

U. H. Journal
1659-98

Month Since the first Meeting of this Assembly, and also that at my first Meeting you in this place The matter of Towns was the first and principall Business I recommended to you, which accordingly has bin so farr taken under your Consideration as that after above three weeks Deliberation a Bill for Advancement of Trade was by the Lower house sent to the Upper house friday last at which time I happening to be in this house, I saw the same as also with it a paper Purporting that the Bill for Towns was not to be past in the Lower house unless some other Bills Mentioned in that Paper did pass the Upper house, and that an Assurance must also be given that I would Sign the Same, the latter part of which Message is (I am Sure) without a President, 'Tis strange that a Bill that had cost so much time and the Province so much Tobacco, and which in itself Contains the greatest Good to this Province that as yet We can think of should at last thus stick,

You will all of you take it unkindly at my hands should I question whether you Come here for the publick Good, and yet it plainly appears by the Proceedings of the Lower House, That without I will purchase a General Good for the Inhabitants of my Province I must not Expect it from M^r Speaker and the Lower house; Had I at the first Meeting of this Assembly proposed to you any Particular Advantage to my Self, you then might have had some pretence for the making a Bargain for the People; But Since Nothing of that Nature was Moved to You, why must a general Good be had at so Dear a Rate as you would Impose upon me—

I Confess the Seeing that Message with the Bill for Towns was the Occasion of my telling the Gentlemen of the Upper house that I would Conclude the Sessions this Day of which I ordered the Lower house should immediately have Notice, But having Since Considered with how ill a face the Proceedings of this Assembly would look should the Bill for Towns be at last Rejected, and after all endeavours for so great a Good this present Meeting should be now rendered thereby fruitless especially after so great Expence made both at this and the former Assembly upon this Matter—I was resolved to Meet you once more afore I Concluded this Sessions; And my Business now is to Desire that every person hear will bear an Open forehead, And if this Bill for Towns be not that Good I Esteem it to be, That you M^r Speaker and the Gentlemen here with you will go to your house and accordingly Vote it so, That so it may be known where and at whose Doores it Lyeth, This I am sure you will Grant me if there be that Decorum in the Proceedings of Your house which I wish and hope there may be, And if the Bill for Advancement of Trade be Esteemed by you as it is by me a Publick Good pray let it be accordingly Voted so in the Lower house