

why it was not mentioned in that Address was, that as we did not apprehend it any way affected the Laws either of 1715 or 1722, we thought it unnecessary to stuff that Address with any matter which was not pertinent to the Subject in hand: But since your Excellency by your Message seems to think otherwise, we must beg leave to consider the Reasons you have offered for support of that Opinion. You are pleased to say that the Law in 1732 Entituled, A supplementary Act to the Act for the ordering and regulating the Militia of this Province for the better defence and Security thereof, is a perpetual Law, If your Excellency will consider that Law as independent of, and without relating to, any other Law, as it cannot in that Light by any means affect either the Laws of 1715 or 1722, and will be consequently out of the present Question, we shall not now trouble you with any Thing concerning it, but as we presume, from the use you seem inclinable to make of that Law, you would rather suppose it to be a supplementary Law, we must beg leave to enquire, as briefly as the Nature and Importance of this Dispute will admit, to what Law it is so, and what must be the Fate of it, in order to which we shall turn to such Places in that Law of 1732, as have any Reference to a former Militia Law; and besides the Title already mentioned, the latter Half of the Preamble runs thus, "And whereas the several Provisions hitherto intended by the Legislature of this Province, as well as the several Sums of Money laid out in the Purchase of Arms and Ammunition for those purposes, have not had the desired Effect, in a proper Regulation of the Militia of this Province, by reason of some Defects in the Laws already made" The first enacting Clause is thus "That any Colonel Lieutenant Colonel, or Major, already commissioned, or hereafter to be commissioned, by the Governor or Commander in Chief for the Time being, or any two or more of them, shall have the same Powers and Authorities, in the Execution of any Laws now in force concerning the Militia. as the Colonel, Lieutenant Colonel, or Major, intended by the said Laws, are invested with Provided, the Number of such Officers, who shall at any Time act, or execute any Part of the same Laws, be the same as is directed for such Purposes, by the said Laws." The last enacting Clauses in Page 25 of the Laws of that Session, is in these Words, "That the Captain, Lieutenants, and Ensign, or any two of them, shall have the same Powers and Authorities to execute this, or any other of the Laws now in force within this Province, relating to the Militia thereof, in and over their Company or Companies, in as full and ample manner, as the Colonel, Lieutenant Colonel, or Majors, or any two of them, can or may do, in and over their Respective Regiments, Troops, or Companies, by Virtue of this, or any other Law now in force." The last enacting Clause in Page 27 stands thus; "And whereas there is not any Exemption by the Laws now in force, of any member of his Lordship's Council,

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