

Col. *Hanson*, and Maj. *Sprigg*, are desired to acquaint his Excellency the Governor, a sufficient number of Members to Compose an House of Delegates are convened in the Stadt House.

Benjamin Tasker, Esq; from the Upper House, acquaints Mr. Speaker, the Governor requires the Attendance of the Lower House immediately in the Council Chamber.

Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and, with the rest of the Members of the Lower House, attended his Excellency, who made the following Speech :

Gentlemen of the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly,
I Have called you together, as usual, for the Dispatch of Business, and I hope we are all Met with a hearty Resolution to promote the Publick Good, and to avoid all unnecessary Disputes as much as possible.

For my own Part, I desire Nothing more earnestly than the Happiness and Prosperity of the Province, and shall be always ready to join my Endeavours with yours for that Purpose, and to oblige you in every Thing, as far as is consistent with the Duty of my Station, and further I hope no reasonable Man will expect or desire me to go.

It is the Sense of my Duty to his Majesty, and the Lord Proprietor, that has obliged me so often, and so earnestly, to recommend to you the Continuance of the Fund for purchasing Arms and Ammunition for the Defence of the Province, and I must still renew my Sollicitations to you upon this Head; my Duty not permitting me ever to neglect so very necessary and essential a Point.

You must be very sensible, that this Fund has always been thought necessary, even in Time of Peace, and I hope you will not think a Time of War a proper Season for the Discontinuance of it, but that you will rather think it prudent to make some further Provision for our Safety and Security; but whatever Quantity of Arms and Ammunition you may think sufficient for the Province, a proper Magazine for the Security of them is certainly very necessary; and that we have not such a One at present is but too well known for me to enlarge any further upon the Subject: I shall therefore leave it to your Prudence and Discretion.

There are many other Things proper to be taken into Consideration, which I think unnecessary to mention to you in particular, as our several Sentiments on any Subject may be so easily communicated to one another in the usual Manner by Messages; therefore shall only observe to you, that the Happiness of all People depends so greatly upon the Goodness of the Laws they live under, that it is impossible for any Body of Men, met together in a legislative Capacity, to be too sensible of the Importance of their Trust, or too diligent and careful in the Discharge of it.