

The Conferrees of the Lower House deliver themselves in the following Words :

We are directed by the Lower House of Assembly to acquaint your Honours, that they cannot agree to the Continuance of the Bill for Arms and Ammunition for Nine Years, or for any number of Years more than Three; and altho' they do not look upon themselves in any wise obliged to give your House the particular Reasons which guide their Resolutions as a House of Delegates in any Matters that come under their Consideration concerning Money Bills, and that their Reasons in the present case are sufficiently set forth in their Message to the Upper House of the 17th Instant; Yet to comply with the present Desire of your House, we are directed to give you as follows:

*First*, That our Offer of a Bill was not for any number of Years generally, but coupled with these Words, " as the Necessity of the present Juncture may require," and that our House, as the legal Representatives of the People, have an unquestionable Right to Judge of the Necessity of Raising Money, the Quantity of Money to be applied to that Necessity, and the Time of Continuance of any Bill for that Purpose.

And, that the Reason of making the Offer in the manner above-mentioned, was to give your House an Opportunity in Conjunction with Ours deliberately to consider both of the Time and Sum, and to Form the Bill accordingly, instead of which your House has taken upon itself to determine both, without allowing the House of Delegates any Share in the Consideration of either.

*2dly*. That as the Upper House has frequently inculcated the necessity of extraordinary Armaments at this Juncture, from our being in a War with *Spain*, from the probability of one with *France*, the Danger of being attacked by some French Colonies said to be within a few days March of our Frontiers, the Insurrection of Negroes, and the evil Disposition of Papists, our House have thought the Increasing the Sum and by consequence the Quantity of Arms and Ammunition at such a particular time of Danger, will much more conduce to our Safety, than giving the *Three Pence* for Nine or any greater number of Years, for if the Danger is at Hand the Money raised after the Third Year can be of no use to Defend us against such Danger.

*3dly*, That altho' the Lower House in *May* 1739, when no War was Proclaimed, but only a general Rumour of it, when there was a large quantity of Arms in the Province, and above the Proceeds of Seven Years Duty in Bank in *England*, did not think it necessary to renew the Bill; Yet as they offer it when War is Proclaimed and Danger at Hand, it is