

Letter Bk. I. mitted to them: Cresap had bought & laid in a large Quantity of Provision & many necessaries for the Troops by my Order, some were paid for & others not, Vouchers for his Delivery of these things to the Commissary of Stores who attends the Troops could not be sent because the Commissary had not yet received them, the Salt particularly which he charges Carriage of from Bladensburg was bought by Doctor Ross at my Order, whose bill not being sent in to the Assembly at that time they suspected Cresap's Acco<sup>ts</sup> falsified where it really did not, indeed I cannot as yet determine myself about Cresap's Conduct but am apt to think that they will be glad to find him tripping if they can because he has behaved himself on all Occasions as a good Servant to the Gov<sup>t</sup> I cannot at this place help observing to you that in the Bill which they had framed for regulating the Rates of Carriages &c they had allowed the Owners of Wag-gons 20 p C<sup>t</sup> more for Carriage p mile than Cresap against whose Acco<sup>ts</sup> they had been cavilling had actually charged. I make no doubt but they will be also well satisfied with the Officers Recruiting Acco<sup>ts</sup> when they have them properly stated & laid before them, as I observe the Enlisting 58 Men mostly on the Eastern Shore bringing them over the Bay at 5/ a head & conveying them to the place of Rendezvous at Frederick on an Average cost for each about £3. 6 Curr<sup>v</sup> only when the sole Charges of recruiting on former Occasions amounted to £5 for every Man. I cannot at present pretend to give my Opinion on the Acco<sup>ts</sup> more than the Committee ought to have done but as I see their Report is entered in the written Journal of the Lower House I could not but make a Remark or two thereon. having inclosed to you the Bill framed for His Majesty's Service & that to prevent the Importation of

p. 120 Papists being entered in the Journal I have nothing farther to observe thereon as the Titles of the Acts that were passed distinctly declare what is the Substance of each Act & as none of them are of a particular & extraordinary Nature & will be transmitted under the great Seal by the first Opportunity. In obedience to His Ldp's former Instructions I had ordered a very exact Acco<sup>t</sup> of the Inhabitants of every Denomination in his Ldp's Province to be taken by the respective Constables but I cannot receive a Return from them before next August or Sept<sup>r</sup> You will be pleased to recur to my Letter of the 12<sup>th</sup> of last August in which I submitted what occurred to me as the most likely means for his Ldp to get Quit-Rent paid him for such Surplus Lands as are at present held & enjoyed by many persons under old patents for which His Ldp receives no Acknowledgment; Col<sup>o</sup> Lloyd tells me he has considered of the proposal I then offered to you & says his Sentiments are quite similar to my own thereon, & that he knows no way so