

Letter Bk. III of Dec<sup>r</sup> last & press them in the most earnest manner to raise a Sum of money & furnish their Quota of Troops for the Service of the ensuing Campaign. I am now to inform you that our Assembly met a few Days after the time appointed & before the End of April the Gentlemen who composed the Lower House of Assembly offered those of the Upper a Bill for raising the Sum of £45000 Pounds Currency & for appropriating Part of it to support 1000 men to act in Conjunction with such other Forces as might be employed this Summer under the Command of Brigadier General Forbes, but I am sorry to say it was such a Bill as the Gentlemen of the Upper House had twice before refused because they were of opinion that the Mode of Taxation by which the Bill proposed to raise the money was unconstitutional & unjust & that it would if 'twas admitted most sensibly affect if not entirely destroy the Credit of the Province. Several Messages passing between the two Houses thereupon the Session was protracted to the 13<sup>th</sup> Inst. the Gent<sup>l</sup><sup>n</sup> of the Lower House had addressed themselves to me two Days before & desired me to prorogue them having previously resolved that the Upper House by declining to pass the Bill which had been offered them had in fact refused to grant any Supplies for His Majestys Service, as if it had been absolutely impossible to raise a Sum of money here by any other method besides that proposed by the Bill abovementioned, notwithstanding that was an entire new one & extremely different from any mode of Taxation that has ever been used in this Province. Instead of proroguing the Assembly immediately agreeable to the Gentlemen's Request I addressed myself to both Houses & intreating them to wave all Disputes at such a time so exceedingly unseasonable I prevailed with them to agree to a Conference, by which measure I hoped the two Houses might be brought to some Agreement; in this however I was disappointed for altho the Gent<sup>n</sup> of the Lower House nominated Conferees yet they not only restrained them from accepting the Propositions which were made by those which the Upper House had appointed, but moreover forbad them to make any Propositions themselves. On the 13<sup>th</sup> Inst they addressed me once more as hath been already hinted to put an End to the Session which as it could answer no good purpose to detain them after such a Proceeding & after they had formally Resolved that they would not proceed on any new Business I accordingly did. Upon my advising Brigadier Forbes of the Event & desiring him to provide for the Safety of Fort Cumberland where most of the Maryland Troops whose number is about 350 were in Garrison (& where they have continued ever since the 8<sup>th</sup> of Oct<sup>r</sup> last without Pay in Expectation that the Assembly would at this time raise Money to pay them) he proposes to advance