

Succours, supplied by this Kingdom, for their Preservation and Defence; And His Majesty considering, that the several Provinces, from Pennsylvania inclusive, to the Southward, are well able, with proper Encouragement, to furnish a Body of several Thousand Men, to join the King's Forces in those Parts, for some offensive Operations against the Enemy; and His Majesty not judging it expedient to limit the Zeal and Ardor of any of His Provinces, by making a Repartition of the Forces, to be raised by each, respectively for this most important Service; I am commanded to signify to you the King's Pleasure, that you do forthwith use your utmost Endeavours, and Influence, with the Council & Assembly of your Province, to induce them to raise, with all possible Dispatch, within your Government, as large a Body of Men, as the Number & Situation of its Inhabitants may allow, (in the due Performance of which Service, It is hoped and expected they will not again fail in their Duty to the King, as they did the last Campaign;) and forming the same into Regiments, as far as shall be found convenient, That you do direct them to hold Themselves in readiness, as early as may be, to march to the Rendezvous, at such Place or Places, as may be named, for that Purpose, by the Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Forces in America, or by the Officer, who shall be appointed to command the King's Forces in those Parts, in order to proceed from thence, in Conjunction with a Body of His Majesty's British Forces, and under the supreme Command of the Officer to be appointed as above, so as to be in a Situation to begin, by the first of May, if possible, or as soon after as shall be any way practicable, such offensive Operations, as shall be judged, by the Commander of His Majesty's Forces in those Parts, most expedient for annoying the Enemy, and most efficacious towards removing and repelling the Dangers, that threaten the Frontiers of any of the Southern Colonies on the Continent of America; And, the better to facilitate this important Service, the King is pleased to leave it to you, to issue Commissions to such Gentlemen of your Province, as you shall judge, from their Weight & Credit with the People, and their Zeal for the Publick Service, may be best disposed, and enabled, to quicken & effectuate the speedy levying of the greatest Number of Men; In the Disposition of which Commissions, I am persuaded, you will have nothing in View, but the Good of the King's Service, and a due Subordination of the whole, when join'd, to His Maty's Commander, And all Officers of the Provincial Forces, as high as Colonels inclusive, are to have Rank according to their several respective Commissions, agreeable to the Regulations, contain'd in His Maty's Warrant of the 30th of December last year.