

L. H. J. Purpose was always intended by us to be sent up to your Honours,
 Liber No. 50 as soon as the Bill for granting the Money should be passed by you.
 April 26

Your Objections against the Exemption of Persons to be Assessors, because others ought to be included, we think has little Weight, as there is very little Probability of the Persons named by your Honours being appointed; however most of the Exemptions you enumerate, we shall readily agree to; tho' we cannot well understand what you mean by the Words, "and other Persons under the like Circumstances.

The double Tax, so far as it respects Papists (who seem to be the Non-Jurors that are the principal Objects of your Regard) is by the Bill to be avoided by the same Qualification that is required by the Act passed in 1756, for granting Forty Thousand Pounds for his Majesty's Service. As the Tax was not then objected to by any Branch of the Legislature, and as we have not been apprized of any Objection from any other Quarter, we did not apprehend an Imposition of a similar Nature would be opposed by your Honours, especially at this dangerous Crisis, when a Foreign Popish Power is exerting it's utmost Efforts to subjugate the British Colonies in North-America to Popery and Slavery. However, as you have been pleased to say, you cannot, in Conscience, Justice, or good Policy, agree to the Tax, as you think such a Measure must effectually Banish them (the Papists we presume you mean) we have determined in this Instance, rather to wave our undoubted Rights on this very interesting Occasion, than to lose a Bill of so much Importance to his Majesty's Service and our own immediate Security; and do therefore propose, that Non-Jurors, to avoid the double Tax, be only obliged to take the Oaths prescribed by the Land Tax Bills in England. This Test of their Loyalty surely cannot be thought unreasonable, and their Refusal to give it will be such a glaring Proof of

p. 112 Disaffection to our present happy Establishment, as ought to meet with a public Discouragement. As this Tax is constantly imposed in our Mother Country, if your Honours should, notwithstanding the Concession that has been made on our Part, still refuse to consent to it here, the Loss of this necessary Bill must lie at your Door; for it is our determined Resolution to adhere to the Regulation now proposed, as it is thought by our Constituents, as well as Ourselves, one necessary Means to secure domestic Peace and Tranquility.

We shall take another Opportunity to answer what your Honours have said of the Papists being drove from their Native Country by the Severity of it's Laws, &c. and as we have never discovered any Thing in History or otherwise, that will Justify, or even Countenance, your Assertion, that the Papists were promised and allowed an Asylum here, we should be glad to have it explained to us, that a Matter which has occasioned so much Altercation, may be fully discussed and settled.