

Resolved that a Message be prepared to be sent his Exc^{ty} to acquaint him thereof and may his Exc^{ty} Excuse that the same be not sent until the Spring.

By the House of Delegates July 21st 1699.

May it please Your Exc^{ty}

Your Exc^{ty} Signall and repeated Favours still nourish the Hopes of our future Happiness under your Exc^{ty} Government which we can do more than make an Acknowledgment of suitable to our weak abilities.

Wherefore we make this our humble offering of Two hundred and fifty pounds Sterl. But because in most Countries there is two Places Leagues to be paid we would willingly therefore discharge the whole publick Levy by the present Stock and therefore desire Your Exc^{ty} not to take it unless if we cannot reasonably pay that 250^l till the fall at which time Your Exc^{ty} may have our humble offering paid by Bills or ready Money as may be most acceptable.

Signed by Orders.

John Gregory Clk. House of Delegates.

Ordered that Capt. Rich Hill and the Committee of Laws carry the said Message to his Exc^{ty} and Council, who returns and say they delivered the same.

You have now gone through the Reviving of the Law but I find there is one either willingly Overseen or neglected which is for punishing of Reporters of False News. If you have dropt it designedly I am concerned you would not be so familiar as to give me an Intimation it was not agreeable to you for I never was yet in any Corner of the world but I know how to Right myself and I am as little fond of sleeping it on your foot as it seems gratefull to you to dropp. for when you know better you will find me ever very ready to take off any oppression you shall in the least seem to be Uneasy under. I am

Your Humble Servant.

W. Blakistone

By the House of Delegates July 21st 1699.

May it please Your Exc^{ty} the Message by the Hon^{ble} Tho Tench and Tho Tasher Esq^r in relation to the Act of divulging of False News was read and Considered and we are sorry a Message was not sent to your Exc^{ty} concerning of our desires of having that Act repealed because of its great Latitude which made it liable to be abused of which we know severall Examples, we cannot remember what directed your Message which was intended to be sent. But we are assured that your Exc^{ty} is soe well beloved and Honored that you will never need any such Act to Guard your Honor and Reputation.

It was not any disrespect to your Exc^{ty} nor our less Esteeme of your Exc^{ty}.