

province has within this three yeares been at the charge of many hundred thousand pounds of tobb<sup>o</sup> and tho' wee have for this last three or fower months been quiett by the Winter Season yett wee are in great fears of new Incursions in the spring having noe assurance of their faithfulness to us.

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3<sup>rdly</sup> We have noe means of raizeing money but by imposition on goods Exported and imported of w<sup>ch</sup> comoditys as to the exportacōn of Tobb<sup>o</sup> is twenty times more then all the rest and in laying anything on that, wee are constrained to be very tender by occasion of the duty payable in England and the Com<sup>on</sup> that is thereby advanced to the merchant to whom the same is consigned for Sale.

4. To raise money by Tax on the Inhabitants is utterly impracticable for severall hundred familys, nay the greatest parte of the whole province have not five Shillings by them nor any means to raize it because their is very little among us and that a base Coyne that is not currant w<sup>th</sup> our neighbours, nor have wee any liberty yett from his Maj<sup>ty</sup> to advance coyne soe as to introduce it among us by means whereof the best in the province are some times putt to streights to procure money for their travailing pockett Expences.

5<sup>ly</sup> This Province have Severall times heretofore been reduced to very great Extremity and danger by these very nations on our back to the impoverishing and allmost destruction of the men and substance of the province which wee allways sustained without any assistance from New Yorke or any other neighbour Governm<sup>t</sup> Except Virginia who was equally concerned in the same at some times.

6<sup>thly</sup> The great charge wee have lately been at in Raiseing money and Tobb<sup>o</sup> to build Stadt house ffreeschoole Church and prison on a new seat of Governm<sup>t</sup> at Annapolis has putt on us another great burthen and is not yett fully discharged.

7 That it may be considered how farr our money will compass the designed end when all our neighbours (under better circumstances then wee) has not answered their proporcōn and how discourageing it will be to us to remitt our treasure and Strength to New Yorke and lay our nakedness and defenceless condicōn open to our afs<sup>d</sup> Enemyes while our neighbours retayne their strength for there owne defence, and w<sup>ch</sup> wee believe it the best service to his Maj<sup>ty</sup>

8<sup>ly</sup> Lett it be considered that two thousand pounds of Tob<sup>o</sup> p Yeare is one with another what every labourer makes in this province, and that none but labourers or the best in the province can be sent to make up the Quota of men demanded and it will easily be found (considering the inabilityity to us of raiseing of money) and the duty tobb<sup>o</sup> pays at home that the maintaining the Quota of Men menconed will ruin