

in from the Want of the Money now locked up from the Common Use, we aim at an Advantage which would not be attempted at another Crisis.

U. H. J.
Liber No. 36
Dec. 13

The first Instance, which occurs to us, of any Dispute between the two Houses on the Subject of the Clerk of the Council's Salary, happened in May Session 1756, when the last Journal, which passed was under Consideration of the Assembly, and the Proceedings of the Lower House then shew, that on considering a Message from the Upper House, insisting the usual Allowance of his Salary should be made to the Clerk of the Council on the Journal, a Question was put in the Lower House "whether the Members would agree to make the usual Allowance to the Clerk of the Council as by the said Message was proposed, or not" and determined that the usual Allowance should be made to the Clerk of the Council; however when the Journal was returned to our House, it was attended with a Message containing a Passage in the following Words, "We herewith send you the Journal of Accounts, in which is inserted an Allowance to M^r Ross Clerk of the Council, for public Services by him done, and have resolved that for the future no such Allowance shall be made, but upon having a particular Account laid before us by M^r Ross for public Services by him done for this Province, we shall allow what appears to us reasonable." Expecting that in Conformity with this Resolve, a Request, would, this Session be made of an Account, and being particularly desirous at this Time, when a Disagreement between the two Houses would prove extremely detrimental to the whole Province, to manifest our Disposition to preserve a good Understanding with your House, by giving you all the Satisfaction, which we imagined you might desire, we directed M^r Ross and the present Clerk, every early in this Session, to make out an Acco.^t of their Services to the Public, and appointed a Committee to examine and compare it with the Council Proceedings, that, if it was really your View, as we hoped it was, to form an Estimate of the Degree of Satisfaction M.^r Ross & the present Clerk might be entitled to for their Services, and your Intention to settle his Claim, the Dispute might be easily terminated between us; this Account, together with the Report of our Committee, we communicated to you as soon as an Account was requested, tho it Comprehends Articles beyond the Duties performed under the Injunction of Acts of Assembly, and your Message, narrowing the Principles adopted by the Lower House of 1756, on which we flattered ourselves you would have proceeded, and agreed to pay the Clerks for their Public Services, seemed to intimate a Design of paying them only for some of their Services, the first Step taken in this Controversy, in the Year 1756, implied an Ignorance of the services done by M^r Ross for the Public, but fully expressed a Resolution to allow him for all such, if appearing by a particular Account. After the Clerks had exhibited their Ac-

p. 256