

U. H. J. Lots may have other Land therefore in some part of the Town.

Signed p Order  
W Bladen Clk Assembly

Brought from the House of Burgesses by Captain Tasker and several other members the following Message Viz<sup>t</sup>

By the House of Burgesses May the 4<sup>th</sup> 1696.

This House does highly resent and are much Agrieved to see their Priviledges so unexpectedly intrenched upon by the honble his Majestys Council as appears by a late Paper affixed to the door of the House of Assembly at a publick meeting upon the Sabbath day in which they endeavour to debar them of that right which is due to the meanest and Inferior Court of this Province to wit Privacy and uninterrupted and more especially since this House Considering the present Inconveniencies have never debarred the Clerks from their Office further then in Prudence and our duty to his Majestys Service required and therefore humbly desire the said Paper in which our rights and Priviledges are so trampled upon may not remain upon the Journal of the honble Council for as we shall endeavour to the whole World to Give an ample Testimony of our Duty and Affection to his Excellency and the honble Council so likewise to preserve the rights and Priviledges we are Intrusted with as Representatives of his Majestys Loyal and dutiful Subjects of this Province

p. 869

Signed p Order  
W Bladen Clk Assembly

Ordered that an Answer to the same be drawn up to be sent which was done as follows viz<sup>t</sup>

By his Excellency the Governor and Council &c

May the 4<sup>th</sup> 1696

The Message by Captain Tasker and several other of the House Assembly sent has been here read and Considered in answer whereto his Excellency is pleased to declare that by the Order of Council of the first of May Instant relating to the Clerks and other Persons having Recourse to the Offices &c it was not intended that the Priviledges of the House should be any ways Encroached upon neither does this Board take it to be any Breach at all but on the Contrary do hold it to be a Breach of Magna Charta and of the Liberties of the People that the Kings Offices should be shut up especially Consider-