

ORDERED, That Mr. Plater and Mr. Johnson do acquaint the Governor, that this House hath prepared an Address to be presented to him, and desires to know when and where he will please to receive it. They return and acquaint Mr. Speaker, That his Excellency was pleased to signify, that he would receive it immediately in the Council Chamber.

The following Message, viz.

By the LOWER HOUSE of ASSEMBLY, 25th November, 1763.

May it please your HONOURS,

WE are very sorry you should return with a Negative, the Bill for the speedy Payment of such Persons as have been ordered to march to the Western Frontiers of this Province, for the Defence thereof, and of the Expences of Carriages and Provisions for such Persons, and of such as have been put to the Expences of Quartering his Majesty's Regular Forces within this Province, and other necessary Expences during the late War.

We must beg Leave to differ in Opinion with your Honours, when you intimate these Claims are upon the same Footing with those of other Creditors, and should therefore be paid in the same Manner. All these Claims are from Persons that have suffered great Hardships and Dangers for our Defence and Security, or such as have either had their Property forced from them, or have, thro' Necessity, and to prevent greater Evils to themselves, and many others, during the late War, advanced their own Money several Years past, and are only to be repaid for the real Value, or Principal so forced from them, or advanced. Whereas most other Public Creditors lay out of Profits expected from the Fees and Perquisites of Office, or Rewards for Services performed in Ease and Safety. And in this Eight the Persons who are the Objects of the present Bill, have been distinguished in all our late Resolutions for raising Money to defray the Expences of the War: Those People having been constantly provided for by us, to be paid out of the first Monies we should raise, and we the more wonder your Honours should refuse the Payment now proposed in this Manner, especially when the Money raised by the Overplus of Funds, particularly established to support the Expence of the War, is by this Bill appropriated for that Purpose; and when too the Payment of those Claims have constantly heretofore, as well as at the Opening of this Session, been so warmly recommended by his Excellency the Governor.

That every Creditor employed by the Public, and who has served the Public, is entitled to Satisfaction we readily admit, and it is not our Fault that they have not been long ago satisfied, or that the Public Debt is now swelled to so great an Amount. But as to your Proposal of paying off all other Public Creditors, except the Members of the Two Houses, however just it may be with regard to your Honours, who have so long defeated the Passage of the Journal, by an unreasonable Claim upon the Public, we cannot think that the steady Opposition we have made against it should place us upon the same Footing; nor shall we ever be induced to pay so poor a Compliment to our Services, as to consent to a Measure which would amount to an implied Acknowledgement that our Conduct ought to distinguish us from other Public Creditors, while we have so much Reason to be persuaded of its Rectitude, in the Matters contested between us. The Situation of the Members of our House is very different from that of your Honours, for besides the Superiority in Point of private Fortune, Lucrative Offices you hold, would make the Delay of Payment, in this Case, a trifling Inconvenience to you, but as it is otherwise with us, you cannot expect our Acquiescence in your Proposition, and therefore we hope you will excuse us when we say, it rather appears to us an Ostentation, than a real Mark of Disinterestedness, or of your Equity, and tender Concern for the Public Creditors.

Signed per Order of M. MACNEMARA, Cl. Lo. Ho.

Was sent to the Upper House by Col. Tilghman and Mr. ...
ORDERED, That Mr. Dulany and Mr. Grahame do present the Address to the Governor, with the following Extract of the Report of the Committee of the Paper Office, viz.

An EXTRACT from the REPORT of the COMMITTEE appointed by both Houses of Assembly to inspect the Office and Proceedings of the Commissioners for Issuing Bills of Credit, established by Act of Assembly.

YOUR Committee find, that there is still due on the Act for Encouragement of Jonathan Green, passed in September 1756,

From William Hedges, late Sheriff of Cecil County, £. 10 10 0

And John Fendall, late Sheriff of, Charles County, 17 10 0

And that the following Sums Reported last Session to be due from the sundry Sheriffs, on Ordinary Licences, are still unpaid, viz.

John Risseau, late Sheriff of Baltimore County, £. 100 10 0

Henry Morgan, late Sheriff of said County, 2 0 0

Thomas Sheredine, late Sheriff of said County, 24 0 0

John Smith, late Sheriff of Cecil County, 10 0 0

John Parran, late Sheriff of Calvert County, 17 0 0

Osborn Sprigg, late Sheriff of Prince-George's County, 10 0 0

total ...