

U. H. J. from the Apprehension the Clergy expressed in their Representation They indeed set forth that they were informed that a motion was made to erect a Jurisdiction for the better Government of the Church and Clergy We indeed thought it necessary to do Something that might Influence some of the Clergy to Govern themselves more like Moralists and Christians than they do the more is the Pity and tho we never had any Intent to Infringe the Ecclesiastical Laws yet we found by complaints from most parts of the Province that the misconduct of the Clergy and their pretending to a General Exemption of their Persons from all Punishment by the temporal Laws loudly call'd for our Endeavours to enforce those Laws against them & we beg leave to Observe that as the Clergy signing the Representation grant there is a Necessity for the Enforcement of an Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction as the only proper method to redress the Grievances of the Church we should have been Glad that the Clergy had Given us their opinion what those Grievances were for we frankly declare tho sorry for the cause that we think the Immorality and prophaneness of some of their Brethren the Greatest that we know of & if they would by their Representation be understood that it would be opposite to their ordination Vow to Submit to a temporal Punishment for their Immoralities we should be Glad they would recommend it to their Brethren as tenderly to consider whether their conduct be not more Contrary to that Vow than their submitting to the Laws of their Country for such Offences as they cant but know are an evil Example and the Common Hurt of Christianity

We have heard of the Case of Carolina and have likewise been told that the Act for establishing 40 p Pole can't be touch'd by the Legislature & we doubt the Gentlemens Security renders them careless but we hope your Honours will Joyn with us in letting these Gentlemen know that this Legislature may as well Propose the Repeal of that Law as they at first proposed the making of it and (perhaps for the unhappy causes they too plainly Give) might find as Good Interest to Obtain as they might to oppose the Royal Favour In the
 p. 151 Repeal of it If your Honours Giving them a necessary caution might have so desirable an effect as that their future conduct might Induce the Legislature to forget all thoughts of this Kind we are of opinion that it would be [a] much better way of arguing than to insist on their establishments which have their Foundation on the Laws of England & this province and not of the Medes and Persians.

We shall not now trouble Your Honours further than to enforce our former Message and to say we shall think it our