

Assurance may carry it? Especially since you have not offered one Reason in any of your Messages, to shew the present Occasion and Circumstances may not require a Nine Years Continuance: But if your present Assurance may be disregarded by a future Assembly, your impartial Judges must conclude that Assurance is only made use of for an Amusement, and that you can as little answer for your Successors as in another part of your Message, you think his Lordship's Governor or Ministers can answer for theirs; In the second branch of your Appeal, you seem to have recollected the Bill for Encouragement of Soldiers, (which we thought by your two preceding Messages, had slipped out of your Memory) only on purpose, to put our Behaviour on that Bill in a wrong Light; for we formerly intimated to you our then and present Opinion, "that if we were in the least backward in consulting our own Safety as well as we could, against all possible Accidents, our Offer of furnishing Money to encourage Levies for his Majesty's Service abroad, would be rather thought to proceed from a pretended Zeal, than Duty to his Majesty, since it might be interpreted, we did not think our Preservation or Happiness consisted in any Defence against the *French*, and that the more Men and Money we spared for one Service, the less we might have for the other, and consequently this Province might be the easier Prey to an invading Enemy;" and further, *Gentlemen*, you will be pleased to remember, that for the sake of a Bill to encourage the Forces, we receded from our first Resolution, and made choice of one of your Alternatives.

Our mention of the Statutes was to shew (what cannot be denied) that Money Acts of Parliament were often limited to a certain Time and to the end of the next Session; and in order to evade the Force of our applying the Usage in such Acts to this Bill, you would liken this Bill to some Acts of Parliament, without which you say, the Government of *Great Britain* could not Subsist, and from thence conclude, that the Necessity of this Act for Arms, &c. if limited to a determined Time, might secure the frequency of Assemblies, as some Acts of Parliament make annual Sessions of Parliament necessary: Indeed *Gentlemen*, whoever believes, or can be persuaded that your Comparison is just, knows very little of our Constitution; Surely this Government can, as long as the Province is safe, subsist without this Act; How does this Act relate to this Government either in time of Peace or War, any otherwise than as it furnishes the Government with some Money for it's Defence and our common Preservation, whenever Occasions may require the use of it; This Government has not any number of Soldiers, Guards, or Garrisons, or Navy to maintain or support in times of Peace; and therefore if you  
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