

L. H. J. second Time, passed, and sent to the Upper House by M<sup>r</sup> John Liber No. 46 Gresham, and M<sup>r</sup> Bond.

The House adjourns to 2 of the Clock.

Post Meridiem

The House met according to Adjournment.

M<sup>r</sup> Speaker communicates to the House the following Message from the Governor, viz.

Gentlemen of the Lower House of Assembly

In Answer to your Address on the Subject of Quit Rents, and your Desire that I would acquaint you what was my Lords yearly Income from them, I then told you, that a Disposition in you not to be less forward in what may concern the Honour of Government, and Defence of the Province, than his Lordship's Inclination for the well being of his Tenants, will be the most likely Method to obtain the great End of Ease and Happiness to the whole Province.

I made this Declaration as a Foundation for a mutual Engagement between every Branch of the Legislature, that if such Laws as were most acceptable to the People, and thought most convenient for their Ease, were to be obtained on one Side; such others likewise as should be judged necessary for the Honour and Security of this Province, should accompany and go hand in hand with them; by which means that Peace and Harmony between Government and People, which it is every good Subjects Interest and Duty to contribute to, might be procured and established. After this Declaration, your entering upon the Quit Rent Bill, Assize Law, and resuming the Officers Fee Bill, could be no other than accepting the Conditions proposed, viz. that all Matters should proceed with, and accompany each other: Therefore I am very much surprized, that now the three most desirable Laws are in such Forwardness, you should deny the single Bill the Government has to ask, and which is for the Defence of the Province. What I have to propose to you is, that a Bill be now prepared for a Provision for Arms, but not to take Effect or be in force, 'til the Revenue and other Bills take place: This, I am sure, shews my Sincerity and good wishes for a happy finishing of this Session, and an Accomplishment of all our professed wishes; and which, if denied, can have no other Interpretation, but that you are desirous those Bills which have taken up so much of our Time, should be lost; which must be the Case.

T. Bladen

Which being read, A Question was put, whether this House will now recede from the Resolve of Yesterday on the Subject of Arms and Ammunition? Resolved in the Negative.