

Province About the End of next week I shall perhaps be able to advise you of their final Result on this Letter & of their being prorogued, at present I can only repeat what I have before told you that I am persuaded the Majority of them are averse to giving Money upon any Account whatever & that if they Vote the Number of Men that His Ldp requires there is the greater Probability that they will make such Proposals for raising money to support them as neither the Gentlemen of the Upper House nor I can in Conscience or with honour agree to.

Letter Bk. III

[Lloyd to Sharpe.]

Liber J. R.
& U. S.
p. 226

Sir

My last gave you an Account that forty to fifty of Captain Browne's Men had been for some time at the Bay Side waiting for Vessels to carry them. they on Wednesday last in three small Vessels set off, and that Night got under the Western Shore, nigh Patapsco. the Gale of Wind that came up the next Morning obliged them all to run into Chester for a Harbour, where, either thro' Mismanagement or from its over blowing, they all went on Shore, one of the Vessels immediately sprung a Leak and threw over Board about thirty Barrels of Bread, and some other provision. many of the Men I hear are Frost bitten: they are all returning and determined to a Man not to go, let the Consequence be what it will. My Declaration made in the most solemn manner that if no other Officer in the County would do his Duty, yet I would do mine, and that I never would undertake to say that a Law allowed by all to be in Force, ought not to be executed, I am convinced was the Cause of these Men's going. to speak my Mind freely, I look upon the Law to be as cruel as it possibly can be, and if fully Executed must ruin the People, and since this Accident has happened (tho' I am certainly sure it is thro' Mismanagement of the Officers from the very first Orders) I hope your Excellency will excuse me when I say, I am determined never more to give any Orders of the Sort for the future. Now as it seems an Inconsistency for any Man to hold a Commission that he will not fully execute, I shall with the greatest Pleasure return mine if agreeable to your Excellency, and shall be greatly pleased some more qualified Person supplies my place. I take the Liberty to wish your Excellency a great Deal of Happiness, and to say that I am with very great Esteem, your obed^t humble Servant

Kent County Mar: 7: 1758

Rich^d Lloyd