

Plantations, the great Disadvantages the People of this Province must labour under from the Restrictions laid upon their Trade by the said Act, we have address'd the Lord Proprietary, to request him to present the said Petition to his Majesty, and lay the said Representation before the Lords Commissioners, and taken the Freedom to send them herewith to your Excellency, hoping you will be pleas'd to transmit them to his Lordship.

And the following Message, *viz.*

By the UPPER HOUSE of ASSEMBLY, December 15, 1757.

GENTLEMEN,

IN Answer to your Message by Messieurs *Tilghman* and *Carroll*, this House hath appointed Col. *Lloyd* and Col. *Tasler* to join the Members named by your House, to present the Address to the Governor, together with the Petition to his Majesty, the Representation to the Lords of Trade, and the Address to the Lord Proprietary, which are Signed by the President of this House.

Signed per Order, J. Ross, Cl. Up. Ho.

Which said Petition, Representation and Addresses, were severally Signed, by Order of the House, by the Honourable Speaker.

His Excellency the Governor communicated to Mr. Speaker, the following Message, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN of the Lower House of ASSEMBLY,

AS there are, in your Address of the 2d Instant, some Insinuations that seem calculated to injure my Character, I think it proper, before I enter upon any other Parts of that extraordinary Address, to submit to the disinterested and impartial Reader, whom you are pleas'd to appeal to, a plain Narrative of those Transactions or Proceedings of mine, which you conceive I should be desirous of Concealing, and would have judg'd improper for the Knowledge of the Public.

By an Act of Assembly that was made here in July 1754, upon the News of the *Virginia* Forces having been Defeated at the *Little-Meadows*, the Treasurers and Commissioners of the Loan-Office were directed to pay to Myself, or the Governor of the Province for the Time being, the Sum of 6000 *l.* to be applied towards the Defence of the Colony of *Virginia*, and his Majesty's Dominions, and the Relief and Support of the Wives and Children of the *Indian* Allies, that should put themselves under the Protection of this Government, at such Times, and in such Sums, as I, or the Governor of the Province for the Time being, should judge necessary. As soon as this Act was passed, I advis'd Governor *Dinwiddie* thereof, and desired him to tell me, how he thought the said Money might be most usefully expended for his Majesty's Service; and upon his giving it as his Opinion, that a Company of about a Hundred Soldiers ought to be rais'd in *Maryland*, to act in Conjunction with the Troops that were then on the Frontiers of *Virginia*, under the Command of Colonel *Innes*, I forthwith issued Commissions for raising such a Company. As it was then expected that these Men would be immediately employ'd beyond the *Alleghany* Mountains, where Provisions were not at all Times to be easily got, as the *Virginians* had to their Cost experienced, I empower'd and directed Colonel *Cresap*, who lived in the Westernmost Part of the Province, to purchase and lay in as much Flour and Salt Provisions as could be consumed by One Hundred Men in Twelve Months; and to enable the Colonel to purchase every Thing at the cheapest Rate, I did, on the 30th of *August*, and at several Times afterwards, advance him as much Money, as made together, the Sum of 1750 *l.* Currency, which he engag'd to account for to my Satisfaction. When the Officers had recruited about 50 Men, some of them were order'd to march with them, and encamp on Colonel *Cresap's* Plantation, where they continued until *November*, and then proceeded to join his Majesty's Three Independent Companies, that were then employ'd in building Barracks at the Place since known by the Name of *Fort Cumberland*; from the Time that the Men reach'd *Conococheague*, they were Victualled by Colonel *Cresap* out of the Provisions which he had Purchas'd in Pursuance of my Order. In the same Month, *viz.* *November* 1754, having received the King's Order to take Command of all the Troops that had been, or that should be, rais'd in these Colonies, for his Majesty's Service, I call'd another Assembly, in Hopes that they would have enabled me to Answer, in some Degree, his Majesty's Expectations and Intention in Honouring me with such a Commission; and, about the same Time, I gave Colonel *Cresap* Orders to purchase a Number of fatted Beeves, and to feed them till they should be wanted; in the Hopes which I had conceiv'd from the Assembly I was however disappoint'd; an End was put to the Session the 24th of *December*, and I was very soon after inform'd, that his Majesty had been graciously pleas'd to order a General Officer, and Two Regiments of Regular