

U. H. J.
Liber No. 36
April 24

House for the Defence and Security of the Inhabitants who were at that time exposed to the Ravages of a Savage Enemy, We are of Opinion that such an Appropriation is not to be allowed nor such Militia paid otherwise than is Particularly directed by the Militia Law lest by consenting to their being paid in any other manner we should seem to countenance the very Extraordinary Resolves which the Lower House presumed in violation of Common sense to make when in the year 1758 they seemed to have nothing so much at heart as to render this Province entirely defenseless, tho your Excellencys Firmness and Resolution happily frustrated their attempts besides the two Sums we have Mentioned there was £3,000 to be appropriated towards reimbursing those Gentlemen who were put to some expence by providing Necessary's for such of the Kings Forces as were in the year 1756, & 1757, sent hither for Winter Quarters, but as there is still remaining in the loan Office and in the Agents hands more than £2000, of the Money that was granted here in 1756, for his Majesty's Service the Persons most of whom are Gentlemen in this City who have Claims on Account of Those Troops being quartered here may have been Satisfied had an Act for granting the Sum of £15,000, being now Passed since that Sum as hath been already hinted is Considerably more than would on the Gentlemens own Calculation have been Sufficient to raise Cloathe and pay the 400 Men the[y] proposed to keep up till 1.st April next & to raise the 84 Recruits required as the quota of this Province for the Regular Regiments as we do not know on what Rule or principal the Gentlemen of the Lower House could make a Calculation of the Sum that would be raised by such a Bill as they offered us & must confess that for our own parts we are unable to make any Estimate of the Value of all the real and personal Estate in the Province, we shall only observe with rēpect to such part of their Message that tho we are inclined to believe that if the assessors were to rate at its full Value all the property subjected by that Bill to a Tax much more than even the whole Sum proposed to be levied might be raised in One Year yet as so great a Latitude is Left to the discretion & to the partiality of the Assessors it might not be raised in several Years should they in their Valuations follow the Practice of Assessors in a Neighbouring Government This great uncertainty we cannot but consider as a very material Objection to the Plan of the Bill & we are confident Leaving the Assessors so much at large would create ill Blood and confusion among the Inhabitants already on Account of the proposal of such a Bill divided into parties in such a situation of things it would we think have been carrying our Complasance rather too far to pass a Bill so very exceptionable purely for the sake of making an experiment or for Gratifying one part of the Inhabitants whatever the Es-pousers of it may suggest of its being Similar to such as have been

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