

deavour clearly and precisely to show the defects, that exist in it, and to point to beneficial measures, that they have selected in the last session of provincial parliament. This council is composed of twelve of the most respectable and honest inhabitants of Halifax; but I intend to argue, that they are also too *wealthy*. This may appear at first sight to be a weak argument, that men's fault should exist in honestly obtaining a handsome independency. But I will so clearly prove, that these gentlemen ought not to be admitted into this branch of our legislature, as will set the best arguments for it at rest for ever, in the land of silence and eternal oblivion.

After a long discussion in the House of Assembly, they at last agreed to establish a bank in the town of Halifax. I have read the bill that passed through the House. It appears to me to be fraught with good wholesome purposes; it is to encourage trade in a very great degree; it is to facilitate payments between man and man; and has for its object the preservation of the *precious* metals, which we all know are hourly going to benefit the commerce of the United States. Yet, strange to say, the council rejected it. The reason they did so appears to me very obvious. Would they agree to a bill, that would effectually annihilate their own interests? It would do so; for it would prevent them lending their money at *exorbitant* interests. But they tell us that they rejected the bill, on the representations of some very *respectable* merchants. But well I know how to describe such merchants; little, paltry, peddling fellows, venders of two penny wares and falsehoods, who under the idea of trade sell every thing in their power, honour, trust and conscience: and such is the unfortunate lot of humanity and *this town*, that such characters are to be found in *every* street in it. They are men, who have no lasting attachment, but at the shrine of mammon, and are always to be found in the greatest plenty, when any measure is proposed