

have found out, that you had mistaken the Cause of our Quarrel; for by that Message you tell us, your Complaint is, "That we have not Read your Bills the Second Time:" If so, pray what Occasion was there for your long Reasoning, and harsh Conclusions, on a Fact (*viz.* our Alteration of the Continuance of your Bills) which had not happened? And why have you so hastily taken for granted, without any Information from our House that we should do it, as by Argumentations on your own Suspicions and Apprehensions, to put the Country to an Expence of near One Hundred Thousand Pounds of Tobacco? But now truly it comes out, that you are not angry with us, for having made or intended to make any Alteration in the Duration of the Bills, but only, "because we have not Read the Bills a Second Time, and sent them to you with the former Duration." If we are blameable in this particular, we doubt not but you will on a very little Recollection be so candid as to acknowledge such an Objection lies much stronger against yourselves: If we have been Faulty for not Reading a Second Time and sending to you Bills to which this House has in no Shape hitherto agreed, how will you be excused, for not Reading the Second Time (for ought we know) and not sending up to us a Bill, on every Part of which the Two Houses by their Conferrees have signified their Concurrence? A Bill, which is of so great Importance as to make some better Provision for Defence of the Province in these dangerous Times of War, and a Bill which together with another Bill, employed us the first Four Weeks of our Meeting, at the Expence of near 30000*lb.* of Tobacco to the Country, before the two Houses could agree on the Heads, and which were always understood and intended to be dispatched in the first Place, and to accompany each other; But you have now taken up near Ten Days, and at 100000*lb.* of Tobacco Expence to the Country, in disputing whether you should send up one of those Bills.

It is your Behaviour, *Gentlemen*, in keeping back this Bill under all these Circumstances that alarmed us, and put us upon our Guard to secure if we could a Fund for our Defence; and upon this Principle we have hitherto refused to take any step to destroy by a Session the only Provision we have for that purpose, unless we could be sure another might be depended on; which, after your delay to dispatch a Bill for the same End, agreed on in all it's Parts by the Conferrees of both Houses, we had good reason to think very precarious.

If you will be pleased to re-consider our last Message, and the Expedient there mentioned, you will readily understand it in the Sense intended by us, which was, that rather than be without an Act to encourage Levies for his Majesty's Service, it might be thought advisable to make