

your House with a Negative, the First
and although the Assembly sat till
the 10th of that Month, nothing farther was
the Support of our Troops, or that could
in any Prospect of being paid; neither
any Thing which could justify me; in
Party of *Cherokees*, that had just before
their Service, the least Encouragement
on our Frontiers; on the contrary,
I treated you to appropriate to their Use,
Money which was then in the Hands of
the Loan Office, and which had
been reserved for them, you were pleased
to the Bill that had been rejected, in
it passed into a Law, you said such
was made as you judged most expedient
for their Friendship; how regular or
was to give me such an Answer, or to
that Occasion to a Bill which did not
and which had never been offered to
how much this evinced an earnest Desire
to contribute, by the Presence of your
Members, as you call them, to the Security
of our Frontier Inhabitants, I submit to the Judge-
ment of the House.

Days after the End of that Session, I was
by a Letter from the Officer command-
ing *Frederick*, that a Member of your House
his Return from the Assembly, endeav-
ouring to stir up Sedition among the Soldiers,
and other Things he had told them, their
had no Right to punish any Soldier for
want of their Support was all expended, that
they could have no Authority over them
the 15th of December, that they might then
they pleased, and that no Person had a
right to apprehend them; should the Gentleman
he industriously propagated such a
among the Troops, there are many Per-
sons to prove it, particularly Captain *Ware*,
and a Soldier called *Charles Clagot*,
an indifferent Person received such Infor-
mation I did at this Time from the Command-
ing Officer at *Fort-Frederick*, could he have ima-
gined any of the Soldiers would have continu-
ed more than Six Months without Pay, or
the Use of being paid? especially if such
had given the least Credit to what several
were encouraged, or forced, to come from
County, in *October* and *November* last, to
me, that the Men had been ill fed and
miserably by their respective Officers; and if
they had been persuaded to disband them-
selves any of the Militia that were ordered
to reach the Frontiers, there is the greatest
Reason to conclude, from what has heretofore hap-
pened not only the Settlement of *Conococheague*
has been broke up, but that very few of the
who lived beyond *Frederick-Town*, would
be able to remain on their respective Planta-
tions which Case they would, it is apprehend-
ed even taught even by some of yourselves to
entirely upon me, for not having or-
dered a sufficient Number of the Militia to their
as I had done on former Occasions.
I myself, that enough has been already said
in the Orders that I sent to Captain *Brome*
on the 21st of December, and to Cap-
tain *Ware* afterwards, but as you insist that
the Orders were issued at a Time when not so
a Report of an Incurion was stirring, I
observing to you, that two Days be-
fore the Instructions were sent to the former, I
advice, by a Person who came higher
than a large Party of *French* and *Indians*
discovered near *Fort-Cumberland* within
the County; there is a Gentleman in your House
who acknowledges, that in a Letter which
he caused to write from the Mouth of *Cono-*
cheague the 15th of December, and which I re-
ceived the 19th of that Month, he referred me to
you and told me, that he could inform me
of a Party of *French* that appeared the Saturday before
last near *Fort-Cumberland*. Some Letters from another of
your Members (which, agreeable to his own De-
claration before you in a former Session), con-
vince me, I believe, that Alarms have been fre-
quently given, and that Parties of the Enemy have
been committing Murders, almost in the
County, when in all Probability
there were none within the Distance of a Hun-
dred Miles of the Province; but the Action or
the Alarm that happened in December last, between
our Forces and the *French*, above-
mentioned, leaves us no Room to doubt, but a
large Party of the Enemy was in this Pro-
vince at that Time; one of them who was taken
in that Skirmish, and brought immedi-
ately

