

Ordered that Mr. Jacob Loochman and Capt. Philip Hopkins give notice to his Excellency that there is some more Members come to the House who have not Taken the Oathes and subscribed the Test and Association this Session.

Who returne and say they have delivered their Message.

The hon^{ble} Coll. Charles Hutchinson and Francis Jenkins Esq. and Major Mr. Dent his Maty's Atty. Gen^l who administered the Oathes to John Luch Esq. Mr. John Borman Mr. Sam^l Collins and Mr. Walter Lane, who having taken the same severally subscribed the Test and the Association which being done the Gen^l of his Maty's Honble. Council and the att^l Gen^l Depart.

Mr. Wm Harris, Mr. Eliza Hall and Mr. Walter Smith appointed a Committee of Grievances and went out to Condukt thereof.

By the House of Delegates June the 30th 1699.

Taking againe into Consideration the Copy of some of his Majesty's Instructions laid before us wee find some paragraphs having Relation to the Assembly and Inhabitants of this Province particularly the Ninth wherein his Excellency is instructed to Cause a Survey to be made of the most considerable Landing places and Harbours and to erect Fortifications &c. Not doubting of the cheerful Compliance of the Inhabitants.

To which wee humbly answer that this Province from one side to the other being soe Luxuriant in Navigable Rivers and Creeks and those Rivers and Creeks having soe many branches Navigable and soe many Capacious Harbours and faire Landings the Province being Generally lowe Levell Land (next the water and noe Rocks or Banks to prohibit Landings the Trade of the Province and Shipping depending it self soe Equally and Generally all over y^e Province by the Convenience of those Creeks, Rivers and Harbours that it does not seem to us a thing practicable to erect any such Fortifications not to restrain Shipping from their usuall places of Trade and Confine them to any particular Harbour.

And wee are confident that if their Excellencies the Lords Com^{rs} of Trade and Plantations did visibly know this Province they would Concurde with us and further advise that all the Revenues of this Province were indigent to y^e erecting of such durable Fortifications as would defend at themselves and would be any considerable security to Shipping in any Case.

And whereas it is required that a competent Maintenance be assigned to Ministers of Each Church and convenient Houses &c.

Wee humbly conceive that we have already made such a competent Maintenance as is proportionable to the County Capacity but whereas the daily growth and increase of this Infant County may like enough in a few years cause an alteration of parishes, and for that few Ministers coming here bring families nor would an House alone without land and a plantation or Globe be any considerable use to the Ministers.

Therefore wee desire to be excused from any further present Charge.