

the Members of your House would not be well pleas'd to be tyed down by such a Construction, which is indeed too puerile and ludicrous to take up any more of our Time. We therefore wave it, as we have done other things, to let you see our good Dispositions to make an amicable Conclusion of this Session.

Gentlemen, we take these Payments made by the Assembly to be so many incontrovertible proofs of the design of that Act, in the words, *such publick Services*, which we can, with a great deal of Justice, say is no forc'd Construction, it being made Sacred as to your House, by the Sanction of a Resolve; wherein it appears that the Country did not only pay the Councillors Allowances at the Day, viz. *October the 2d 1696*, but resolved that such Payments were made according to Act of Assembly. We must further observe to you, *Gentlemen*, that it was a very hard Task laid upon our House to trace the first growth and progress of the Councillors Allowances, which being made by the Country for more than Thirty Years past, upon Consideration, that the *Twelve Pence per Hogshead*; out of which the Councillors were paid in the Lord Proprietary's Time, hath been entirely applyed to such other uses as leaves no Room for the Payment of the Council, otherwise than by the Country, which they were perfectly well apprized of, and therefore paid their Allowances by the Impost upon Liquors until the Year 1697 that it was resolved by the Lower House that such Allowances of *One Hundred and Fifty Pounds of Tobacco per Annum* was well settled.

Now, *Gentlemen*, seeing that our Right to an Allowance or Salary, call it which you please, is so clearly made out to you, both by the Journals of former Assemblies, and the Practice of latter Times, wherein we have been always paid our Allowances by the Country; it cannot any longer remain a Question in your House; Whether we ought to have any Allowances or no? altho' it seems to us that another Question may arise among you, as the Result thereof, that is, Whether we should be paid by my Lord Proprietary out of the *Twelve Pence per Hogshead* or by the Country as heretofore; it seems to us that the Act of Assembly by which the Revenue of this Province is now Established; that the *Twelve Pence per Hogshead*, raised towards the maintaining the Station and Dignity of his Lordship's Governour; hath put that Money so far into his Lordship's Power; that we cannot have the least Expectation that he will be pleas'd to part with any of it to us, seeing that at the Time of raising it, we were paid of by the Country.

Moreover his Lordship who hath express a great deal of Generosity and good will to this Province, upon some important Occasions, must look upon it as a very Ungenerous Surprize, to find his Revenue, after the passing the Act, to be now incumbred with Charges which ever since the Revolution have been defrayed by the Country, and are as unknown as unexpected by him. And what will still make them the more surprizing is, that his Lordship will not find upon the Journals of either of the Houses the least mention thereof. Wherefore we desire you will consider better of it, and put an end to the Session by making us the just and customary Allowances.

Sign'd by Order, S. S. Cl. Up. Ho.

By the Lower House of Assembly, October the 25th 1723.