

Gentlemen,

The 9th Message
about Councilors
Allowance.

AS it was not the Design of this House, to prolong this Session, by giving you occasion of Coments, or by enlarging our last Message further than was necessary for our own Justification; we shall now purposely avoid any thing that may give you an handle to Disputes that are foreign to our present Debate between the two Houses. And do assure you likewise that we are so far from designing to divert you from the Countries Business, that we shall very readily Embrace every Opportunity which you shall lay before us, of acting for a publick Good, in Compensation of the very great expences which the Country is now put to, by your refusing to make those Allowances, which, in your own Message of this Day, by Mr. T. and five more, you have acknowledged to have been both Reasonable and Customary, and consequently just, now. Seeing that no intervening Incident hath obstructed the Course of that Justice, as it had before the Acts 1692 and 1699, were determined, and that we are now upon the same good Foundation, which the former Council stood upon, when their Wages, as you call it, were paid and allowed by the Country to be both Reasonable and Customary.

We are not willing, *Gentlemen*, to interrupt the Course of the Debate otherwise we might tell you that such a Resolve as your Message seems to be grounded upon, draws a very heavy Charge against the Prudence and Circumspection of the Lower House of Assembly, which for so many Years, as since the expiring of the Act of 1699, have expended vast Sums of the Countries Money, without having so much as a reasonable Custom to support it. But waving that,

You say that because the Acts of 1692 and 1699, had applied the whole Revenue to the Support of the Governours of those Times, it was thought reasonable to make the proper Allowances to the Council out of the Publick: And the reason which you assign for it is this, that there was no other Provision made for them; the Conclusion is so very Just and Clear; that it leaves no room for Objection, we must therefore acquiesce with you, and now more than ever hope, the Premises being the same, and the same Reasons still subsisting, (*viz.*) no other Provision made for the Council, that we shall have the same Justice done to us now, as has been heretofore practiced in former Assemblies, by paying us out of the Publick.

This being the true State of the Case; we beg of you, *Gentlemen*, to consider the great charge you are now running the Country to, by expending their Money in multiplying unnecessary and ill grounded Debates about the Council's Claims, which you your selves acknowledge even in the like Case to be reasonable Allowances, tho' made but a few Years ago.

For as to the Act mentioned in your Message for setting the Revenue and now in force, it doth not leave any Room, nor is there any Provision made therein for the Council's Allowances, unless his Lordship be graciously Pleas'd to apply some part of the Revenue that way, if so, it is very well; we shall be paid. But if his Lordship refuse, what then? why then you confess, there being no restraint in the Act upon his Lordship, or other Obligation upon him to make any Allowance to this Council, that we must go without any Allowance at all, are we not then, upon your own Principles, *Gentlemen*, reduced to the same Circumstances with the Council of former Times, *viz.* That there is no Provision for the Council in the Act; and certainly the same