

U. H. J. Sent to the Lower House by Col Ward.

A Message from the Lower House by Captain Mariarte & M^r Hudson viz.

By the Lower House of Assembly October 28th 1724.

May it please Your Honours

We have considered your Honours Remarks on the Bill relieving the Inhabitants of this province from some difficulties they may lye under in paying their Levies Officers fees and other Country 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 informed from time to time of what Resolutions were then made and from what your Honours fully concurred with

And we desire your Honours to consider the answers that the Objections naturally require We shall Give them Articulately thus viz.

To the 1st Every case or circumstance that requires an Oath is liable to an Objection that perjury may ensue.

To the 2^d An Amendment may be easily proposed to remedy the Inconveniency your Honours Object though 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 propose an Amendment

p. 135 To the third that people are only Obliged to prefer the Publick Credit to any Other and in all other cases the Rules of payment proposed cant be liable to Objection being referred to the Election of the debtor which is his right by the common Law of England.

To the fourth Liberty is a Benefit to the poor and the Act proposed 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 & Family

To the fifth Tradesmen that have earn'd Tobacco from the planters cannot pay the Tobacco they owe unless they Receive what is their due and where the Planter has not made it the Tradesman he owes cant receive it & consequently needs some Provision to be made for him and as the method proposed by the conferees & Agreed to by your Honours is now Objected to We should be glad your Honours would be pleased to propose a better