

The Excuse you endeavour to make for not Reviving the Affize Law, will not perhaps suit the purpose it is designed for, so well as you imagine, for what you say amounts to this, That you sent up a Bill to this House with some Alterations different from the former Law, which this House not thinking fit to Pass, you determined that the Country should rather be without an Affize Law than have the old one; but by the Ease and Conveniency which the Inhabitants have by the Affize Law, we judge that Law is greatly wished and desired, and therefore we should be much wanting in our good Will to the People, if we took any step at this juncture to destroy it.

Let the Consequence and Influence of our Advice as a Council of State to his Excellency be what it will, yet we apprehend our candid mention of what fresh Advice would be by our present Proceedings and State of the Country, deserved a different Notice from that you are pleased to take of it in the latter part of your Message; We, on your mention of the approaching Close of this Convention or Session (as it may happen) considering what had been transacted or omitted by the Two Houses, very soon found that all the Bills which had Passed the Two Houses, except one Bill for Encouragement of making Linen Cloth, were either of a private Nature or Revived Laws, which would otherwise continue if this Meeting should not be a Session; therefore this House then concluded, and we are still of the same Opinion, that it is either necessary to revive the Laws mentioned in our Message of the 8th Instant, or expedient not to make this Meeting a Session, lest by that Means and for the sake of having that One publick Law, we should be deprived of so many Others of much greater Consequence to the Country: This we acquainted you with, and in Return you look upon it as Threatning you.

Freedom, Gentlemen, is so dear and valuable to ourselves, that we shall always preserve a just Regard to the Representatives of a Free People, and we cannot comprehend how your Right of considering the Necessity of Taxes, and Imposing them, is the least infringed by our Hopes that you would consider the Necessity of Reviving some Laws which raise Money, and by laying before you the Mischiefs which might arise to the Country for Want of such Revival, unless it is contrary to the nature of Freedom or below the Dignity of the Representatives of a Free People, to receive any Information of what may in all likelihood prove prejudicial to their Constituents.

Signed per Order, J. Ross, Cl. Up. Ho.  
 Mr. Plater, from the Upper House, delivers Mr. Speaker the Journal of the Committee of Accounts, with the following Endorsement:

By