

assured that it would be much more for His Majesty's Service to apply the said Money and all the Strength we are able to exert to the defence of this His Majesty's Province of Maryland in as great or greater danger than New York and not to ^{the} ^{us} who are much able to defend themselves then we and from whose Fortifications or other Strength we can have no manner of Safety or Security.

We beseech your Ex^{ty} plainly and sincerely to represent the truth of our Condition to His Majesty imploring His Majesty's Grace and Favour to make good these assertions which are plain Matter of Fact and undoubted Truths.

1. That the Indians of New York have as easy and open access to us as to them who being a high flying wild barbarous kind of Enemy are not obliged by the Carriage of any baggage or artillery to keep the improved roads or pass by our forts but can easily and suddenly descend upon us over the beaten and unoccupied mountains as we have found by Experience.

2. We have severall Nations of Indians on our frontiers some between us and New York and some to the Westward of us wide of New York and some amongst us who are frequently committing Rapines and Murders on our frontiers Inhabitants to secure whom as well as the Province in South that Province has within this three years been at the Charge of many Hundred thousand pounds of Gold and tho' we have for the last three or four Months been quiett by the Winter Season yett we are in great feare of New Incursions in the Spring having no assurance of their faithfulness to us.

3. We have no means of raising Money but by imposition on goods Exported and Imported of which Commodities as to the exportation of Gold is twenty times more then all the rest and in laying anything on that, we are constrained to be very tender by occasion of the duty payable in England and the Com^{on} that is thereby advanced to the Merchant to whom the same is Consigned for Sale.

4. To raise Money by Tax on the Inhabitants is utterly impracticable for severall Hundred families may the greatest parte of the whole Province have not five Shillings by them nor any means to raise it because there is very little amongst us and that a bare Coyne that is not current with our Neighbour, nor have we any liberty yett from His Majesty to advance Coyne doe as to introduce it amongst us by means whereof the best in the Province are some times putt to strait to procure Money for their travelling prockett Expenses.

5. This Province have severall times heretofore been reduced to very great Extremity and danger by these very Nations on our back to the impoverishing and almost destruction of the Men and Substance