

U. H. J.  
Liber No. 36  
Nov. 26

have it supposed, that not a Shilling is collected contrary to Law, and that in the Payment every Indulgence which reasonable People can desire is given both by the Lord Proprietary and His Lieutenant Governor, His Lordship's Income does we presume enable him to do many generous things, but we cannot think that because he is able he therefore ought to make the Clerk of the Council a full Compensation for his Services, When his Lordships knows that such Clerk is a Constitutional Officer & has always been paid in the manner we insist shall be continued, We are not much Surprized at your Concluding from the members of this House Waving at the time the last Levy Bill was passed their respectfull in Claims as Councillors, that we should not insist on the Usual allowance being made at this time to M.<sup>r</sup> Ross, But however strange the paying more Regard to others Interest than One's own might at Present appear to You, We shall by our Proceedings endeavour to convince You that such a thing is not impossible, And at the Same time take the Hint you are Pleased to give Us of the Danger of making any more Concessions of the kind You mention, or waving any Right for the future in order to obtain a present or temporary Good to the Province, Sorry we are that the Publick Credit which it is incumbent on both Houses, To support is by reason of Your unwarrantable pretentions reduced to the lowest Ebb, But we flatter ourselves that if Your Constituents are actuated by any Principal of Justice of which we have not the least Doubt, they will not lay the Blame at our Door, or wish Us to revive such Credit by making a Sacrifice of a Single just Creditor, in which light we are confident M.<sup>r</sup> Ross must appear to Every One of them that has not been taught to believe the People's Representatives alone ought to be invested with all the Powers of Government executive as well as Legislative, and that Consequently both the Council and their Clerk should be annihilated as soon as possible, Whatever Opinion you may entertain Gentlemen of it's being the peculiar priviledge of the Lower House of Assembly of this Province to adjust the Publick Claims we Positively deny their having always or ever exercised such Priviledge exclusively, being able to produce numerous Precedents to the Contrary, And indeed if you did not think it absolutely necessary that this House (consisting generally of too few to Spare Members for many Committees) should be Satisfied of the honest and true Adjustment of such Claims, why will you send Us the Journal to examine, and rather offer Us instead thereof a Levy Bill providing for the payment of the Publick Creditors whose Claims You may Choose to put on the same footing with your Own; and if we have no Rights to see the Vouchers exhibited by Creditors in Support of their Claims to what purpose should we look into the Journal when you send it Up to Us?—To prevent Your putting forced Constructions on any expressions in the Messages You allude to or making unfair Deductions from them in

p. 193