

me, that a Party of *Indians* have also attacked the Back Inhabitants of that Province, of whom they have killed eleven, and carried away many Captives.

Apprehending the *French* would proceed in this Manner, as soon as General *Braddock* and the Troops under his Command, should have passed the Mountains, and being confirmed in my Opinion by an Intimation in the General's Letter, I issued a Proclamation near a Month since, cautioning the distant and other Inhabitants of this Province, to be on their Guard, and unite for their common Defence and Safety; at the same Time, I sent peremptory Orders and Instructions to the Officers of the Militia of *Frederick County*, frequently to muster and discipline their several Troops and Companies once a Fortnight at least; and in case of an Alarm, that the Enemy was approaching, or had fallen on the Inhabitants, to march out and act either offensively or defensively, and use all Means to protect and defend the Inhabitants from the Devastations of the *French*, or their *Indians*: However, I find neither the Proclamation or Instructions will be effectual, unless the Militia can be assured, that they shall receive Satisfaction and Pay for the Time that they shall be out on Duty. I should think it highly proper for us to have about a Hundred, or at least a Company of Sixty Men, posted, or constantly ranging, for some Time, on the Frontiers, for our Protection: In this I desire your Advice, and that you will enable me to support such a Number.

Gentlemen,

At the General's Request, and that I might receive early Intelligence at this Time from the Camp and the Back Inhabitants, I have engaged several Persons, between this Place and *Wills's-Creek*, to receive and speedily convey any Letters that shall come to them directed for the General or myself: I doubt not you will be convinced of the Necessity of such a Measure, and provide for the Expence thereof.

H O R °. S H A R P E.

*The House adjourns till 2 of the Clock.*

*Post-Meridiam.* The House met according to Adjournment, &c.

On reading and considering his Excellency's Message of this Morning, Resolved, That this House will make suitable Provision for the paying and maintaining Eighty Men, including Officers, four Months (if Occasion) for ranging on the Frontiers of this Province, to protect the same against the Incursions and Depredations that may be attempted or made by the *French*, or their *Indian Allies*.

Resolved further, That this House will defray the reasonable Expence of conveying Intelligence from *Wills's-Creek* to *Annapolis*, and back thither, for four Months.

Resolved also, That this House will Address his Excellency, to acquaint him with the Resolves of this House.

Ordered, That Mr. *Bordley*, Mr. *C. Goldsborough*, and Mr. *Dulany*, do prepare and bring in such Address.

Ordered, That *Philip Hammond*, Esq; Dr. *Carroll*, Col. *Tilghman*, Mr. *Lloyd*, Mr. *John Goldsborough*, Mr. *Edge*, Col. *Henry*, Mr. *Murdock*, and Mr. *Williamson*, be a Committee for enquiring into Ways and Means to raise a Sum sufficient for Payment of Eighty Rangers, to protect and defend the Frontiers, and for defraying the Expence of conveying Intelligence from *Wills's-Creek* to *Annapolis*, and back thither, and that they do Report the same to the House.

Mr.