

Original
Journal.

A Bill for reviving the Temporary Lawes of this province.

A Bill for repealing a certain Law ag^t Strikeing of fish in Dorchester and Somerset Countys.

A Bill for assessing the publiq^e charge of this province.

Where being admitted and presenting the said Bills his Ex^{cy} was pleased on his Ma^{ty}s behalfe to assent thereunto and signe the Same and they were accordingly sealed with the broad seale of this province. After which his Ex^{cy} acquainted them that he was sorry to find that they could not agree upon passing the Bill for Religion as proposed, telling them that he was given to understand that his Ma^{ty} would not assent to any law that contayned two things of different natures as this did, to witt Spirituall or Ecclesiasticall and temporall. That if the Bill be passed as now penned it would occasion them to carry their causes to Westminster the which intollerable inconveniences could not be avoyded.

That he hoped none could be so absurd as to doubt of his royall Ma^{ty}s Justice, who ventured his life in coming over to England to defend their Rights and Libertys, and was at this present actually engaged in the same Quarrell.

That as for himselfe he desired them freely to speake if he had any ways infringed or broake in upon any of their Rights and priviledges; and advised them if there was any occasion
p. 13 of a future confirmation thereof that they should address his Ma^{ty} for a Declaratory act for the passing whereof he would use his Interest.

That true it was confest that they had been instrumental in Making Severall good Laws, but if so be they left those for Religion unfinished they had begun an unperfect piece of worke. Therefore prorogued them until the [ninth] instant.

Thursday [July the 9th] 1696

The House accord[ing to proro]gation last night being inst.

Major Thompson and M^r Helmsley sent to acquaint his Ex^{cy} the house is met according to prorogation last night, who return and say they delivered their message, and that his Ex^{cy} was ready to receive the house when they thinke fitt to come up.

Whereupon the house adjourned for an hour, and went up to the Councill to attend upon his Ex^{cy} where being admitted his Ex^{cy} thus bespooke them.

That what he had to recommend to them was a Bill lying before the house for the Establishing of the protestant Religion, which Bill as it is now penned conteyns two different things, and his Ma^{ty} has declared he will not pass any Bill conteyning