

U. H. J.  
Calvert  
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No. 735  
May 30

Friday Morning 30 May 1740

This House met again according to Adjournment Present as Yesterday

A Message from the Lower House by Mess<sup>rs</sup> Calder and Sprigg

By the Lower House of Assembly 30 May 1740

May it please your Honours

We little expected that Our Readiness to offer a Bill for Encouragement of his Majestys Levies, and Chearfulness in doubling the Sum for Purchasing Arms and Ammunition for Defence of the Province could have met with such Obstruction from your House after your so many Declarations of our present necessities and Dangers or that it could have been attended with a Consequence on your part so very Prejudicial to the People in other Respects viz. the Altering the Duration of Our Laws to be reenacted this Session, whereon the Administration of Justice, the raising and Payment of Taxes and the General Utility of the Province particularly depends (many whereof have lain now three Weeks on your Table) from ending with a Session as they always heretofore have done to determine on a day certain merely because we contended (and We hope with great Reason that money Bills should have such Duration

Can it be the Safety and Welfare of the Country that move your Honours to this Will not all the World say that it is only Calculated to Obtain an Ascendant over the People by having it in your Power at the Expiration of those Laws to compell the Representatives of a Free People into Compliance with any high Demands your House shall be pleased to make on them. And is it not without Precedent that the Government under Pretence of imminent Danger demands money of the People and when it is offered according to Request it will not be accepted unless they give up their Liberties along with it

Our Duty Obliges us to take Care of the Province in every Respect, and not, while we are making Provisions against Enemies abroad, leave it a Prey to those at home

You are pleased to say that your House never told us of this being your Design, but pray if you had no such Intention would it not have been easy to have said so in your Message of yesterday; or had our former Apprehensions been upon Slender Grounds

p. 88 Can We doubt of the matter now after the indirect manner you have answered Our Message of the 27<sup>th</sup> Instant

The Bill for Arms and Ammunition is ready drawn up agreeable to what was consented to by the Conferees of both Houses and nothing hinders the sending it to your Honours, but the Incer-