

Houses to an Equilibrium ; I will now endeavour to throw some Weight into the opposite Scale, in which, if I succeed, the Merits of the Lower House will preponderate.

Let us then take for granted, at present, that the Conduct of both Houses; in relation to the Assessment Bills, has proceeded entirely from Principles of Conscience ; and that the Lower House were right, in persevering in a Mode of Taxation which they thought most equitable ; and that the Upper House were equally right in rejecting it, because they thought it unequal, and pregnant with Oppression. What is to be done then, when the Branches of a dependent Legislature cannot come to any Agreement, in Matters of the highest Importance to the Interest of the Community ? Is there no Mode of Proceeding established in our Constitution, by which Obstructions to all public Business, arising from such an unhappy Contrariety of Sentiments, may be removed ? I apprehend there is, but I deny that the Opinion of a Lawyer, upon a Case stated *ex Parte*, or upon any Case whatever, is the constitutional Mode of settling such Differences, and I hope I have proved it is not, to the Conviction of all *who have not shut their Eyes against Truth*. I will take upon me to assert then, that we have a Right, in all such Cases, to appeal to His Majesty in Council, as the only proper and constitutional Judicature, for the Decision of all public Contests between the Government and People in the Colonies. This being admitted (and I think few will be hardy enough to dispute it) let us consider