

A sufficient Number of Delegates to compose a Lower House of Assembly, being convened at the Stadt-House; *Ordered*, That Col. *John Henry* and Mr. *Plater* do acquaint his Excellency the Governor therewith: They return and acquaint Mr. Speaker, that they delivered the Message.

Col. *Hammond*, and *Samuel Chamberlaine*, Esq; from the Upper House, acquaint Mr. Speaker, That the Governor requires the Attendance of the Members of the Lower House of Assembly immediately in the Upper House.

Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and (with the other Members of the Lower House) went to the Upper House; where the Governor made a Speech; a Copy of which he delivered to Mr. Speaker in Writing, and also a Copy of a Letter from the Earl of *Loudoun*, which was directed to the Governor.

Mr. Speaker, with the other Members Returned to the Lower House, and Re-assumed the Chair.

*Ordered*, That his Excellency the Governor's Speech be read by the Clerk; which was accordingly contained in the following Words, &c.

GENTLEMEN of the Upper and Lower Houses of ASSEMBLY,

HAVING received an Answer from the Earl of *Loudoun*, to a Letter which I sent him with the Addresses that you were pleased to present to me the 15th and 16th of *December*, and with the Copy of a Bill that had been framed in the Lower House during the late Session, I thought it incumbent on me to meet you at this Time, to communicate to you his Lordship's Sentiments with Regard to that Bill, and to give you an Opportunity of making proper Provision for the Support of the Troops that have been raised here for his Majesty's Service, and the more immediate Defence and Security of this Province. I shall give Orders for Copies of the Earl of *Loudoun*'s Letter to be laid before you, in Confidence that you will, when you have considered it, think his Lordship's Requisition very reasonable; and you will not, I persuade myself, disappoint him in the Hopes he entertains, that your Care for the Preservation of the Lives and Properties of your Fellow-Subjects, your Zeal for the Common Cause, and your Duty to the King, will induce you to grant the Supplies, which you may judge necessary, by such a Bill as might be agreeable to our happy Constitution.

*Ordered*, That the Governor's Speech do lie on the Table.

*Ordered*, That the Earl of *Loudoun*'s Letter be read by the Clerk; which was accordingly contained in the following Words, &c.

S I R,

NEW-YORK, December 30, 1757.

I HAD this Day the Favour of your Letter by Express, with the Bill prepared by the Lower House, and the Address, from both Houses to you.

As I had seen an Extract of the military Part of that Bill before, I am ready to give my Sentiments on it; and am clearly of Opinion, that had it passed into a Law of the Province, it would have been a direct Infringement of the King's unassumed Prerogative, and as such was very wisely rejected by the Upper House; at the same Time I am willing to believe, that the Assembly had not considered it in that Light, or they would never have framed it in that Manner, nor had they considered that Right of the King of commanding his Subjects in Arms, which is a Right undisputed every where, or they would never have disputed the Power of his Commission, to have marched the Troops, raised by them for the Defence of his Dominions, even out of your Province, which I do not understand I have done with Regard to them, which was to Fort Cumberland, from the best Accounts I have been able to procure; but that does not come to be the Question; for if they will consider what has happened in almost all the other Provinces, they will find, they are single in the Opinion of the King's Power of Marching the Provincial Troops into other Provinces.

At the Meeting at Philadelphia, it was settled last Spring, that South-Carolina was in Danger of a more powerful Invasion from the Enemy than they were able alone to resist, therefore it was agreed, that it was necessary they should have an additional Force sent to their Assistance, composed partly of Regular Troops, and partly of Troops raised by the other Provinces, and 200 Men did accordingly sail from Virginia, and are now with them; and the Troops from North-Carolina were in Readiness to go, but were prevented by Letters from the Commanding Officer there, on the Arrival of a Regiment of 1000 Men from Europe, so that they did not then stand in Need of them; there is an Instance in Point in the very next Province, who were likewise to have made up their Quota of Troops to 400 Men, if they were found Necessary, for that Service in South-Carolina.

But further to illustrate this Point, let them reflect, that the Provincial Troops in the more Northern Provinces, that is, those of New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay, Rhode-Island, Connecticut, and the Jerseys, have for three Years last past been serving in the Province of New-York: There was an Attempt about 18 Months ago