

are laying before you, that we have made any Provision for Raising a Number of Troops for his Majesty's Service, or even Supporting any Part of those already raised for that Purpose, and the more immediate Defence and Security of the Frontier Inhabitants.

Tho' we have Reason to believe, from some of your Excellency's Messages to the Lower House in former Sessions relative to Money-Bills (which have been only Framing in this House at the Time) that you are well apprized of what has passed between the Two Houses this Session upon a Bill for Granting a Sum of Money for the Uses abovementioned, yet, as your Excellency is pleased to express an Unacquaintance with our Proceedings thereupon, we think proper to inform you, that we early in this Session sent to the Upper House a Bill for Granting an Aid of 45,000 *l.* wherein Provision was made, not only for the Levying, Cloathing and Paying 1000 Men, Officers included, to act in Conjunction with a Body of his Majesty's *British* Forces under the Supreme Command of Brigadier *Forbes*, or other Person duly authorized, in such offensive Operations as shall be judged by him most expedient for annoying the Enemy, and most efficacious towards removing and repelling the Dangers that threaten the Frontiers of the Southern Colonies, but also for the Pay and Subsistence of so many of the Five Hundred Men, taken into the Pay of this Province by Virtue of an Act, entituled, *An Act for his Majesty's Service, and the more immediate Defence and Protection of the Frontier Inhabitants of this Province*, as should appear to have been employed in the Service of this Province, until the End of this Session of Assembly, by Muster-Rolls to be returned upon Oath to the Agents therein after appointed, from the Time the Money appropriated by the said Act, for those Purposes, was expended, until the Expiration of Ten Days after the passing that Bill into a Law, and to the Pay, the Subsistence, Cloathing, and all other Charges whatsoever attending the Supporting of Two Hundred Men, Officers included, to be stationed at Fort *Frederick*, and to act as Rangers for the more immediate Defence, Protection and Quiet of the Frontier Inhabitants, and supported till the 13th Day of *September* next.

Two Thousand Five Hundred Pounds was appropriated by that Bill to the discharging the Claims of such Persons as had been burthened with the Expence of Quartering those of his Majesty's Troops which were ordered into this Province for Winter Quarters.

Two Thousand Pounds was appropriated by the same Bill for Cultivating the Friendship and Engaging the Assistance of the Southern Tribes of *Indians*, and Establishing them in the *British* Interest.

The unalterable Adherence of the Upper House to their Objections against the most material Points in that Bill, which is founded upon Principles the most reasonable and equitable, and their declining to proceed in a Mode lately made use of between the Two Houses on a similar Occasion, notwithstanding we have conceded so far as to declare to them our Willingness thereto, leaves us not the least Room to hope, that any one good End can be obtained from our remaining any longer here at this Time, unless we could be induced to believe, that the Gentlemen of the Upper House would recede from their Resolutions.

We have most seriously considered the Light our Conduct will stand in before his Majesty and the World, when fairly and candidly represented; and we cannot but express our Concern, that your Excellency should say, "we alone, of all his Majesty's Subjects, decline to contribute to the Execution of the Plan that has been laid for the Security of these Colonies," when you must be convinced of our repeated sincere Endeavours for Supporting the Common Cause against his Majesty's Enemies, however unfortunately they may have been rendered ineffectual.

Any Inconveniencies our Constituents may undergo, by being obliged to march to the Assistance of the Frontier Inhabitants, who may be exposed for want of that Protection which this House has endeavoured to afford them, we hope they will, however disagreeable, submit to, provided it be agreeable to a reasonable Construction of the Militia-Law, supposing it to be in Force; and we must express our Hopes, that unless in Cases in which that Law, if it were in Force, would compel them, they will not be marched any where.

That we are most sincerely desirous of a Place among his Majesty's dutiful and loyal Subjects, we are well satisfied all our Proceedings will evince; and that we would most willingly point out the very considerable Number that we apprehend there is in this Province who are not.

That we have the Ease, Welfare and Security of the People we represent, most warmly at Heart, we are well assured they must be convinced, from our Steadiness (against the strongest Opposition) in endeavouring to make necessary Provision for their Defence, Protection and Quiet, in a Mode most just, most equitable, and least burthensome, to their common Interest: And since there is not the least Probability that our most hearty Wishes and Endeavours for that Purpose, can, at this Time, have their desired Effect, nothing remains on our Parts to be done, but to trouble your Excellency with a Repetition of our Request, to return to our private Concerns, since no good End can be obtained by our longer Attendance at present upon our Public Duty.

Which was Read and Assented to, and Signed, by Order of the House, by the Honourable Speaker.

*Ordered,*