

L. H. J.
Liber No. 46

tion tends, as yours does, in my View of Your Paper towards Hurting the Liberty of your Constituents in a Very essential manner. After some turning and twisting the words of the Act of Parliament, and your elaborate Reasoning to prove a Place out of Parliament to be not in Parliament and that Questioning must be by Somebody and cannot be by Nobody in Order to make the words Questioning and Place have the most extensive but not Legal Signification then you tell me that I may see those Words Convey no other Meaning than what is Contained in the former Proceedings of Parliament: I must own I have never as yet and I believe no Man alive besides your selves ever understood the word Questioned in An Act of Parliament to mean the making an Enquiry or asking a Question about any Matter or Reasoning or Disputing or the same with any Person whatsoever or in any Manner; But you Contend that those words in the Statute can Convey no other meaning but what you have put on them and that they ought not to be restrained to a Legal Sense but extended to every Sense: If so why did you add the other Words

p. 652 You answer that you added them to explain Particularly what was only contained in the General Words of that Act what occasion was there for that Addition since you say they can Carry no other Meaning Have you ever found that the House of Commons (to whom you liken your selves) even Added or explained the words of this Statute since the making thereof in that Manner Do you really think it supportable either by reason Justice Decency or your Own Power That when you insist upon a Right secured to you by an Act of Parliament you should venture to add other Words to that Act and make the Bulk of the People believe they are the very words of the Act, Would it not have been more proper and prudent to make your Declaration of your Privileges upon the very words of the Act only? Perhaps you might by Mistake think yourselves more at Liberty to make thus free an Act of Assembly but why you Ventured to make your Experiment on this Act of Parliament, I could not at first conjecture, unless it was for the Reason assigned in my Answer, "To preclude or rather intimidate your Constituents from ever Presuming to question any Behaviour of yours in a Legislative way not even by the most Humble Inquiries": And this Guess is now verified by your own Expression which is That your Constituents know their Rights with Regard to you as well as you do yours with regard to me and they have too much good Sense and Good Manners to drive any of you to the necessaty by a Personal Abuse of laying any Complaint before the House for a Breach of Privilege" What Knowledge you have of your rights with regard to me, I shall not determine, but only say if you have a Imperfect one at Present I shall be glad that you would Better Inform yourselves:—However I hope your Constituents will always Know and support their Rights so far with regard to you as to Question you for any Behaviour in the House which they