

question put is not yet rightly answered viz<sup>t</sup> Of his being a Priest or Deacon which if the House acknowledge as it is believed they cant otherwise in a matter so apparent to the whole Country this Board does then Wonder how they so Rashly presume to make a Vote against the known Laws of England according to the opinion of the Lawyers thereon now before them U. H. J.

As to the qualifications of the Person the annexed depositions will demonstrate and it is appealed to the whole House whether in his life and conversation he does not appear so haniously flagitious and wicked scarce to be parrelled in the Province whereof the House must needs be conscous and dare presume that divers of the members have (at some time or other) in his Debaucheries heard him publicly Blaspheme and it is lastly left to the consideration of the House his Factious contradictory Spirit in all manner of Business and whether he has not at this present Cost the County more Tobacco then Perhaps he is worth or ever will do them good

Signed p Order Hen Denton Cl Council

September 22<sup>d</sup> 1696 The Council Again Sate and were Present as yesterday p. 905

Ordered that four of the Gentlemen of his Majestys honourable Council go down to the House and Acquaint the Speaker that his attendance with all the members is required forthwith at this Board and accordingly went Col<sup>o</sup> Hutchins Col<sup>o</sup> Addison M<sup>r</sup> Brooks and M<sup>r</sup> Frisby who return and say they delivered their message and that pursuant thereto the House is coming up

Came accordingly M<sup>r</sup> Speaker attended with the whole House to whom his Excellency is pleased to express himself as follows viz<sup>t</sup>

M<sup>r</sup> Speaker and you Gentlemen of the House of Burgesses I am sorry to have sent for you here upon this Occasion at this time and I cannot but remind to you that you have not dealt faithfully in your Answer to the question put in relation to M<sup>r</sup> Cood viz<sup>t</sup> in ascertaining whether he is a Deacon or Priest which I am Given to understand he is and therefore do wonder that the House should presume so far as to make a vote against the known Laws of England by which you have brought it to this pass that a Vote of your House must stand flat in Opposition to an Act of Parliament If I should suffer it so to go on, but Gentlemen I do acquaint you that I shall not swear that Person notwithstanding your Vote and if you will proceed to Business I am here ready with his Majestys honble Council to Attend the same

I am sorry the House should continue so stiff so many days