

L. H. J. Legislature here, can receive any additional Force from a Procla-  
 Liber No. 48 mation of his Lordship's Assent to it.  
 May 1

An Allowance to Members of the Council of State, for their Attendance as a Council of State, we cannot consent to, such Allowance not being warranted by any Law of this Province; but, on the contrary, implicitly denied by the Act of Assembly entitled, An Act for directing the Manner of electing and summoning Delegates, &c. which ascertains the Allowance to Counsellors, whilst serving in the General Assembly of this Province, Delegates, Provincial and County Magistrates.

As you say there are several Laws in Force, which require many Services to be done by M.<sup>r</sup> Ross, as Clerk of the Council, when his Account, for such Services, is laid before us, it shall be considered, and every reasonable Allowance made; but to make Allowances, for Services annually performed in Compliance with Laws, without any Account of the Services ever being laid before us, is a Method of dealing out the Peoples Money we can never come into.

There have not been any Accounts laid before us of Expences incurred by any Militia, ordered out by the Governor to the Assistance of our back Inhabitants; when there are, we will take them into Consideration.

And, May it please your Honours, as the Discharge of the Public Debt, now of Nine Years standing, and amounting to about 4,498,092 lbs. in Tobacco, and £1538 Current Money, on the 17th Day of March last, to which Time the Journal of Accounts was closed, must be very burthensome to the People, and, if suffered to be annually increasing, must be still more so; and as depriving the Servants of the Public of the Wages allotted to them, some by express Laws, and others by the plainest Rules of common Right and Justice, obliges many to part with them at a very low Rate, and renders Public Credit Contemptible; and as we hope we have fully satisfied your Honours, that no Demand against the Public, which has either a Lawful or reasonable Foundation, is omitted to be made in the Journal of Accounts; we herewith send it up again to your Honours, not doubting, but, upon more mature Deliberation, on the Contemptible State of our Public Credit, and on the Circumstances both the Public Creditors and the People are brought into, by the Delay of undoubted Right to the one, and keeping a heavy increasing Debt hanging over the other, you will send it down with your Assent. And we propose, for the Ease of the People, that the Public Debt be Levied by Two equal Assessments, in which we hope for your Honours Concurrence.

Signed per Order, M. Macnemara, Cl. Lo. Ho.