

Son in Law, and which I could have Replaced at any time. I fancy you understood it in this Light likewise, & that the Sum Exceeding this 1750 Sterling, was rather an Advance for me, than money that I required M^r Kilby to pay, who no doubt in this Affair Behaved with great Spirit, having Advanced the 1500£ in the frankest manner, & taking the Chances of Payment, as he Writes in his Letter.

The other Summs I certainly ought to have given Warrants for (but then, as at present Confounded by Distemper, I had not Sense to Reflect upon, or Write about them) so We must now Sett it to rights as soon as possible, to Relieve D^r Ross of his punctilio, in which I do not see so much hurt, as perhaps he does, nor do I think it would have been very much blamed, had he Restored M^r Howell the Money for the Bills, untill the Affair had been Cleared up; because by that means he would have prevented the Imprisonment & have given me the time to have made all Easy.

The Case as it appeared to me, and still does, is thus—That as a Large Sum of Money was due to the Maryland Troops, for different Articles, from October last, to, I shall suppose May, M^r Kilby, upon the Acco^t of the Articles concerning Provisions &c. agreed to the Advance of 1500£ Sterling on Account; to promote the Service & to prevent a totall Stop; knowing that my hands & Inclinations were both tied up by General Abercromby's not thinking himself sufficiently Authorized to fulfill L^d Loudoun & Gen^l Stanwix's orders. That upon this Advance of M^r Kilby's, I should likewise give so much more Money to account, in order to Enable the people, who had been Employed, to keep their Credit, & to proceed in furnishing the Troops as formerly.

That therefore those Summs to be thus Advanced were upon the General Accompt, & not Destined to the payment of any particular Demand, as the Acco^{ts} with their Vouchers had not been properly looked over & Liquidate; and as by this means we had our Claims upon the Province for such Summs advanced for the Use of their Troops, & that to be backed by you, & the people who had furnished & Supported the Troops, particularly as they would have upon the Whole greater Summs due to them than we were to Advance.

In Consequence of this, the Bills Drawn upon M^r Howell, or M^r Kilby, has alarmed him, as perhaps he Imagined that I was to turn the whole over upon him, when in reality I Understood I was only making him pay 1750£ Sterling in place of 1500; and that I was to Advance the rest of the money for the payment of those Bills, upon the General without Specifying the time, or the purpose for what the Money was Advanced, so fancy I have no other way but to