

Contempo-
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at large at present than heretofore, with respect to the Tax on the Proprietary Estate, and the great Offices of the Government." Now that I may explain this Passage, to the Understanding of the supposed Associates in this elaborate Performance, I will borrow my Logic from the Bar, and, by the Force of Innuendoes, throw such a Light upon it, that the only Persons in the Province who could discover any Obscurity in it, shall, at the first Glance, comprehend its full Scope and Intention.—"It is a Maxim in Politics, that the Representative (the Upper House meaning) is justified by the Instructions of his Constituent (the Lord Proprietor meaning) in acting even against his own Judgment (the Judgment of their Honours of the Upper House meaning) and we were willing to entertain Hopes, that your Honours might be more at large at present (from Proprietary Injunctions meaning) than heretofore, with Respect to the Proprietary Estate, and the great Offices of the Government." But notwithstanding the Abstruseness of this Passage, I shrewdly suspect it is better understood than the Gentlemen choose to acknowledge, and that their Ignorance of its Meaning is nothing but Pretence, why else such a Train of thundering angry Questions, which I shall give from their Message, with suitable Answers, en passant? "Why
p. 48 did you not, Gentlemen, inform us what Foundation you have for this indecent and untrue Suggestion, viz. their Tenderness for the Proprietary Estate, and the great Offices? What Foundation have you for insinuating, that this House ever was under any Restraint with regard to either of those Points?" Their Honours Argument in these Questions, and what is subjoined a little lower, "Your having Recourse to those Objections in 1758, will not serve your Purpose, for you will there find no Objections to either of these Particulars being at all taxed;" seems to proceed upon this Principle, that as they have never explicitly declared their Objections to these Points, the Lower House therefore had no Right to suppose, that they had any such in their View; whereas if their Honours had made such a Declaration, Supposition must have been excluded, and absolute Certainty taken its Place. If indeed the Lower House had positively asserted that those were the Objections of the Upper House, the Question had been pertinent, because positive Assertion requires positive Proof; but Supposition is well warranted, by Circumstances of strong Presumption. And it must be submitted to the considerate Reader, whether, from the Nature of their Constitution, their particular Conduct relating to this Bill, and the invariable Attachment they have ever shewn to the Proprietor's Interest, the Upper House had any Right to charge this Supposition with a Disregard either of Truth or Decency?

Their Honours then proceed to another Question—"Or what
p. 49 Reason have you to hope we are now more at large than heretofore?"

To hope without Foundation, I grant is a Weakness, but never thought it a Crime, though their Honours, from their next Ques-