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Jamaica, March 24.

MR. Trelawny our Governor having called together the Council and Assembly of this Island, they met on the 18th Instant, when his Excellency opened the Session by a Speech, to the following Effect.

That the rebellious Negroes in the Windward Parts of the Island (some few Sculkers excepted) are brought to Submission, as were those in the Leeward Parts before: The Terms of which he communicated to them, in order to their preparing a Law for their Confirmation. That their annual Bills being near expiring, he needed not to say more to induce them to revise them, than that they knew the publick Service could not be carried on without them; and all that he would recommend to them on that Head, was, that their Bills might be sufficient for the Ends proposed, and that they would have all possible Regard to the Equality of their Taxes, as the best Means to make them light and easy to the People. That he was obliged likewise to recommend to them, and did with the greatest Earnestness recommend to them, to provide for the repairing, compleating and directing such Fortifications as should be judged necessary for the general Safety and Defence of the Island, every one's particular Security being comprized in that of the Publick; and he could not doubt they would think this a Matter truly worthy of their most serious Consideration at this particular Juncture, that the Island being put into a proper Posture of Defence, may have nothing to fear from any sudden Attempts of our Enemies. That it being necessary that all should be obliged to perform their Duty to their Country as Times and Occasions may require, the well ordering and regulating their Militia was certainly essential to the Safety of the Island, and ought to be the chief Strength they should at all Times rely upon for the Preservation of their Lives and Fortunes; that therefore he recommended to them to revise carefully their Militia Act, that whatever might be found amiss or wanting, or not suited to the present Circumstances of the Island, might be amended or provided for by a new Law.

To his Excellency Edward Trelawny, Esq; Captain General Governor and Commander in Chief of this his Majesty's Island of Jamaica.

The humble Address of the Council.

May it please your Excellency,

WE His Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects, the Council of this His Island of Jamaica, take this Opportunity of retur-

ning you our most sincere Thanks for your Speech at the opening of this Session. We beg Leave to assure your Excellency, that we find in ourselves such a Disposition to his Majesty's Service and the Good of our Country, as you so candidly foresaw; and such a Resolution to assist your Administration, and thereby to promote those good Purposes you recommend, as we hope will convince your Excellency that our publick Spirit, thus warmed by your Excellency's Zeal, will always be guided by your Example.

The Submission of the rebellious Negroes to Windward, is an Event that we are most sensibly affected by, that and the precedent Surrender of those to Leeward were long and much wished for, but seem to have been reserved by Providence to cast a Lustre upon your Excellency's Administration: But tho' your Labour and Address entitle you to much the greatest Share in those Transactions, yet is there still Room left for our Emulation, some Proportion of Honour left for us, which we propose to secure, by endeavouring, as far as lies in our Power, to give Duration and Stability to what you have so happily executed.

To his Excellency Edward Trelawny, Esq.

May it please your Excellency,

WE his Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects, the Assembly of this Island, beg Leave to return your Excellency our hearty Thanks for your Speech at the opening this Session.

The several Matters of Importance therein recommended to our Consideration, shall not fail of having a just and proper Regard paid to them in the Course of our future Consultations and Debates.

We flatter ourselves that by our Unanimity and chearful Dispatch of the publick Business, we shall recommend our Proceedings to the Approbation of your Excellency, and all true Lovers of their Country.

We assure your Excellency, we are met together with Hearts full of Zeal for the Honour of his Majesty's Government, the Interest and Welfare of our Fellow Subjects, and the Safety and Prosperity of this Island, and that our utmost Endeavours shall not be wanting to promote these great Ends, in which we do not doubt of your Excellency's ready and hearty Concurrence.

If there be any Part of our present Constitution that is liable to abuse, and may expose the Publick to Danger and Inconvenience, we shall naturally consider how the same may be prevented and remedied for the future. And as to the Militia Act in Particular, we shall carefully review the same, in order