

By the House of Delegates Octob. 27th 1709
May it please your Hono^r

We have considered your Hono^rs Speech and shall diligently apply our selves to raising a supply to defray the publick Charge of this present year

Wee shall take it well all Sett. lately heard be sayd before us that we may know her Majestys pleasure and Commands

But as to the Matter of Licences to Ordinary keepers and the Tobacco paid for them we have traced the Originall and progress thereof, and neither find it a Certain duty to be always continued as such usefull Subject nor necessarily affial to the Secretarys Office, but only sometimes by Accident permitted to those who were Secretarys.

And further wee conceive it a thing so contrary to right and reason and the equality and indifference of Justice and soe nauseous and Odious to Subjects to have a tax imposed on one sort of Subjects to be applied to the enriching of one onely Subject who not soe much as sells penne to paper for it, nor has more than a bare colour of pretence. That wee are sorry her Majesty by the unwarranted Solicitations of S. Thomas Laurence requires anything of us to which we cannot assent

We have prepared an Address about this and are desirous your Honours to Joyn

Wee thank your Hono^rs for soe readily and diligently taking on you the burden of your duty according to her Majestys Royall Commission and wee shall always be Ready to support you in it and Joyn with you in what is our duty that the Service and welfare of the Province may not be impaired in the absence of a Cap. Gener. and to show our dutifullness to her Majesty and good affection to your Hono^rs

Signed off order Wayland

Which being Read and approved of by the Hono^rable Council by M. Shalmon Tomney, M. Ward Cap. John Tylor, M. Lee, and M. Walter Storey

They returns and say they delivered the sa. Coll W. Hollands Thomas Enalls, Coll W. Whittington Enters the House and a Message together with severall papers relating to Laurence which was read in the House and sent of Law to inspect the same and make answer

must be
remitted
rights to be