

Garrisons forming Regiments and Companies of Soldiers and in Short everything of this sort is in a manner quite new to us and of which we do not profess or think ourselves Competent Judges: We have thought proper to request the favour of His Excellency (who from his Experience and knowledge in these maters and his acquaintance with the Western parts of this Province must be able to advise us) to Communicate to this house his Sentiments on Several parts of your Bill and as His Excellency has not refused to oblige us therein We Submit to your Consideration the following Propositions hoping and as it is not yet too late that if all or any of the Propositions meet with your approbation you will not be averse to such a Correction of the Bill as might Render it more perfect and make it Answer better than it may do in its present form the good Ends for which it was designed and framed

U. H. J.  
Liber No. 35  
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1<sup>st</sup> Tho a Fort on the North Mountain will be very proper and necessary yet such a Fort alone Garrisoned with only 200 Men will not effectually Secure and protect the Inhabitants because the North Mountain is so near the Settlements on Conegocheigh that parties of Indians may easily pass the Fort come down destroy the Inhabitants and retire again beyond the Fort in a few hours without being observed or before an alarm can be given: but if beside such Fort another Strong one was to be raised on the Eminence at the Conflux of the North and South Branches of Potowmack and a Block house or small Fort between that and the North Mountain and a Body of three hundred men Supported to Garrison them and Patroll or Range on the frontiers it would be very difficult for the Enemy to make any Incursions and destroy the Inhabitants without being discovered by such Patrolling or Ranging Parties, and in Case they should Venture down yet as soon as they should do any Mischief an Alarm would be given and detachments from the Western Forts timely apprized thereof and ordered to dispose of themselves in the best manner to cut of the Enemys retreat most of the three hundred men would be ready to Join and Act in Conjunction with the Troops of the Neighbouring Colonies on Occasion or would be able of themselves to March into the Enemys Country and Annoy them in their Towns or hunting grounds and as the Constructing or Garrisoning such Forts to the Westward of the North Mountain would also Contribute much to the Safety of the Neighbouring Provinces and is no more than is necessary to be done before any Expedition be undertaken or carried on to the Westward the expence thereof might be defrayed out of the Sum proposed to be granted for his Majesty's Service and which the Bill directs to be paid to the Commander in Chief that is or may be appointed to carry on such Expedition. A Fort at the Mouth of the South Branch would Secure a large Tract of Adjacent fine Pasture Land the Advantages of which to Troops employed on an Expedition to the Westward are too obvious

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