

‘ very sensible Satisfaction in giving my Assent to any  
 ‘ Proposal which may, with Propriety, either reduce the  
 ‘ public Expences, or increase the Revenues, and rein-  
 ‘ state the Credit of the Funds.

‘ But as the only Method you propose, is by reducing  
 ‘ the Salaries of the Officers of Government, already not  
 ‘ more than sufficient : And as this Reduction amounts  
 ‘ to a Tax ; and in the Proportion you propose, very  
 ‘ considerable, I must observe to you, Gentlemen, what  
 ‘ I am persuaded did not appear to you, that this amounts  
 ‘ to a partial Tax, and therefore unjustifiable ; as no  
 ‘ Reason can be given that the Officers of Government  
 ‘ only should bear more than a Proportion with all others.  
 ‘ And I must further remark to you, that this Tax be-  
 ‘ comes more partial, heavy, and therefore more unjusti-  
 ‘ fiable, as the Officers of Government are paid in Pro-  
 ‘ vince Notes at their nominal Value, whilst every other  
 ‘ Person is at Liberty to take them on such Terms, as they  
 ‘ shall judge most to their own Interest.

‘ I am very sensible, Gentlemen, of the Difficulties which  
 ‘ may occur on this Occasion, in the present Circumstances  
 ‘ of the Province, and it will make me very happy, when  
 ‘ proper Means shall be offered to extricate you from them ;  
 ‘ but it is my Duty to attend to the Support of Govern-  
 ‘ ment, so particularly necessary at this Time in Ameri-  
 ‘ ca ; and to use my utmost Endeavours, that the pub-  
 ‘ lic Supplies may be sufficient, for that Purpose, to which  
 ‘ they ought first to be applied.

‘ I must therefore, Gentlemen, recommend to you, the  
 ‘ Consideration of this Matter once more, and that you  
 ‘ will at the same Time, think of some sufficient Provi-  
 ‘ sion for the Justices of the several Inferior Courts of  
 ‘ Law in this Province.

HALIFAX, 17th July, 1767.

And the said Answer being read,

*Ordered*