

House to have an Officer to attend them in the Nature of a Serjeant at Arms. During their time of Sitting, and this house therefore humbly request his Lordship to appoint an Officer that may attend this house this present Sessions in that Quality he having reasonable Satisfaction Allowed him for his pains —

By the House Robt. Ridgley Esq of the Lower house of Assembly.
Adjourn for an hour —

House again met present as above —

A Message from the Lower house by God Burges God Wells Major Wickes Mr Hill Mr Frisby, Mr Gosier Vizt —

August the 19th 1687 —

The house having taken into their Serious Consideration the Message received Yesterday relating to Capt. John Coode do answer that Capt. Coode being at Liberty and presenting himself to this house before any knowledge was given to this house of any Crime this house had no reason to Deny him admittance to Sitt as a Member of this house —

But upon Receipt of the said Message have as well out of high Respect to his Lordship and the Upper house as unto the Matter of his Accusation Voted that Captain Coode withdraw from Sitting in this house untill further Order of the house and then proceeded to the further Debate of the Matter and Substance of the Message which Consisting of an Accusation only and of Matters (though heinous) yet too general for us to find out wherein our Member hath Incapacitated himself from continuing in this house as a Member thereof Therefore this house being resolved as they conceive themselves in Duty bound to comply with his Lordship in all readines and the Upper house in all things where the Rights and Priviledges of this house may be Secure do humbly desire to know wherein or by what Act or Means our said Member hath Disabled or rendered himself Incapable of having his Place in this house whereby (as not knowing any other safe Rule) they will give your Honours all further Satisfaction —

Signed C. Order of house

C. Boleler Esq Assistant of the Lower house of Assembly
Upper house of Assembly 19th Aug. 1687

Treason or breach of the Peace Disables any member of the Assembly from Sitting in the Assembly, Capt. John Coode is Accused for breach of the Peace upon Oath and stood Committed for the said Breach and is still Prisoner to his Baile who may Deliver him up when they will if they fear the Breach of his good Behaviour which includes the Peace and more, and therefore this house do conceive the said Coode is not capable to Sitt in the Lower house of Assembly till he hath Purged himself at the Provincial Court where only he is tryable and where he is Bound to come in Order to his tryal Neither can his Baile be otherwise Discharged unless the Lower house will go directly contrary against the known Law which ought to be their Rule as well as the Rule of this house, Neither do this house