

S I R,

I RECEIVED yours of the 24th Instant, wherein I find his Excellency does not incline to let us have any Assistance to defend us against this unhuman Enemy that is constantly harrasing us, but expects that Capt. *Beall* takes Care to guard us sufficiently with the Provincial Troops; this I can venture to say, that there has been none yet that there can be any Hopes put in as a Defence; true it is, that since I wrote last, he sent a Serjeant with Thirty Men to Mr. *Baker*, or as many, with what few there was before, as made up Thirty; but most of them was out of the Hospital, or at least appeared as such. I call'd on Capt. *Beall* since the Receipt of your Letter with an Expectation of his immediately sending a stronger Party, but found it as he said, and I believe out of his Power, as there was then Forty under the Doctor's Hand, and many others that had recovered not fit for Duty, so that there was no Help to be had, nor none we expect from the Place; and if his Excellency does not incline to send us any Help, the Consequence is, we must break up and leave the Settlement, or be sure of being murdered by Degrees. There is near Seven Hundred Souls, as you will see by the inclosed List, that still remain at the several Places where they were gathered, and stands upon their own Defence, still hoping, that when his Excellency is truly informed of their unhappy Circumstance, that they will get some Relief. I am, Sir,

Your most humble Servant,

JOSEPH CHAPLINE.

Which Message, and Letters were severally Read, and Order'd to lie on the Table.

On Motion, Order'd, That Mr. *Dulany*, Mr. *Murdock*, and Mr. *Earle*, do prepare and bring in an Address to his Excellency the Governor, in Answer to the said Message.

The House adjourns until the Morrow Morning at IX of the Clock.

S A T U R D A Y, December 10, 1757.

THE House met according to Adjournment, &c.

Mr. *Murdock* 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,

WE are sorry to find, that the repeated Representations of the late Lower House of Assembly to your Excellency, of the Neglect of several Naval Officers to account for the Duties imposed on Servants, imported into this Province for Seven Years or upwards, and their earnest Request that your Excellency would direct their Bonds to be put in Suit, have not yet had the desired Effect; and it gives us equal Concern to find, that no legal Steps have yet been taken to compel the Commissioners of the Paper Currency Office to Credit the Public with the Monies paid so many Years ago into that Office by Messieurs *Trippe*, *Porter*, and *Bradford*. As you were pleas'd, in one of your Messages, to declare, that you would never countenance any Officer who does not diligently and faithfully discharge his Duty, we are at a Loss for the Failure in these Instances; but would choose to attribute it to any Cause rather than a Disregard in your Excellency to the reasonable Complaints of the Representatives of the People. We think ourselves indispensibly oblig'd to remonstrate against any Officer, who shall omit or refuse to execute the Duties enjoined by the Laws, and have an undoubted Right to claim your Excellency's Regard to our just Representations. We therefore must earnestly request, that your Excellency will give immediate and effectual Orders to compel the abovementioned Officers to an Observance and impartial Execution of the Laws, so positive and explicit in Relation to their Conduct, and of so great Utility and Importance to this Province.

Which was Read and Assented to, and Signed, by Order of the House, by the Honourable Speaker.

Order'd, That Major *Hynson* and Mr. *Thomas Gantt* do acquaint his Excellency the Governor, 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 pleas'd to signify, he would be ready to receive the Address at his House immediately.

Order'd, That Mr. *Lee*, with Three more, do present the Address.