

upon a Proposall yesterday laid before the House touching the Ships now in the Countrey / inductive to the said being his Excellency for suffering the same to be Cleared do therefore offer the following Reasons to the Consideration of the House to the End if the House thinks them sufficient and proper they may joyntly with them in the said Address

Signed for Order  
H. Denton Clk. Council

The reasons follow in these words viz

- 1 That if the Ships get home his Majesty will get his Customs
- 2 The Seamen may be serviceable to his Majesty when get home
- 3 The Wain may endanger their Ships by staying in the Country besides Provisions are very scarce here
- 4 That if the Ships should be stoppt to go in a Fleet together there are but two Londoners of any Force and the rest by Scattered in other Parts
- 5 It is Observed that Ships that summer here do usually stay till the next Spring by Reason of mens falling sick in the Country

He Returns and says he delivered the same

Brought from the House of Burgesses by their Clerk the following answer viz

By the House of Burgesses May 2 1696

Upon perusal of the Message delivered to the House by the Clerk of the Council relating to the Ships in the Country we humbly desire the Opinion of the Honble Council if the said Ships shall be stoppt or Cleared and thereupon we should either Concur therewith or offer such Reasons to the contrary as we humbly conceive will be satisfactory

Signed for Order  
W. Bladen Clk. Assembly

Then which being read was answered as follows

By the Honble his Majestys Council in Assembly May 2 1696

This Board has Perused the message of your House by your Clerk sent touching the Ships and for answer return that they are of Opinion it will conduce most to his Majestys Service that the Ships now in the Country be Cleared as they are got Ready and for the Reasons already laid before the House which this Board takes to be good Reasons

Signed for Order  
H. Denton Clk. Council

The said Message sent by the Clerk of this Board who returns and says that the House was adjourned until Monday morning but that he delivered the same to the Speaker at his lodgings