

consideration some points necessary for a Bill of the like kind, which, we presume, must be very acceptable to his Majesty in the present Situation of Affairs; and therefore that every Person listing as a Soldier should be privileged from Arrests for any Debt under 10 l. Sterling.

That whatever Bounty should be thought proper to be given, should not be paid before the time of Imbarkation.

That no Bounty should be given to any Serjeant, Corporal or Drummer.

That whatever Bounty should be distributed, all or any Part thereof to be paid towards the Satisfaction of such Debts (if any) that the Soldier may owe.

That such Soldier shall be exempted for ever or any determined time after their return, from all Publick, County and Parish Charges whatever, as also from the necessity of attending on the Highways.

That every Soldier either in Marching or Travelling on any part of his Duty or Service, shall have his Ferriage Free.

That all the Money drawn out of the Office for the Purposes of this Bill, shall be replaced by one or more moderate Taxes or Assessments.

Your Bill entituled, *An Act for raising Three pence per Hogshead on all Tobacco to be exported within the time therein mentioned, for purchasing Arms and Ammunition for the Defence of this Province*, has the following Preamble, *viz.* "Whereas his Majesty our most gracious Sovereign is now engaged in a War with *Spain*, and that there are some Grounds to apprehend the Crown of *France* will join in the same War against him, who having large Possessions on this Continent adjoining to some of those of *Great Britain*, may in such case very probably attempt an Invasion on some of his Majesty's Colonies here, and lest the Magazines of Arms and Ammunition now in this Province, and the Money heretofore and now raised by any ways or means whatsoever for the Defence of this Government, and the purchasing Arms and Ammunition, should prove insufficient for that Purpose at this important Juncture, we his Majesty's faithful Subjects the Delegates of the Freemen of the Province of *Maryland*, in General Assembly convened, as well to testify our Zeal for his Majesty's Person and Government, and to contribute as far as in us lieth to the Success of his Majesty's Arms, and against all Enemies whatsoever, as to put ourselves in the best Posture of Defence we are able, against any such Invasion or Attempt of the *French* or any others." Although this Preamble contains the strongest Reasons imaginable for its Continuance to a determined time, and to the end of the next Sessions (as Acts of the like kind have usually been for many Years) yet this Bill is absolutely limited to *September*