

The Right Honorable the Lords of Trade and Plantations after the
 adjudged we cannot say but must be plain in telling you we cannot
 know and wonder in a matter the Country is like to receive so little Benefit by
 you should trifle away so much Time, letting your Prejudice to Sir Thomas Lawrence
 overbalance the true Interest of your Country. We desire you will once more duly
 consider the Nature of her Majesty's Commands so very urgent and often revised
 lest your Neglect thereof should lay the Country under her Displeasure when by
 a cheerful Compliance with what she has dictated you might expect in
 proper Time to be heard and relieved in a Matter you think so hardly imposed
 upon you. And now that we may not be wanting to enforce her Majesty's
 Commands and endeavour to demonstrate the true Interest of the Province, we
 desire you will appoint such and so many of the Members of your House as
 you shall think fit to confer with four of the Members of this Board upon
 the subject Matter now in Hand. Signed by Order W. Bladen Sec. Council
 Read, debated & ordered the following Message be sent. By the House of
 Delegates 9th Nov. 1713. Your Message by the Honble Mr Greenfield and
 three other Members of your Board we have read and considered and are sorry
 your Honours should think we have any Prejudice against Sir Thomas Lawrence
 or any other Person and that we are not allowed to show our Reasons against
 the false Allegations laid against us even to your Board. We cannot think
 her Majesty or the Lords of Trade and Plantations will deny us Justice we
 never desired you to approve our Address. Only sent it you that you may
 see our Reason for not passing an Act for you wonder we should trifle
 away so much Time in a Thing the Country will receive so little Benefit by
 we do admire and believe some Persons are less concerned for the Country's Interest
 than their own particular. What Effect our Address may have on the Consequence
 thereof ^{we know not} but are sure the granting Sir Thomas's Request will much improve
 the Country neither can we think it will lay us any ways under her Majesty's
 Displeasure. You have sufficiently enforced her Majesty's Commands to us
 and we have as effectually complied therewith as is possible in Equity and
 Justice to ourselves and Country. There have been many Conferences upon
 on this subject who always agreed 'twas none of Sir Thomas Lawrence's
 and therefore we cannot now agree to another on this subject to trifle away
 more Time and perhaps spend the Country thirty or forty thousand Pounds
 to have to as little Purpose as in other things we being resolved not
 recede from our former Resolves to send this Address to her Majesty
 and advise you should insist thereon since you at first refused