

In *May* Assembly, 1676, Mr. Speaker, in Behalf and by Order of the whole House, humbly requests of his Lordship Liberty to chuse their Clerk; which his Lordship grants them as a particular Favour to them, and not to be construed as their Right to elect, but that his Lordship may appoint whom he pleases to be Clerk of this House: They elect *Robert Ridgely* to be their Clerk; his Lordship approves of him, and they retire to their own House.

In *October* Assembly, 1683, Where Mr. Speaker having taken the chair, *Charles Boteler* produces a Patent under the Lesser Seal of this Province, signed by the Right Hon. the Lord Proprietary, for the Clerkship of the Lower House of Assembly; which being read, was admitted by this House.

In *October* Assembly, 1686, The Government having, by commission under the Great Seal, appointed Mr. *William Dent* their Clerk, who was recommended as a Person fit and capable to serve them.

In *May* Assembly, 1692, Then was *Henry Denton* likewise voted Clerk of this House.

In *September* Assembly, 1694, The Speaker and the House desire that *Cleybourne Lomax* may be admitted their Clerk; which was granted, and a commission given him under the Lesser Seal of this Province; and at the same Time had administered unto him the Oaths appointed by Act of Parliament, instead of the Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy, as also the usual Oath of Clerk of this House, and likewise signed the Test, which was signified to the House by the following Message:

By his Excellency the Governor and Council, Sept. 21, 1694.  
*Cleyborn Lomax* having received a commission at this Board for being Clerk of your House, had administered unto him the Oath appointed by Act of Parliament, instead of the Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy, as also the usual Oath as Clerk of that House, and likewise subscribed the Test.

Signed per Order, *Henry Denton, Cl. Co.*  
 And likewise the said *Cleyborn Lomax* had likewise a copy of the Clerk's Oath, for the Satisfaction of this House.

In *May* Assembly, 1701, *William Taylard* being elected and chosen Clerk of this House, Ordered, That Mr. *Samuel Young* and *George Maschamp, Esq;* go to his Excellency and signify their choice of their Clerk; and humbly desire he may be sworn and qualified: They return, and say they saw him sworn.

*N. B.* The Governor's Approbation in this Instance is mentioned in express Words, in the Journal of the other House.

In *September* Session, 1708, Mr. *Hunt* and Mr. *Vanderheyden* sent to his Excellency and Council to acquaint them, that this House had made choice of *Richard Dallam* for their Clerk, and pray his Excellency's Approbation, and that he may be qualified accordingly: They return, and say they delivered their message, and that his Excellency will send an Answer presently.

The Honourable *Kenelm Cheseldyne, Esq;* from the Council, enters the House, and acquaints Mr. Speaker that his Excellency and Council desires this House to explain themselves, Whether they sent *Richard Dallam* to his Excellency for his Approbation as Clerk of this House? and then withdrew.

Thereupon the following message was sent to his Excellency and Council, by Mr. *Hunt* and Mr. *Vanderheyden*:

By the House of Delegates, September 28, 1708.  
 This House humbly recommend *Richard Dallam* to his Excellency, for his Approbation, to be their Clerk.  
 To his Excellency the Governor, and the Hon. *Thomas Smithson, Speaker.*  
 her Majesty's Council, in Assembly.

Mr. *Cheseldyne*, from the Council, enters the House, and delivers Mr. Speaker the following message:  
 By the Governor and Council in Assembly, September 28, 1708.

Mr. Speaker,  
 Tho' we are well satisfied it is her Majesty's Prerogative to appoint proper Officers to attend the Assembly, and that you have no Right to the Election of any but what shall be approved of by this Board; you are willing, rather than the Country's Business should be delayed, to admit of the Clerk nominated by you, pro hac vice (salvo jure), but resent it, that you rejected the Clerk appointed by his Excellency without giving any Reason.  
 Signed per Order, *Evan Jones, Cl. Cox.*

Thereupon Col. *John Coode* and Capt. *Franklyn* were sent up to the Council, together with the said *Richard Dallam*, to his Excellency and Council, with the following message:

By the House of Delegates, September 28, 1708.  
 This House humbly thank his Excellency for his favourable condescension in approving of the Clerk by us recommended, and desire he may be qualified by taking the usual Oaths.  
 To his Excellency the Governor, and the Hon. *Thomas Smithson, Speaker.*  
 her Majesty's Council, in Assembly.

They return, and say they delivered their message, and have seen the said *Richard Dallam* qualified.  
 In *November* Assembly, 1708, Then the House made choice of Mr. *Richard Dallam* for their Clerk: Ordered, That Mr. *Nathaniel Dare* and Mr. *Philemon Himsley* go with the Clerk, and present him to his Excellency for Approbation, and to see him qualified, if approved: They return, and say they saw the Clerk qualified by taking the usual Oaths, his Excellency having approved of him.

In *October* Assembly, 1709, Upon which the House made choice of Mr. *William Taylard* to be their Clerk, in the Room of Mr. *Richard Dallam*, who lies very sick; and Ordered, That Mr. *Robert Tyler* and Mr. *Worthington* go with him and present him to the Honourable Council for Approbation, and to see him qualified: They return, and say they saw the Clerk qualified, by taking the usual Oaths, and signing the Test, &c. the Council having approved of him.

In *October* Assembly, 1712, The House made choice of Mr. *Richard Dallam* to be their Clerk: Ordered, Mr. *Daniel Mariarte* and Mr. *James Lloyd* go and present him to the Honourable President and Council for their Approbation, and to see him qualified: They return, and say the Hon. President and Council approve of the Clerk, and that he is qualified.

In *November* Assembly, 1713, Mr. *Richard Dallam*, the Clerk of this House, being very sick, had Leave to go home; therefore Ordered, That Mr. *Tyler* and Mr. *Mariarte* attend Mr. *Evan Jones* to the Council, to see him sworn and qualified to be Deputy Clerk of this House: They return, and say they saw him qualified.