

U. H. Journal
1659-98

p. 303

The Chancellor is Desired to go to the Lower house & acquaint them that his Lordship had Commanded him to tell You he cannot but Wonder how the Lower house of Assembly Assume to themselves a Power here that is not only New to us and unheard of before in this Province, But not Practiced in Virginia, Barbadoes or any other of his Majesties Plantations—

In Virginia the Sheriff is bound to Certifie the Decease or Absence in England &^t of any Member of Assembly to the Governor and that under a Penalty and the Governor then issues his Writt for a New Election, not a Word there is heard of the Speakers Writt and yet they are as much Concerned in the Parliament of England as we can be, but they certainly know the Precedents there are impracticable in the Foreign Plantations and therefore Amuse not themselves with things they understand perhaps as little as we and Serve only to fore-slow Business and Ruine the Publick—

His Majesty hath the Sole Power to Dispose of his Conquests upon terms he Pleases, is not Tyed to take the Parliaments Consent in his Disposall of them, he Hath granted his Lordship a Patent with Several Powers and Priviledges amongst which Enacting of Lāws is one, His Lordship hath Propounded a way for the Settlem^t of future Assemblies wherein every County will have as many Delegates as the Greatest County in England Knights, and one County there hath more People then Our whole Province, wherefore his Lordship desires You will give your Positive Answer Whether you will Join with him and the Upper house in the Dispatch of the Weighty Affairs for which he called You and which now press hard upon him, the Enemy being in the Bowells of the Province, and if you will he hath Commanded to Let you know that he will issue Writts pro hac vice tantum to fill up the house with four Delegates for each County—

The Chancellor having Delivered his Message by word of Mouth returns again and Says, they Desire the same in writing which was Drawn and Sent by the Secretary and he returns—

A Message from the Lower house by M^r Adams and M^r Henly

Lower house of Assembly Aug^t the 23^d 1681

This house is willing to Comply with his Lordship in all Matters, but his Lordship having not Pleased to Communicate any thing of the Indian affair to this house they know not how to Nominate or give Instructions to any Member of this house for that end not well conceiving why his Lordship pleases to require a Member of this house unless to appear for this house—

Signed p^r Order of the house

C: Boteler Cl Assistant of the Lower house of Assembly