

L. H. J.  
Liber No. 48  
February 25  
p. 31

To his Excellency Horatio Sharpe, Esq; Governor and Commander  
in Chief in and over the Province of Maryland.

The Humble Address of the House of Delegates.

May it please your Excellency

We his Majestys most Dutiful and Loyal Subjects the Delegates of the Freemen of Maryland in General Assembly convened, return your Excellency our Thanks for your Speech at the Opening of this Session; and assure your Excellency that however sensible we have already expressed ourselves of the fatal Consequences which must attend the Enemys remaining Masters of the Country to the Westward; and whatever Promises we have made on our Part towards averting that Danger with which their Vicinity threatens us; the same Sensibility of those Consequences and Readiness to perform those Promises still subsist

And were the self-interested Motive of our own Preservation Entirely out of the Case our sense of Gratitude and Duty to his most sacred Majesty, whose gracious Benevolence and paternal Care towards all his Subjects so highly conspicuous would demand from us our Warmest and Just Acknowledgements, and excit our best Efforts to answer his Royal Expectations.

But we intreat your Excellency to reflect that we the Delegates make but one Branch of the Legislature of this Province and that without the Concurrence of the Rest, however well deposed we may be, nothing effectual can be done towards promoting the present service as is too evident from what we have already unsuccessfully attempted on this subject.

We shall nevertheless on our part take into Consideration the several Matters by your Excellency Laid before us; and hope the Circumstances of the Times and People we Represent, considered to acquit ourselves as not undeserving his Majestys Goodness, your Excellencys Approbation or the Esteem of our Constituents and other fellow subjects.

We entertain no doubt of your Excellency's having properly and frugally disposed of the Sum you Mention and readily accept your Offer of an Account in part, and hope the same with regard to the Residue when you shall be able to lay such Account before us.

Which was Read and Assented to and Signed by Order of the House by The Honourable Speaker.

Ordered, that Doctor Carroll and M.<sup>r</sup> Matthew Tilghman do acquaint his Excellency that this House hath prepared an Address to be Presented to him and desire to know when and where he will please to receive it They return and acquaint M.<sup>r</sup> Speaker they delivered the Message and that his Excellency was pleased to signify he would receive the Address in the Afternoon in the Conference Chamber.

The House adjourns till 2 of the Clock.