

have been agreed upon and passed Both Houses: But since you have been pleased, with your Objections, to give an absolute and general Negative to that and all Other Bills either of this or any other Kind, unless upon such Terms and Conditions, which, as they in no way relate to his Majestys Service, but are in Our Apprehension destructive of the Rights of those we represent, we cannot consistent with Our Duty to them or Ourselves come into; and therefore shall content Ourselves with telling you that We presume his Majesty would be much better pleased with something to be really done for his Service, altho attended with some Charge for Inconvenience to those who do it, than with the greatest Pretensions and highest Professions of Zeal for his Interest, tho dressed up in the most lofty Words and pompous Expressions

U. H. J.  
Calvert  
Paper  
No. 735

Your first and principal Reason for not concurring with the Bill for raising three Pence p hogshead for purchasing Arms and Ammunition, We perceive is, because it is not made to subsist for a determined time and to the End of the next Session after the End of that Time, so that had it been made to continue for any Number of Years, we find it would not have pleased Your Honours unless it were to have ended with a next Session of Assembly, which in Effect is making a Law that ought to be temporary in its Nature, perpetual, or at least to endure so long as any particular Branch of the Legislature thinks proper, tho contrary to the Inclination of the Others, and Interest of the Country

If the Constitution of Our Mother Country consisting of Three Branches is the best, this Province has endeavoured to follow that Example, and Every One of the least Penetration must allow, that unless Each of these Branches be independ<sup>t</sup> and free from any compulsory Power of the Others with Respect to their Actions, the Benefit of such a Constitution is lost, and it must always be so, when any One of the three hold their Places at the Pleasure of any of the Others, or by the Enjoyment of Offices, or any other particular Engagement to Either of the Others, are thereby rendered more particularly subservient to it: And We think it is very obvious to Every One in the Province, as well as Our Neighbours, what use has been hitherto, and is still made of the Act subsisting for Arms and Ammunition having it's Determination with a Session, and that it has been kept on Foot, and We deprived of a Session of Assembly for the sake of that, and another Act of the like kind, on purpose to drive us into things which We think are inconsistent with the Interest of the Province

p. 30

As it is uncertain how long War with Spain will continue, or how soon another with France may begin if not already proclaimed, had your Honours proposed the double or any other Sum larger than the three pence, that Our Trade could possibly bear, or had a longer Time of Duration been mentioned to the Bill, so as it had