

their Bill upon the Old Plan of an Apportionment I dare not flatter myself with the hopes of having it in my power to signify my Assent to a Supply Bill this Session. tho I find that the Majority in the Lower House for that Mode of Taxation is far less considerable now than it was before the late Election. You will see in the Maryland Gazette of Yesterday's Date some Account of an Attack that the French are said to have made the 22th of last Month on our Camp at Loyalhanning, but as that Camp is surrounded with a good Breast-Work & our Troops there said to amount to 3000 or upwards I do not imagine that the Enemy expected to force it nor can I conceive that they could have made such an Attempt without suffering greatly, which does not appear to have been the Case, indeed I am inclined to think that if we had much to boast of the General would at least have mentioned the Affair to me, in the Letter which he wrote from Raes Town, the 22 of Oct. We are told that instead of making a straight Road from the Loyalhanning to Fort Duquesne which is now said to be impracticable some of the Troops are employed in opening one from our Advanced Post into the Road that was made by General Braddock which demonstrates I think that the best & most would have been by the Way of Fort Frederick & Fort Cumberland & not by the Way of Raes Town. You will perceive that whatever be the Event of the Campaign the General talks of sending all his Regular Troops down the Country for Winter Quarters that they may be recruited & have the better Opportunity of equipping themselves for the next Campaign, but in my Opinion if he is not so fortunate as to reduce the French Fort it will be hazardous to entrust the advanced Post at Loyalhanning to Provincials only, besides it is a Doubt with me whether these Colonies will be persuaded to support a Body of Troops for that Purpose. With regard to the Maryland Forces which if one judges from their Behaviour this Summer are some of the best Provincials in the Service it cannot I think be expected that they will be content to remain there or indeed that they

will