

11 The publick Credit which was sunk to the lowest Ebb, by the
Instability or Negligence of the ~~Chief~~ ^{Chief} Company of House & a
Parcel of Dishy Fellows that being employed as his Deputies
had contracted Debts with the Country People for a thousand
pounds & upwards without making any payments. I also writ to
the Commanding Officer of the Very Troops to prepare to march
on a certain Day for the Camp where they may be employ'd
in building Store Houses & in any other Services. The 9th of Dec^r.
I returned to Annapolis the Assembly met the Day following
& by their Professions at the Opening of the Session fed me with
hopes of large Supplies but when they came to the point a
Bill was brought in for £7000 to raise, which the Ordinary
Licences were to be farther mortgaged & that His Maj^{ty}s Instruc-
tions positively forbid me to comply with, so our Assembly
broke up without giving any more Aids than the several
Northern Colonies to whom I had on the Receipt of his Majesty's
Commission address'd myself for Assistance - About this time
we were inform'd by many Letters from England that 2
Regiments were order'd, hither from Ireland, to be under the
Command of a General Officer, that Transports sail'd to
Ireland to take them aboard in Novemb^r, & that Ordnance
Stores were shipping at the Tower, & also some of the Train.
This Acc^t was confirm'd to me by Governour Dinwiddie the
2^d of Jan^y. & within a few Days I received a Letter from
Sir Tho^s. Robinson to the same purpose. upon this I again
set off for the Camp to make some preparations for the
reception of the British Troops at their Arrival in case
the General should choose to march them thither to make an
early Campaign; when I had been there about a week super-
intending that Business I had the pleasure of seeing Sr
John St Clair arrive on the same Evening & with the same