

Had a Conference been the Consequence of this Proposal the Bill in all its Parts would have been the Subject, but you declined to engage in a Conference on these general Terms, or on Amendments you might Propose, before you had them in one View: On Your Intimation of this Circumstance, we informed you in our last Message what our Conferrees would have received in Charge as Instructions to regulate their Conduct, had a Conference ensued on the Proposal we first made for the purpose.

U. H. J.
Liber No. 36
Nov. 16

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If a Conference had been Proposed by your House, we would at once have joined you therein, and instructed our Conferrees in the manner above mentioned; On this Consideration, There has been long experience of the Regulation of Fees contained in the Inspection Act, it was established on much Deliberation, it has been continued by many different Assemblies; on These Circumstances a Presumption arises, that the old Regulation was in the Main, well adapted to the Subject; but you having observed in your Message of the Twelfth Instant, that many Abuses in the Charges under the old Regulation had fallen within your Notice, and that you had endeavoured to obviate the Pretences you esteem to be Abuses, we therefore have informed you, that we should be willing to concur with you in any Proper Method to prevent all real Abuses for the future, upon the whole, we meant that the old Regulation, so far as no Abuses were imputable to its defects, should stand, and so far as Abuses had really happened in Practice under it, that it should be corrected in the Instances wherein a Correction should appear to be expedient, by this Mode of Procedure we Apprehend a better Regulation may be established than by a new List.

If however you incline to Confer as Proposed in your last Message, on these Points Viz.^t The Fees of Officers and the Provisions thereon dependant, the Mode of recovering Penalties and the time of Closing the Inspection, as well as on the last Proposition contained in our Message of the Tenth Instant, we shall be ready to join you, and consider the Conference as Proceeding from your Proposal, but we hold Ourselves Obligated to inform you, to prevent disappointment, that we shall think ourselves to be at full Liberty to instruct our Conferrees, and that we shall explicitly instruct them, not to agree to any Departure from the old Regulation, except for the Purpose of preventing Abuses in Charges under it, if on this Account a Correction or Alteration shall appear to be expedient, and also not to agree to any further Reduction of Fees, than that which must necessarily follow from the Election given to all persons to discharge the Fees in Tobacco or Money as may best Suit them.

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On our being informed that you will engage in a Conference on these Terms, we shall proceed to the Appointment of Conferrees or that you will not your Bill shall be returned—

Signed by Order—U Scott Cl. Up. Ho.