

U. H.
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We could say & our Reasons for the Act for Encouragement of Trade & upon the Grounds in the preamble of the Act Contained judge it reasonable & desire your Assent to it or your Reasons why You dissassent, You instead of reason send Us peremptory Denyalls & resolutions not to debate any more & now You tell us again that You will hear our Reasons which certainly ought to have been penned We will give you our Reasons if You had any respect for the Governour or had any regard to the good of the people that sent You hither to do & consent to such things as by common Council of the Province shall happen to be ordained which common Council can never be had without debate

Now to speak particularly to the reason of your paper to wit, (but We humbly conceive that it stands not with our Liberty & Privileges to debate any matter at large there. To this We answer Conferences are not against your Privileges, & Conference is not only to no purpose but no Conference at all unless for the discussion of the reasons that can be for or against the Matter Conferred on there be debate at large

And secondly You mistake Us & your Privileges too, for We desire only a full & free debate with You all, & that We may throughly understand the Case & according to the Weight of the reason to be alledged by every particular Person to prepare ourselves for a reasonable determination & Resolution Which as We intend to make apart from You in our own House so You may make it by yourselves in your own House, only take this rule by the Way *Obstinate Fortitude is as pernicious to the common Wealth as fearful Honesty & therefore Conferences are necessary, neq timida probitas nec improba fortitudo Reipublicæ Utilis est* says My Lord Cook in his Jurisdiction of Parliaments Both Houses in England once sate together & therefore debated together by consequence, Yea even Voted together & therefore It can be no breach of your Privileges to debate with Us the Time of our Sitting together is not out of the Memory of Man, and therefore You cannot prescribe to the Contrary, & were it not for the respect We bear my Lord's positive Commands to keep the Houses apart (Who in the manner of holding Assemblies is by his Patten tyed to no Rules) We might perhaps tell You that We find just Cause to come & Vote with You also, Upon Consideration of all which We must tell You that We do expect You should come this day & confer with Us & debate the Reasons for & against that Act for Encouragem^t of Trade with Us & that You go into your own house afterwards & freely give y^r Votes for or against it as the Reasons urged shall move You, This last Offer if You refuse We do hereby protest our own Innocency & that whatsoever certainly shall befall the Province either by the decay of our