

An Council held at the City of Annapolis on Saturday the 4th Day of March in the ninth Year of his Britannic Majesty's Dominion Annoque Domini 1760.

Present

His Excellency Thomas Ogle Esq: Governour

The Honourable Benjamin Tasker Esq: Stephen Bradley Esq:

His Excellency is pleased to lay before this Board the following Letters received by him from the Right Honourable William Pitt Esq: Secretary of State and Jeffrey Comhurst Esq:

Sir

Whitehall 7th January 1760.

His Majesty having nothing so much at Heart as to improve the great & important Advantages gained the last Campaign in North America and not doubting that all his faithful & brave Subjects there will continue most cheerfully to co-operate with and assist to the utmost the large Expenses & extraordinary Successes subsist by this Kingdom, for their Preservation and future Security; And his Majesty considering that the several Provinces from Pennsylvania inclusive to the Southern, are well able with proper Encouragements to furnish a Body of several Thousand Men to join the King's Forces in those Parts for some Offensive Operations against the Enemy; And his Majesty not judging it expedient to Limit the Loss and Expence of any his Provinces by making a Requisition of the Men to be Raised by each respectively for the most important Service I am Commanded to signify to you the Kings Pleasure that you do forthwith use your utmost Endeavours and Influence with the Council and Assembly of your Province to induce them to raise with all possible Dispatch within your Government as large a Body of Men as the Number & Situation of its Inhabitants may allow for the due Performance of which Service, it is hoped & expected they will not again fail in their Duty to the King as they have done the two last Campaigns; and joining the same into Regiments as far as shall be found convenient that you direct them to hold themselves in readiness as early as may be to March to the Rendezvous at such Place or Places as may be named for that Purpose by the Commander in Chief of his Majesty's Forces in America, or by the Officer who shall be appointed to Command the King's Forces in those Parts, in Order to proceed from thence in conjunction with a Body of his Majesty's British Forces and under the Supreme Command of the Officer to be appointed as above is as to be in a Situation to begin by the first of May if possible, or as soon after as shall be any way practicable such Offensive Operations as shall be judged by the Commander of his Majesty's Forces in those parts most expedient for attacking the Enemy, and the better to facilitate this important Service the King is pleased to leave it to you to issue Commissions to such Gentlemen of your Province as you shall judge from their weight & credit with the People and their Zeal for the Publick Service may be best disposed & enabled to quicken & effectuate the speedy Levying of the greatest Number of Men in the Disposition of which Commissions I am persuaded you will have nothing in View but the good of the Kings Service & due Subordination of the whole when joined to his Majesty's Commander and all Officers of the Provincial Forces as high as Colonels inclusive, are to have Rank according to their respective Commissions agreeable to the Regulations contained in his Majesty's Warrant of the 30th December 1757.

The King is further pleased to furnish all the Men so Raised as above with Arms Ammunition & Trunks as well as to Order Provisions to be issued to the same by his Majesty's Commissaries in the same Proportion & manner as is done to the rest of the Kings Forces and a sufficient Train of Artillery will also be provided at his Majesty's Expence for the Operations of the Campaign. The whole therefore that the King expects and requires from the several Provinces is the Levying & Blousing & Pay of the Men; And on these Heads also that no Encouragement may be wanting to the fullest Levying of your Forces his Majesty is further most graciously pleased to permit me to acquaint you that strong Recommendations will be made to Parliament in their Session next Year to grant a proper Compensation for such Expences as above according as the Active Vigour and strenuous Efforts of the respective Provinces shall justly appear to Merit; it is his Majesty's Pleasure that you do with particular Diligence immediately collect & put into the best Condition all the Arms issued last Campaign which can be anywise rendered serviceable or that can be found within your Government in Order that the same may be employed as far as they will go in this Campaign I am at the same time to acquaint you that considerable Supplies of Arms will be sent from England to replace such as may have been lost, or have become unfit for future Service.

I am further to inform you that similar Orders are sent by this Governour to Pennsylvania Virginia North Carolina and South Carolina.

The Northern Governments are also Directed to Raise Men in the same manner to be employed in such Offensive Operations as the Circumstances and Situation of the Enemies Possessions in those Parts