

must say, It was no good Cause for such Procedure: And we flatter our selves, your Excellency never intended to act the same Part, during your Administration.

WE have always thought, the Ways, the Means, and Manner of laying Taxes, were the peculiar Privilege of this House; and as the End for making that Provision is his Majesty's Service, and Defence of the Province, we cannot see how either can be affected by the Manner of raising the Tax; provided such Manner shall answer the intended Purpose, equally with any other. We can only therefore say to that Part of your Excellency's Speech, that altho' his Lordship, the Lord Proprietary, has, for some Years past, under Colour of Law, taken, and still continues to take, to his own Use, from the Inhabitants of this Province, a considerable Sum of Money, a Part of which, when heretofore legally raised, was applied for purchasing Arms and Ammunition; yet, in regard to the present Exigence of Affairs, we will speedily and heartily set about a Bill for that Purpose, and shall form it in such Manner, as shall appear to us the most effectual for the End designed, and at the same Time attended with the least and fewest Inconveniencies to the People.

WE are determined, at all Times, to exert our Zeal and Unanimity for the Protection and Happiness of the Province, which Happiness cannot, we conceive, be effected by a Defence from foreign Enemies alone, the only Thing your Excellency has been pleased to recommend to us; unless accompanied with wholesome Laws amongst ourselves: And therefore, we hope, that no Misunderstanding, or Stop of public Business, will now happen amongst us, but that we shall have your Excellency's Concurrence in making such Laws, at this Time, as the Necessities of the People seem loudly to call for, at our Hands.

Was brought in, Read and Assented to, and Signed, by Order of the House, by the Honourable Speaker.

Mr. *Smith*, and Mr. *Calder*, were Ordered to acquaint his Excellency, this House hath prepared an Address to him, and desires to know when and where he will receive it: They return and acquaint Mr. Speaker, the Governor would be ready in half an Hours Time to receive it in the Conference Chamber.

Ordered, That the Address be Presented to his Excellency by Mr. *Smith* and Thirteen more: They return and acquaint Mr. Speaker they Presented the Address.

On Motion of a Member, that a Bill be brought in to regulate Officers Fees; Leave is given.

Ordered, That the Committee of Laws prepare and bring in such Bill.

On Motion that a Bill be brought in to enlarge the Jurisdiction of the County Courts; Leave is given.

Ordered, That the Committee of Laws prepare and bring in the Bill.

On Motion of a Member, that a Bill be brought in to oblige Attorneys to Prove their List of Fees before they obtain Execution; Leave is given.

*Wm. Stoughton*, Esq; from the Committee of Laws, delivers Mr. Speaker a Bill entituled, *An Act for raising per Hogshead, on all Tobacco to be Exported, for purchasing Arms and Ammunition for the Defence of this Province*; which Bill was Read the First Time, and Ordered to lie on the Table.