

U. H. J. Well Wishers to the Prosperity of the Province will think it but
Calvert Prudence in us to be upon Our Guard, and to Arm Ourselves in
Paper the best manner We are able, which will not only be of great Advan-
No. 735 tage to us in Case of an Actual Invasion, but be the best means of
preserving us from so great A Calamity

Sam: Ogle

June 3 To his Excellency Samuel Ogle Esq^r Governor of Maryland
p. 104 The humble Address of the House of Delegates of the said
Province.

May it please your Excellency

We should very willingly have Entered upon the Consideration of the matters proposed in your Message of the second Instant was there any Probability of having the Result of that Consideration Pass into a Law this Session if such Law should be thought necessary

But since the Upper House keeps from us all Our Bills, most of which have been there almost a month, and still refuse them a second Reading, unless upon Terms which we in Justice to Our Constituents cannot agree to, so that there is no Appearance of any further Business being done at this Time; we pray your Excellency to Excuse us from entring upon an Affair which requires so great deliberation at a time when Six Weeks have been spent with the passing of only one Bill, and our private Affairs necessarily call us to our Respective Habitations

When your Excellency shall again be pleased to call us together, and the present difficulties are removed, we shall gladly comply with your desire in the mean time, we are in hopes that there may be found Room enough in the Publick Buildings to Lodge more than the few Arms We have now at this Place till a more favourable Opportunity offers of providing a proper Recepticle for them; and we also find in one of the present Militia Acts a Provision that Persons Prest or inlisted in Case of Foreign Invasion, refusing upon their Officers Commands to appear and serve in Arms, are Subjected to Prosecutions in the Provincial Court to be fined and Imprisoned at the Discretion of that Court which we hope will suffice at present for common Soldiers, and as for those who have accepted Commissions We cannot doubt but they will from a Principle of Honour be Sufficiently prompted to pursue your Excellencys Commands without any Compulsory means

Signed on Behalf and by Order of the House

Philip Hammond, Speaker