

U. H. late, Shipping is gone out of the Country, and thereby your
 Journal Petitioner damnified both in his Credit & loss of Tob^o lying
 1659-98 in his hands

The Premises Considered your Petitioner humbly begs your Honours to release his Obligation of building the House af^d he being willing to repay all such Tob^o as by Sherriffs Acc^{ts} shall appear by him to be received, likewise that your Honours will take Care that speedier payments & Returns be by all Sherriffs made of all Ordinary Debts whatsoever without which your Petitioner is totally ruined & disabled from the Continuance of his Employment

And he as in Duty bound shall pray &c.

On which Petition was Endorsed viz.

April 19th 1666

In the Lower House of Assembly

W^m Smith having preferred the within Petition unto this House upon reading thereof the said Smith being sent for was demanded whither or no he was willing to be bound to build a lesser House for the Country's Accommodation that might not require so long time in building & finishing the same of so many Workmen & other requisite Provisions as that former house which he was Enjoined to build would have done. And p. 96 he thereunto answered that he was willing to build any house that he possibly could, and he further Petitions that a Course may be taken that Ordinary Debts be better provided for in the point of payment, the meaning of which being of him demanded he expressed himself that the meaning thereof is that he desires Execution upon account if justly proved without the Debtors Subscription may be allowed

This House therefore being of Opinion at present that they see no Cause for the repealing the former Act about the State house & that a former Law hath sufficiently provided for payment of ordinary Debts the Consideration of the Petition be left to the debate of the Upper House & that they would signify to this House their Opinions on the Same

W^m Bretton Clk.

To Which was Answered

The Upper House do think fit to repeal the Act for building a State House saving that Clause which obligeth Will^m Smith to repair this old House & keep Ordinary in it for seven Years & that Smith repay the Tobaccos next Year which he hath already received towards the building of the Great Stadt house, And further that both houses do think of some way to provide