

ties, or what Inconvenience you can suppose may arise from it; and as we are a Part of the Legislature, we think we ought to have one Part of the Bills in our House, for our Perusal, during the Continuance of the Sessions. We therefore hope you will not longer insist upon this Affair, to the Delay of the publick Business; but join your Endeavours to finish this Sessions.

Signed per Order, G. P. Cl. Up' Ho'.

The following Message is prepared, viz.

By the Lower House of Assembly, October 28, 1725.

May it please your Honours,

WE are sorry to find ourselves mistaken, when we understood by your Message of the 25th Instant, that you were far from desiring to enter into unnecessary Debates with us: You are pleas'd to say, you cannot imagine any Injury done to the Priviledge of our House, by the Practice you insist on, or what Inconvenience may arise from it; you'll please to observe every Innovation contrary to a good Constitution, is an Injury to it; and the Practice we pray a Renovation of, has been the constant Practice us'd, and approv'd during the Government of his Lordship's Ancestors and of the Crown, and only suffer'd Alterations in the beginning of his present Lordship's Dominion, without any Notice being taken of it by either House, that appears on the Journals; and consequently without any Arguments and Alterations of ancient Customs made *Sub Jure*, are never accounted of Weight sufficient to sanction them. Every Innovation is to be carefully watch'd against, by those that like and have a Mind to preserve their Establishments: There may happen Inconveniences by Alterations, that we may not fore-see, at the Time of making them, but may afterwards feel by bad Experience, when it may be insist'd on as too late to remedy them: An Instance of this your Honours give us now, by insisting on a Ten Years Practice, crept in among us unobserv'd, without any Sanction, against the general Practice of former Times: We therefore think it our Duty to interpose in Time, that this young Obstacle to old Experience may not itself grow stiff thro' Age, and obstinate by Use. Your Honours give us Occasion to remark, that tho' you be an acting Body in this Legislature, yet it is We that are the Peoples Representatives, for whom all Laws are made, and human Government establish'd: Your Honours seem to be Assistant to Prerogative and Dependant on it, rather than a State on which the People place a Confidence Dependiant on it, (we may be allowed to say) since your Honours at the Time when you were pleas'd, to think it your Glory and Priviledge to assimilate your Constitution to that of Great-Britain in it's Three Estates of Legislature, were pleas'd to declare it his Lordship's undoubted Right to discharge at Pleasure any Members of this Council, and consequently of your House, as you there agree; which Thing, when your Honours fully consider, we hope you will not much insist on your having the sole Keeping of the Bills prepared for the Assent, but that you will agree to trust our Speaker with presenting them to his Honour the Governour for his Assent as hath been usual, who for Dispatch, may appoint Two or more of our Members to see the Seals affix'd, and Fiats wrote to them, according to former Practice, in Readiness for his Honour's Sanction, who by the Perusal of them (at the Opportunities mentioned in our late Message) may be well appriz'd whether they be proper for his Assent or not: Your Honours Conclusion in this Matter, will demonstrate how far you are pleas'd to decline unnecessary Debates with us.

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

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