

To his Excellency **HORATIO SHARPE, Esq;** Governor and Commander in Chief in and over the Province of MARYLAND.

The humble ADDRESS of the House of DELEGATES:

May it please your Excellency,

IN Answer to your Excellency's Message, with the Earl of HOLDERNESSE's Letter, we assure your Excellency we have that due Sense of our most gracious Sovereign's paternal Tenderness for, and Care of, all his Subjects, which Duty and Gratitude inspire, and are sufficiently apprehensive of the great Danger of suffering a foreign Power to encroach upon any Part of his Majesty's Dominions: We are determined resolutely to repel, in the best Manner we can, all hostile Invasions of this Province, by any foreign Power; and whenever the Circumstances of our neighbouring Colonies may require, or need our Assistance, we shall cheerfully contribute as far as we are able, towards defending them against the Attacks of their Enemies: But as there does not appear, at present, to be any pressing Occasion for imposing a Tax upon the People for these Purposes, we hope, that our Unwillingness to do it at this Time, will be rather ascribed to the real Motive of our Conduct, a prudent Care of, and Regard to, the Interests of our Constituents, than any Disinclination to the Service recommended.

On your recommending the Revival of the Act, for Arms and Ammunition, we must (tho' with Reluctance), observe to your Excellency, that under Colour of an Act of Assembly, made in the Year Seventeen Hundred and Four, when this Province was under the immediate Protection of the Crown, the Sum of Twelve Pence per Hoghead on all Tobacco, exported out of this Province, has been and still is, collected and paid to the Lord Proprietary; Three Pence of which Twelve Pence per Hoghead, when that Act was in Force, was, by the Instructions of her most gracious Majesty Queen ANNE to her Governor here, applied towards a Supply of Arms and Ammunition; and altho' it is the Sense of this House, that the abovementioned Act could not continue longer than during the Time the Government of this Province was in the Crown, and therefore, as they conceive, cannot now be in Force, yet it is thought but just and reasonable, while that Duty is collected, that Three Pence, Part thereof, should be applied, as during the Continuance of the abovementioned Act, to a Supply for Arms and Ammunition, and for this Reason we cannot, consistently with our Duty, and the Trust reposed in us by our Constituents, consent to a Revival of that Act.

Which was read and assented to, and signed on Behalf of the House, by the honourable Speaker.

Ordered, That Col. *Harrison* and Mr. *Earle* do acquaint his Excellency, that this House hath prepared an Address to be presented to him, and desires to know when and where he will please to receive it: They return, and acquaint Mr. Speaker, that the Governor was pleased to signify, that he would receive it in Half an Hour's Time, in the Conference-Chamber.

Ordered, That Major *Barnes*, and Five more, do present the Address to his Excellency the Governor.

Richard Lee, Esq; from the Upper House, delivers to Mr. Speaker the following Message, *viz.*

By the Upper House of Assembly, November 16, 1753.

Gentlemen,

IN Answer to your Message of this Day, we observe that you say, " We agree to allow the late Governor " for the Seal of five special Commissions of *Oyer and Terminer*, and Goal Delivery, to *Cecil County*, " but cannot consent to allow for the Seals of fifteen Proclamations relating to his Lordship's Assent to the " Inspection Law," and the Reason you give is, because it was never yet thought needful for the Validity of them: Without entering into any Discussion with you on that Point, we say, that the issuing those Proclamations, at that Time, was necessary to satisfy the Minds of the People who had been made to believe, that the Inspection Law was, or would be, dissented to, and as this was a special Case, which may never probably happen again, we hope you will agree to allow the same.

As to the Allowance for the Attendance of the Council of State and their Clerk, we refer you to the Proceedings in the Debates thereon entered in your own Journals, and particularly, to the Journal of the Year 1736, in which there are Messages, between the Houses, in the following Words, *viz.*