

L. H. J. the Head and Chief Branch, have also mine, and particularly some,  
 Liber No. 49 which neither of the other, singly nor both together, have any  
 Oct. 11 Power to exercise.

As these several Branches are constitutionally independent of each other, except in certain Cases, where I, as the Chief, have a Right to give the Law to the Rest, so likewise are the Servants of each free from the Authority of either of the others; and therefore, wherever, in any Case, Offence shall be given by the Servant of one to any other Branch of the Legislature, the Parties offended must be content either to overlook such Offence, or to apply to that Branch whose Servant such Offender is, to obtain Satisfaction; and this is the Method I pursued with Regard to your Serjeant; for, instead of sending the Sheriff, or any other Officer, to take him into Custody for the Insult offered me, I made my Application to you: And why I am not to be treated with the same Decency that you are, and have not as good a Right to protect my Servants, and prevent their suffering by the Authority of others, cannot easily be conceived.

Upon these Principles, then, give me Leave to proceed a little further. You tell me that Mr. John Ridout, whom I call, and who you know is, my Secretary, "was Guilty of a Contempt of the Authority, and of a Breach of the Rights and Privileges of this House, at the Bar thereof;" you say the Contempt he committed was at the Bar of your House, but you do not say how he came there; I am sure he came not there by my Consent, pursuant to any Application from you to me for his Attendance: And if you have called him, whom, at that Time, you knew to be my Secretary, and subject only to my Authority, before you, without pursuing the regular and parliamentary Method for that Purpose, as in this Instance, you have committed the first Irregularity, both with Regard to him and me: So you had not only no Authority over him when present, let him have behaved as he would; (and yet, from what I can learn of this Affair, I cannot disapprove of his Behaviour) but this is giving me a new, and the first Cause of Complaint of an Attempt by you to exercise an unconstitutional Authority, in sending for a Person to appear at your Bar, with whom you have nothing to do, and who is constitutionally under my Protection, and consequently of a Contempt of my Power, and of a Breach of the Rights and Privileges incident to my Station. And I must here take the Liberty to tell you, Gentlemen, that these Powers, Rights and Privileges, I am determined, whenever I shall leave this Government, to deliver up to my Successor, as full and entire, in all their several Branches, as they came to my Hands.

I would not, from what has passed, be understood as if I were endeavouring to conceal any Thing from your Knowledge, which it may be proper you should know; and as the Lower House of Assembly have always found me ready to give them, in their public Consul-