ly to *Annapolis*, by Lieutenant *Riley*, declared,
on his Examination before Col. *Haldiman*, Sir
John St. Clair and myself, that the Party consist-
ed of Two Officers, Six Cadets, Twenty Soldiers,
and Eight *Indians*, and that their Intention, when
they came from *Fort du Quesne* the 27th of *Novem-*
ber, was to make a Descent on this Province.
There is one Remark more that I shall take
the Liberty to make before I quit this Part of your
Address, and it is this, that while you would per-
suade your Constituents, that by the Troops on our
Frontiers not being compelled to do their Duty,
the Inhabitants are neither protected nor made
quiet and easy, you endeavour to shew that those
Inhabitants were entirely satisfied, and that scarce
a Person could be found, who could truly say, he
was apprehensive of any Danger at all. Had I
founded my Power, or Right, to order any of the
Militia of *Kent*, *Queen-Anne's*, or *Calvert* Counties
to the Frontiers, on the Address that was presented
to me the 30th of September 1756, by the late
Lower House of Assembly, or if I had taken any
Step, upon a Supposition that I was by that Ad-
dress vested with any Authority which I before
wanted, your Intimations about the Danger of
affording Precedents, and your Observation, that
we ought to guard against every bad Consequence
which may possibly flow from a Stretch of Power
beyond its due Bounds, might perhaps have been
more aptly introduced than they seem to be at
present; but I assure you, *Gentlemen*, that although
it will always give me great Pleasure to know
that the Members you allude to, approve my Con-
duct, yet, I shall not think that the Unanimity,
or more than Unanimity, of any Part of your House,
in approving or disapproving, will make a Step
wrong that is in its Nature justifiable and Right,
or an Act lawful or Commendable, that is in itself
illegal and Oppressive; however, if those Gende-
men were of Opinion the 11th of *October*, when
you answered my Message, that they had been in
an Error, and had by their Address led me to think
higher of my Power and Authority over the Militia
than I ought, they would have dealt ingeniously
in acknowledging their Error, and endeavouring to
undeceive me at that Time, but as they did neither,
I can hardly think that by saying they thought it
"would be wrong for the present" to order a
Company of Militia to the Frontiers, they meant,
that, in their Opinion, it would be wrong or illegal
for me to order any to march for the future, espe-
cially, when I remember the particular Reason
you gave for not advising me to order out a Com-
pany at that Time, *to wit*, that there were then
Soldiers enough on the Frontiers to protect the
Inhabitants; which indeed was the Case, but
though the Soldiers could, and did, effectually
protect them, yet it was not in their Power, we
find, to make them quiet and easy.

What Reason you have, or think you have, to
presume, that if your House had approved of my
sending out any of the Militia on that Occasion,
I should not have ordered them from *Queen-Anne's*,
Kent, or *Calvert* Counties, I know not; I cannot
positively say that I should, but, in all Probability,
if you had desired me to comply with the Request
that Captains *Delassant* and *Chaplins* had then
made, in Behalf of the Frontier Inhabitants, a
Company would have been ordered from one of
these Counties, lest the Inhabitants of those, from
which Companies had been ordered to march on
former Occasions, should have complained of my
compelling them to do more Duty than might
properly be deemed their Share; and I hope
none of you are of Opinion, that a Person's re-
siding on the Eastern Side of the Bay, ought to
excuse him from contributing to the Security of
those who live on this Side of it.

Had the Present you speak of been given to the
Party of *Cherokees*, even before Captain *Brome*
received Orders to march, that Circumstance might,
perhaps, have had some Weight with such as
imagine *Indians* will be restrained, or do the Duty
of Soldiers; but surely you will not pretend to say,
that your framing a Bill for their Encouragement,
on the 30th of *March*, was a Reason why I ought
to have taken, or to have declined taking, any
particular Step on the 9th of that Month, which
was the Day the Orders to Captain *Brome* were
issued.

In my Message of the 23d of *February*, I told
you, that as I had good Reason to apprehend,
that the Soldiers which had been raised for the
more immediate Defence of our Frontier Inha-
bitants, would disband themselves when they
found that the Assembly had broke up, without
making any further Provision for their Support, I
thought it my indispensable Duty, to order two
Companies of Militia to the Frontiers, lest the

People that were settled there, being left with-
out any Hopes of Assistance or Protection, should
desert their Habitations or fall an easy Prey to the
Enemy; to this you Answer, that as a Bill was
sent up from your House last Session, making Pro-
vision for supporting Three Companies of the Sol-
diers, which had been raised for his Majesty's Ser-
vice, and the more immediate Defence of our
Frontier Inhabitants, it would seem that these
Soldiers thought they had sufficient Reason to
depend, that the several Branches of the Legis-
lature would soon agree upon some Bill for that
Purpose, though they had broke up without doing
any Thing at that Time, and that you presume it
is this reasonable Dependence which has pre-
vented the Soldiers disbanding themselves, even
to this Time: That the Soldiers on our Frontiers,
or their Officers at least, hope they shall ere long
receive their Arrears of Pay, is very probable;
how reasonable such their Dependence is, the E-
vent of this Session will determine. The Decla-
rations you have now made, give me Room to
hope, that neither they, nor the Person that hath
Vistualled them since the Money granted for their
Support has been expended, will be disappointed
in their Expectations; but it surely must be ac-
knowledged, that Men in this State of Depen-
dence and Uncertainty are in a very different Si-
tuation from that of Troops which are actually
in Pay, and I doubt not but your Constituents,
notwithstanding your Endeavours to represent
them as one and the same, will readily perceive
the Difference.

The Power of the Governor, and of such Offi-
cers as might be Commissioned by the Commander
in Chief of this Province, to compel the Militia of
one County to march into another, and the Obliga-
tion the Militia are under to obey the Com-
mands of such Governor, or their respective Offi-
cers, having been already stated, I pass on to your
Dissertation on the Word *Invasion*, which it seems
by your Account is something different from an *In-*
curion: I could wish you had before you proceed-
ed to argue so much about this Word, thought pro-
per to define it, and to tell us what, in your O-
pinion, an *Invasion* is as well as what it is not.

According to *Bailey*, an *Invasion* is an Inroad
or Descent upon a Country; he does not say by
what Number of the Enemy, how long they must
stay, whether they may be all Light-Armed, or
whether it is absolutely necessary that they should
bring with them any Artillery or heavy Baggage.
If you recur to the Laws that were made here at
different Times before the Militia Act at present in
Question, you will find that they often speak of the
Danger the Inhabitants of this Province were ex-
posed to by the frequent *Incurions* and *Invasions* of
their common Enemy the *Indians*; and the Records
will shew you, that your Ancestors thought them-
selves invaded when any Party of *Indians* came into
or even approached the Province with a hostile In-
tent: In this Sense, the Party of the Enemy that
did the Mischief on *Conococheague* in August 1756,
about six Weeks before the late Lower House of
Assembly addressed me to order out the Militia that
marched from *Prince-George's* and *Charles* Counties
to the Frontiers, might be said to have made an *Incur-*
ion; but when the Detachment from *Fort du Quesne*
appeared near *Fort-Cumberland* in December last,
the Province was under an *actual Invasion*, altho'
no Report of an Enemy's being near it had reach-
ed the Ears of any Person that resided in *Kent*, or
Queen-Anne's, County. Whether the Gentlemen
who penned those Laws, and talked of an *Invasion*
by *Indians*, knew the Meaning and Force of that
Word, so well as some of their Descendants pretend
to do, I shall not take upon me to determine; nor
should I perhaps, if you had thought proper to give
a Definition of it, have taken the Liberty to tell
you what your Ancestors thought an *Invasion*; but
since I have mentioned them, give me leave to add,
that if they had thought it was too soon to march
before their Enemies were in the Heart of the
Country, and that it was too late to stir after their
Enemies had retired again beyond the Inhabitants,
the Number of his Majesty's faithful and loyal
Subjects in *Maryland*, would in all Probability have
been now far less considerable than it is at present.

I am glad to find, you are at length persuaded, that our
Frontier Inhabitants might be in some degree protected by
Parties making Excursions from *Fort-Cumberland* into the
Country that our Enemies are at present in Possession of; tho'
it is still a Question with me, whether the People who live
about *Conococheague* thought, that this Excursion of the *Ch-*
erokees (who, by the bye, are in another Part of your Address
supposed to be at this very Time on our Frontiers) contributed
at all to their Security, for they have been made to think,
that no Men who are employed in any manner whatever be-
yond the North Mountain can be of any real Service; and
that I presume from the same Opinion, that you proposed
by the Bill which was rejected by the Upper House in De-

ember last, to make it Criminal for any of our Officers or
Men to go beyond that Mountain, even in pursuit of any of
the Enemy tho' they should have been sure of overtaking
them.

It does not I presume necessarily follow, that because I am
of Opinion I had a Power to march, by Advice of the Coun-
cil, the Companies of Militia above-mentioned, that therefore
I must suppose I had an Authority to march the Militia of
this Province whenever and wheresoever I should please, even
without their Advice, and that some future Governor, might
by virtue of the same Authority, whenever he shall find
himself opposed in any unjust Views or Designs, compel the
whole Militia of the Province to march to any distant Part
of it, and keep them there until their Representatives shall
have complied with all his extravagant Demands: I can An-
swer for myself, that a due Sense of my Duty to the Lord
Proprietary, and a sincere Regard for the People committed
to my Care, will always make me extremely cautious, and
avoid every Step that might give them just Cause of Discon-
tent or Uneasiness, or tend to alienate their Affections from
his Lordship's Government; and I cannot believe that any
Governor in his Senses, would ever think of harassing the
Militia of this Province in such a Manner or with such a
View, tho' he was intirely Independent and not answerable
to any Superiors for his Conduct.

