

201

Dominions without attempting to make Alterations in it at a Time when the Enemy are taking every Advantage that can be drawn from any little Fault that may happen in any of the Provinces of his Majesty's extensive Dominions in this Continent; which are therefore things every Man who is a real Lover of his Country will to the utmost avoid.

As to the Dispute of what Province West Cumberland belongs to this I never heard disputed but by Mr. New I have met with was deemed to be in Maryland but be that as it will tis of no consequence, nor has it any thing to do in this Affair, nor had I the least Intention of loading Maryland or causing any other Province by sending the Provincial Troops of Maryland to it, and in my Orders at that Time I shew'd the greatest Attention to Maryland in employing the whole of the Troops raised by them in covering their Frontiers, and securing the Inlets into their Country when I actually sent two hundred of the Provincials of Virginia by Sea at the Expense of that Province to South Carolina, and had two hundred more of the Virginia Provincial Troops ready to be carried there if that Service had not been provided for by the arrival of a Regiment of 1000 Men from Europe.

I have shew'd you above that the King has the undisputed Right; that he has by his Commission put the Execution of it into my Hands, that Maryland alone have disputed the Kings Right of commanding his Subjects in Arms, altho his Majesty's Counsel in the Opinion of that Trust has had a particular Regard to the Case and Security of the Province of Maryland.

When I know things really to stand as tis standing, and can have no Doubt that the Gentlemen that compose the Assembly of Maryland, mean, not only to protect the Province of Maryland but to give every Aid to the common Cause in their power, I can have no Doubt that on a cool Reflection of the general Situation of the Affairs of this Country, the Duty they owe to the King and the Community, whatever Representations may have led them into the present Bill, they will immediately set those things on a true constitutional Footing, and enter heartily into the common Cause for the Security of Maryland, and to give their utmost Assistance against the common Enemy.

I intended when I writ from Albany to have come directly to Annapolis but some unexpected Business put it out of my Power at that Time and now I cannot fix the Time I shall be with you.

Hoping from your wise Management, and the People coming to see their own true Interest that I shall very soon have better Accounts from you.

I am with sincere Regards

In his Excellency Gov. Sharps

to Your most obedient humble Servant

Loudon