

no Intention of raising Supplies for His Majesty's Service, nor of affording this House an Opportunity of coming to an Agreement with them, at a less Expence than that of His Majesty's Prerogatives, and the Peoples Liberties, by a total Subversion of our present Constitution, and lodging the several Powers thereof, now equally distributed for the Preservation of the Whole, in their Hands? And if their warmest Professions appear thus destitute of Truth and Candour, what Regard are we to pay to those so often repeated by yourselves?" I have given you the Passage entire, because it is a Master-Piece, both as to Language and Matter. It puts me in Mind of a little Country Court Attorney, who has a Right to speak last in a Cause, and from that Confidence fumes, bounces and bullies, treats his Antagonist with all the Billingsgate of the Bar, loads him with Calumnies and indecent Reflections, and utters, in a Style of declamatory Vehemence, whatever may tend to blacken and vilify the other Party, without the least Regard to Truth, Candour, or common Decency. Some of the Dirt may stick, a gaping Jury may be deluded and misled by the last Word, or if he should miss of both these Aims, his Zeal will certainly recommend him to his Client, and confirm him in his Business. When the Sentiments and Diction of this choice Groupe of rhetorical Ornaments, and the Circumstance of an immediate Prorogation upon the Back of the Message being sent down, are considered, the Similitude so far holds good, and the blustering Pettifogger stares us in the Face. But it must be confessed, that the Views of recommending and confirming, are Circumstances which cannot be admitted into the Comparison, because the Upper House being an independent Branch of the Legislation, and the constitutional Guardians of the Peoples Rights, cannot be supposed to be under the Motives which those Words seem to intimate, so that, except for filling up a Chasm, and rounding the Period, they might as well have been left out. p. 31

It is easy to affirm, but often hard to support that Affirmation by the Facts themselves. The Supply Bill, here so much abused, is printed, and brought to public View; and I need give the first Part of this extraordinary Passage, that is, "That other Plans, more just and equal, less intricate in their Nature, and liable to fewer Objections than the Assessment Bill, have been heretofore proposed to the Lower House, and no sooner proposed than voted out," no other Answer, than to let the Reader know, that the other Plans here alluded to, and I believe the only Ones that have been openly proposed since the Mode of Taxation has been under Contest between the two Houses, are the three following, and let him make the Comparison himself. The first was in February, 1755, for a general Pole Tax of One Shilling and Six-pence per Pole, for raising the Sum granted; which was voted out Thirty-six to Ten. The second was in March Session, 1758, by which the Money was proposed to