

L. H. J.
Liber No. 49
Dec. 16

Mr. John Hammond Dorsey hath Leave to go home.

Benedict Calvert, Esq; from the Upper House, delivers to Mr. Speaker, the several Paper Bills (the Ingrossed Bills of which were severally Read and Assented to by both Houses); which said Paper Bills were severally thus Indorsed, "By the Upper House of Assembly; The Ingrossed Bill, whereof this is the Original, is Read and Assented to."

Signed p Order, J. Ross, Cl. Up. Ho.

His Excellency the Governor communicated to Mr. Speaker, the following Message, viz.

Gentlemen of the Lower House of Assembly,

Upon turning to the Proceedings of the late Lower House of Assembly, referred to in your Address of the 10th Instant, for those repeated Representations of that Lower House to me of the Neglect of several Naval-Officers to account for the Duties imported on Servants, which I understand they never could receive, I can find but one such Representation of that House: The same Address relates likewise to the Commissioners of the Currency-Office, complaining that they had not Credited the Public with the Monies paid into that Office by Trippe, Porter and Bradford, tho' in Fact, as I am well informed, those Monies were not paid into that Office, nor even to the Commissioners themselves, but were paid by those People to the Clerk of the Commissioners, out of the Office, notwithstanding he had no Authority either by Virtue of his Office as Clerk, or from the Commissioners, to receive the same. And as that House desired that the Bonds of these Officers may be put in Suit for these Neglects, so you, in your Address of the 10th Instant, complain that their repeated Representation, and their earnest Request, have not yet had the desired Effect. And tho' you are at a Loss to account for my failing to sue those Bonds, agreeable to the Desire of that House, yet from a Declaration I made, in what I then thought a satisfactory Answer to that Address, and which I now renew, "That I will never Countenance any Officer who does not diligently and faithfully discharge his Duty," you are so good as to attribute that Failure to any Cause, rather than a Disregard in me to the reasonable Complaints of the Representatives of the People: And I was indeed in Hopes, that my constant Care and Attention to the Ease and Happiness of every Individual over whom I have the Honour to preside, might have induced the Representatives of the People, especially after the foregoing Declaration, to have hit upon the true Cause of my failing to sue those Bonds, by attributing it to my not being satisfied that those Officers had been Guilty of any Breach of Trust or Negligence in the Discharge of their Duty. But as you seem to think I was not sincere in that Declaration, I shall for once, lay before you the Reasons which have induced, what you are pleased to call, a Failure in me.