

Tuesday Morning, July 8, 1746.

**T**HE House met according to Adjournment, and the Proceedings of Yesterday were read.

*The House adjourns until 2 of the Clock.*

*Post Meridiem.*

The House met according to Adjournment.

Mr. Speaker communicates to the House the following Message from the Governor; *viz.*

*Gentlemen of the Lower House of Assembly,*

**Y**OU are sensible, that by the Duke of Newcastle's Letter, his Majesty expects Cloaths should be provided for Soldiers, and the Expence thereof to be discharged by General *St. Clare*, who we do not hear is yet arrived; and yet it is high Time some Step should be taken, in order to procure such Cloaths. As by all Computation, from the Number of Levies encouraged by that Act, it is supposed there will be a considerable Sum of Money remaining, of what you have appropriated for the Substante and Conveyance of the Troops, over and above what will be necessary for such Purposes: Therefore I hope you will think it proper, such, or so much of, what Surplus may remain may be applied for the providing Cloaths; and that the same Money may be replaced, by the Payment from General *St. Clare*. T. BLADEN.

Which being read, *Ordered*, That the Committee of Laws prepare an Address in Answer thereto.

Mr. Speaker likewise communicates to the House the following Message from the Governor; *viz.*

*Gentlemen of the Lower House of Assembly,*

**I** Shall answer your Paper without any Title, presented to me the 5th Instant, under three general Heads:

*First*, With Regard to my Behaviour towards Mr. *Smith*, a Member of your House.

*2dly*, With Regard to your Privileges.

*3dly*, With Regard to the Indecencies of Expression.

As to the first, you say, "You are convinced that every Part of your Remonstrance is true, as well with Regard to the Words spoken, as to the Occasion of speaking of them; and this Conviction you found not only on the Declaration of Mr. *Smith*, but from the concurrent Testimony of several Members of your House, who were then present."

I was in Hopes, that when I acquainted your House with some Words I might probably say, and others I was sure I did not say, you would have been so charitable as to have given my Recollection of what then passed some greater Degree of Credit, than I now find you have done; but instead of that, you have entered into an Examination of some of your Members; and since I cannot be supposed to have at that Time an Opportunity of being present, and hearing what they then declared to the House, It is not to be imagined but that I might endeavour to be informed of what they said by Way of Evidence, without any (even supposed) Breach of Privilege; and upon the best Account I can get, I find two Members declared themselves on the Subject: One of them remember'd I should say, that Mr. *Smith* was an ungrateful sorry Fellow, or a sorry ungrateful Fellow: The other declared, I said he was a sorry Fellow. As to the last Member, I must in my own Vindication observe, that he is so linked with Mr. *Smith* in more than one Respect, that without a Supposition of a wilful Misrepresentation, he may have been easily led into an Opinion of such Words being spoken, as Mr. *Smith* might, thro' Warmth of Temper (of which, if I am not mistaken, he is very susceptible), believe I really spoke: But the first Member couples the Word sorry with the Word ungrateful, and that is more likely of the two; for I am certain I never call'd him *sorry Fellow* only, as expressed in the Remonstrance. I confess I did call him ungrateful Fellow, for which I gave you my Reasons in my Answer; and, in my Opinion, that Vice contains not only the Idea of a sorry Fellow, but more: However, I cannot help taking Notice, that tho' the Appellation of Ungrateful was used by me, yet Mr. *Smith* did not think proper to make that Expression Part of his Complaint, for what Reasons he knows best.

Thus far I have consider'd what I am told was declared in favour of Mr. *Smith*'s Veracity in your House: but pray, Gentlemen, did you examine the other Members who were said to be present at the same Time? If you did, I doubt not but you found from them, that they did not hear me say the Words which I have denied, and they have declared so to me; nor did Mr. *Smith* mention any such Words to the first Company he went into after the Affair happened, when his Heart was full of it, and his Memory least likely to deceive him: And then why may not I, without much Presumption, lay Claim to (at least) as good Credit as Mr. *Smith*? I am not a Stranger to his Violence against Governors, I suppose, from mistaken Principles; but what, I pray, could influence me to deny any Words, much less *sorry Fellow*, on that Occasion, when I acknowledge much stronger Words; and which yet, with any other Words Mr. *Smith* can fancy I did then say, can have no Relation to your Privileges: Which are in the second Place to be considered.

And now, Gentlemen, I must observe, that tho' this Conversation with Mr. *Smith* gave Rise to your Complaint of a Violation of your Privilege by me, which was at first my own Case; yet, by your Remonstrance, you sufficiently shewed what you aimed at; and by the Paper lately presented to me, have put the Matter, which I charged you with in my Answer in Relation to your Electors, beyond all Possibility of Doubt; so that the Dispute will presently appear to be, not so much how I am to behave, but how your Electors must demean themselves towards you under this new Claim of Privilege, and it is now become the Cause of every individual Man of the Province.