

received a Letter from the Secretary of State, the Contents of which I have taken the Liberty to communicate to his Ldp, & as it urged me to call the Assembly of this province & procure Supplies I consulted the Council thereon who advised me not to meet the Assembly before the time that had been appointed, as so much time must have been necessarily spent before the proclamations could be published that the Assembly could not have met in obedience to them a great many Days before the time before mentioned. As I conceive you are no stranger to the several particulars mentioned in Sr Tho<sup>s</sup> Robinson's Letter respecting the Transportation of Forces hither & who are appointed to commend, & as I have quoted a great part of the Letter to His Ldp I will not intrude on your time by my prolixity on that head farther than to acquaint you that by the inclosed I acknowledge the Receipt of that Letter, promise to obey his Majesty's Commands & tell him that I am about to depart again to the Camp where Ours & the Independant Companies are & whither I have ordered the Virginia Troops to march that I may endeavour to bring them under some Dicipline to which they are as yet pretty much Strangers; & make some preparations for the Reception of those Regiments from Europe of whose Arrival we now daily expect to be informed. I have also inclosed for your perusal & mentioned them to his Ldp the last Pensilvania Gazetts which are almost entirely filled with Messages that have passed between Gov<sup>r</sup> Morris & the Assembly of that province who are still sitting but are not now expected as Governor Morris informs me to grant any Supplies at this time more than £5000 for purchasing provisions & Carriages for the use of the Troops who may have Occasion to march thro. that province. None of the Northern Colonies beside New York who gave £5000 some time since have been prevailed on to grant any Supplies as yet unless the Jersies can be said to have done so who have given about £6000 St<sup>s</sup> by an Act which it is expected will be dissented to at home. I have writ to His Ldp acquainting him with the evident Backwardness of the people to apply for Land to His Ldps Office since these Disturbances have happened which indeed makes me despair of being able to advance at present the price of His Ldp's Lands in the province & I am apt to think that it will be no easy matter tho we should succeed against the Enemy, as no doubt Numbers from these provinces will then flock out to settle on Lands which they will have on easy Terms & which by the Description given of them are really extremely rich & fertil. however I take pleasure in acquainting you that I have a prospect of being able to advance the Rent of Arundel Mannour (many Leases on which are now expiring) from £3. 15 to £5. 7 100 Acres. but

Letter Bk. I.

p. 106