

200.
ling and Judging which is essential to the Constitution. We think it a Justice due to the Public
as well as to Col. Cresap, that this charge against him should be examined and set in a true
light, and therefore hope your Excellency, will Communicate to this House the Evidence on which
the Charge contained in your Message is founded.

11th December 1765.

Read and assented to
By the Lower House of Assembly
Signed for order
Robt. Lloyd Speaker.

Mr. David Ross being sent for, makes the following Deposition.

Mr. David Ross deposes, and saith, that some time before the 1st of last November, to wit about
the 27th or 28th of last October, he was at a place called Sharpsburgh, in Frederick County, where Mr.
Chapline was then making over Sundry Lots in that Town to Persons who had purchased them
of the said Chapline, and that the said Persons being sollicitous to get their Conveyances perfected
before the Stamp Act should take place, Col. Saml. Beall attended as a Magistrate to take the Ac-
knowledgements of Mr. Chapline, that some time in the Evening of the Day, when the above Busi-
ness was transacted, Mr. Chapline was told, that there was an Express come to him, upon which he
left the Company, and returning in a very short time, produced a Writing, to the People who were
Assembled, and told them he had received it by Express from Col. Thomas Cresap, in order to get it
signed by the People, that Mr. Chapline gave the Writing to Col. Beall to read it to the People
there met, and that it was a Writing, Addressed to the Lower House of Assembly, in Substance as
follows, to the best of this Deponents Memory and Belief viz. It expressed a Satisfaction of the
Conduct of the Lower House, in Opposing the Stamp Act, and intimated a Reliance that they would
Endeavour, like the Renowned ancient true Roman Senate, to suppress any future Attempt to deprive
them of their Liberty; it also expressed, that the Signers were informed, that a very large unjust Claim
in Tobacco, was made against the Public by a Particular Gentleman in Annapolis, preventing the Pay-
ment of other just Claims, and desiring, that if the said unjust and dishonourable Claim should still be in-
sisted upon, that the Lower House would give speedy Intelligence, in order that the Signers might come
down, and cause Justice to take Place, This Deponent saith, that after the said Writing was Read by
Col. Beall, he this Deponent read it, and counted the Number, who had then signed it, to be about
Thirty five, but that none of the Company present, when the said Writing was Produced, did sign it
in the presence of this Deponent, This Deponent remembers, that Mr. Chapline jocularly asked Col.
Beall if he would sign, who answered, that he did not like hanging, or Words to that Effect, and
this Deponent saith, that observing the Writing to be of a Threatning Nature, he jocularly asked, if no
Rifle Men could be got from above, and that it was then said, by some of the Company, that it was
of the Old Colonels Schemes, by whom he understood Col. Cresap to be meant.

Council Chamber 11th December 1765.

Shewn before Henry Hoopers.

David Ross.

On Consideration of the whole, His Excellency, with the Advice of this Board, sends to the Lower
House, a Copy of the above Deposition, and Copy of Capt. Shelby's Deposition, and the Information
of William Luce & John Burgess, taken before this Board Yesterday, together with the following Message.
Gentlemen of the Lower House of Assembly.

I think myself obliged to you for the regard