

By the Lower House of Assembly, June 4. 1739.

May it please your Honours,

The Arguments used in your Message of the 31st of May, by George Plater, Esq; for not passing the Bill to raise an annual Revenue for the better Support of his Lordship's Government and Governor within this Province, serve only to confirm us the more in the Justice of our Proceeding in this Matter, not doubting that if any Thing better could have been said on that Head, your Honours would not have been at a Loss to find it out.

The Conclusion you draw, from our declaring our Intention not to deprive his Lordship of a Support of Government, we beg leave to say will not follow, for that as a Person may Possess, so may be Deprived of a Thing to which he has no Right; which we take to have been his Lordship's Case, with regard to the Twelve Pence per Hogshead ever since the Year 1733; nor is it from the Repeal of the Law in the Year 1704, by other temporary Laws, that we deny his Lordship's Right of Levying that Money upon us, but because his Lordship never had any such Right by that Law.

Whatever your Honours may think of raising Money on a People by perpetual Laws, we imagine it a Doctrine would sound harsh in the Ears of our Mother Country, and what we in Justice to ourselves and our Posterity, are resolved as much as in our Power to avoid.

We cannot see that the Application of the Money to be raised as mentioned in the Body of our Bill, can be called new, unless that directed by all the former Acts made for granting the like Support to his Lordship and his Ancestors, can be termed so.

However, it seems this Matter must be determined by a Judge indifferent both to his Lordship and us; and as it cannot be negotiated on our Part, without Money to employ some fit Persons to act in the Country's behalf, we expect your Honours Concurrence to the Bill herewith sent for Taxing ourselves for that Purpose, lest if that should be refused, the World might say, that we are attacked unarmed, and denied the necessary Means of doing ourselves Justice, in a Dispute wherein the most essential Branch of the Privileges and Liberties of British Subjects are in Contest, and of that great Advantage due to his Majesty's American Subjects, of applying to his Sacred Person for Redress and Protection.

An Act to raise a Fund to be applied for the Payment of an Agent and other the necessary Uses of this Province.

Whereas it is both necessary and Convenient, that there should be an Agent at the Imperial Seat of our Mother Country Great Britain,