

L. H. J. are of his Lordship's Appointment, and are not bound to do any
 Liber No. 54 Services without an adequate Compensation for them.
 Nov. 30

Being, however, under a different Predicament from the other
 Officers, considered in One Respect as the private Agents of his
 p. 299 Lordship, and in the other as having the Custody of publick Records
 and the Muniments of the Peoples Estates, in my Regulation they
 have been separated from the other Officers, as they had on similar
 Occasions. Cease then your Endeavours to alarm, by suggesting
 an Apprehension you cannot feel.

It is not only the Right, but the Duty of the Representatives of
 the People to remonstrate against every Infringement of their Privi-
 leges; but permit me to observe too, that they ought to be particularly
 cautious in their Assumption and Exercise of Powers with which
 they are not intrusted by the Constitution. Your Practice of ordering
 the Attendance of Men at your Bar, and imposing ffines upon them
 under the Term *ffees* is not to be defended, and this Proceeding is
 so irregular and oppressive, that I am surprized it has not been
 check'd by Opposition. The Opposition of one Man would at once
 shew, that you have assumed a Jurisdiction you have not the Means
 of compelling an Obedience to, and, consequently, not belonging to
 your Body.

Your Claim of Privilege in the Article of Taxes, I presume will
 not be easily admitted by the Upper House. Usage and Precedents
 are against it, and as you have shewn a just Respect for the Sentiments
 of Lord Camden on another Subject, so I hope you will not
 disregard his Opinion upon this Topick. On the Quere, "whether
 the Lower House of Maryland be entitled to the Privilege they have
 claimed on Money Bills," his Lordship's Answer was, "That the
 Upper House are right in making a Stand, and should take Care
 how they admit Encroachments of this Kind when they are sup-
 ported by Arguments drawn from the Exercise of like Rights in the
 House of Commons here; the Constitutions of the two Assemblies
 differ fundamentally in many Respects. Our House of Commons
 stands upon its own Laws; whereas Assemblies in the Colonies are
 regulated by the respective Charters, Usages, and the Common Law
 of England, and will never be allowed to assume all those Privileges,
 which the House of Commons are entitled to justly, here, upon
 Principles that neither can, nor must be applied to the Assemblies
 of the Colonies; and in this Disposition of the Lower House to
 assume to themselves any Privileges, which the English House of
 Commons enjoy here, all such Attempts should be resisted, where
 they are unreasonable with Firmness, and no Encroachment should
 be established upon the Weight of that Argument singly; for I am
 satisfied, neither the Crown nor the Parliament will ever suffer the
 Assemblies to erect themselves into the Power of the British House
 of Commons."