

bursed by the Provincial People themselves; Notwithstanding, His Love and regard to the King and Generosity to the welfare of the Province which 'tis evident, has incited his Benevolence contrary to the very Tenor of the said Law, and I am sensible willing to the same continuance of Tax on him provided it be on Service for his Majesty's Requisitions; But of that Now not likely of requisitions immediate to the Province from the King, as we are arrived to the Era of Peace. I am by Authority inform'd, that a Scheme is forming for Establishing 10000 men to be British Americans standing Force there, and paid by the Colonies, 'tis said to be Levied by Poll Tax through out the Colonies; the Parliament has Voted the force, and the Eyes of the Crown and Parliament are on them from that purpose; if by Poll Tax, will require knowledge of the number of inhabitants in each Province; therefore I should be obliged to you to know as to numbers in Maryland, and under what other rate the Province can be charged at, if any more Easy and reasonable; nothing shall be wanting in my best Endeavour of Service towards your having Command as to Quota of Maryland.—concerning Faction you write in the Province, you may depend Both in regard to your Self, as well as of all others concern'd, Firmness against it is here to render it contemptible; of M^r Franklin giving trouble, I understand he is at Philadelphia, his son has the New Jersey Government, so hope all subsidies with them I have hinted to your Brothers to keep a good Look out at the Secretary's Office. American Provincial Complaints have almost lost regard, their disobedience of Long time to Royal Instructions, and the Lower Houses of Assemblies setting up the Lex Parliamenti with their continued Harras to Governors, and threats of independency, with other indecencys, has thrown their Affairs into the Spokes of the Grand wheel of Government of their Mother Country, whose Superiority they'l feel. By this opportunity inclosed is his Lordship's Commission of prolongation of time for settling the Boundary Lines with Pensilvania Sign'd by me on Behalf of Lord Baltimore, he having Authorized me to Act for him during his Absence. 'tis a work of time, and of Embarassment, the Persons you desire are by the Commission confirmed. Respecting M^r Lloyd the Receiver General of whom you write; I am at Loss how to hold him? he complys not almost with any requisitions sent him; he's like Fabius Maximus cunctando, but not in Merit, after upwards of five years repeated admonitions of his delay of accounts, he has sent three years Accounts. five due, and with regard to his Lordships Instructions concerning the Establishment of the Office of Agency at Annapolis he is silent; expresses