

It is the Advice of this Board to his Excellency, that he be pleased to lay the foregoing Letter before the present General Assembly

At a Council held at the City of Annapolis on Thursday the 9th Day of March in the seventh Year of his Lordships Dominion Amoque Pomini 1756

Present

His Excellency Horatio Sharpe Esq. Governor

The honourable { Benjamin Tasker, Samuel Chamberlaine Esq, Job. Benjamin Tasker } Benedict Calvert Esq. Daniel Dulany Esq.

Ordered that the following Letters be sent.

Honoured Sir

In Obedience to your late Instructions given me after ordering the Company of Militia under my Command to be warned in by the Officers of the Company when at their Meeting I proposed to march as directed to Fort Frederick and desired them to do so, and not more than ten of the Company would obey such my Instructions, tho' I cannot at the same Time but think it my Duty to inform your Excellency in Justice to the people that I really believe the Cause to proceed from Sensible Men, I shall forbear to say any other ways than by the enclosed Copy of a Letter which came to Hand and is yet the fullest Evidence I can yet come at in this Matter, tho' am of Opinion that on a full Enquiry a more certain Knowledge of the Facts may be had - As the Numbers of the Men willing to march are so few, am at a Loss to know till your Excellency is pleased to signify your further Pleasure what to do.

I am of Opinion that if one of the Field Officers had attended the Company and given Orders for the March of those Men that more of them would have gone.

Your Excellency was pleased to direct a Return of such as refused to march to be made to a Magistrate, it has already been industriously reported that I am wholly to blame in this Matter, and that if I make a Return of those refusing that I shall be the Cause of the Calamities of such who for their Disobedience are punished, or Words tending that way. If your Excellency should be pleased to direct one of the Field Officers to attend one Meeting of the Company, and if any disobedient and refuse to go, that the Field Officer may make such Return as your Excellency