

Power) would be drawn into Precedent for the future, much less at a Time when there should be an armed Force in the Pay of this Province on the Frontiers, more than sufficient, were they compelled to do their Duty, not only to protect the Inhabitants, but to make them easy and quiet. And abstracted from all Considerations, whether there be any Law in Force to compel the Militia to march or not, the Gentlemen that were of that House, who are now of This, are now more unanimous in disapproving your Excellency's Orders for the March of the Militia from Queen-Anne's, Kent, and Calvert Counties, than they were in approving those relative to the March of the Companies from Baltimore and Prince-George's. And it is not without great Concern they reflect, that what was done at a Time when they believed the Frontiers were under imminent Danger, from several concurrent Circumstances (besides your Excellency's telling them in your Message of the 25th of September 1756, "Nothing less than ordering Detachments from the Militia of Baltimore and Prince-George's County thither, to cover the Inhabitants, and encourage them to remain on their Plantations, would prevent the fine Settlement of Conococheague being intirely broke up, and all that Part of the Country abandoned") should be made use of, as a Precedent, for ordering the Militia out at a Time when scarce a Person could be found, who could truly say, he was apprehensive of any Danger at all.

L. H. J.  
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April 17

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This shews us the Danger of even being silent, whenever Power may exceed it's plain and express Limits; and teaches us, that notwithstanding in such a Case there may be a plausible Appearance of present Good, yet we ought to suspect some latent Evil is intended, and guard well against every bad Consequence which may possibly flow from a Stretch of Power beyond it's due Bounds.

The Seventh of October last, your Excellency was pleased to send to us the following Message: "I think proper to inform you, that upon the Application of Capt. Chapline, a Member of your House, and a great Number of our Frontier Inhabitants, I did, the Third of August last, order Capt. Delashmutt and Capt. Moses Chapline to march Part of their respective Companies, and to patrolle on the Frontiers for their Protection. The Time for which they were ordered out, is now expired; but they tell me, that if other Parties are not sent to relieve them, the Settlement of Conococheague will, in all Probability, be immediately broke up, the People being thrown into the greatest Consternation by an Account that they have received from the Mouth of Opeccan River in Virginia, near which Place 'tis said, that Seventeen Persons were killed and captivated by a large Party of Indians the Thirtieth of last Month, while the Garrison at Fort Frederick is too weak and sickly to send out so many and such large Parties, as the Inhabitants think necessary for their Security. I do not choose at this Time, to order out any more

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