

Places at the Pleasure of any of the others, or by the Enjoyment of Offices, or any other particular Engagement to either of the others, are thereby rendered more particularly Subservient to it; and we think it is very obvious to every one in the Province as well as our Neighbours, what Ute has been hitherto, and is still made of the Act subsisting for Arms and Ammunition having its determination with a Session, and that it has been kept on Foot, and we deprived of a Session of Assembly, for the sake of that and another Act of the like kind, on purpose to drive us into Things which we think are inconsistent with the Interest of the Province.

As it is uncertain how long War with *Spain* will continue, or how soon another with *France* may begin if not already Proclaimed; had your Honours proposed the Double or any other Sum larger than the Three pence, that our Trade could possibly bear, or had a longer time of duration been mentioned to the Bill, so as it had a fixed time of Determination, we would, and are now ready to agree to either, as the necessity of the present juncture may require; and as this must answer ever thing that can be said with regard to his Majesty's Service or the Defence of the Province, we presume your insisting so strongly for a continuance to the end of a Session, will be looked upon by the impartial World to be attended with views foreign to either; and therefore we must now plainly tell you, that since by dear Experience we have felt the ill Consequences of Money Laws ending with a Session of Assembly, that we are Called and Prorogued or Dissolved from Year to Year, the Country burthened with immense Charges, Aggrievances and Oppressions daily exercised, without an opportunity of Redress, and all to keep on Foot a few Money Acts, in some of which particular Persons only have an Interest, we are, while we have the Honour to Represent the People of *Maryland*, firmly determined never to Assent to any Law of that kind with such an indefinite Determination as you Contend for, and we hope, when we are discharged of the Trust, they will always find Representatives who shall firmly adhere to the same just Resolutions.

It is very extraordinary and what will scarcely meet Credit from any one, that a People who enjoy their Rights and Privileges under a *British* Government, would not upon the least Appearance of Danger exert themselves to the utmost for the Preservation of those Rights, or that a few Gentlemen of our Upper House, whose Interest and Views do not at all Times seem to coincide with those of the People, should be the only Persons in the Government who have any Regard for its Welfare: No! *Gentlemen*, Self-Preservation is a Principle natural to the Brutal as well as the Rational Creation, and it is a wrong Conclusion, that because this House

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