

L. H. J.
Liber No. 48
May 7

missioners for Emitting Bills of Credit, I must inform you, that on the 9th of October last I sent the Report which you then presented to me, to the Attorney-General, with Orders to sue the Bonds of the Persons that you complained of in the Address, to which the Report was annexed; and I have been given to understand that he proceeded against them accordingly. I should be very sorry to find, that any
p. 444 Persons, capable of being Guilty of such a Crime as Pocketing public Money, have been recommended to Offices in this Government since I have resided among you: If you know any such, be pleased to point them out, and you will, by doing so, render them Objects of my Resentment. I am advised, that the Refusal of any Matters of Vessels to pay a Duty on Convicts, by them imported into this Province, would not justify the Naval-Officers in refusing to Enter them; and his Majesty's late Attorney-General, the present Lord Mansfield, has given it as his Opinion, that no such Duty can be levied here. I think Col. Hammond, who is the only one of the present Commissioners of the Loan-Office, that is interested in, or can be affected by the Judgments referred to in your Address (the Actions against Messieurs Trippe, Porter, and Bradford, having been commenced before the other Two were appointed, and long before my Arrival in this Province) has told me, that as he can make it appear, that the Money in Question was never paid into the Office, he has appealed from the Judgments; but I will, on my Return to Annapolis, examine into the Affair, and give such Orders as shall be agreeable to Law and Justice. I was lead, by the Extract from the Report before-mentioned, to think, that the Lord Proprietary's Agent had neglected to pay the Tax imposed on his Lordship's Manors, Leased, Reserved, and Demised Lands; but on Enquiry I find, that the Collectors have really been paid for such Lands, and that such of them as have settled with the Commissioners of the Loan-Office, have accounted with them for the same: And I am also informed, that an Entry to that Effect was made by the Committee in the Report that was returned to the Upper House. I shall, as you desire, enquire into the Truth of the Information that has been given you, concerning Turnor Wootton's Bond. And if all the Officers, who are appointed to collect and receive the Taxes and Duties, imposed by the Acts of Assembly, which have been lately made in this Province, for his Majesty's Service, do not render Accounts, and make due Payments, as soon as the Cause that has occasioned our Meeting at this Place, and deterred them from coming to Annapolis, is removed, they may depend on being Prosecuted; and you may rest assured, that I shall never countenance any Officer who does not diligently and faithfully discharge his Duty.

7th May, 1757.

Hor^o. Sharpe.

The House adjourns until 2 of the Clock Afternoon.