

Bill which they had so often presented to him & his Predecessors in vain, I mean a Bill subjecting all the Proprietaries Estate within the Province of Pens^a as well the Quit Rents as their other Estate to be assessed & taxed by Assessors of the People's Choosing, that Gover^r Denny did actually pass such a Bill for Raising £100000 last Monday I am informed by Lieut. Col^o Mercier of the Virg^a Forces who is just come from Phil^a & that in Consequence of such Bills being assented to the Pens^a Troops are to be immediately augmented to 2700 men. After such a Step what can the Proprietaries of Pens^a or Gov^r Denny expect? will they hope to preserve any Authority? or Do they not encourage the People to make any Demands on the Gov^r & as it were tell them that if they do not want Resolution to persevere they will obtain every Thing they want be their Demands never so unreasonable. In Answer to the Question you ask, "Whether it is not the time of Choice of an opponent from the Lower House as a Continuance of Proof that what they alledge is not real." I must again give it as my opinion that such a Step would cool the Ardour of those that are Friends to the Gov^r & inspirit all those that are in the Opposition, It is a measure that for my own Part I am extremely averse to & if my Predecessors had not persued it I am thoroughly persuaded that the Lower House would not have at this time proceeded as they have now done. From the manner in which you speak of D^r Stuart I conclude that you would in Case of another Vacancy be pleased to see him recommended to a Seat in the Council. As there is at present no opening 'tis unnecessary to trouble you with any Reasons why I do not think such a Step advisable; As D^r Stuart I like him well enough as he stands at present tho I have never been able to get from him the Money that you gave me Reason to expect, I mean half the Fees that became due to the Land Office between the time of M^r Youngs Death & M^r Calverts Acceptance, for he still says that you gave him Leave to receive & retain all the Fees that became due to that Office during the time abovementioned, if you did not permit him to do so, what must I think of such Behaviour from a Man whom I have served so much as I have D^r Stuart since I came to this Province. I shall herewith transmit you an Authenticated Copy of the Act you mention in the latter Part of Your Letter, also a Copy of one that was made in 1661 wherein the said Act is mentioned as in force at that time & that you may be the better informed on what Occasion both those Acts were assented to & what the then Ld Proprietary gave up to the People on Condition that they should thereafter defray the Whole Expence of any War that might arise I shall also send you a Sort of Narrative relative

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