

HORATIO SHARPE, Esq; Governor. 29

“ Land, the Advantages of which to Troops employed on an Expedition to the Westward are too obvious
“ to mention ; it would also serve as a Place of Arms and Magazine for the Forces that may be engaged in
“ such Service, it being almost as far up as *Patowmack* is navigable for small Craft ; and *Fort-Cumberland*
“ being very improper for such Purposes, on Account of its Situation, which will always prevent its being
“ a Place of Strength, or even made tenable, and moreover, by our building such Forts and keeping up
“ such a Number of Men for them, the Inhabitants who live and have fine Settlements beyond the *North-*
“ *Mountain*, would be encouraged to remain on their respective Plantations, instead of deserting them as
“ they must otherwise do, and be reduced from affluent or easy Circumstances, to a State of Dependence or
“ Want.

“ II. It would be more advisable to form the 200 Men, proposed to be raised and supported for the De-
“ fence of the Fort on the *North-Mountain*, and to range on the said Mountain, into three Companies ; or
“ else let them be all under the Command of one Captain or Commandant, and be divided into three
“ Relieves, each Relief to consist of a Lieutenant, Ensign, three Serjeants, three Corporals, and fifty-
“ eight Men.

“ III. The Officers that may be appointed and commissioned to raise the 300, or any Number of Men,
“ for carrying on an Expedition to the Westward (if not the Officers who are to raise the 200 Men for the
“ Fort on the *North-Mountain*), should be permitted to offer and give a larger Bounty to Volunteers than
“ Three Pieces of Eight. In some of the neighbouring Colonies the Officers are allowed to give Five Pounds
“ for every Recruit.

“ IV. It should be left to the Commander in Chief of the intended Expedition, to form the Companies
“ that will be raised in this Province and put under his Command, as he shall think proper ; which he
“ cannot do, if the Bill directs what Number of Officers and Men each Company shall consist of : The
“ Regulation of such Troops or Companies Pay should also be left to him, that, by regulating the Pay of
“ all the Provincial Troops that shall be under his Command, and making it similar, he might prevent the
“ Uneasiness, Dissatisfaction and Mischiefs, that would be occasioned by a different Regulation and Al-
“ lowance.

“ V. The neighbouring Colonies (*Pennsylvania* not excepted), subject the Troops, that are supported
“ by them respectively for their Defence, to Trials by Court-Martial. Is it proper that the Soldiers,
“ which are to be raised, for Building and Garrisoning the Fort proposed to be built in this Province,
“ should alone be exempted from such Trials ? And that to have a Soldier punished for Mutiny and Deser-
“ tion, his Officer must bring him before a Court of Judicature, and order all that Part of the Garrison
“ that shall be able to give Evidence against him, to march down to a County Court, in order to attend
“ and give Evidence on the Trial ?

“ VI. Instead of obliging any or every Person, who shall kill, scalp, or take an Enemy *Indian* Prisoner,
“ to go before a Magistrate to make Oath, &c. before he be entitled to the Reward for so doing, and then
“ to apply to one of the Agents for such Reward ; would it not be better to empower and direct the
“ Commanding Officer at the Fort, or on the Expedition, to administer such Oath, and make immediate
“ Payment, otherwise the Country will, for some Time, lose the Service of every one that shall be Success-
“ ful ? And as the neighbouring Colonies offer and give much larger Rewards, than our Bill proposes, for
“ *Indian* Prisoners and Scalps, to all Persons without Distinction, Would it not at least appear better if we
“ did not restrain or confine the Reward to Inhabitants of this Province only ?

“ These Matters, *Gentlemen*, we submit to your Consideration ; but if you shall, after Perusal thereof, be
“ unwilling to make any Alterations in the Bill, and be still desirous to have it pass in its present Form, you
“ shall not long want our Assent and Concurrence.

“ Signed per Order, *J. Ross*, Cl. Up. Ho.”

Benedict Calvert, Esq; from the Upper House, delivers to Mr. Speaker a Petition of *John Farrow* ; in-
dorsed, “ By the Upper House of Assembly, May 13, 1756. Referred to the Consideration of the Lower
“ House of Assembly ;” which Petition was read here, and ordered to lie on the Table.

On Motion, the Question was put, Whether a general Answer shall be prepared by the Committee of
Laws to the Message of the Upper House, brought down this Afternoon by *Samuel Chamberlaine*, Esquire,
or Not ? Resolved in the Affirmative.