If the March of those Militia was lawful and necessary,
and I hope you are by this Time clearly of Opinion it was
both, the Impressing Provisions for them in the Counties
whence they marched, was a Measure that could not be well
avoided, notwithstanding the Country was thereby put to
some extraordinary Expence on Account of the Carriage.
That Provisions may be bought for ready Money at a cheaper
Rate in *Frederick* County than on the Eastern Side of the
Bay, is perhaps true; but what was that to me who had
not ready Money to purchase with. Suppose I should find
myself obliged to defend or protect this Country with Militia
as long as it shall continue in the Circumstances described in
our Law, Ought the People of *Frederick* County alone to
supply them gratis with Provisions? Or, in other Words,
Should the Principal, or almost the Whole Burthen of such
a Defensive War, fall upon those that are supposed to be the
least able to bear it? This, I am satisfied, was far from be-
ing the Desire of the late Lower House of Assembly, when
they told me in their Address, that they were sensible the
Impressing Provisions for the Militia from the Frontier Inha-
bitants, might greatly distress them, and when they made
Provision for the immediate Payment of any Persons that
would engage to victual such Militia; if you consider like-
wise the Difficulty a *Pres-Master* must meet with, as well
as the Time that must be spent in collecting any considerable
Quantity of Provisions, and the Loss any Officers of Militia
would be at in a County where they should neither be ac-
quainted with the *Pres-Masters*, nor any other Person; you
will, I flatter myself, be reconciled to all the Steps that
have been taken, especially when the Gentlemen of *Calvert*
County have told you, that the principal, if not the only
Reason, why the Company of Militia, commanded by Cap-
tain *Brome*, delayed to march so long after he received my
Orders, was, that a sufficient Quantity of Provisions could
not be collected for them so soon as was expected, and that
they were afraid of suffering through Want of Food, after
they should arrive at their Place of Destination.

I am obliged to you for believing, that I did not order the
Militia from *Kent*, *Queen-Anne's*, and *Calvert* Counties now,
or from *Anne-Arundel*, *Baltimore*, *Charles*, *Frederick*, and
Prince-George's Counties heretofore, with an Intention to
disquiet and distress the good People of any particular Parts
of the Province. In this you do me great Justice, as my
sole Design in giving those Orders, and the Design of the
Gentlemen that advised me, was to prevent the good People
in one particular Part of the Province being disquieted or
distressed; and I cannot conceive that any future Governor
of this Province, however unworthy he may be of the Ap-
pellation of humane and benevolent, will ever think of mak-
ing the March of these Companies a Precedent for ordering
others hereafter to the Frontiers, and stationing them there,
not for the Space of a Month or Six Weeks only, and not
in order to repel a foreign Invasion, or to protect the Inha-
bitants from the most imminent Danger, but to gratify his
private Resentment, and with a View of disgusting the
People against their Representatives. Should the Govern-
ment of *Maryland* be in the Hands of a Person of such a
Turn, the People would, no Doubt, be unhappy; but it is
to be hoped, that his Council will think themselves and
their Families too much interested in the Happiness and
Welfare of their Country, to countenance or connive at such
an Attempt; and he will most undoubtedly find by Experi-
ence, that instead of disgusting the People against their Re-
presentatives, by such arbitrary Proceedings, he will inevi-
tably bring their Resentment and Execrations on himself.

It gives me great Pleasure to find, that you now see the
Behaviour of the Militia, that ran to their Arms on the
Alarm that happened in *November* 1755, in its proper
Light; the Willingness they shewed to march to the Assis-
tance of their Fellow-Subjects in another Province, was truly
laudable: I return you Thanks for your Eulogium on
them, and am thereby encouraged to remind you of a Mes-
sage that I sent to the Lower House of Assembly the next
Session afterwards, wherein were the following Words: "I
" must also recommend it to you, to repay the Officers of
" the Militia of *Cecil*, *Kent*, and *Frederick* Counties, what
" they expended on the Alarm in *November* last, when it
" was believed in those Counties that a large Body of *In-*
di-
ans were advancing toward the Center of the Province."
It appears by their Journal, that the House about a Month
afterwards, referred the Officers Accounts for Consideration
of the next Session; the Consequence of which has been,
that none of them have been yet paid, tho' an Act has been
passed since I laid them before the House, For Payment of
the Public Charge of this Province, by virtue of which, ma-
ny Members of that House, as several Gentlemen among
you can testify, have received, or may in a few Weeks re-
ceive, to the Value of some Hundred Pounds a-piece, for
serving their Country as Representatives in Assembly.

The Number of Gentlemen that accompanied me on my
Journey to the Frontiers in the Year 1755, after the Defeat
of General *Braddock*, was not, I believe, so large as you
imagine; the Company consisted of Lieutenant *Gold* and
Ensign *Russell* of his Majesty's Forces, Mr. *Ridout* my Sec-
retary, the Deputy-Sheriff of *Frederick* County, and Mr. *Taac*
Baker,