

The House Adjourns to the Council Chamber where being admitted the Honble House was please to speak to them as follows

M<sup>r</sup> Speaker and you Gent<sup>l</sup> of the House of Delegates  
Nothing of consequence happening since the last Session, have with the advice of her Majesty's Honble Council as well as by my own inclination delayed convening you till this time, I persuade my self you will approve our Conduct therein and will now heartily joyn with us in choosing the best methods for accomplishing the business of this Session and raising such subsidies as may be wanting to defray the publick Charge of this present year. I acquainted you last Session that I am restrained from passing any Act in the absence of a Gov<sup>r</sup> in Chief but what are immediate necessary for the preservation of the peace and welfare of the Province without her Majesty's particular ord<sup>r</sup>. for that purpose I doubt not but it is yet fresh in your memory for which reason Expect you will not move me to Act contrary to what I am so strictly Charged with considering you will reap no other advantage than to prolong this Session and burthen the Country with Charge.

Gent<sup>l</sup> S<sup>r</sup> Thomas Laurence her Majesty's Secretary of this Province being himself hardly used in being kept out of the benefits accruing by Ordinary Licences upon a further Representation of his Case has obtained her Majesty's Order requiring me at the first Assembly which shall meet after the receipt thereof to signify to you in the most earnest <sup>manner</sup> that notwithstanding the severall orders made in Council and Letters her Majesty has been pleased to write in his behalf after his Case had been fully Examined by the Com<sup>rs</sup> of Trade and Plantations and the Attorney General who all agreed in representing the hardships thereof has likewise with no compliance for which reason her Majesty is pleased to signify her will and pleasure and to Command me to acquaint you she Expects you should forthwith pass a Law Regulating Ordinary without Limitation of time or at least for a longer duration than it hath hitherto been made, and that the benefit of the Licences be thereby appropriated to the Use of the Secretary for the time being as fully and to all intents and purposes as the said S<sup>r</sup> Thomas Laurence or any other Secretary of this her Province hath at any time heretofore had or lawfully Enjoyed And that she does she Expects you give unto the said S<sup>r</sup> Thomas Laurence an Equitable Consideration for the mean profits of the said Office which he hath lost since the year 1704.

M<sup>r</sup> Speaker and you Gent<sup>l</sup> shall have the veruall of her Majesty's above cited order by which you will see how strictly I am Commanded to propose  
(tho's)