

who strenuously oppose it while some Counties have in a manner instructed their Members to vote against it, & so small is the Majority even in the Lower House at this time for the Bill that were the Members of both Houses to sit together & vote it would be rejected by the greater Number of Voices. Such being the Case how unfair & disingenuous was it in those who lead the Majority in that House to insinuate that the Contest is only between the Lord Proprietary & People & the sole question whether he should at all contribute towards the Sum wanted for His Majesty's Service but Experience has taught me that there is nothing which these Men would stick at in Order to carry a favourite Point & unfortunately for this Province there will always be a Number of Members in the Lower House who being unable to judge for themselves will think they must necessarily be serving their Country while they write with or follow those who have as it were formally declared themselves Enemies to the Govern^t Nevertheless I do not doubt but when the principal ones in the opposition find that those who act a different part are the only persons thought worthy of Favour their pretended Zeal for the people's Good will become cool, & what has passed here this Session confirms me in the opinion I have long entertained that Steadiness & Firmness on the part of the Govern^t will in the End render the Faction contemptible. Tho the Bill which was offered to the Upper House this Session did not differ materially from those which had been before rejected, it is to be printed together with the Messages & as soon as it comes from the Press I shall transmit you a Copy. The several Acts to which I gave my Assent & of which you will see a List in one of the inclosed Gazettes are now printing off so that I expect it will be in my power to send you Copies thereof next Month by the Fleet & I flatter myself there will be none found among them to which His Ldp will make any Objection. M^r Ringold one of the Members of the Lower House having after the Assembly was met received a Letter from M^r Franklin advising him that the Address of Condolance &c which was transmitted to him last Summer to be presented to His Majesty as from the Representatives of the People of this Province could not be received at the Secretary of State's Office by reason of its containing a Paragraph concerning Grievances the Majority now agreed to prepare another of which I inclose you a Copy & M^r Ringold was I understand desired to transmit it to M^r Franklin who has it seems offered to serve to the utmost of his power during his Stay in England. The Assembly's Sitting the Beginning of April having laid me under a Necessity of Writing to Governor Hamilton & desiring that the Commissioners Meeting at Newcastle