

U. H. J. His Excellency is further pleased to Represent that as he never called an Assembly but when there was an Absolute necessity for it for the Glory of God the Kings Service and Good of the Country so neither has the Tobacco expended and allowed by those Assemblies been paid away or Gone to the use of any persons besides the Inhabitants of the country

The Resolves of the House of Burgesses read viz^t

By the House of Burgesses October 2^d 1696

The House read last Message and as to the first part thereof relating to the ordinance for quieting the minds of the people we conceive that we have Expressed our selves to the same purpose though not in the same words and from which we cannot recede

As to the Rangers Resolved that they be allowed for their Tobacco wherewith they purchase the Arms one penny p Pound but when to be paid left to his Excellency & Council

As to the Ferries we are not willing to have more than what are already and so have resolved and cannot recede

As to M^r Brays Affair we can say no more then what we have said

As to Sir Thomas Lawrence we can say no more at present than what we have said when the Good Effects of his Honours negotiation appears we doubt not but that Assembly will make their Acknowledgments for the same as shall become them

As to the Ships we have not further to say therein We cannot but with Great Grief of Heart say that if his Majestys Subjects here have not a Reasonable time allowed them to produce their Certificate or other reasonable proof for the discharge it may be the utter ruin of many good Families and we humbly beg leave to Remark that if once Judgment is obtained there will be no time to the defendant to produce his Certificate or other Legal proof for it comes to late after Judgment but if reasonable time were allowed Certificates might be produced and the Guilty distinguished from the Guiltless but if time be not allowed they must all be involved in one common Ruin without distinction of false from true traders

Signed p Order W Bladen Clk Assembly

Brought from the House of Burgesses by Col^o Herrman the following Report about the Roof of the State House viz^t