

L. H. J. troubling ourselves in Search after or hunting up those Accounts  
 Liber No. 52 for we speak from Experience and give this as one Instance that  
 Dec. 16 unjust Claims against the Public are more frequently made than  
 just Ones are Omitted to be made. The Account however we at last  
 had so far from making any Punctilio about applying for it this  
 House repeated the Old refusal to pay lumping Salaries without an  
 Account of Services and by that Means drew it forth What Sort of  
 an Account it is pretty clearly appears from what hath been said  
 before to which this Remark may be added that it seems to have been  
 drawn up Omissions supplied and Approbation given to it rather  
 with an Eye to swell the Account than the proper Attention to the  
 Charges in the Truth and Quantum of them. Your Honours and  
 M<sup>r</sup> Ross were at a good Deal of Useless Trouble in this Business  
 for when we intimated a Desire of having an Account particularizing  
 the Services done by him as Clerk of the Council by Direction of  
 the Laws of this Province we are furnished with an indistinct Ac-  
 count of Council Proceedings from May 1756 to October 1765 and  
 the whole Matters we wanted Information about that is the Services  
 done by the Direction of the Laws of this Province and on which  
 the Upper House in the Year 1756 seems to found the principal Part  
 of his Merit are totally omitted in the Account and only mentioned  
 in a general Lumping Way in a Mem̄dum at the Bottom of it. May  
 we presume in some Measure to supply the Omission by saying the  
 only Services done by the Clerk of the Council under Direction of  
 any Laws of this Province that we know of is his Receipt of Naval  
 Officers Bonds and the receiving and laying before the Governor  
 the Recommendations of Inspectors by the Vestries There may  
 possibly be some such other Trifle but we really know of none and  
 if there had been any other of any Consequence we suppose M<sup>r</sup> Ross  
 who is so well acquainted with the Duties of Clerk of the Council  
 would at your Honours Request have enumerated them

Thus then stands the Matter without Regard to Precedent; you  
 insist that M<sup>r</sup> Ross shall have an Allowance in the Journal of 9600.<sup>lb</sup>  
 of Tobo p Ann for a Salary as Clk of the Council you contend he  
 ought to be allowed something from his being a necessary Servant  
 to those who are entrusted with the executive Powers of Government  
 and to prove what that something ought to be or for no Purpose that  
 we know of you have laid his Account of Services before us We  
 insist that the Account proves the contrary than the purpose to which  
 it was adduced and we hope have given Satisfactory Reasons for the  
 Assertion we say too by whom and how the Payment ought to be  
 made is as necessary to be considered as whether any Payment is to  
 be made that there is already Money sufficient collected rightfully  
 or wrongfully alters not the Case for the Support of Government  
 not only to pay this but every other necessary Expence of Govern-  
 ment and that the Clerk of the Council being necessary as you inti-