

The Gentlemen of this Province enter the House and report how far they had proceeded in the Business and desired Leave to sit again which was granted and they were desired to go out this morn

John Smith and the Gentlemen appointed to prepare an Address in Answer to his Excellency's Speech enter the House and present the same to Mr. Speaker which being read and approved ordered that it be sent to his Excellency and Council as follows By the House of Delegates 2nd December 1700

May it please your Excellency, This House hath considered your Excellency's Speech to us at the Opening this Session and return your Excellency our hearty Thanks for your good Government and noble Endeavours to serve this Province as well for her Majesty's Service as for the Welfare of the same and doubt not your Excellency's Sincerity therein We assure your Excellency that this House will endeavour the same and if we find any evil minded or malicious Members amongst us and shall be always ready to detect and confound them as being not Persons fitted with Qualifications to sit among us. We are heartily sorry your Excellency should be informed or apprehend that any Person the last Meeting appeared in this House to debauch any of her Majesty's well meaning Subjects or to raise any Animosities or unnecessary Heats, if any such we are altogether unconsensible of them, but if any private or particular Person should be tardy in such Matters this House do assure your Excellency that they will use their utmost Endeavours to prevent them. And as to those Paragraphs of your Excellency's Speech relating to the Publick Interest this House unanimously agree to concur with you in what good Laws are recommended for the Good and Benefit of her Majesty's Subjects here, and all other Things by your Excellency recommended we will take into Consideration and debate and will consent to any Thing further, that in our Judgment shall be for her Majesty's Honour and Service and for the Good of her Subjects here Your Excellency's good Government over us we acknowledge discreet as well for her Majesty's Service as the Good of this Province and having found ourselves easy under the same do wish your Excellency Health and Happiness and pray that you may long continue in her Majesty's Favour.

Signed by Order Rich^d Dallam Secy. Secy.

Sent up to his Excellency by Mr. Salter, John Smith, Capt Jones, Mr. Homsey, Mr. Worthington, Mr. Dano, Mr. Lee, Capt Crabb, Mr. Poore, Mr. Wilkinson, Mr. Colgate and Mr. Tylor They return and say they delivered their Message