

of an honest and laudable industry, have acquired a competency for themselves and their posterity; an act of the legislature, which must have the effect of banishing them, (when it cannot be proved that the safety or welfare of the community requires that such an extreme measure should take place) could not we think, be defended upon any principle of justice or policy.”

Contemporary Printed Pamphlet Md.Hist.Soc.

Had the Lower House, when they were about to offer a supply bill in 1762, thought fit to alter the assessment bill, with respect to these four points, or even with respect to only the first part of them, there would have been some room for the Gentlemen of the Upper House to hope, that the Lower was then willing to grant for his Majesty's service the supplies they had voted; and in order to obtain such supplies, would have thought it worth while by a message, or at a conference, if the Lower House had agreed to one, to enter again into a discussion of the other objections which might have been obviated; and if they could not have offered sufficient arguments in support of such their objections, they must have waved them, or else have justly incurred his Majesty's displeasure, and the censure of the whole Province. But when on perusal of this bill, they perceived so little regard had been paid to their opinions already communicated, and could see the conduct of the Lower House, in offering such a bill, in no other light than an attempt to deprive them of a right to exercise their own judgments, and compel them to assent to a bill, which in their opinion was calculated to raise, by an unequal taxation, a much larger sum of money, than they would then appropriate, to vest the Lower House with extraordinary power and influence, and to sacrifice one part of the people to the humour and caprice of another, it was incumbent on them, as a branch of the legislature, to reject the bill, without giving a reason; and their making any overture in order to obtain its passage, would doubtless have been considered by the Lower House as a willingness on their part to wave the objections they had adhered to during the eight preceding sessions, and to which, while the Lower House leave them unanswered, as hath been hitherto the case, they will, it is presumed, ever adhere, disregarding the calumny or suggestions of such as would insinuate, that the objections expressly mentioned were only as a barrier to cover others, while they are persuaded that the force of these objections, so expressly mentioned, will to every impartial person at all acquainted with the constitution and circumstances of the Province, fully justify their conduct in rejecting the bill that was offered, and to which such obligations were applicable.

In answer to the Remarker and the Querists assertion, that it is entirely owing to the conduct of the Upper House, that the dispute which has subsisted so long about the assessment bill has not been determined, and money granted for his Majesty's service raised,