

# H O R A T I O S H A R P E, Esq; Governor. 97

By the UPPER HOUSE of ASSEMBLY, *April 7, 1760.*

GENTLEMEN,

**W**E are equally desirous with yourselves to afford all reasonable Relief to the People of this Province in general, and the Land-Holders in particular, upon whom a very heavy Tax, by the great Deficiency of the Funds for sinking the 40,000 *l.* must in a short Time be laid, unless by some Bill to be passed this Session, including a larger Number of Contributors, that Inconvenience shall be obviated; but at the same Time that we are strongly inclined to relieve Individuals, we think it incumbent upon us to pay all the Regard to Public Faith, and consequently to Public Credit, which these very important Points deserve, and our present Circumstances will allow.

In these Respects, as well as in some other, the Bill herewith returned with a Negative appears to us to be defective; but we are not without Hope of receiving another upon a Plan more consistent, and less liable to Objections, and have therefore taken the Liberty of recommending to your Consideration a Tax long experienced in this Province, and more equal, and less grievous to the People than a Land-Tax, together with the Appropriation, and Continuance of the Funds, mentioned in the Bill to have answered, or almost answered, the Ends for which they were created: The annual Produce whereof in future may be nearly estimated on a Review of the annual Income they have hitherto produced; and as we are informed that the Deficiency, which by the Law as it now stands, is to be made good by a Land-Tax only, has been calculated at about 26,000 *l.* we conceive this Sum may be discharged by these Means in Two Years from this Time, without any considerable Inconvenience, or just Cause of Complaint. The Public Faith and Credit must be preserved at all Events, and should you therefore not be inclined to fall upon some Method, for the Ease of the Landed Interest, less exceptionable than that proposed by the Bill we have rejected, rather than expose these to any Hazard, we shall be obliged to suffer the unequal Burthen on Land, imposed by the original Bill, to take Place.

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

*The House adjourns till the Morrow Morning at IX of the Clock.*

T U E S D A Y, *April 8, 1760.*

**T**HE House met according to Adjournment, &c.

An Ingrossed Bill, entitled, *An Act continuing an Act, entitled, An Act to prevent Persons from secreting Boats, Flats, and other Vessels, drove by Strefs of Weather or otherwise, from Landings or Moorings.*

An Ingrossed Bill, entitled, *An Act continuing an Act to prevent Masters of Ships and Vessels from clandestinely carrying Servants and Slaves, or Persons indebted, out of this Province.*

An Ingrossed Bill, entitled, *An Act continuing an Act, entitled, A Supplementary Act to the Act, entitled, An Act for the Relief of Creditors in England against Bankrupts, who have imported Goods into this Province not accounted for.*

An Ingrossed Bill, entitled, *An Act continuing an Act, entitled, An Act for the Advancement of Justice.*

An Ingrossed Bill, entitled, *An Act continuing an Act, entitled, An Act for preventing Indians affected to the British Interest in America, from coming into this Province as Spies, or on any other Evil Design.*

An Ingrossed Bill, entitled, *An Act to aid some Proceedings of the Vestry of Port-Tobacco Parish in Charles County, and to impower the said Parish to elect Vestrymen and Church-wardens.*

An Ingrossed Bill, entitled, *An Act to increase the Salaries of the Inspectors of Snow-Hill Warehouse in Worcester County, and of Plymouth Warehouse in Dorchester County.*

And, an Ingrossed Bill, entitled, *An Act for the speedy and effectual Publication of the Laws of this Province, and for the Encouragement of Jonas Green, of the City of Annapolis, Printer.*

Were severally Read and Assented to, and sent to the Upper House, with the Paper Bills thereof, by Alexander Williamson, Esq; and Mr. Gantt.

*The House adjourns till Half an Hour past II of the Clock Afternoon.*

*Post-Meridiem.* The House met according to Adjournment.

Mr. Carroll brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker, the following Amendments to the Bill, entitled, *An Act for Naturalization, viz.*