

Laws of England, to y^e Constitution and present Condition of this Province
 It seeming to me unreasonable, That since His Majesty of ever blessed Memory
 out of y^e Fullness of His Royall power, was Graciously pleased to permit me
 with the Consent of the freemen to make such wholesome Lawes as should
 be Consonant to Reason and not Repugnant to the Lawes of England.

I should by an Act oblige and ty^e up the freemen of this Province to be
 Concluded by such of y^e Lawes of England, as may Ruin them or at
 least be greatly Injurious to them in severall respects - I am therefore
 willing to admitt of this alteration. That where the Lawes of this Province
 are Silent, Justice may be administered according to y^e Lawes of England,
 If the Governour or Chief Judge and the Justices of my Court, shall find
 such Lawes consistent with y^e Condition of this Province, to a bill with this
 alteration, I will sett my hands, but not otherwise.

Secondly - The alterations desired in the bill, for punishment of certaine
 offences against the peace and safety of this Province, I doe except as y^e thing
 willing to allow of this amendment only, that where it is left to y^e Court
 to order one or more of the punishments Enumerated in y^e old Act for
 punishing etc. that the Court shall be restrained to one or two of the sayd
 punishments in the sayd Act: with this Amendment, and no other,
 alteration, I shall be contented, and will sett my hands to a bill to be
 drawn for that purpose onely, and not otherwise.

Thirdly - To a bill Touching Levying of Warrs and Defraying y^e publique
 Charges of y^e Province, sent up to you from y^e Lower house, I conceive it
 time lost for you to meddle with it, for the old Act is at this time,
 suspended, and will be soe perhaps during my life, soe that neither
 y^e Gentlemen of the Lower house nor yourselves, need be fearefull or
 Jealous of me in the Execution of that Act, But were it not suspended, and
 that I should upon any warr that might happen, have occasion to make
 use of it. I doe here declare that as I have had, soe I still shall have a
 desire that a Assembly may be called, to be present at y^e Defraying y^e Charge
 of any such warr, soe desirous I am of giving all manner of Satisfaction
 in that particular to the freemen of my Province.

Upper house April y^e 25th 1684.

This house having this morning rec^d. a paper from His L^{ty}. have caused
 the same to be Coppyed out as before, and Communicate y^e same to y^e
 Lower house - Signed y^e order. John Levellin Clk. of Assembly.

Mr. Steery Sewell and Esq^r. Joye bring from the upper house a Message
 which being read is as followeth: (viz.)

Upper house of assembly April y^e 25th 1684.

His L^{ty}. being present in this house since y^e recit of y^e last Message by
 Capt. Hill and Mr. Hutchings was pleased to declare as followeth (viz.)
 To the bill for ascertayning y^e true force and validity of the Lawes of this
 Province - I give this answer, That though I owe my Province and