

1709

of Thomas Smithson of Talbot County &c. (Read with the
Amendments and will pass, which was do & do only and sent to the
upper house, by Mr. Hill and Col. Woodford)

They return and say they delivered it
Ordered, the following Message be prepared viz

By the Lower house of Assembly April 19th 1720

May it please Your Excellency
and Honour

Mr. Speaker having communicated
to this House your Excellency's Letter of the 9th Instant we have inspected
our late address to their Lordships, touching the sundry vexatious
Prosecutions against many Inhabitants of this Province as Debtors
or supposed Debtors to the Crown and take the same to be just both
on just Reasons, but are extremely surpris'd and sorry to find
that the Commissioners of his Majesty's Customs have not been
pleas'd to take under their Considerations the several Hardships
Complained of but Contrariwise have rather Justified the said
Proceedings and accused your Excellency of retarding those Affairs
which we are clearly of Opinion your Excellency has in no wise
deserv'd, as may appear by the entries on the Docket of the Chancery
Court, for we are well Satisfi'd with your Excellency's Integrity
and Justice during your Administration as Chancellor

That the most invidious of your Enemies cannot in any wise
make out the least Charge of Partiality or Corruption and are sorry
your Excellency thro' any unjust Misrepresentations against you
to their Lordships should induce you to give up the Seals, tho'
when we Consider the just Reasons laid down in your Speech
Spoken in Council on that Occasion, we cannot but applaud
your Excellency's Prudence in giving up your interest to preserve
your Integrity which we believe no power on Earth can remove
from you

Signed for order, Mr. Jenifer Clk. Low. house.

And sent to the Upper house by Mr. Lee, Mr. Walter Smith
Esq. (Rousby), Capt. Rides, Mr. Caldwell and Mr. Dashiell

They return and say they delivered it

The following Message being prepared viz

By the Lower house of Assembly, April 27th 1720.

May it please your Honour

In answer to your Message of the 15th Instant by
John Hall Esq. This House conceives that the Reasons of the Confess
for referring the Subject Matter of the Confess till next Session, were
well grounded & especially considering the Honble Confess of your
House were pleas'd to make the same Judgment in Relation to the