

Liber R. charges of frequent Assemblies, Wee purposely deferred the calling of any since our arrivall from England, till necessity of renewing the Temporary Lawes should obleige us to conveene One, as may appeare from the last proclamation for Prorogation of the Assembly till such time as the Temporary Lawes would have expired, but the Northern Indians makeing frequent inroades, and as often plundering some English ffamily or other in their way to Virginia or to Pascattoway forced us by Proclamation to conveene the Assembly on the sixteenth August last to give check if possible to those Evills, and prevent effusion of Christian blood which wee foresaw would inevitably follow from these beginnings of plunder and rapine. At the Opening of the Assembly the protection of the Province and Defence of the people against these outrages was the Principall thing wee recommended to the Assembly, and we had reason to hope they would immediately fall upon soe important a worke, Especially seeing there were people ready with Petitions at our Doores to be considered for their losses, and to be paid by the Publick for what they lost with patience for the common good rather then to hazard the beginning a war with the Northern Plunderers; Two Dayes we patiently expected, judgeing the two houses were settling their ord<sup>rs</sup> and then (to witt) 19 August we received an Address from the Lower house which was soe farr from the matters recommended to them that it was wholly new to the Province, viz<sup>t</sup>

p. 269 a Desire of new Officers to be appointed, new members to be Elected into the Assembly, all tending to foreslow business and augment charge; the members themselves that delivered the address confessing that the Assembly then sitting were sufficient and sufficiently Empowered to Enact Lawes without any addition of members, there being then Delegates from Every County present in the house as many as are sent from any County in England: All this while the Enemy lay at our Doores, and noe reason could suggest any thing but Danger of blood shed and warr, And to prevent it The Upper house by our ord<sup>r</sup> sent to the Lower house to know whither they had any Bills in hand that required their Concurrence or Advice in the drawing them, but the Lower house send for answer to their Address, refuse conference about their priviledges, wave the consideration of the Defence of the Province though daily pressed to it by the upper house till 23<sup>th</sup> Aug<sup>t</sup> at which day the Upper house pressing to have a member of the Lower house to be joyned with One of the Upper house to goe treat with the Northern Indians at Zachaja (who then lay hovering over us and the Pascattoways watching whom they might with most ease devour) The Lower house refused to joyne; The same day again wee ordered our Chancelo<sup>r</sup> to