

as by the Proviso therein more fully appears which words if your Honours approve them better may be added to this Bill. L. H. J.

But upon the whole the Vote having been put with us whether to Recede from the Rates propos'd in the Bill it was carried in the Negative and therefore we cannot recede from it

Sign'd p order M Jenifer Cl. Lo. Ho.

Which was sent to the Upper house by M^r Bozman and M^r Hawkins

They return and Say they delivered it

The House Adjourns till to Morrow Morning nine of the Clock.

Wednesday Nov^r 4th 1724

The House meets according to Adjournment

Yesterday's proceedings are Read.

Resolved that Hemp & Flax be paid at any Landing or convenient place instead of paying at Towns according to the form^r Law

James Bowles Esq^r from the Upper House delivers M^r Speaker the following message viz.

By the Upper House of Assembly November the 4th 1724
Gentlemen.

In Answer to your message of yesterday by M^r Bozman and M^r Hawkins, We assure you that we have many times Read and considered both the Bill and the Provisoe, and the more we Read the more we admire, that you should contend for such a forced & improper Construction of them. As for your Argument drawn from the Provisoe in the Bill we think it Carrys as Little weight as those you have used to maintain Your Sense of the Clause in the Bill, for if none but merch^{ts} were mencōned in the Bill, that Provisoe would be necessary because it may often happen that merchants may have publick allowances or be intituled to some part of the forty p poll and then if the Provisoe was not made they must be obliged to take flax & hemp in payment for those publick dues.

But waving all further Debates of this kind we desire you will be pleas'd to Consider the Evil Consequences that must needs ensue if the Act for Ascertaining officers fees be Sufferr'd to Expire, for then there will be no Rule between the officers and the people, what Charges shall be made for