

May it please your Honours;

The granting Special Warrants, as observed by your Honours Message this Day, by Col. A. was indeed a Matter of Favour formerly, when such Warrants were to Effect all Cultivations and Improvements, how valuable soever, for the common Purchase of rough Lands, and this gave the Fee or Gratuity of *Five hundred Pounds of Tobacco*, a reasonable Foundation. But since the Practice has been to value all Improvements, and for the Purchaser to pay the Value of them, it becomes meer matter of contract betwixt his Lordship and the People, and therefore as the favour, which was the consideration of the *Five Hundred Pounds of Tobacco*, ceases, we must insist, that the Gratitude it self ought to cease; and we cannot find that the Clerks form or draw any Petitions for Purchasers of Special Warrants, but what they are otherwise paid for.

*Lower Houses answer about Fees for Warrants.*

And as to the Fee for renewing Warrants, we never understood it was taken on pretence of a Fine, for Neglect, before your Honours Message gave us the Intimation: We thought it had been only claim'd as a Fee or reasonable Reward for the Service of Renewing it; and we are well satisfied, the Fee of *Fifty Pounds of Tobacco*, propos'd by the Bill, was a Competency for it. But if such Difficulties are put upon the Purchasers of his Lordships Lands, by his Officers, it must needs lessen the Number of Purchasers, and Discourage the Planting and Settling the Frontiers which we shall submit to be further considered. And as to the Fees or Gratuities themselves, altho' they are founded on no Law, neither have they any reasonable Custom Subsisting to Support them, however for the giving your Honours a most indubitable Demonstration of our good Inclinations to end this Sessions in the most amicable Manner, we agree to pass the Bill of Officers Fees with the Amendments you Propose.

*Sign'd per Order, M. J. Cl. Lo. Ho.*

Which was sent to the Upper House by Capt. M. and Mr. B. They return, and say, they delivered it.

Col. H. and Col. I. from the Upper House, deliver Mr. Speaker the following Message, and Oath, viz.

By the Upper House of Assembly, November the 2d 1724.

Gentlemen;

The Manner of transacting publick Affairs in Parliament, when any Matter is in difference between the two Houses, should seem to be an unquestionable President to the Proceedings of our Houses of Assembly; we can truly say it on our parts, that we have always Studied to speak our Sentiments of things after that great Example, but with all the Difference that is due to the Lower House of Assembly. And have made it our particular Care, altho' we could not always Agree with you in Opinion, that we could never Offend in point of good Manners, which we think inseperable to our Character, and the most Effectual Means for the Dispatch of all Publick Business.

*Answer to the 3d Message about Judges Oaths.*

If your House had always had the same Regard to us, or to the necessary Rules and Usages of Parliament, for the Preservation of such good Correspondency, there would have been no room for questioning whether those