

Lib. J. R. or not, and when. I am with the greatest Respect your most  
& U. S. obed<sup>t</sup> humble Servant.

January 18: 1758:

Richard Lloyd.

Sir

On Tuesday last I received the Honour of your Excellency's verbal Commands by Lieutenant Forty, to enquire of Captain Peregrine Browne whether himself and the Company of Militia under his Command would march pursuant to your Instructions given to him, and that I should transmit to your Excellency his Answer by an Express, I immediately wrote to him and therein signified your Pleasure this Morning he came here, said he should have wrote before but yesterday was appointed for him to meet his Company and receive their final Resolution, which he says is that they will not march (8: or 10: excepted) he complains much that the Influence of those, whose particular Duty it ought to have been to have excited the People to a due Obedience to the Law was wanting, and that they were practised on by others not to march of which he says he hath acquainted your Excellency by the inclosed Letter, he begs of me to ask if you charged him with any Letter for Col: Richard Lloyd he says he thinks you did, but thro' some unknown Accident he cannot find it, and is afraid some invidious Reflections may be cast on him for it's being not delivered: by every Thing that I have heard, I truly believe that Brown would very willingly have marched, and that he did with becoming Spirit urge every Argument in his power to persuade the People thereto: I am your Excellency's very humble Serv<sup>t</sup>

Chester Jan<sup>y</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> 1758..

B: Hands.

Annapolis 25.. of January 1758:

p. 222 Sir

You will easily guess that I was surprised to learn from your Letter of the 18: Instant that M<sup>r</sup> Hands had wrote any such Letter to Captain Brown as you mention when I assure you that I had never desired him to do so, or to concern himself after any manner whatever with the Militia of your County. However I find by a Letter which I have received also from M<sup>r</sup> Hands as well as by yours that he did call on Captain Browne to give him a positive Answer whether he should march or not, but I find at the same time that his interfering so far was intirely owing to a Mistake of M<sup>r</sup> Forty, and not any Forwardness or Error of that Gentleman himself. I thank you for acquainting me so freely with what had happened, and assure you that I should have wrote to