

The Exordium of your last Message seems calculated to cast the Blame of mis-spending so much Time and Public Money in tedious and fruitless Sessions upon us; but pray consider what little Success will probably attend such an Attempt, if, now you have our Objections, you think it incumbent upon you, at all Events, to disregard them. Of what Use, in the Conduct of Public Business, can an explicit Communication of our Sentiments be, when, after it is made, your whole Study and Views are to elude the Force of them, by fallacious Reasoning and captious Animadversions, indulge an Humour of Invektive, and insult with Rudeness when you can't refute or convince by Argument?

Will you say, that, if we had particularly enumerated our Reasons for Rejecting your First or Second Bill, you would have fallen upon some other Method of Granting Money? If not, what Obstruction of his Majesty's Service has arisen from our omitting to send you our Objections to your Bills before the Time we did, or what good End would have been answered? What Part of the Expence you have imposed upon your Constituents Lessened by our taking that Step? If you'll say that you would evince your Sincerity by doing it now, you have now our Objections, against which, as you have nothing but the weakest Cavils to advance, we press you to do it by the Duty you owe to your King and Country: We would persuade you to do it; it will furnish you with a better Pretence for your Insinuations than you have at present.

We said in our former Message, that there were some late Resolves of the Lower House, That we had no Right but to Pass or Reject Money-Bills. Your Answer to this, is, "that we do not recollect any Resolves of this House; but whatever they may be, you must know that they were made not to extend, but to confirm our own Rights and Privileges, &c."

Perhaps there may be some very nice Distinction between the late Lower House and this Lower House, and what may have been done in a former Session by the same Members, is not to be imputed to them in this; but you have not denied, nor can you deny, the Fact mentioned in our Message, that the Lower House had lately Resolved, we had no Right, but to Pass or Reject Money-Bills.

You are pleased to inform us of the Difference between Resolves of the Lower House, to confirm and extend the Privileges you claim: We are obliged to confess, tho' you say we must know it, that we don't understand it. We can't easily conceive how your Resolves, penned by yourselves, without any express'd or implied Concurrence or Assent of any other, and entered upon your own Journals, can operate as a Confirmation of the Privileges claimed by yourselves. If your Privileges, after this Kind of Parliamentary Confirmation, stand as they did before they were thus sanction'd, it is very difficult to have any Idea of the real Nature of its Operation; if they gain thereby any additional Strength, the Members of your House have a Power of giving or communicating to themselves, by their Resolves, what they had not before; we are therefore not satisfied with your Distinction, and hope you will excuse us for not knowing, or even assenting to, what we don't understand.

We observed to you in our Message, that we were willing to admit the Corrections you had made of some Parts of the Bill, after we had return'd it with a Negative, and that we would, in order to give you the Satisfaction you desired, proceed to point out our material Objections, not thinking that any Forms ought to be so religiously observed, as to defeat the Duty we owed to our King and Country, &c. This was said in Answer to that Part of your first Message, wherein you seem'd to make some Apology for calling upon us to point out our Objections, by saying, that, "you hope we will point out all our Objections, though it may not be consistent with Parliamentary Modes of Proceeding," and give us some Assurance of your Disposition to reconcile this Remark, you would insinuate, did not consist with our own Conduct, but why not? After you had applied to us for our Objections, and promised to pay a just Regard to them (how far you have done so, let your contumelious Language speak) the Forms we spoke of were those which you had transgressed, and such as we could have insisted upon for denying your Request; but as you had given us an Assurance that our Compliance might be productive of some good Consequence to his Majesty's Service, we were willing to dispense with them. This is the plain Sense of that Passage, to which you would give a different Meaning; however, your Mistake of it, gives us great Pleasure, as it has occasioned an Intimation of your Opinion, that the Privilege lately set up by the Lower House, in respect of Money Bills, ought to be considered only as a Matter of Form, and as we now find that you will admit our Amendments with more Temper than you have lately done, we shall propose them for the future with the less Ceremony.

Signed per Order, J. Ross, Cl. Up. Ho.

And the Bill, entituled, *An Act for Granting a Supply of 45,000 l. &c.*

*Benedic*