

unanimously rejected in this House. To prevent the Inconvenience which must necessarily follow an unexpected fall of a Regulation of our Staple which had long been in Use, we soon afterwards sent a Bill to your Honours to close the Accounts and Transactions of the Inspectors, and provide for the Payment of the County Levies and Parochial Charges, which have been intimately connected with the Inspection Act: And still further to lessen the Burthen on the People of Tobacco Payments, we sent you another Bill, to give an Alternative in the Payment of Lawyers fees, which stood in Tobacco on a legal Establishment, but you defeated our Intentions, by proposing an Amendment, by which all those Parts of the Bill which provided for the Payment of the County Levies and Parochial Charges would have been left out, and by proposing a Regulation on Lawyers, which your House was never fond of, but to destroy those of the Profession who have concurred with others in opposing the Encroachment of Power—Your Honours then sent us down a Bill to continue the Inspection Law and the Supplementary Act thereto, except the Parts therein excepted; which would have continued the Regulation of the Staple separate from that of the fees of Officers, and would also have continued the Mode of paying the Levy; but for some Reason or other there speedily followed, by your Advice as a Council of State, an abrupt Prorogation, which put an End to that Bill—With very few and small Alterations we again, as soon as could be, sent you the Inspection Bill, which still lies before you, and has been the Occasion of many Messages, which we are apprehensive have not, even yet, fully removed all Misunderstanding between us.

We do not clearly comprehend what your Honours call Abuses, and, by your Language in the two last Messages, are of Opinion you are unacquainted with what we call Abuses. We now therefore request your Honours will be pleased to inform us, Whether you esteem the fees charged by the Commissary General, for Services done by the Deputies, and for which they are paid, which have been estimated at the annual Amount of above 60,000 Pounds of Tobacco, an Abuse of the old Regulation, or not? Whether your Honours esteem the Charge for recording Papers by the Secretary and County Clerks in Actions discontinued, abated, struck off, or agreed, when they are not nor need be recorded, an abuse or not? Whether your Honours esteem the Charge of 300<sup>lb</sup> of Tob.<sup>o</sup> by Surveyors for laying down adjacent Tracts merely to correct the Errors of an orig<sup>l</sup> Survey an Abuse or not? Whether your Honours esteem the Charge of 300 Pounds of Tobacco as for a Resurvey by a Surveyor, for surveying or laying down each Tract of Land, on a Warrant of Survey from the Provincial Court an Abuse, or not? and whether the like Charge of 300 Pounds of Tobacco, for any Tract laid down only for Illustration, is an Abuse or not? Whether your Honours esteem the Charge

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