

within that Time impracticable but we are ignorant of any Reasons that could Occasion the long Intervention from Nov.^r 1763 to last March within which Time Circumstances of a peculiar Nature required a Meeting of Assembly which was prevented by repeated Prorogations

L. H. J.
Liber No. 52
Dec. 13

It is incumbent on us as the Representatives of a free People to remonstrate against that Measure especially as it prevailed at a Time so very critical to the Rights of America at a Time when the good People of this Province ardently wished for an Opportunity to express by their Representatives in Assembly their Sense of a Scheme then entertained by the British House of Commons of imposing Stamp Duties on the Colonies and for Want of which their involuntary Silence on a Subject so interesting and important has been construed by a late Political Writer of Great Britain as an Acquiescence in that intended Project

At the same Time that we make this free Declaration which is prompted by a genuine Sense of Duty to those we represent permit us to assure your Excellency that with the Hearts attached to no other Object than the public Good we are determined to avoid every unnecessary Measure which may tend to interrupt the Harmony w.^{ch} has happily subsisted throughout the whole Course of this Session between the several Branches of the Legislature And we cannot help expressing our Apprehensions that if we should be now silent at some future Time when it may be the Unhappiness of this Province to be under the Government of a Gentleman less favourable in his Inclinations to the Interests of America than yourself the Occasion which has laid us under the disagreeable Necessity of troubling your Excellency with this Assertion of Our Rights might be made use of as a Precedent for promoting Measures prejudicial to the Rights and Privileges of the good People of this Province

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Which he read in his Place and afterwards delivered in at the Table

The said Remonstrance was read a first and second Time by the Clerk and approved and Ordered to be Ingrossed

The House adjourns 'till 2 of the Clock

P M

The House met

Thomas Ringgold Esq.^r brings in and delivers to M^r Speaker the Remonstrance to the Gov.^r Ingrossed which was read and assented to and signed by the Order of the House by the Hon.^{ble} Speaker

Ord.^d That Tho.^s Ringgold Esq.^r and Col.^o Lloyd do acquaint the Gov.^r that this House hath prepar'd an Address to be presented to him and desires to know when and where he will please to receive it.