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Upper House 31<sup>th</sup> October, 1683.

This House received of (Message) from the Lower House of the 24<sup>th</sup> Instant & wherein the Lower House Express their thankfulness to his L<sup>ty</sup> for his great love and affection towards the good people of this Province, Express in his Speech at the Opening of this Assembly, and more particularly in convening this Assembly and appointing his L<sup>ty</sup> Provinciall Court to be held in this place because here the Center of this Province, and therein the Lower House did pray his L<sup>ty</sup> to signify to both Houses what place his L<sup>ty</sup> intends all future Assemblies, Provinciall Courts and Offices, shall be held and kept at, that they might take speedy Course to make provisions of Buildings fitt for the Reception thereof.

This House have requested of his L<sup>ty</sup> that he would be pleased to declare his mind and Intention in the Matter aforesaid. Whereupon his L<sup>ty</sup> hath declared to his two Houses of Assembly, that at what place in Ann Arundell County, there shall be convenient Buildings fitt for the Reception of his L<sup>ty</sup> and Council, Upper and Lower House, Provinciall Courts, and Offices for Clerks - These his L<sup>ty</sup> and his Heirs and Successors Lords and Proprietors of this Province, will hold the Assemblies and Courts aforesaid for the future, unless upon Occasion he or they shall think fitt of some be removed. And that this Matter may receive more speedy Dispatch, this House doe nominate Coll<sup>o</sup> Henry Darnall and Major Thomas Truman, Members of this House to Joyn with Members of the Lower House as a Committee for that Affaire.

Mr. Thomas Burford sent to the Upper House to desire them to explaine themselves, what they mean by the word Occasion in their Message of the 31<sup>st</sup> of October sent this day to this House by Coll<sup>o</sup> Stevens.

He returns and says the Upper House answers, the Intent and scope of the word Occasion is such as warre, plague or the like for which an approach or stay to or in the said place cannot be made without extreme Necessity and Hazard.

Upon Consideration of the foregoing Message was Drawne the following (viz.)  
Lower House of Assembly (November 9<sup>th</sup> 1683.)

This House desire to know whether the word Offices mentioned in the last Message by Coll<sup>o</sup> Stevens doe not meane the Secretaries Office, Land Office and Testamentary Office.

Signed for the, B. Boteler Clerk &c.

The same being read and signed was sent to the Upper House by Capt. Osborne, and Capt. Peere.

The Upper House by Coll<sup>o</sup> Darnall returns the following Answer (viz.)

Upper House 1<sup>st</sup> of November 1683.

In answer to the Message last sent by Capt. Osborne and Capt. Peere this House doe say of the word Offices they mean the same Offices.