

Coll<sup>o</sup> Tilghman from the Upper House delivers M<sup>r</sup> Speaker L. H. J. the following Message viz:

By the Upper House of Assembly

Octob<sup>r</sup> the 25<sup>th</sup> 1725

Gentlemen.

In answer to Your Message of the 23<sup>d</sup> Instant by M<sup>r</sup> Walter Smith, and M<sup>r</sup> Ephraim Augustine Herman, we are of Opinion that the Method we have taken of Signifying our Assent to the Engrost bills is not so Intirely new as you seem to think for if you please to Consult the Journals of Both Houses of Assembly Since the Year 1715, You will find the same method has been us'd since that time only with this Difference that as the Assent us'd to be Signified by a Verbal Message we have now done it in Writing by an Endorsment upon the originall Bill which we were Induced to do by your desiring in Your first Message Relating to this Affair that our Assent to those Bills might appear to your House in the same manner that the Assent of Your House does to ours, and this we take to be most Effectually Comply'd with by that Method. We are very far from Desiring to Enter into Unnecessary debates with Your House, but Cannot conceive why you should Insist upon altering the present practice Relating to the Engrost Bills because for the Reasons we gave you in our former Message it appears to be most Conducive to the Dispatch of the publick Business, and we believe it to be most Agreeable to the Parliamentary Practice in Great Britain. We desire you would be pleas'd to Consider that you Mistake the Constitution of our Legislature when you tell us that his Honour the Governor presides in our House for he is not a Member of it, nor does he sett amongst us unless occasionally as he thinks fitt for perusing such Bills and petitions as are lodged in this House, and we having Communicated to him the Message of Your House Relating to this Affair, he has been pleas'd to tell us that Unless the Engrost Bills are lodg'd here or in some Convenient place, where he may have Recourse to them, he Cannot possibly be prepared to Assent to them at the Conclusion of the Sessions, but that then both Houses must wait till he Can peruse them. Besides what has been already Offered, it appears to be most Argeeable to Reason, that as Your House have in Possession the Originall Bills with our Assent thereon so the Engrost Bills should Remain in our House, which will give Each house the Oppertunity of perusing and Considering them during the whole Sessions whereby some Mistakes that might