

Signed & Order. Henry Denton Esq. Council.
S^r Thomas Laurence and the rest of the Gentlemen of his Majesty's Hon^{ble} Council, acquaint the House that they have it in Command from his Excell^{ty} to administer the Oaths appointed by Act of Assembly instead of the Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy to the several new elected Members (but John Good excepted) who shall subscribe the Test.

Whereupon the Gent^{men} of his Majesty's Hon^{ble} Council are requested to withdraw for a while. And it being put to the Question if the Delegates lately Chosen shall be sworn, omitting but John Good.

It is Carried in the Affirmative.

Whereupon the afo^{re} Gent^{men} of his Majesty's Hon^{ble} Council went to the House and administered the several Oaths to the rest of the new Elected Members, but Good being omitted.

His Honor S^r Thomas Laurence acquainting the House that he was ready to give them acc^t how the Affairs of this Province now stand in England, and that the rest of his Majesty's Council attended to hear the same.

S^r Thomas and the rest of his Majesty's Council are desired to withdraw. After which Resolved that before the same be heard on this House will proceed to any further business the matter concerning but Good.

House adjourned till 6 of a Clock to Morrow Morning.

Saturday Sept^r the 17th 1696.

House met. And adjourned till 6 of the Clock on Munday Morning.

Munday Sept^r 21. 1696.

House met. Message from his Excell^{ty} by the Hon^{ble} Colonel Robotham and Colonel Addiford. Sept^r 18th 1696.

The Gent^{men} professing the Law (now in Town) being summoned to appear at this Board pursuant to Order Come up viz^t.

M^r Cheseldyn, M^r Toll^{er} Gen^l, M^r Clarke, M^r Matthews, M^r Boothby, M^r Hemfley. To whom his Excell^{ty} was pleased to say that ye occasion of his sending for them at this time was, that he understood there was a person made choice of to be a Member in ye House of Burgesses that was ordayned a priest, and therefore demanded their Opinion whether he could be admitted to sitt as a Member of the House of Burgesses, telling them of an Example of England in that Case and another of this Province that have denyed Clergymen that privilege, And the Question is further put, whether a priest can disprist himself.

The said Questions being seperately answered by the said Gent^{men} are all of Opinion that no person in Holy Orders is qualified by Law to sitt in the House of Commons, and so by Consequence, not in the House of