

But whatever my Sentiments may be of the other temporary Laws, U. H. J. I must own I have often expressed my Surprize in Relation to the Conduct of Your House about the Bill for the three Pence p hhd for purchasing Arms and Ammunition for the Defence of the Province and after all the Consideration that I am Capable of, I can very truly and candidly declare, that I think in my Conscience your House entirely in the wrong and that you have put the Country to thrice the Charges they would have been at, if you had passed that Bill in the usual manner.

Whatever I have done or said to Induce you to pass it, I can very truly assure you has proceeded wholly from the Sense I have of my p. 96 Duty to his Majesty the Lord Proprietary, and the Safety and Security of the good People of this Province for whose Welfare this Bill is at least as necessary, as any One Bill that can be thought on by your House, and although I am Obliged by my Station more particularly than others, I have no more private Advantage by it than any other man in the Province; of the Reasonableness of my Behaviour in this Respect I am so fully satisfied, that I shall very willingly and cheerfully Submit it to the Consideration of his Majesty, whenever I shall be called on so to do

And I am perswaded if you would but seriously Consider the indispensable Duty that always must lie upon me and every Succeeding Governor, to press by all the just and legal Ways that can be thought of so very reasonable and necessary A Bill, you would forbear keeping up a Dispute, that must be always unavoidable on the part of the Government, whenever you think fit to Attack it on this Head

As to the Case you state to be left to your Constituents, and other Impartial Judges to determine in the matter, if you will but reconsider it with any Sort of Candour and Attention, surely you yourselves must acknowledge it to be so full of mistakes and Misapprehensions that all Reasonings from thence must entirely fall to the Ground you begin it thus The Law "for raising three Pence per hogshead for purchasing Arms and Ammunition revived in the Year 1734 was then made to continue for three years and to the end of the next Session of Assembly after the three years, a Duration it never till then had from the time it was first made in the year 1717 about the time those three years expired, the Renewment of that Law, with the unlimited Continuance was strongly insisted on, and for want of this House's Compliance in that Point, having found it inconvenient, the Province was kept out of A Session of Assembly for almost three years" &c<sup>a</sup>

Now I must own I cannot apprehend that a Continuance to the End of the next Session of Assembly was ever before thought to be an unlimited one, neither can I find that the Upper House ever insisted on such a Continuance to be necessary before the last Session in April 1740 when the then Situation of Affairs might induce every