

On November 5, 1763, Sharpe sent a message to the Lower House that "Mr. Cresap [Colonel Thomas Cresap], one of your members for Frederick County, having represented to me Since the last Session of Assembly [1762] & before the Indians recommenced hostilities against these Colonies, that parties of the Six Nations who were then considered as Friends, frequently called at his house on their Excursions to the southward, & insisted upon his Supplying them with Provisions & other Necessaries". The Governor with the advice of his Council recommended Cresap to continue furnishing these Indians with supplies of food to prevent them from committing depredation on the frontier inhabitants, and encouraged him to believe that he would receive satisfaction from the next Assembly. Sharpe now asked that the Lower House take measures to reimburse Cresap for his expenditures (p. 359), but he was not reimbursed at this session.

Again some two weeks later, on November 19, the Governor sent a message to the Lower House saying that the night before he had received letters by express from a member of that house (doubtless Colonel Cresap) and others living on the western frontier of Frederick County, saying that there had lately been an incursion of a party of Indians which had done some mischief at a place called the Cove; that this had caused the greatest consternation on the frontier; and that unless an armed force were sent to the relief of the settlers, there was great reason to believe that they would desert their habitations, and that the frontier would again become the scene of distress and desolation (p. 380). The house promptly replied that it was heartily desirous of relieving the back inhabitants, and thought that as the license fees from ordinaries or public-houses were not to be used for the establishment of a college, they should be used to relieve these distressed people now calling for assistance. The Lower House bill which applied the licenses from ordinaries for the support of a college had just been refused consideration in the upper chamber, and the Lower House thereupon, on the motion of Colonel Edward Tilghman, ordered a bill brought in for the regulation of ordinaries under which the licenses would be applied to the defense of the frontier inhabitants against the Indians. This bill was passed by the Lower House and rejected in the upper chamber, and with the rejected bill the Upper House sent a message to the Lower House, dated November 24, expressing its sincere desire to protect the inhabitants of the frontier, but urging that certain unexpended balances now accumulated in the Loan Office from the £40,000 Supply bill of 1756 be used for this purpose. The Upper House suggested, as a gesture of compromise, that should these balances not be sufficient the licenses from ordinaries be used to make up any deficiencies. By a vote of twenty-nine to four, most of the members of the Proprietary party voting with the Popular majority, the Lower House refused to consider this proposal. Notwithstanding this vote, on the following day a motion was made by Edmund Key, a Proprietary follower, that a bill be brought in to support a force of fifty rangers to be paid out of balances in the Loan Office, but this was defeated by a vote of twenty-eight to four (pp. 385, 393, 397, 277-278, 407-408, 410). On the last day of the session, November 26, the controversy was closed when the