

pleased to communicate to the Honourable the House of Delegates) L. H. J. than to secure my own private property, and to prevent any foundation for a future dispute between the Country and my self, concerning that Land, or any Improvements which are making, or may hereafter be made, on the same, by removing any Claim, or Right, in or by the Country, or by the Governor of this Province for the time being, in Behalf of the Country; which might be Alledged or set up against me, had I suffered these Buildings and Improvements, on my Land, to have gone on, without giving these Notices.

I am, Sir, your Honour's, Most Obedient Humble Serv<sup>t</sup>

May 3. 1744

S. Bordley

On Reading the aforesaid Letter, Ordered, That an Address be prepared to his Excellency, and that the Committee of Laws prepare p. 383 and bring in the same

The following Ingrossed Address, viz.

To his Excellency Thomas Bladen Esq<sup>r</sup> Governor of Maryland:

The humble Address of the House of Delegates.

May it please your Excellency,

We his Majesty's Dutiful and Loyal Subjects, the Delegates of the freemen of the Province of Maryland, in General Assembly convened, return your Excellency Our Thanks, for not calling us together until this convenient season of the year, and for our Zealous Disposition expressed in your Speech, at the opening of this Sessions, for the safety and Protection of this province.

Our Steady Loyalty, and inviolable Attachment to his most Sacred Majesty's person and Government, and Regard to our own safety will necessarily engage us to take all proper measures in our power, for putting our Selves into a posture of Defense, at a Time when the State of Affairs in Europe is so uncertain, when there is so great a Probability of a French War, and Great Britain as by the late Advices, has been threatned with an Invasion. But we cannot omit telling your Excellency, that these are our only Motives for entering on such Measures, and that no Consideration of future Misunderstandings, the putting a Stop to Public Business, nor any Consideration whatsoever, besides our Duty to our Sovereign, and our own Security, shall in the least influence us in this matter, or shall be an Ingredient in this, or any other Case, to induce us to lay Taxes on the people we Represent; and we are therefore sorry your Excellency should have made use of arguments of this kind, with us, on the present occasion, as it may to strangers, seem to carry an Insinuation of our want of Loyalty to our King, or Duty to our Constituents; altho we can with the greatest Truth say, that his Majesty has not in his Dominions more Dutiful and faithful Subjects than those of the Province of Maryland; which Duty and fidelity, as