

Letter Bk. III draw on him for an Additional Sum over & above what M^r Kilby might have before impowered him to advance on Account of the Provisions with which the Maryland Troops had been supplied because I am inclined to think that if he had received such Advice He would either not have accepted the orders which I drew on him or that if he had accepted 'em he would not have proceeded with such Rigour agst D^r Ross for declining to return the Money till he had consulted Your Excellency on the occasion. I could likewise wish that M^r Howell had reflected how far his treating M^r Ross in that manner might affect my Character as well as the Doctors & how ready the People in these Provinces are to report & believe every thing whereby the Reputation of those who happen to reside among them in the Station of Governors might possibly be injured, at the same time I cannot upon considering the Consequences it produced commend Doctor Ross's Refusal to part with the Money which he had received on those Bills tho I doubt not but he gave M^r Howell many Reasons for doing so which considering his Situation & Your Excellency's very bad State of Health at that time would not perhaps to many people have appeared frivolous as Your Excellency knows in what manner & by what means the Maryland Troops have been encouraged to keep themselves together ever since the 8th of Oct^r last to this time & what induced Doctor Ross to victual them so long I shall only take the Liberty to remind Your Excellency of what has passed between you & Myself relative to them since our Assembly broke up in May last without making any provision for their Support. At the same time that I had the pleasure to receive your Letter of the 25th of May wherein you expressed a Desire to have the Maryland Troops still kept up & marched to Fort Cumberland but left it to S^r John S^r Clair & me to settle concerning them as should be thought best I received a Letter from S^r John wherein he told me that Your Excellency was willing that He & I should settle about the Maryland Troops but that he expected to receive an explicite Answer from you concerning them, when I wrote to S^r John the 3^d of June I thought it not amiss to give him some Account of the Situation wherein the Maryland Troops & the Person that had victualled them were left by the Assembly & of the Sums that I imagined were due to them respectively, which I did in these words " By the inclosed Sketch or general Account you will see that there was due to our Troops the 8th of April last a Trifle more than £4536 Currency or £2835 st^s & that the Agent Victualler's Account for supplying them with provisions from the 8th of Oct^r last to that time amounts to £2976. 15 Currency exclusive of a Hospital Account & the