

exerted his utmost Influence (which however is inconsiderable) Letter Bk. IV
in favour of those Candidates that he knew would oppose all reasonable Measures & endeavour to render His Ldp's Government odious to the People. With respect to Col^o Lloyd himself it has been currently reported & is I know believed by many, that both he & M^r Chamberlayne have in many private Companies declared themselves in favour of the Assessment Bill which the Gentlemen of the Upper House have now five times refused. I need not tell you what Effect such Declarations will naturally have & what Uses will be made thereof, & perhaps what I have intimated will enable you to account in some measure for Col^o Lloyds declining as he has done to attend the Assembly. Upon the whole it is my opinion that it is not in Col^o Lloyds power to create any greater Disturbance in the Gov^t than he has done already but on the Contrary it is not unlikely when the People perceive that notwithstanding his Conduct, he has received & continues to receive greater Favours from His Ldp than almost any one Person in the Province they will think the most likely way to procure or preserve the Lucrative Offices in this Govern^t is to follow his Example & shew their Consequence not by preserving good order in the Govern^t & endeavouring to make the People easy & satisfied but by throwing as far as possible every thing into Confusion. You ask why M^r Ross signs the Journal of the Proceedings of the Upper House only & not of the Lower; It has never been usual for any one to sign the Lower House Journal or attest a Copy of it beside their own Clerk who does attest the Copies that I transmit & I always send you Copies as soon as they can be made out & an Opportunity of Conveyance offers, but as the Lower House Journal is generally much longer than that of the Upper House, & M^r M^cNamara their Clerk has a great Deal of other Business to do, it is sometimes a great While before I can get a Copy from him & this is the Reason that I do not always p. 31
transmit the Journals of both Houses at the same time. Colo Henry has been some time laid up with the Gout so that he has not been at Annapolis this Session but I shall let him know how much you have served him & will draw an Order in his favour on Col^o Lloyd agreeable to His Ldp's Instructions. Since the Poll Tax Scheme that I sent you is disapproved of (tho for my own part I think it as equitable a method of raising money in this Province as can be proposed) I know of no other unless the £40000 Bill that passed in 1756 was to be revived & continued, but that the Gent^o of the Lower House are absolutely determined against, I mean a Majority of them, nor will they ever agree to raise money on any Account whatever unless the Gent^o of the Upper House will pass their