

Which being read this House Concurrts therewith.

L. H. J.

Resolved a Bill be brought in to prevent the Tumultious meeting of Negroes.

James Bowles Esq from the Upper House delivers M<sup>r</sup> Speaker the following Message Viz:

By the Upper House of Assembly

Octob<sup>r</sup> the 9<sup>th</sup> 1723.

Gent.

On reading your Message relateing to the report of the Conferrees that were Appointed to Examine into the Affair About the Indians Lands we are of Oppinion 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 secureing the Indians rights to their Lands Insignificant and make their Circumstances worse than they now are, For wee all know the naturall 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 allready had, which we take to be the Chief Occasion of proposing a Law to be made relateing to them, and should the Indians be permitted to Sell and lease all their Lands (which in Little time we have reason to fear they would) the Consequence would be that the Country must be at the expence of purchaseing more for them, or that they must remove further back among Other nations of Indians and Carry with them their Resentments against us for haveing 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 prejudiciall to us and our neighbouring Colonies. As to the hardships done those persons who have grants for Lands within the Indians Bounds of an Elder date than the Act of Assembly which Confirms the Indians Lands to them we hope the Justice of the Legislature at that time was such that they would not Deprive any man of his Right or property without Just Cause and therefore we ought to believe that Either the proprietors of those Lands had a Compensation some way or Other made them for their Rights till the same should revert to them or their Heirs Again by the desertion of the Indians, or rather that the Indians were Actually resideing upon those Lands by the Consent of the Government when they were taken up, and for that reason thought by the Legislature to have a more Equitable Right than those who were but Intruders on them Besides if the proprietors of those Lands at the time of makeing the Law, had been able to make