

great discouragement to the trade of this Province, being discouragement to them to come here, and Encouragement to them to go there.

12. Query - Whether the Reports of Pensilvania and Carolina putting forward Manufactory and Handicraft Trade be not one Reason that causes many persons to go out of this Province to these places, and one other Reason by persons holding such large Tracts of Land.

Answer, We conceive that few persons or none have left this Province to go to Pensilvania, and those that have, We understand were induced to it by the Currency of Money there which is not here, and not through the Encouragement of Manufactures there, and for large Tracts of Land.

We are sensible that there is no want of Land to any that will settle there either by Lease or purchase the price of Land being fallen of late.

13th Query - Whether if the Land at the Head of the Bay were well settled and cultivated the Soil thereof would not produce and be proper for all manner of English grains whereby to furnish this Province and the Shipping with Flour, bread and beer &c.

Answer. To g^d. Inhabiting the Land at the Head of the Bay we conceive it would answer the Intent or proposal of Cultivation if sealed and we wish it were so.

14th Query. What Sort of Force is the best way to secure this Province.

Answer. To the proposal what Force would be best to secure this Province, We conceive that the poverty of the place will discourage any such attempt, and considering the great distance between us and any publick Enemy the present Militia if well armed maybe sufficient for our defence.

15th Query. What Methods are best to be taken for the Conversion of Indians.

Answer. The best way of converting the Indians is by good Example of g^d. English, and the Clergy endeavouring to learn their Language and thereby be capable of conversing with them.

16th Query. What Return is to be made about the Militia of this Province.

Answer. As to the Militia of this Province, we conceive that the present Lawes and Constitutions are requisite to be continued till further Consideration can be had of the proposals of Alteration, and in the mean tyme that his Ex^{ty}. be humbly desired to give Comissions to g^d. officers already nominated without which they cannot with safety act, nor are the Soldiers bound to obey their Commands.

House adjourned till 6 a Clock to Morrow Morning.

Thursday June the 7th. 1697. House met

A Bill for redress of the publick Creditt read the 2^d. tyme.

Message from his Maty. Hon^{ble}. Councill by Colonel Hutchens.

By his Ex^{ty}. the Gov^r. and Councill June 7th. 1697.

The Message by Mr. Tashes and Mr. Blay last sent about the Naturalization of those two persons was received and here read which his Ex^{ty}. Willing