

6. That he had sent for them so soone to shew his Innocence of what they charged on him and to take away all the apprehensions they might have of his guilt in prolonging the time to study an Evasion, and thereupon orders them to returne to their house.

Mr. Speaker and the house returne and Mr. Speaker having taken the Chair - The house adjournes till to morrow Morning Eight of Clock. Dies Martis - Nov: 8<sup>th</sup> 1698.

The house mett againe and were Called over, Capt. Tho. Manshops, Mr. Philip Clarke, Capt. Philip Hopkins, Mr. Benj<sup>m</sup>. Hall, Mr. Geo. Ashman, Mr. John Feary and Mr. Wm. Hemmsley being absent.

Mr. William Hemmsley enters the house.

Read Mr. Lovellins petition for 18000<sup>l</sup>. of Tax<sup>s</sup> due for her husband's Salary as C<sup>l</sup>. of the Councill.

Referred to the Committee of acc<sup>ts</sup>. to be allowed if not already paid.

Read Mr. Fielders petition for allowance for making the Modell of the Church and drawing severall draughts of the same.

Referred to the Committee of accounts to allow him 5<sup>l</sup>. Ster<sup>d</sup>.

The hon<sup>ble</sup>. Thomas Brookes Esq. and James Feisly Esq. enter the house and informe Mr. Speaker that his Ex<sup>ty</sup>. Comands him and the whole house to attend him and the Councill immediately.

Mr. Bladen C<sup>l</sup>. of his Maj<sup>ty</sup>. hon<sup>ble</sup>. Councill enters the house and informs the C<sup>l</sup>. of this house that his Ex<sup>ty</sup>. in his Maj<sup>ty</sup>. Name Comands him to bring the Journall last night bealed up before his Ex<sup>ty</sup>. and Councill.

Mr. Speaker and the house go to the Councill Chamber.

At the Councill Chamber the house was Called over, and the persons aforesaid were absent.

His Ex<sup>ty</sup>. was pleased to order the C<sup>l</sup>. of the Councill to read the address of this house on behalfe of Mr. Robert Mason, upon which his Ex<sup>ty</sup>. was pleased to rema<sup>ke</sup>.

1- The Cause of his suspending Mr. Robert Mason from executing the office of Treas<sup>r</sup>. was that because he was found Guilty by the Grand Jury of this Province of a Notorious Crime and for which he was indicted and by his own Confession acknowledged himselfe Guilty. Wherefore he thinks that he has in no wayes infringed the Laws of this Province for that upon such occasions the power was Invested him when the officers had by any means Incapacitated themselves for to appoint others.

2- That as he governs this Countrey by Commission from his most Sacred Maj<sup>ty</sup>. King William the third to whose Laws we all pay reverence and Obedience, that in Obedience to an Order he rec<sup>d</sup>. from their Ex<sup>ty</sup>. The Lords of the Councill for Trade and plantations he had sent to