

of this house returned his Exc^{ty} hearty thanks.

Then Mr. Speaker on behalf of the house desired his Exc^{ty} that the Liberties and Priviledges of the house might be ratified by his Exc^{ty} and that he might have free access to his Exc^{ty} upon all occasions requiring the same which his Exc^{ty} was pleased to grant them for which Mr. Speaker in the name of them all gave his Exc^{ty} the hearty thanks of this house.

Then his Exc^{ty} was pleased to signify to the house the reason of their now being called together by speaking to them as followeth.

Gent.

The last assembly having continued some years I was desired by his Maty. Councill here that notwithstanding all things had been happily enacted and concerted by them for the advantage of the Province yett it would be to the generall satisfaction of all the Inhabitants to have a new Election wherein I am glad to find soe good a Judgment of the people in sending soe many of you whose services in the former sessions have soe well deserved from them as alsoe the other Gent. that appear with you whose Characters appear very faire with me.

I must Confess I am much in the Dark as to the state of our Laws which are of the greatest Moment to us and were sent home the last assembly) and was not without hopes that long ere this I should have rece^d. some instructions concerning them that if there had been any irregularity or false steps therein to have had it corrected this session of assembly) but some unexpected accidents as we are informd have alarmed Europe and noe ships arriving from thence in some time we may justly Conjecture has ben the real impedim^t. but we are favoured with that blessing in having a Prince and nation that will assest both our Liberties and Priviledges with all that Vigour, Courrage and Conduet that our selves can hope or wish for.

Gent. I have now been some yeares amongst you which has given me the opportunity to passing scenes of Probation with you and I will venture upon all the severity that reflection can produce if I have not been strictly just to what I first promised at my first coming into the Govern^t. in making you easy both in your persons and purses and hope to revit and cement that friendship which was then created and I shall always hold a secret and open way of dealing the most effectual means to continue an good Correspondence which will easily conduce to your satisfactions as well as my own.

What we are now mett to Consult shall be proposed and Communicated to you in the usuall way of Message and Conference and I am (Morally) assured you will never fayle me in these good Expectations I have from you for his Maty. Service and the good of the Province.