

By the Burgesses of the said City of 17<sup>th</sup> 1694  
 Upon their Report of a Committee of Experience to this House touching the  
 illegal and severe ways of Sir Thomas Lawrence their Majestys Secretary of  
 the Province by his late Excellency Col<sup>l</sup> Leonell Oxley their Majestys Governour  
 deceased which said Proceedings were laid before a Assembly begun the 20<sup>th</sup>  
 day of September 1693 in the 5<sup>th</sup> Year of their Majestys Reign & found by the  
 same found and adjudged to be an Apparent Violation of Common Right and  
 directly Contrary to the Rights and Liberties of all their Majestys Good Subjects  
 And Again brought before this General <sup>Assembly</sup> now sitting who not without Good  
 Advice and great deliberation have duly considered all the said Proceedings  
 against the said Sir Thomas Lawrence and do find in the same much more  
 of Malice then Mallevant that the whole Proceedings were both Arbitrary  
 and illegal Whereupon this House think themselves as they are indubly bound  
 to do equal Right to all their Majestys good and faithful Subjects so they are  
 obliged to give a true Character of the said Sir Thomas Lawrence who in every  
 Circumstance appears to be a Protestant a loyal Subject to their Majestys of  
 Great and Good Service to the Country and both Liberal and Generous in Pro-  
 moting and contributing to what may tend to the Good and welfare of the  
 Publick and for his peccable and pious Inclinations his Sincerity and Integrity  
 of Life this House is of Opinion that for the Honour of their Majestys and  
 the Benefit and Safety of the Subjects in General to Impower and Employ the  
 said Sir Thomas to Assist in the management of some particular Affairs  
 wherein their most Sacred <sup>Gracious</sup> Majestys Grant and Favour is hoped for to which  
 End and Purpose we most humbly pray his Excellency Col<sup>l</sup> Francis Nicholson  
 Governour to give his Consent and Approbation therein

Signed by Order

C. Lomas Clerk of the Assembly

His Honor Sir Thomas Lawrence does say that he is highly obliged to  
 the House for the Good Opinion they are pleased to conceive of him and with all  
 humbly Represents to the Board that several matters of Considerable moment  
 touching to his own Affairs calls for his immediate Repair and Injuncted repair  
 for the Permission and leave of his Excellency and thus Honor we will for  
 his young which if granted, he shall be ready to do all Services that the House  
 shall think fit to Commit to his Care and management in England according  
 to the best of his Ability and that during his absence he will leave a