

possible that you can be ignorant, nor can I conceive how I could have acted otherwise than I did, consistently with the Good and Welfare of the Province.

I was informed by an Address from the Upper House, that such a Misunderstanding had happened between That and the late Lower House, as had put a Stop to all Public Business, and even to all Interchange by Messages : What could be done in such Circumstances ? If the Assembly had continued Sitting, would not that have occasioned a heavy Charge to the Country, without the least Possibility of deriving any Advantage from it ? Was there any Hopes or Probability of a Reconciliation ? Is it not very probable that the Continuance of the Sitting of that Assembly would have increased and aggravated the Differences which then subsisted ? Could the Lower House, however well disposed and inclined they might have been, have carried on the Business of the Country without the Concurrence of the Upper ? This is too wild and extravagant to be even so much as imagined.

A Dissolution or Prorogation being then absolutely necessary, the latter was made use of in such a Manner as the then Situation of Affairs would admit of, *viz.* by Proclamation, and indeed no other Course could be then taken ; I could not have sent to the Lower House for their Attendance, by any Member of the Upper, it being, as they thought, inconsistent with their Dignity, to carry any Message, 'till Reparation was made for the Affront they apprehended they had received : If I had sent by the Clerk of the Upper House, I might have given Offence to the Lower, which I was desirous to avoid as much as lay in my Power ; and these, I can truly say, were the only Motives of my acting as I did : If I had called the same Assembly together again, the same Dispute must have subsisted, which made the Dissolution as necessary as the Prorogation.

If any Misunderstanding of the like Nature should unfortunately happen again, I confess myself entirely ignorant of any other Course to be taken than was at the last Meeting, but I shall be so far from shutting my Ears to better Information, that I shall thankfully receive it.

After mentioning the Prorogation, you proceed to a Justification of the late Lower House, in relation to the Misunderstanding that happened between the Two Houses, in which I have not the least concern, and therefore shall leave that Affair to the Consideration of the Upper House : Only I must take Notice of Two Inconsistencies that run through your whole Address, *viz.* confounding the late Lower House with the present, and the Governor with the Upper House ; had you avoided these, it might have shortened your Address very much, many Things being attributed to this Lower House which belonged to the former, and to the Governor which belongs to the Upper House : To these are owing the long Paragraph wherein you are pleased to profess your Willingness and Desire to pass by the unparallel'd Treatment of *your* House in the Person of *their* honourable Speaker, as you are pleased to express yourselves.