

two Years ago & by their last Bill they proposed to raise £40000 however I am of Opinion that £30000 is as much as the People could afford to contribute in any one Year & I am persuaded that if the Parliament of Great Britain was to compel us by an Act to raise that Sum the Upper Class of People among us & indeed all but a very few who desire to see every thing in Confusion would be well satisfied. A Paper which I shall take the Liberty to inclose will shew You after what manner our Taxes have been usually raised, what is supposed to be the Annual Income of Estates in this Province, also how much Money it would require to support a Regiment of 700 Men according to the Regulation which has been settled in this Province, I have likewise added a Sketch of such an Act as I could wish to receive from home. The Judges of the Land Office have not yet sent me any Copies of Patents to shew that Taylor & James's Islands have been always deemed to lie in the Bay of Chesapeake & not to be part of the Peninsula or Main Land, neither have I received any Answer from the Gentlemen of Dorchester County who were desired to enquire whether any Persons who live on those Islands can say that Vessels of Burthen have heretofore passed thro the Sound which divides them from the Main Land, if any such Persons can be found their Affidavits will be taken & I shall transmit them to You properly authenticated by the first Opportunity. Mr Emory says he cannot swear that the Map which You have now sent me is an exact & true Copy of that which he & Mr Thiller signed before the Maryland & Penn^a Commissioners because he did not keep any Copy of it but he declares that this Map is laid down agreeable to the original Minutes which he took at the time of making the Survey so far as regards the Depth of Water said to be in the Sound that divides those Islands from the Main Land as well as with regard to the width of the two Sounds called Slaughter Creek & Oyster Creek