

ordinate executive Power of Government, from the Highest to the Lowest.

L. H. J.  
Liber No. 48  
May 6

We have always been well satisfied, May it please your Excellency, that it is very far from your Intent and Design to call in Question the Rights and Privileges of this House, and that you will regard it as your Duty, and will endeavour to preserve the Rights and Privileges of the People (which your Excellency very justly observes) are secured by, and dependant upon, the due Execution of the Laws, and not suffer them to be called upon or prosecuted out of the ordinary Course of Procedure. But, May it please your Excellency, as possibly the Rights and Privileges of this House may have been called in Question, and the Rights, Liberties, and Privileges of the People may possibly have been infringed without the least Shadow of an Intent or Design to do either, we must humbly beg Leave here, with Freedom and Candour, to lay open our Sentiments to your Excellency on this Occasion.

We are very clearly convinced of your Excellency's Desire and Endeavours to promote the Welfare and Happiness of the good People committed to your Care, as far as you can, consistent with the Powers given you; and it creates in us the deepest Concern, that notwithstanding your Excellency's Wishes and Intentions, so laudable, Acts should be done, which must, at least in their Consequences, have very contrary Effects; and we are at a Loss to what Cause to impute it, unless to the ill Advice and Council of some Persons, who have the Honour to be nearest your Excellency, together with the Misinformations and Misconstructions of the Conduct of this House, imposed upon your Excellency by others, whose too close attachment to their private Interests, creates in them too slight a Regard for the public Welfare.

And, May it please your Excellency, it may be proper to remark, that Mr. Rawlings was not called to appear before this House in his private Character, that is, merely as one of the good People of this Province, who we hope never will be prosecuted out of the ordinary Course of Procedure; but in his public Character, as a Person intrusted with a Share of the Power of executing the Laws in Being, for their good Order and Government; he was not called upon in Consequence of the Complaint of any private Person, in order to give such Person Damages for any Wrong Mr. Rawlings might have done him in his private Capacity, but upon the Representation of one of the Members of this House, in order that his Conduct, in his public Character, might undergo a parliamentary Enquiry; and either his Innocence be made manifest, or all bad Effects, which might flow from his Abuse of Power in his public Station, for the future, prevented, by his Misconduct being laid before your Excellency: And that Mr. Rawlings, in such his public Character, stood before