

Whereas this House the fourth Instant did call Mr Robert Mason
the Western Shore before them to render an Account of his Treasurers Office the same
did signify to this House that your Excellency and Council had forbid all the
of the Western Shore to Account with him and therefore could give no Accounts...
since the 1st of June 1697 thereupon we Passed the Act Entituled an Act for the
Liquors Imported into this Province and
and it is enacted that the said four Pence shall be collected by the Naval Officers
they to Render an Account thereof once a Year and the Treasurers to render an
thereof to the Assembly who should have the disposing of the same we likewise
the Act Entituled an Act Imposing a duty of ten Pence on all European Commodi-
ties Exported out of this Province and that the Money arising thereupon to be Account-
ed for as the four Pence of Gallon we also Passed the Act Entituled an Act for laying
an Imposition on Negroes Slaves and White Servants imported into this Province
Which Money so Arising by the said Acts that the Naval Officers are to Account with
the Treasurers We make our humble Addresses to your Excellency that you will not
by any ways or means Infringe or frustrate the aforesaid Acts but that your Excellency
will be so pleased to suffer and Permit the several and respective Officers within this
Province to Render their Accounts to the said Treasurers according to the directions of the
aforesaid Acts and that your Excellency will be pleased so far to assist the said Robert
Mason that he may be able to render his Account to this House this present Session
According to the true Intent and meaning of the aforesaid Acts and further We humbly
Address your Excellency that all the several Sums Arising and Growing due upon the
several aforesaid Acts may be disposed of towards the defraying the publick Charge
of this Province and enlightning the Southern part of the Part of the same in the pub-
lick Schooll excepting all such several Sums which by Law are appropriated to and for the
Use of Free Schooll

Signe of Wm. Chis Gregory Clerk of the House of Burgesses

Whereupon your Excellency is pleased to Command the honorable Mr Justice and Mr
Admiral to go down to the House and Command them immediately to attend him
Who came accordingly and being admitted and first the first part of their message as
to demanding the Journal of their House being read to them your Excellency is pleased to
say that he finds they are Masters of their Rights by and his Compliments who were Con-
ferred upon the Dutch both of a brand and Pottery

And Mr Gregory the Clerk of the House being againe called to the barre
of what Propositions and Resolutions were in their Journal for the Proceedings of Monday
the 29th of October were many times Obtruded being the debates of the House concerning
Wm. Stammers and Captain Hill being called to the barre which he says he will
Content to Obtrude

Other Resolutions viz Mr Spotswood to the House to send his Excellency word
to draw other other Resolutions concerning the same Enticement

The Secretary says he hath had to write his Instructions and wishes to do
the same as in our having Report to their own Particulars and Resolutions

He tells them he expects they should produce their Resolutions for Charles Lodging
several which they have brought of

And it being Obtruded that in the Proceedings of the 29th of October the