

Wednesday July the 8th 1696. The House met again.
Debated in the House concerning the act of Religion, and Resolved
the following Message be sent to his Excellency the Gov^r and Council.

By the House of Burgesses July the 8th 1696.

We did Yesterday by our written Message address ourselves to your Excellency
in Council concerning a Bill lying before us touching which we praye
further tyme to Consider, to which your Excellency has not yet been pleased to
give us answer. We humbly pray your Excellency to be assured that what
we have done or ordered proceeds from honest hearts and earnest desires
as well to the Service of Almighty God and his Majesty as to our own Rights
and Liberties; and that therefore your Excellency will so understand us and give us
answer to our former Message.

Signed for the House Wm Bladen Clk. Assembly.

Sent by severall Members of this House, who returned and say they
delivered their Message.

M^r. Clarke, Major Dousey, Major Hammond and M^r. Boothby are
hereby appointed a Committee to inspect and peruse the Laws of this Province,
and make their Reports to the next Session of Assembly.

Ordered the said Committee meet some tyme the next Provinciall
Court, at the Ports of Annapolis, and that Wm Bladen be their Clarke.

House adjourns for two hours.

post Meridie - The House met.

By this Excellency the Gov^r and Council July the 8th 1696.

The Message last night by M^r. Clarke, Major Hammond &c was received.
as also that by Col. Godde, Capt. Tushet and M^r. Clarke this Morning
sent - wherein this House praye some further tyme to Consider of a
certain Bill therein menconed. This Board do therefore recommend
that they dispatch the other business now lying before them, and bring up
the severall bills endorsed that some speedy end may be put to this
present Session.

Signed by order Henry Denton Clk. Council.

Severall Members Justices of the Provinciall Court and others appointed
a Committee to apportion the public Levy - vizt. M^r. Robert Mason,
M^r. Philip Clarke, M^r. Robert Smith, Col. F. Legu Godde, Major John
Hammond, Capt. Richard Hill, Major Wm Dent, M^r. Edward
Boothby, M^r. Matthew Scarborough, M^r. John Pollards, Col. Augst.
Heeman, and M^r. Wm Hatton who are to meet at the Ports of Annapolis
the 2^d day of Octob^r. next - They or ye Major part of them to apportion
the public Levy - Ordered Wm Bladen as Clarke to ye said Committee.

Major Smithson informs the House that he is publick Treasurer for
the Eastern Shore, he has 12200^l in his hands by the imposition upon
offices.