

mentioned in the Case) then there was no foundation for the Answer you gave, and you in your last Message say that because you cannot be likened to the present House of Peers, therefore your Answer is just from our own Conclusion: It had been well for the sake of your Honours this Paragraph had been omitted, least the Publick should say that this Indirect Answer proceeded from an Impossibility of giving a better

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Altho the Council in some other Plantations may be appointed by the King and Removeable by the Governors yet we have been Informed that, unless in some especial Cases, they are Incapable of holding Offices while they have a Share in the Legislature, and with good Reason we may be allowed to say, that there is a wide difference between the Appointment of the King, who can have no view but what concerns the General Welfare of his People, and that of a Proprietary or a Governor, whose private Interests frequently Clash with that of the Community, nor was it the dependancy of this and all the other Plantation Governments, on that of Our Mother Country which We hinted at, but the Subserviency of any one part of our Legislature to another

It is needless to dwell upon the offer we made of the Bill for Arms &c to determine at a certain day it is Clear from our words that we proposed the time of duration should be proportioned to the necessity upon which your Honours immediately took upon you the sole Right of Judging of that necessity and so set down nine years; It might be presumed Reasonable that we should have some share in that Consideration, and the nature of Our proposal was such, that by Conference and mature deliberation of both Houses, the time of Continuance might have been agreed upon, otherwise you might have made it ninety nine or any greater number of years.

We deny the Intention of totally dropping the Law for Arms so long as there shall appear any necessity for keeping it on foot, and Assent it to be Our Undoubted Right, as the legal representatives of the People, to Judge of that necessity, the sums requisite to be raised, and the time of Continuance

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As to your great Care of not burthening the Trade or putting the Merchants to procure a dissent to the Law if it was for more than three pence, we can only say, that Duties amounting to Six Pence have not long since been on our Tobaccos with the present Imposts and yet We never then heard any Complaint from your Honours or the Merchants about it

We have no great Reason to believe your Honours will take Our Words concerning the Extension of the Laws against Papists to this Place however we refer you to an Act of Assembly of Our own Whereby another made to prevent the Growth of Popery is repealed, and in which you will find that the Principal reason for that repealing Act, is said to be "for that by One Act of Parliament made in the