

our Meeting, with a Message pressing us to dispatch the Passage of it, that you could have been so easy and contented in the Want of that, or some other Bill to the same Purpose, as you seem to be by your Message of the 10<sup>th</sup> Instant, where you make such Pretences for not taking further Notice of what we proposed in Our Message of the 8<sup>th</sup> Instant, as would hardly serve in an Affair of much less Consequences than this, where Our Duty to His Majesty, and the Honour and Prosperity of Our Mother Country are immediately concerned; You say "that had Our Objections been proposed as Amendments, or had We left any Room to expect Our Approbation of it with such Amendments, you would certainly have concurred with many of them, and the Others by Conference have been accommodated" the Reason of Our not amending your Bill we apprehend to be very obvious, in that the Bill was improper and mischievous to the Ends proposed in so many Parts, that Our Amendments or Observations sent to you would have made it a new Bill, and therefore We thought it would be less troublesome and more proper to frame a new Bill in your House, than amend that; for this purpose We sent you Our thought on the Subject, but you have not given us any Answer, whether they were satisfactory to you, or useful for a Bill of that kind; This Silence you thought yourselves under a Necessity of accounting for, which you endeavour at by insinuating "that We did not leave you any Room to expect Our Approbation &c because We gave an absolute and general Negative to that and all other Bills either of this or any other kind, unless upon terms and Conditions no way relating (as you urge) to his Majestys Service, but in your Apprehensions destructive of the Rights of your Constituents" We do not find on Our Journals that we have returned any other Bills except those for Arms & Ammunition, and for raising the 2636:16:3 at this Meeting with an absolute and general or any other Negative, and therefore, We cannot understand Your Meaning of Our having given Our Negative to that and all other Bills &c. As to the Terms and Conditions which you mention to be not relative to his Majestys Service, but destructive to your Constituents, we are really at a Loss to know what Terms and Conditions you mean; we have not insisted on any other Point than the Passage or Revival of the Bill for Arms and Ammunition for the Defence of the Province for a determined time and to the End of the next Session as usual; Surely you cannot (whatever you say) think, that Bill no way relates to his Majestys Service, or that it is destructive to your Constituents; On the contrary, the subject Matter of it concerns the Preservation & Defence of this Part of his Majestys Dominions, and the Lives and Properties of Our Inhabitants against Our Enemies and how such a Bill or the Continuance of it for a determined time and to the End of the next Session, or even perpetually, can be said to relate no way to his Majestys Service

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