

Which Bill was here Read, and Passed for Ingrossing.

Mr. Speaker communicated to the House the following Message from his Excellency :

Gentlemen of the Lower House of Assembly,

**I** Have considered your Address in answer to my Message of the 13th of last Month, relating to our Arms and Ammunition, and could have wished to have had your Advice and Assistance in the Points I proposed to you, the Security of the Arms and Ammunition at present in the Province, being as necessary to be thought of, as the disposal of any further Supply that may be expected.

However since you assure me " you will deliberately consider of any Proposition I shall make for the Distribution and Security of the Provincial Arms and Ammunition, and give such Advice and Assistance in the Affair, as you think conducive to the Welfare of the Province," I shall make no Scruple of telling you my Opinion very candidly and freely, which is, that the Safety of the Country can never be sufficiently provided for, without one good Magazine at least, of such Strength as may effectually secure our Arms and Ammunition, from whence they may be distributed from time to time as our Occasions require, and this Opinion I believe you will find conformable to Instructions heretofore sent from the Crown to former Governors of this Province.

There is another Thing, Gentlemen, which I must recommend to your serious Consideration, and that is the State of our Militia; upon the most careful Perusal of our Laws for the Regulation of it, I cannot find any sufficient Obligation upon either Officers or private Men, to take the Field, and behave as they ought to do in defence of their Country, against an invading Enemy.

I need not say any thing of the Power of our Enemies, it being but too common to hear that Subject enlarged upon, even by such Gentlemen as are the most averse to our making any manner of Preparation for our Defence against them, but I hope all hearty well-wishers to the Prosperity of the Province, will think it but Prudence in us to be upon our Guard, and to arm ourselves in the best manner we are able, which will not only be of great Advantage to us in Case of an actual Invasion, but be the best means of preserving us from so great a Calamity.

SAM. OGLE.

**A** Edmund Fenings, Esq; from the Upper House, delivers Mr. Speaker the following Message :

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