

L. H. J. T. Johnson, Esq brings in, and delivers to M.^r Speaker, the
 Liber No. 52 following Resolves, prepared by the Committee appointed Viz
 Dec. 4

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On reading the second Time the Message of the Upper House, of the Second Instant, with the Bill, entitled, An Act for the Payment of the Public Claims, for emitting Bills of Credit, and for other Purposes therein mentioned, by Benedict Calvert, Esq Unanimously Resolved, That the said Bill is a Money Bill; that it is the fundamental and undoubted Right of this House, solely and exclusively, to frame all Money Bills, and therein to limit the Matter, Manner, Measure and Time of all Grants and Dispositions of Public Money whatsoever, and that this House never will give up, wave, or weaken, in any Manner, that great Privilege of the People. That the Upper House clearly have no Right or Constitutional Power to propose or offer any the least Amendment to Money Bills, but ought solely to pass, or reject the same.

Unanimously Resolved, therefore, That the said Message, proposing Amendments to the said Bill, is unconstitutional, and an Attempt to infringe the most valuable inherent and essential Right of the Freemen of this Province.

Resolved further, That were some of the Matters proposed by the said Message, rather to be adopted, than the present Frame and Language of the Bill, yet it is sufficiently perfect to answer the intended Purposes; and that, if Amendments should be necessary, Omissions or Defects may be supplied by a Supplementary Bill, as is frequently done, with their Honours hearty Concurrence in many Instances, of which the Inspection Law is a recent Example.

But, Resolved, That the said Bill does not require the Commissioners safely to keep the Stamps and Flowers longer in their Office, than the Duration of their Power. They are not directed to keep them longer than they are to have the Custody and Keys of the old Paper Money Office, which is till an Examination of their Proceedings had by a Committee of both Houses of Assembly. That the Upper House thinking it proper there should be two Commissioners present at the Delivery of Bills of Credit, but, in Case of the Inability of one of them, from Sickness, or other reasonable Cause, to attend some Provision was requisite, in Order to prevent a total Stop to the Business, includes the Idea of more than two Commissioners being necessary, which may well coincide with Views of Power, but is burthensome and hurtful to the People. That the present Bill goes in this upon the same Principle of the old Paper Money Law, from whence Experience affords no Instance of Inconvenience, that of making the Presence of all the Commissioners necessary at every Opening of the Iron Chest, that all may be answerable for any Mal-Conduct, and the greater the Number of Commissioners, the more probable it is there would be a total Stop to the Business, from Sickness, or the like, unless