

fit to put upon them whereby a Lower House would become nothing other than a bare name

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We desire nothing else than that the Bills now in Question grateful to the Government and People should go Hand in Hand: Let us be assured of the one, the other shall immediately be dispatcht and if after this the Country should be deprived of the Useful Laws now in the Upper House and of the Fund for its defence, we can (we think) very safely trust it to impartial and disinterested Men to Judge at whose Door the Inconveniences that may happen must lie p. 107

Altho it be most certainly our Duty to do all that's in Our Power for the Interest of Our Constituents, yet We cannot think that Duty peculiar to us alone, for as the Welfare of the People is the end of all Government it must necessarily be incumbent on every Branch of the Legislature Jointly to pursue that end, and not to go to bargaining with one another for what is their undoubted Right; But since that seems to be the case we must rather chuse to go without part of that Right for a time than buy it at so high a Price as would make the House of Delegates for ever Dependant on his Lordships Council

In this unhappy Situation therefore We most earnestly desire your Excellency's favourable Interposition, to prevail with the Upper House to proceed with us in the usual manner by sending us Back Our Reviving and Re-enacting Bills with their former Duration, or if that cannot be effected that you will be pleased to dismiss us in such manner as Your Excellency shall think fit

Signed on Behalf and by Order of the House

Philip Hammond, Speaker

Gentlemen of the Lower House of Assembly

June 5

I have considered your Address delivered to me Yesterday by Mr Speaker with all the Carefulness and Attention that I am capable of and must candidly own to you that it seems to me rather composed in a specious manner to throw some Blame on the Upper House and Myself, in relation to the Dispute between the two Houses, than to place the said Dispute in an Exact Light, as it stands in the several Messages that passed on the Subject.

For to avoid all unnecessary Words, the sole Point in dispute appears by the said Messages to be plainly this, whether you did Right in keeping Back A Bill, which had been Agreed on by the Conferees of both Houses and approved of by each House, in order to Oblige the Upper House to pass Your Bills on their Table in what manner you pleased

The Upper House insists upon it that you did not Act right, & that such a Proceeding has a plain Tendency to render the Upper House not only an useless but a ridiculous Branch of Legislature,