

U. H. J.  
Calvert  
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By the Upper House of Assembly 2<sup>d</sup> June 1740

Gentlemen

Whether what you have insisted, does or does not tend to render any Branch of the Legislature, that should comply with it, useless or ridiculous, we must appeal to every impartial Person, who will read the state of our present dispute in our Message of the 31<sup>st</sup> of May, where it cannot be said to be misrepresented; nor can we recollect any Conduct of this House at any Time parallel to Yours on this occasion

Whoever reads your former Messages, must conclude you differed with us, either because we had altered the usual Duration of your Bills on Our Table; or because we would not acquaint you, what alteration (if any) we intended to make: But by your Message of Saturday last, you seem to have found out, that you had mistaken the Cause of our Quarrel, for by that Message you tell Us, your Complaint is, "That we have not read Your Bills the second time" If so, pray what occasion was there for your long Reasoning, and harsh Conclusions on a Fact (viz. our Alteration of the Continuance of your Bills) which had not happened. And why have you so hastily taken for Granted, without any Information from your House that We should do it, as by Argumentations on your own Suspicions and Apprehensions, to put the Country to an Expencc of near One hundred Thousand Pounds of Tobacco? But now truly it comes out, that you are not Angry with us, for having made or intended to make any Alteration in the Duration of the Bills, but only, Because we have not read the Bills a second time, and sent them to you with the former Duration" If we are blameable in  
p. 94 this particular, We doubt not but you will on a very little Recollection be so candid as to acknowledge such an Objection lies much stronger against your selves; If we have been faulty for not Reading a second time and sending to you Bills to which this House has in no Shape hitherto agreed, how will you be excused, for not reading the second time (for ought We know) and not sending up to Us a Bill, on every part of which the Two Houses by their Conferees have signified their Concurrence A Bill which is of so great Importance as to make some better Provision for Defence of the Province in these Dangerous Times of War, and a Bill which together with another Bill employed us the first four Weeks of Our Meeting, at the expence of near 300000£ of Tobacco to the Country, before the two Houses could agree on the Heads, and which we were always understood and intended to be dispatched in the first place, and to accompany each other; But you have now taken up near Ten days, and at 100000£ of Tobacco Expence to the Country in disputing whether you should send up one of those Bills.

It is your Behaviour Gentlemen, in keeping back this Bill under all these Circumstances that alarmed Us and put us upon our Guard