

L. H. J. By the House of Burgesses, Sept<sup>r</sup> the 21<sup>st</sup> 1696.

This house have carefully and maturely considered the last message and the objection made ag<sup>t</sup> the quallification of Col John Cood presented to this house as a Burgess, And that we might be fully informed appointed our Com̄ittee of Elections and Priviledges to enquire and examine into the matter, and who accordingly done so and made their reporte

Whereupon the following Question in this house, Whether the house will concurr in the reporte of s<sup>d</sup> Com̄ittee that the said Cood was not quallified to sitt here or not, and thereupon It is carryed and resolved by Majority of voice in this house that the said Cood is quallified to sett in this house as a member,

Whereupon we humbly present him to have the usuall oaths administered

Signed p order  
W Bladen Clk Assembly

Sent p Major Smallwood and M<sup>r</sup> Hutchison who are ordered to present the said Col. Cood to be sworne.

M<sup>r</sup> Jenkins and Cap<sup>t</sup> Blay sent to acquaint the hon<sup>ble</sup> S<sup>r</sup> Thomas Laurence Bar<sup>t</sup> that this house is ready to receive his Reporte.

Who returne to the house and say they have delivered their Message. The hon<sup>ble</sup> S<sup>r</sup> Thomas Laurence Bar<sup>t</sup> Col. George Robotham, Col Charles Hutchins, Thomas Brooke Esq<sup>r</sup> James Frisby enter the house where being admitted, His hon<sup>r</sup> S<sup>r</sup> Thomas Laurence gives an acc<sup>t</sup> and acquaints the house how the Affairs of this Province had been transacted by him in England.

Then came the following Message from his Ma<sup>ty</sup>s hon<sup>ble</sup> Councill, by the hon<sup>ble</sup> John Addison and Thomas Brooke Esquire, viz.

By his Ex<sup>cy</sup> the Gov<sup>r</sup> and Councill 7<sup>br</sup> 21<sup>st</sup> 1696

The Message by Major Smallwood and M<sup>r</sup> Hutchison 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 dispu[ted 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 [positively] demanded.

Signed p ord<sup>r</sup> Hen: Denton Clk. Councill