U. H. J. important Juncture We his Majestys faithful Subjects the Dele-Paper gates of the Freemen of the Province of Maryland in General As-No. 735 sembly convened as well to testify Our Zeal for his Majestys Person and Government and to contribute as far as in us lieth to the Success of his Majestys Arms against all Enemies whatsoever as to put Ourselves in the best Posture of Defence We are able against any such Invasion or Attempt of the French or any Others humbly pray that it may be Enacted And Be it Enacted by the Right Honourable the Lord Proprietary by and with the Advice and Consent of his Lordships Governor and the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly and the Authority of the same that there shall be levied and raised a Duty or Impost of Three pence Sterling Money for Every hogsp. 19 head of Tobacco which shall be exported in any Ship or Vessel out of this Province from and after the End of this Session of Assembly until the twenty ninth Day of September which shall be in the year of Our Lord One thousand Seven hundred and forty one and no longer and be collected and received by the several and respective Naval Officers of this Province in the same Manner as Other Duties on Tobacco have been heretofore collected and received and by the said Naval Officers paid to the respective Treasurers of this Province for the time being to be by them applyed and disposed of for the purchasing Arms Ammunition and other Warlike Stores in manner as herein after directed for the Defence and Preservation of the Province afd

And Be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid that at whatsoever Time or Times after the End of this Session of Assembly it shall please his Excellency the Governor and the Council of this Province for the time being to consider of and certify by Writing signed by the Clerk of the Council to the Treasurers aforesaid or any of them what Arms Ammunition or Other Warlike Stores they shall judge necessary over and above those already purchased or to be purchased with the Moneys heretofore raised or collected for that Purpose for the better Defence and Preservation of this Province It shall and may be lawful for the same Treasurer or Treasurers and Each of them and they are hereby impowered and required with all Convenient Speed after the Receipt of such Certificate to buy up and purchase in Great Britain or elsewhere in his Majestys Dominions as to them shall seem meet all such Arms Ammunitions and Stores afd to him or them as aforesaid certified, or so much thereof respectively as shall amount in Value to the money to be raised as aforesaid and lodged and paid into his or their Hands as aforesaid and shall procure and cause the Arms Ammunition and Stores aforesaid to be imported into this Province and lodged in the Publick Armory or Magazine of the same Province committed to the Care and Custody of the Person or Persons who is are or shall be appointed for the keeping and taking Care of the Armory & Magazine