

Which said Message was Read, and Referred for Consideration of the next Assembly.

His Excellency the Governor communicated to Mr. Speaker, the following Message, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN of the Lower House of ASSEMBLY,

AS the Address which you were pleased to present to me Yesterday Morning, seems to be designed as an Answer to the Earl of Loudoun's Letter, more than to any Message of mine, you may depend upon my sending it to him according to your Desire. It can serve no Purpose, I apprehend, to lay before his Lordship a Copy of the whole Bill that you framed this Session: Those Clauses of it that were, in your Opinion, calculated to make ample Provision for the Accommodation of such of his Majesty's Forces as are or may be ordered hither for Winter Quarters, and that were to have provided for the Support of 300 Men on the Frontiers of this Province, are, I conceive, as much of the Bill as the Earl of Loudoun would have any Curiosity to read, and of these Parts I have already sent his Lordship a Transcript.

Your humble Advice to his Lordship, to order all his Majesty's Artillery and Stores from Fort Cumberland, or in other Words, to abandon it, and your Intimation afterwards, that if his Majesty's Service in general does make it necessary that a Garrison should be supported near that Place, you are not the People that might be expected to provide for it's support, will not, I am afraid, have any good Effect.

But since you are of Opinion, that this Address, together with a Sight of your Bill, will justify your Conduct to the Earl of Loudoun, I shall forbear to make any Remarks thereupon, lest you should say my Design was to persuade his Lordship, or to propagate an Opinion, that there is Room for a Suspicion of your being disaffected to his Majesty. His Lordship will judge for himself, and I assure you I will neither say nor do any Thing to bias him. If he shall be convinced by your Conduct this Session, that you are the loyal People you profess yourselves, it will be well, and I shall be satisfied: But should your Proceedings incline him to entertain a different Opinion, you will not, I hope, lay the Blame upon me. There is only one Part of that Address that I shall take particular Notice of, and it is that where you say you have been told, Fort Cumberland was first begun by some Gentlemen of the Ohio Company as a Store-House. Whoever gave you that Information told you a Falshood, not that it is Material who begun it, but I mention this to put you on your Guard against the Impositions of that Person for the future.

December 16th, 1757.

HOR^o. SHARPE.

Upon Reading the said Message, Ordered, That an Address be prepared, to be presented to his Excellency in Answer thereto; and that Mr. Matthew Tilghman and Mr. Carroll do prepare and bring in such Address.

Mr. Carroll brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker, an Address to his Excellency the Governor; which was Read, Approved, and Ordered to be Ingrossed.

Mr. Matthew Tilghman brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker, the following Ingrossed Address, *viz.*

To His Excellency HORATIO SHARPE, Esq; Governor and Commander in Chief in and over the Province of MARYLAND:

The humble ADDRESS of the House of DELEGATES.

May it please your EXCELLENCY,

OUR sitting here now that the Business of this House is compleated, is so vastly irksome, that we hope we shall be excused from taking, at present, any further Notice of your second Message of this Day, than to request your Excellency would be pleased to send a Copy of our Supply Bill (which our Clerk is ordered forthwith to deliver to you) to the Earl of Loudoun; as we are fully convinced his Lordship's Goodness and Candour will induce him to peruse the Whole, that he may see our Conduct in it's proper Light.

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

Ordered, That Alexander Williamson, Esq; and Mr. Matthew Tilghman, do acquaint his Excellency the Governor, That this House hath prepared an Address, to be presented to him, and desires to know when and where he will be pleased to receive it. They return and acquaint Mr. Speaker, That the Governor signified he would receive the Address immediately at his House.

Ordered, That Mr. Murdock, with Three more, do present the Address to his Excellency the Governor.

The following Message, *viz.*

By