U. H. J. much greater Quantity of Powder in Store yet notwithstanding all Calvert imaginable Care (which has been the greatest that cou'd be taken No. 735 in this Province) many of such Arms and a great deal of the Powder would have been, as what we have now are, (if not entirely) yet more unfit for Service, than new Powder and arms; and surely there is very little Reason to reproach those who are intrusted with the Disposition of that Fund, with husbanding or even hoarding it up (as your Phrase is) in London, ready for such dangerous occasions as may require a large Sum of Money; and it is entirely owing to the necessity of applying it to sudden calls that the moneys always lie dead in the Merchants Hands without any Interest, since none can foresee how soon or suddenly it may be wanted: The Reasons we have given for hoarding (your beloved Phrase must be omitted) the money will we doubt not, justify us to every unprejudiced and reasonable Man, as well as prove that you are determined to Condemn our Conduct at all Events; you have heretofore gone so far as even to charge us with embezelling 2500£ part of this Fund and this Charge remains in the Printed Proceedings of the last Convention, you have had sufficient time to examine this matter, and we suppose you have done so; if you have, you must be convinced of the Injustice of your Accusation, tho' you have not had Candour enough to make a bare acknowledgment that you have been mistaken; such an Acknowledgment tho' but an Act of Justice is too great a Favour for us to expect from you: Whatever that money is which you insinuate his Lordship takes for Support of Government, we suppose it makes a part of the Complaint you expect to be redressed by his Majesty, and therefore we shall only say, if that Affair was not likely to come under another Examination we should be ready to shew your Claim to any part of that money to be Groundless

Our Earnestness on the Case you stated, was owing to your mention of the House of Peers between whom and any Parts of this Legislature there can be no just Comparison

The Information you have had of any Incapacity of the Council p. 64 holding Offices (except in some especial Cases) in other Plantations, while they have a Share in the Legislature, we have Reason to be assured is wrong, what (if any) particular Offices they may be incapable of we cannot pretend to say; But we are greatly deceived, if the Offices of Receivers General, Auditors, Secretary, and Judges, with considerable Salaries and Perquisites, and other Offices are not enjoyed in his Majestys Plantations by Gentlemen of the Council, who have a Share in Legislation; and it is most certain the general Welfare of the People is so much the Duty and Interest of a Proprietary, that it is hardly imaginable it can ever be out of his View; though the contrary may be as easily and warmly