U. H. J.   This Board has Perused the message of your House by your Clerk sent touching the Ships &c and for answer return that they are of Opinion it will Conduce most to his Majestys Service that the Ships now in the Country be Cleared as they are got ready and for the Reasons already laid before the House which this Board takes to be good Reasons

<div align="right">Signed ꝑ Order
Hen Denton Clk Concil.</div>

The said Message sent by the Clerk of this Board who returns and says that the House was Adjourned until Monday morning but that he delivered the same to the Speaker at his Lodgings

<div align="center">May 4th 1696</div>

p. 861   Brought from the House of Burgesses by Major Hammond and Major Dorsey the following answer to the above message sent them from this Board vizt

<div align="center">By the House of Burgesses May the 4th 1696</div>

The House Concur with the Opinion of his Majestys honble Council that the Ships be Cleared

<div align="right">Signed ꝑ Order
W Bladen Clk Assembly.</div>

The which being read as also the Proposalls made to the House for the same it is Considered that Hot weather now coming on and the time for the worms biting therefore his Excellency is pleased to demand of the Board whether it may not be most for his Majestys Service that what Ships can be got ready by the last of June may be Cleared as fast as they can be got ready or otherwise to be stopt till the Fleets arrival that such Ships as cannot be got ready by that time may run up into the Freshes to lye secure from the worm the which was well Approved of & an Order to the said Intent drawn up and issued as follows vizt

<div align="center">By his Excellency the Govr & Council May 4th 1696.</div>

Upon Representation and by mature advice in Council & from the House of Burgesses received Ordered that what Ships are now in the Country be Cleared as fast as they can gett ready provided such ships can be ready to sail by the last of June next and that no Ships after the said last of June be Cleared to sail until further Order whereof the several Collectors and naval Officers within this Province are to take due notice and to Conform themselves thereto Accordingly