

succeed in this long Stretch of your Privilege, I do not doubt but the next Step would be to discourage, as much as you could, any Conversation between the Electors themselves concerning your Actions in Assembly; for it is certainly much more difficult for you now, by the magic Force of your own new coined phrase *Parliamentary Legal Construction*, just as if I should tell you of a *Westminster-Hall Legal Construction* (mere Sounds), to fix your wish'd for Exposition on the Statute 1st *William and Mary*, than hereafter to persuade many people, that it is not necessary an Abuse should be before a Man's Face in order to make it personal; and therefore if two or more Electors should, in a Conversation amongst themselves, blame, and perhaps rail at their Representatives for their Conduct in Assembly, this will be a Breach of Privilege, for which the Electors may be called to your Bar; and by this means the Representatives may assure to themselves Seats and power for Life, since the Electors would be deprived of the Freedom of communicating their Thoughts to each other concerning their Representatives. It was from the dreadful Consequences which followed from a House not keeping themselves within the known and settled Bounds of their privileges, that Lord *Clarendon* declares, "That their (*i. e.* the House of Commons) being Judges of their privileges, should qualify them to make new privileges, or that their Judgment should create them such, as it was a Doctrine never heard of, so it could not but produce all those monstrous Effects of swallowing of the Religion, Laws, and Liberties of *England*, in the bottomless and insatiable Gulph of their own privileges."

As to the *Third Head*, which is the Indecency of Expression,

I believe, Gentlemen, you have not lately perused the Journals of the Lower House, and therefore must desire you to cast an Eye over them; where you will find few Addresses, which prove that Care you speak of, in the Civility of Language, in the Intercourse between the Lower House and myself; and the paper to which this is an Answer, shews such a propensity to the Continuance of the same unbecoming Stile, that I am apt to think the Habit is so strong as not now to be easily broke through, and that you imagine you address me in a civil Manner, when every Body else thinks it a rude one: But this I can much easier overlook, than your assuming to yourselves over me, and your Constituents, under the Cloak of Privilege, a Power you have no Right to. And as I hope you are now better informed as to this Claim of your Privilege, I may reasonably presume, my fixing the Word *Extravagant* to your Declaration, cannot now appear so shocking as you once thought it; for I do assure you, I did not intend any other Idea should be conveyed by it, than the only one I know of, and which the natural Force of the Word carries in Meaning *something beyond it's due Bounds*, under which Description I thought your Claim of privileges to be, and will now, I doubt not, appear so to every one. But I fancy you will be at a Loss how to reconcile the Mention of the Vanity of the Frog, or Stupidity of the Animal, &c. to the Rules of good Sense or Civility; for whoever was the Penman, the Answer came from me: However I may venture to assure you of being mistaken in the Allusion, I believe you made, to the Penman.

I should not have deferred putting an End to this Session, immediately on Receipt of your Paper, if the Justice due to my own Character, as also to your Constituents, had not obliged me to put this Affair in as clear and strong a Light as I could.

And now I have only to hope, that all the Papers on this Subject may be printed together.

July 8, 1746.

T. BLADEN.

*Samuel Chamberlaine*, Esq; from the Upper House, delivers Mr. Speaker the following Paper Bills; *viz.*

The Bill entituled, *An Act continuing an Act entituled, An Act for the Advancement of Justice. An Act continuing an Act of Assembly of this Province entituled, An Act for the better Relief of poor Debtors. An Act continuing an Act entituled, An Act for relieving the Inhabitants of this Province from some Aggrievances in the Prosecution of Suits at Law, and for continuing the Supplementary Act thereto. An Act continuing an Act of Assembly of this Province entituled, An Act to prevent the ill Practices of Sheriffs, &c. An Act continuing an Act entituled, An Act for the speedy Recovery of small Debts, &c. An Act for erecting a County School in Worcester County, &c. An Act empowering the Vestrymen and Church-wardens of Christ Church Parish, in Calvert County, to build a Chapel of Ease in the said Parish, &c. An Act empowering the Justices of Talbot and St. Mary's County Courts to allow, at the laying their next County Levy, unto Jonas Green, of the City of Annapolis, Printer, the Sums therein mentioned.*

*Mr. Philip Hammond* delivers Mr. Speaker an Address to the Governor, which was read, approved of, and ordered to be Ingrossed.

The Ingrossed Address being read and assented to, was ordered, on Behalf of the House, to be signed by the Honourable Speaker; and is as follows: