

Two o'clock in the afternoon to hear the Matter about Grievances and have signified to this house as by this Message they also do to the lower house that Thursday be the last Day of this present Session of Assembly

Signed & Order Thomas Gurnwin C<sup>t</sup> of Assembly

The same sent by Major Sewall who returns having delivered it

D<sup>r</sup> Brooke brings the Proclamation about Towns & the Kings Letter about Bulk Tobacco

The Lower house Answer about Bulk Tobacco

Lower house of Assembly 28<sup>th</sup> November 1688

May it please your honours having received from your honours in the Upper house of Assembly a Letter which was from the Lords of his Majesties most honourable privy Council to the right honourable the Lord Proprietary of this Province dated from the Council Chamber at Whitehall the fourth Day of November 1687 whereby his Majestys Royal pleasure is signified, that his said Lordship in Conjunction with the Governor and Council of his Majestys Colony and Dominion of Virginia take care a Law be passed in the Respective Assemblies of Virginia and Maryland against the Exportation of Bulk Tobacco from these Plantations Together with a Message from your honours thereunto relating

This house in Answer to the same with all Loyalty to the Kings most Excellent Majesty Duty to his Lordship the Lord Proprietary respects and due Regard to his Majestys Subjects here and else where in his Majesties Dominions, Do say that the Prohibition of the Exportation of Bulk Tobacco would in the first place prove very Prejudiciall to his Majestys Interest and his Royall Revenue and Income if that (most part if not all) the Bulk Tobacco that is Exported out of Virginia and Maryland for the Kingdom of England is there sold and consequently pays the full Duty of five pence a pound to his Majesty Whereas otherwise if in Cash a great part of the said Tobacco is usually Exported into Holland and else where and pays but one half penny per pound Custom, That the Tobacco of that Quality which is more fitt for Bulk and altogether unfitt for Cash to be therein Exported again out of England would by that means be lessened in that a great if not most part of the same would be left behind in this Country and his Majesty by that means prevented of having any Duty at all for the same

To Prohibit the Exportation of Bulk Tobacco is highly Disadvantageous and Prejudicial to his Lordship the Lord Proprietary of this Province for that since the said prohibition will occasion a far lesser Quantity of Tobacco to be Exported as aforesaid his Lordship will by that means be a great loser not only in the Revenue of two Shillings per hhd due by Act of Assembly, but also in the Imposition of 14<sup>s</sup> per hhd due as aforesaid

To Prohibit the Exportation of Bulk Tobacco is Injurious and Ruinous to his Majestys Subjects in this Province in Virginia and in his Majesties more Immediate Dominions at home; In this Province it would hinder and Deprive the good People of the Sale of all their Tobacco except such as is extraordinary bright & Dry Tobacco fitt for the London Merchants who buy it with intent to Transport the same for Holland, and break off the Trade of those small Ships that come from the West and North Countries who bring in great Quantities of severall Serviceable Goods & Supply this Province therewith, And not only so but with those Goods at better prices Purchase their Dark Tobacco which is that, that's Generally Bulk, and is such that