

L. H. J. Whereupon your Ex^{cy} was pleased to prorogue this house and being againe mett, and still finding the said M^r Clarke in prison Your Ex^{cy} we hope will hold us excused if we Judge it our duty to our Country still to Insist on our priviledges and againe humbly to supplicate your Ex^{cy} to Suffer the said M^r Clarke to serve in this house, the house of Delegates in this province have always claimed as their birth right the same priviledges as the house of Co^mons claime in England.

Neither his present Maj^{ty} nor any of his Royall procurators, nor the Lord Baltmore during his Government ever denied us them.

And therefore if in this case the house of Co^mons might claime their priviledge we also hope for the same from your Ex^{cy} he standing in our opinion as a Rightly Qualified member of this house, once more make our humble address that if your Ex^{cy} and Councill shall Determine and adjudge that a member of the house of Co^mons in England in like case ought not to have priviledge of parliament. and by consequence the said Clarke ought not to have priviledge wee will for the present acquiesse in such Judgment (saving to ourselves at altimes Liberty to produce authorities and presidents) but if your Ex^{cy} and Councill. shall adjudge and determine that a member of the house of Co^mons in the like case ought to have priviledge of Parliament them by consequence lett our member have his priveledge and that noe man receive any markes of your Ex^{cy} displeasure nor reproach for peticoⁿing for his attendance here, which being read.

It was put to the vote if the said address should be sent to his Ex^{cy} and Councill. And Carried by the Majority of voices that it be sent.

The house adjournes till to morrow Morning Eight of Clock.

Dies Saturnij Octob^r 29th 1698

House mett and were called over, whereof were absent, Cap^t Rich^d Hill, Cap^t Thomas Waughop, M^r George Ashman, M^r W^m Hemsley, and M^r Philip Clarke.

p. 234 Cap^t Hill for his non appearance according to the rules of this house Censured to loose his dayes allowance except he shews a Reasonable Excuse for his non appearance.

Ordered that Major Iohn Low, M^r Iohn Whittington, M^r Benjⁿ Hall, M^r Walter Campbell, M^r Sam^l Young and Major W^m Barton goe downe and present the address on the behalfe of M^r Philip Clarke to his Ex^{cy} and Councill.

Read a peticoⁿ of M^r W^m Coursey of Talbott County and Eliz^a his wife praying that an Act may be made to Impower them to sell and make acknowledgments of Severall Lands