

L. H. J. In Answer whereto the following message is prepared viz:

By the Lower House of Assembly Oct. 28th 1724.

May it please your Honours

We have considered your Honours Remarks on the Bill for relieving the Inhabitants of this province from some difficulties they may lie under in paying their Levies officers fees and other Countrey Tobacco Debts this year and are Sorry to find your Honours on your second thoughts should recede from what was so fully debated on the conference (from whence we doubt not but your Honours were inform'd from time to time of what Resolutions were there made) and from what your Honours fully Concurr'd with

And we desire your Honours to consider the Answers that your objections naturally require We shall give them Articulate thus Viz.

To the first every Case or Circumstance that requires an oath is liable to an objection, that perjury may Enssue

To the 2^d An Amendment may be easily propos'd to remedy the Inconveniencie your Honours object, Tho' we think it none; For if any Debtor does at any time get in Tobacco after the oath made such Tobacco is no ways Exempt from the Execution of his Creditor. If therefore your Honours rest only on that objection we shall readily proceed to make an amendment

To the 3^d That people are only obliged to preferr the publick Credit to any other and in all other Cases the Rules of payment proposed cannot be liable to objection being referr'd to the Election of the Debtor which is his Right by the Common Law of England.

To the 4th Liberty is a benefit to the poor, and the Act propos'd is to protect the poor against Imprisonment where providence has disabled them to pay their Debts that they may be Suffered to work for their Creditors and family

To the 5th Tradesmen that have Earned Tobacco from planters cannot pay the Tobacco they owe unless they receive what is their due and when the planter has not made it the Tradesmen he owes it to can't receive it And consequently needs some provision to be made for him; And as the method propos'd by the conferrees and agreed to by your Honours is now objected to we should be Glad your Honours would be pleas'd to propose a better

Sixthly. We cannot conceive that Law Suits will be Encreast by the Act proposed when it will be apparent to the Creditor that he cannot get what he sues for. And we cannot