

March the 22 1697

The Council again met and new Minutes yesterday

That enquiry be made whether Mayor Knudts his Vessel had paid the duties or not  
and if not to send him a bill for the same

By the Excellency the Governor and Council weekly March the 22 1697

That it be ordered that the honorable Col George Robertson Thomas Trench  
Esq Col Charles Hudson and Col John Johnson as a Committee for considering the drawing  
up a bill for the better regulating the duties within this Province do draw the House  
and present a bill of their business to pass with them therein

Signed for the Hon. Council

And by Colonel Robertson and the other gentlemen appointed  
to draw the bill for the House of Deputies by Peter Lockman and some other  
members the following message

By the House of Deputies March 22 1697

For the Excellency the Governor the Honorable Col Henry Jones Chancellor of the  
Province the following message  
I have the honor to receive your Excellency's message of the 20th inst. for which  
I am very much obliged to you and beg to thank you most humbly and heartily

Signed for the Hon. Council

That the message be read in the House and by the honorable Col Robertson  
and Thomas Trench Esq several resolutions be appointed some of them members to join  
with some Gentlemen of the Honorable Council to consider of drawing up  
a bill for the better regulating the duties of this Province. The House being resolved into  
a Grand Committee upon matters in debate have voted Unanimously that the Old Law  
stand as it is without any manner

Signed for the Hon. Council

A Petition of William Math Commissioner of the Ship Registry of London being pre-  
sented to the House and read accordingly whereby he having made entry of his Vessel  
with the Officers of the Customs and paid his duties and given his Certificate and Logbook and giving  
bond for the entry of the same and performed what the Law requires and his Burthen  
being taken to the said Port he now desires to unload and Trade notwithstanding  
that he has not yet received his Certificate of the said Port and that for all which he  
humbly prays relief

It being on the said matter being fully considered by their Board and having found  
and approved the Certificate and papers granted by the said Officers for unloading the  
said Vessel by which the said cargo is manifest to be unladen the unloading  
being in taking on the said Vessel that he having requested whether the said Math  
had paid the duties of the said Vessel in England or that he had Paid bond  
for the duties of the said Vessel upon which account he should be liable to receive which  
is thought fit to be considered by the said Officers for the future and for as much  
as the said Port of William Math is taken by the said Board to be a distinct and proper part  
of the said Ship and before unloading that directed to make their entry accordingly

Ordered therefore that the said Port of William Math be opened as upon right bond  
issued by the said Math the said Port as well as the Certificate Logbook and all other pa-  
pers being with them at the said Port and that he have paid for any duties  
and that the said Port be cancelled when he may be allowed to make his Entry accordingly  
as in the paper of the said Port

That the following bills be drawn for the House

- 1. A bill for stay of execution and the same time and way of the same
- 2. A bill for drawing bond and Auxiliary Duties and the first time
- and Signed with the Honorable