

And, *Gentlemen*, As we think the Bill now returned you in many Parts improper, so we conceive that some Parts of it, if pass'd into a Law, would be so far from promoting the End which we suppose is design'd, that hardly any Thing could be imagined more destructive thereto. As a Means of preventing the farther Encroachments of his Majesty's Enemies, on these his *American* Dominions, we apprehend we ought to encourage the Settlement of the back and remote Parts of this Province, and his Majesty's Lands behind us, with good *British* Subjects, at the same Time that his Majesty's Troops are employ'd against the Enemies, who have presumed to encroach on and build Fortresses within his Majesty's Territories; but we cannot prevail with ourselves to believe, that this Bill will have any such Effect, but rather that the Imposition of an additional Duty on every *English* Servant into this Province, seems calculated to impede such a Settlement, and we leave to your Consideration, whether it would not be better, in such a Conjunction as the present, to encourage the Importation of loyal *English* Subjects by a Bounty, than to deter them from coming among us, by laying a Duty on their Heads, at their Arrival. With respect to that Clause, that imposes an additional Duty on Criminals, we fear it may be deemed to clash with his Majesty's Authority, and that by consenting thereto, we may draw a Censure from the Throne, and run the Risque of incurring his Majesty's Displeasure.

We could suggest many other Reasons against this Bill, but not doubting but what we have already offer'd will be sufficient to convince you of the Impropriety of the Bill in it's present Form, we hope the fervent Zeal, for his Majesty's Service, and the common Cause, that actuated you to vote such a generous Supply, will incline you to testify your sincere Intentions, by framing a very different Bill from that which we now return you.

Signed per Order, *J. Rojs*, Cl. Up. Ho.

Mr. *Edward Tilghman*, from the Committee of Laws, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker the following ingrossed Address, *viz.*

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,

As your Excellency was pleas'd to acquaint us, by your Message of the 21st of *December* last, that you had the satisfaction to learn, that the Present of Five Hundred Pounds, which was granted by this Province in *May* last, to be made to the Six Nations of *Indians*, at an Interview to be held with them at *Allatoona*, on the 14th of *June* last, was accepted with particular Marks of Gratitude, for the Generosity and Benevolence of the People of this Province; we cannot but presume, that the Gentlemen appointed by your Excellency to represent this Province on that Occasion, have acted the Part in that Particular for which they were commission'd, though we cannot find that Transaction made a Part of their Proceedings, by the Minutes thereof, laid before us, by your Excellency, for our Perusal.

We do not conceive these Gentlemen were intended or impow'ed to agree upon any Plan of a proposed Union of the several Colonies, to be laid before the Parliament of *Great-Britain*, with humble Application for an Act, by Virtue of which one General Government may be formed in *America*, and therefore do not think ourselves oblig'd to take any particular Notice of their Minutes of Proceedings relative thereto; but, as it has been laid open to our View, we cannot, consistent with our Duty to our Constituents, forbear to observe in general, that the carrying the said Plan into Execution would absolutely subvert that happy Form of Government which we have a Right to by our Charter, (the Freedom of which was doubtless one great Inducement to our Ancestors to leave their Friends and native Country, and venture their Lives and Estates among a Fierce and Savage People, in a rough uncultivated World), and destroy the Rights, Liberties, and Properties of his Majesty's loyal Subjects of this Province.

Which was read and assented to, and signed, by Order of the House, by the Honourable Speaker.

Ordered, That Mr. *Murdock* 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