bills af<sup>d</sup> are assented to by his Ma<sup>tys</sup> hon<sup>ble</sup>  
Council.

Ordered that Col. Darnalls Declaration set up at the Door  
of this house be entred upon the Journall & then again  
put vp.

Cap<sup>t</sup> Hill Mr Tasker Mr Boothby and Mr. Low sent to his  
Ex<sup>cy</sup> and the hon<sup>ble</sup> Council with the following Report from  
the Com<sup>it</sup>tee of Agrievances May the 12<sup>th</sup> 1696.

It is complayned of to this Com<sup>it</sup>tee that manifest & great  
Decay of Trade in Severall parts of this province adjoining to  
our neighbouring Colonyes doth dayly happen by Shipps  
leaving this province by reason of the too great Strictness in  
taking security from Masters of Shipps which is very difficult  
to procure, and imposing Oathes on them, and unless his Ex<sup>cy</sup>  
can abate the severity thereof here or procure the same Strict-  
ness in our Neighbour Colonyes, it may prove of ill Conse-  
quence to this Province.

This house humbly desire his Ex<sup>cy</sup> would be pleased to rep-  
resent the same to the R<sup>t</sup> Hon<sup>ble</sup> the Com<sup>rs</sup> of the Customs &  
take such other Measures therein as in his Wisdome he shall  
thinke fitt.

Mr. John Ollivers petition read. And put to the Question p. 28  
if the Pet<sup>rs</sup> and others under their Circumstances shall not  
pay Levys, And carryed nemine contradicente in the Affirm-  
ative.

Capt. Hill [and the rest of the members] returne and say  
they have delivered [their message and that] his Ex<sup>cy</sup>  
recomend that the Justice[s of the Provinciaall Court] and  
his Ma<sup>tys</sup> hon<sup>ble</sup> Council may be of the [Committee for laying  
the pub]lique Levy to be layd before [his Ex<sup>cy</sup>]

Whereupon [the following Message sent] to his Ex<sup>cy</sup> the  
Gov<sup>r</sup> & his [Ma<sup>tys</sup> hon<sup>ble</sup> Council]

By the house [of Burgesses, May] the 13<sup>th</sup> 1696.

In answer to what [his Ex<sup>cy</sup> and the] hon<sup>ble</sup> Board have  
been pleased to recomend to [this house] to witt that his Ex<sup>cy</sup>  
and his Ma<sup>tys</sup> hon<sup>ble</sup> Council should be joyned to the Com<sup>it</sup>tee  
appointed by this house for laying and assessing of the pub-  
lique Levy. We say that as it is the undoubted Right and  
priviledge of the Representative Body of this province to con-