

Mode of proceeding upon Money Bills, the only Subject of Contest at this time subsisting between the two Houses? But yet their Honours have, upon the Authority of these Passages, charged the Lower House with arrogating to themselves the Rights and Powers of a British House of Commons, which must be understood in a general Sense, though the main Scope and Intention of the Lower House, and their Expressions also, limit their Claim to particular Privileges.

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From what has been said, I hope it appears to the impartial Reader, that the Lower House, in their Message to the Upper House, have neither set up for an unrivalled Zeal for His Majesty's Service, nor arrogated to themselves the Rights and Powers of a British House of Commons. And since the Upper House have been pleased to alledge, that the Lower House insisting upon these two Points was the Motive of their Answer to the Message, which would otherwise have passed without any Notice; and since these Allegations are not warranted, by any Thing to be found in the Message, it follows, that their Honours Answer has no Foundation at all, and that the pompous Fabrick, which they have erected with so much Labour, and decorated with their best Ornaments, is nothing but a Castle in the Air.

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Their Honours are pleased to assert, "that the Claim of the Lower House to the same Rights with the British House of Commons will avail nothing, because having different Foundations, no Inference can be drawn from the Rights of one to establish the Claims of the other." Whether the Lower House are entitled generally (according to the Import of the Position) to the Rights of the British House of Commons, is not at present the Question, the Point in Dispute being the particular Rights respecting the Mode of proceeding on Money Bills. The Representatives of the Freemen of Maryland, in Assembly convened, have the Right of granting Supplies to the Crown in this Province, being essential to an English Constitution; and the Limitation of all such Grants, as to the Matter, Manner, Measure and Time, is in them only. These Rights are exercised by the Commons, but not claimed from Usage, but from this Principle, that the free-born Subjects of England, and consequently their Representatives, have a Right to grant their own Money in their own Way. Their Honours say, that the Lower House have not a Right to the Privileges of the House of Commons, because the Foundations of the two Bodies are different. This implies, that if the Foundations were the same, the Rights would be the same. Now, as I said above, the House of Commons do not claim the Privileges respecting Money Bills from Usage, but from this Principle, that the Freemen of England, and consequently their Representatives, have a Right to give their own Money in their own Way. If the Inhabitants of Maryland are free British Subjects, then the Principle

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