

March 26<sup>th</sup> 1698.

Original  
Journal.  
p. 54

The Councill again Sate and were p<sup>r</sup>sent as Yesterday The hono<sup>ble</sup> Tho: Tench & James ffrisby Esq<sup>rs</sup> and sent downe to the house w<sup>th</sup> the Bills Yesterday read and Answer to Sev<sup>ll</sup> of the Messages, as also Remarks upon the resolues of the house brought the 24<sup>th</sup> Instant they returne and say they did their Message. Came from the house of Delegates M<sup>r</sup> Hutchinson & M<sup>r</sup> Sanders who Signifie that the house had Appointed Some of their Memb<sup>rs</sup> to Joyne in Conference with Some of his Maj<sup>ties</sup> most hono<sup>ble</sup> Councill ab<sup>t</sup> the Ordinary keepers & securing Letters &<sup>c</sup> who are told, that if the house will send up those members care will be taken;

Came up Accordingly from the house Maj<sup>r</sup> Hamond M<sup>r</sup> Sanders, M<sup>r</sup> Wilmer, M<sup>r</sup> Elisha Hall, and M<sup>r</sup> Benja<sup>n</sup> Hall, M<sup>r</sup> George Ashman, M<sup>r</sup> Sam<sup>l</sup> Collins & M<sup>r</sup> William Hutchison, to whom his Maj<sup>ties</sup> hono<sup>ble</sup> Councill being by Ord<sup>r</sup> Joyned, they proceed to consider of the s<sup>d</sup> two particulars.

It is concluded and agreed to be Absolutly necessary that Inns or Publique houses of Entertain<sup>mt</sup> should be kept at all ports, Courte houses and upon the Roads.

It is thought th<sup>t</sup> the p<sup>r</sup>sent Act of Assembly for regulating Ordinaryes w<sup>ch</sup> was here produced & read provided very Suffitiently and ought to be punctually Observed by all those that keep Inns at the Court houses and ports, but for Encouragement of such as will keep Publique houses upon the Roads, it is thought that their keeping four Spare bedds and provisions for Six horses will be Suffitient, & that they may be permitted to keepe such Houses, paying only, to his Maj<sup>ties</sup> Secretary the Summe

The Sum of 400<sup>l</sup> of Tob. yearly for their Lycence and that a Supplementary Act be provided therefore but that they lye und<sup>r</sup> the same Restrictions, as other In holders except before excepted, that the Justices granting such Lycence take Care that bond of 20<sup>l</sup> be given by the Inholder, that they keep not free men or loose persons tipling att their houses, as is frequent in the Country of the Matter of securing lett<sup>rs</sup> brought in by Mast<sup>rs</sup> of Ships &<sup>c</sup> is taken into consid<sup>r</sup>ation.

It is Concluded and agreed that no bett<sup>r</sup> Exped<sup>t</sup> can be found for secureing fforraigne Letters as the present Constitution of the Country now stands Then by desireing his Ex<sup>cy</sup> would be pleased to issue out his proclamation Strictly prohibiting all p<sup>sons</sup> w<sup>ts</sup>soever from receiveing or takeing any L<sup>rs</sup> from any Ma<sup>rs</sup> of Ships but w<sup>th</sup> they shall pass a Receipt for and oblidge themselves to Care for delivery thereof according to directions und<sup>r</sup> severe penalty of punishm<sup>t</sup> of such person as shall be discovered to haue Embezelled, concealed, or kept