

Lib. 41. postpone Matters to the last Eight or ten Hours of your Rising and then Things of very great Consequence are naturally hurried up or so procrastinated that at our next Meeting they are forgot. Witness many of her Majesty's Royal Instructions laid before you Gentlemen at your first sitting down and tho' I heartily desired your Advice & Assistance in a strict Enquiry what became of the Arms and Ammunition of the Province in Time of a foreign War & intestine Disturbances when we last met which seem to threaten us still you did not then think it proper to enquire into a Matter so very necessary for your own Safety & Defence.

Give me Leave Gentlemen to desire you will now apply yourselves heartily to the Business before you that so pernicious a Thing to all wise Councils may not be brought to a Custom by you Gentlemen Delegates, and then I can never
 p. 50 doubt but by calm and serious Debates the many great Things under your present Care will be in a few Days ripened into good wholesome Laws fit for the Royal Sanction; and as every Body knows this part of America was discovered by Englishmen in the Reign of the famous renowned Queen Elizabeth I would have us of this Province always remember no Prince since (in so short a Time) ever applied their Royal Care more emphatically for your Welfare Preservation and Happiness than our present Glorious Queen Anne.

I have had an Account from the Head of the Bay the Indians intended some motion this Spring and with the Advice of her Majesty's Honble Council have taken proper Measures about it for the present but hope Gentlemen you will enquire particularly into the Truth of this Affair for on our last Alarms the several Persons I sent on long & hazardous Journeys to bring me a right Intelligence of their Design were so narrowly rewarded it must be on a very emergent Occasion I'll trouble any Gentlemen again if I may not be thought a proper Judge what such a publick Service deserves.

I have neither Lands nor Houses to lose here on any sudden fatal Insult as you Gentlemen Freeholders have yet my Reputation which is dearer to me than any thing in this world lies at Stake. But with all the chearful Willingness imaginable will expose myself on a true handsome Occasion for the Defence Service & Peace of this Country.

Gentlemen, I have several other material Things to offer to your Considⁿ this Session but shall presume to do it by Way of Message.

Ordered it be read in the Morning and the Speaker and the Members return to the House where he having taken the Chair & finding it late, adjourned till 8 o'Clock to morrow morning.