

I have likewise ordered a Company of Militia to Fort Frederick & have
three more ready to march upon the Return of my Express from Lancaster. That
the Gentlemen, in the Close of their Address intimated, to me that nothing
could say would induce them to proceed on any Business at that time, I did
not think it worth while, to protract the Session in hours purely to give it a
particular Answer - especially as I must in doing so - have been led to make some
Remarks on their Conduct that would have given them great Offences (as I well
knew from Experience) but could not at such a time, be productive of any good
Consequences. Your Ldp will perceive what else they have made of part of a
Letter which I laid before the late Lower House of Assembly about 16
Months ago when I was pressing them to grant a Sum of Money for building
a strong Fort at the Confluence of the two Branches of Potowmack about
15 Miles on this Side Fort Cumberland. The Gent^{rs} of that House seem'd
convinced of the Expediency of such a Fort's being built tho they declined
giving any Money for that Purpose & I believe every Body beside, tho they
compose our present House will think that such a Step or Proposal would
be at this time more reasonable than to give up a Fort that is already built -
& a Tract of Country 60 Miles in Extent to His Majesty's Enemies by a Law
as the Gent^{rs} of the Upper House apprehended that they were insidiously & un-
justly rejected on in the abovementioned Address. They thought it incumbent
on them to resent such a Proceeding in as publick a manner & therefore desired
me to present an Address of theirs to Your Lordship together with the other
and that Your Ldp might see after what an easy & simple manner considerable
Sums of Money can be raised in this Province to pay Assembly Men's
Wages & other publick Debts when His Majesty's Service does not come in for
con- sideration I take the Liberty to inclose a Copy of a Law that was made here
very lately for raising upwards of £30000. & just such another Bill will I
doubt not be framed for the same Purpose within these two or three Years. I
hope that Your Ldp's Business will not detain You much longer at
New York & imagining You would be willing to see the Gent^{rs} of our Assembly