

U. H. J. Act of Assembly Intituled an Act for laying an Imposition on sev<sup>rl</sup> Commodities Exported out of this Province as Relates to the laying an Impost or Duty on Furr and Skins only and for laying an Imposition on Pork, Pitch and Tarr in Lieu thereof thus Subscribed viz.

October the 9<sup>th</sup> 1723

p. 60 Read and Assented to by the Lower House of Assembly and Sign'd p Order M: Jenifer Cl Lo. Ho.

Which Bill being Read is also Assented to by the Upper House and thus Subscribed (Viz.)

October the 9<sup>th</sup> 1723

Read and Assented to by the Upper House of Assembly and Sign'd p Order. Sam<sup>l</sup> Skippon Cl Up Ho.

Then the House took into Consideration the Message of the Lower House relating to the conference on the Affair of the Indians' Lands, and prepar'd the following answer thereto (viz.)

By the Upper House of Assembly October the 9<sup>th</sup> 1723  
Gentlemen.

On Reading your message Relating to the Report of the Conferrees that were appointed to Examine into the Affair about the Indian Lands we are of opinion that the Exception you make to that part of the Report which prohibits the Selling or Leasing of those Lands will render any Law now to be made for securing the Indians Rights to their Lands Insignificant, and make their circumstances worse than they now are. For we all know the natural failing of those People to be such as that when they are in Drink designing persons may purchase any thing they have at what Rates they please some Instances whereof We have already had which we take to be the Occasion of proposing a Law to be made relating to them p. 61 And should the Indians be permitted to sell and Lease all their Lands (w<sup>ch</sup> in a Little Time we have Reason to fear they would) the Consequence would be, that the Country must be at the Expence of purchasing more for them, or that they must Remove farther Back amongst other Nations of Indians, and carry with them their Resentments against us for having deprived them of their Lands here, which would prompt them to Revenge themselves and Induce other nations of Indians to Joyn with them, and might prove very prejudicial to us and our neighbouring Colonies. As to the Hardships