

Which being read in the House Ordered it be sent back to the Council with the following Message By the House of Delegates December 13th 1700
 In Answer to the Message by Samuel Young Esq; inserted on the Back of the Bill directing the manner of electing and summoning Delegates to this House we are of Opinion there is no necessity for having any Method prescribed to oblige the Freeholders to appear at Elections the Interest of their Lives and Country being sufficient to engage them to take Care what Persons they elect to represent them in a General Assembly And this House taking this Bill to be of as great Consequence as any that will be past this Session do pray the Concurrence of the Honble Council thereto Signed by Order Rich^d Dallam C^o Sec^y

Sent up to the Honble Council with the Bill by Mr. Philips, Mr. Wilkinton, Mr. Mariartoo and Mr. Loo, They return and say they delivered their Message Bill - The Honble Thomas Greenfield, and Philip Esq; enter the House and delivers Mr. Speaker Bill for Relief of poor Debtors and languishing Prisoners and Answer to Message about Attorneys and Persons keeping Store out of Town &c as follows Viz^t
 By the Council in Assembly December 13th 1700.

Gentlemen, Your Message by Mr. Hemsley and Mr. Covington relating to Attorneys &c being read at the Board we find you have misrecited his Excellency's Order in Council concerning the Admission of Attorneys to plead in this Province in which there is a Clause to all who have a Right to that Practice Viz^t whoever have been of any of the Inns of Court or Chancery. And what you observe to be an Aggravance and contrary to the known Practice of all Courts of Great Britain we are of Opinion the House are not acquainted with the Practice of the Courts there; which we are well informed is otherwise; for that neither the Chancery Queen's Bench, Common Pleas or Exchequer, admit their Practitioners in their several Courts the Sergeants and Barristers or Solicitors of the Benchers being called by the Queen's Majesty and the several Attorneys admitted and sworn by the Master of the Queen's Bench and Prothonotaries of the Common Pleas Nor is the Practice of this Province of such Duration to inform us of such ancient Right so that on due Consideration we can see no Aggravance but rather an Advantage of the good People of this Province that the Government take Care none but Men of known Integrity and Ability are suffered to practice in the several Courts who need not apprehend any Body's Displeasure for defending their Clients whilst they contain themselves from railing and Trenchant Speeches against the Government. Nevertheless by the said Order of Council there is no Inhibition to the Justices of the Provincial or County Courts from suspending any Practitioners who give any just Occasion by their Insolence or other Misbehaviour, but on the contrary his Excellency has been sufficiently satisfied with their so doing, and has often declared he should be very glad to see the County Justices assert their Authority on all such Occasions