

U. H. J.  
Liber No. 35  
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The Duty we owe to our most gracious Sovereign, our immediate Interest in the Event of an Expedition directed for our Protection, the Honour and Credit of the Province and the Ease and Tranquillity of the People we flattered ourselves would suggest to their Delegates Motives of too animating and powerful a Nature to yield to any Party Views, but we are extremely sorry to have so much Reason to complain that at this Time when every Subject of Dispute ought to be carefully shunned Points are pertinaciously insisted upon by them which the most sanguine in a settled and quiet State of Affairs would hardly presume to hint, as if this thro' a fatal Misconception of the Interests of the People/ was deemed to be the proper Season for extorting Concessions which could not be made without introducing a new System of Government, and vesting almost an unlimited Power in the Lower House.

When we were called upon by the Lower House for our Objections to the Supply Bill we communicated them without Reserve and hoped that the plain and inoffensive Manner in which we complied with this Request would have produced a candid Discussion and amicable Settlement, but in this we were disappointed for instead of answering with Temper they thought proper to insult us with Contumely and affrontive Insinuations, but even this ill Treatment we should have repressed our Resentment of had they not also declared to us their Resolution that they would not listen to any Overtures for a general and free Conference, the only means which remained for conciliating or moderating a Diversity of Sentiments.

If the Authority challenged by them had been acknowledged by us there would be little Occasion for an express Resolve that this House is an unnecessary Branch of the Legislature, and the next Step might be to controul the Supreme Magistrate in his Exercise of the executive Power measure out the Duty of Obedience to Government by the particular Convenience of each Individual, and awe and intimidate the ordinary Jurisdictions by resolving standing Laws to be null and void, or publishing Constructions of them to regulate the Conduct of the Subject, and the Determination of his Judges.

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We are far from insinuating that a Design big with so much Mischief is harboured by the present Members, we would hope that their Prudence and Humanity would restrain them from pursuing a Measure which could tend only to insnare the Ignorant who not distinguishing between the impotent Vehemence of Resolves and the indispensable Obligation of the Laws might imagine that the former would screen Delinquents from the necessary Penalties of the latter, but when a Spirit of Innovation is encouraged in it's Progress Men are hurried into unforeseen Extravagancies, and therefore we are persuaded that your Excellency and all considerate and impartial Persons will rather applaud than censure our Conduct in rejecting a Bill framed upon Principles destructive of the Credit of the Province,