

The Governor communicates to Mr. Speaker, the following Message, viz.

GENTLEMEN of the Lower House of ASSEMBLY,

I Think myself obliged to you for the Regard you have paid to the Message I thought it my Duty to communicate to you last Night. That you may see on what that Part of my Message, which relates to Col. *Cresap*, and the People who are said to have assembled in Arms at *Frederick-Town*, was founded, I shall, agreeable to your Desire, herewith send you the Copy of a Deposition that was made Yesterday, by Capt. *Evan Shelby*; also one of Doctor *Ross's*, relative to a Paper addressed to your House, that was, it seems, lately handed about in *Frederick County* to be Signed: Whether such Paper has ever been presented to your House, you best know: If it has, the Author, or original Mover of it, might, I suppose, be easily traced; and you may, I have Reason to believe, by examining *Joseph Flint*, *Ralph Matson*, *Jacob Young*, *James Miller*, and other Inhabitants of *Frederick County*, discover how far Colonel *Cresap* has been instrumental in promoting Measures that have a Tendency to the Public Peace, and to deprive the several Branches of the Legislature of that Freedom of Debating and Judging which is essential to the Constitution. What I intimated with regard to the People that live near *Elk-Ridge*, was communicated to me by Mr. *Lux*, and Mr. *John Burgess*, of that Place, a Copy of whose Information I likewise send you inclosed.

H O R ° . S H A R P E .

Dec. 11, 1765.

And the following Depositions, viz,

“ CAPTAIN EVAN SHELBY, being examined concerning some Reports which have been spread concerning a Number of Armed Men being collected to come down to *Annapolis*, saith, That when he came from *Frederick-Town* on Friday last, there were between Three and Four Hundred Men there, many of them armed with Guns and Tomahawks, that he did understand they were about to choose Officers, and to march down in Companies to *Annapolis*, in Order to settle the Disputes betwixt the Two Houses of Assembly in Relation to Passing the Journal; and that he was informed by *Joseph Flint* and *Ralph Matson*, that they heard Colonel *Cresap* say, that Nothing would be done unless the People did come down; that the People did say, they would come down in a civil Manner to see if the Business was done, and if it was not, they would not return until it was done, that he was desired by a Number of them to Head One of the Companies, and on his Refusal, they desired him to acquaint the People at *Annapolis*, that they were coming.

EVAN SHELBY.”

“ 10th December, 1765.

“ In the Council Chamber, taken and Sworn before,

“ HENRY HOOPER.

“ DOCTOR DAVID ROSS deposes, and saith, That some Time before the first of last November, viz. About the 27th or 29th of last October, he was at a Place called *Sharpsburg* in *Frederick County*, where Mr. *Joseph Chapline* was then making over sundry Lots in that Town, to Persons who had purchased them of the said *Chapline*, and that the said Persons being solicitous to get their Conveyances perfected before the Stamp Act should take Place, Col. *Samuel Beall* attended as a Magistrate to take the Acknowledgments of Mr. *Chapline*; that some Time in the Evening of the Day, when the above Business was transacted, Mr. *Chapline* was told, that there was an Express come to him, upon which he left the Company, and returning in a very short Time, produced a Writing, to the People who were assembled, and told them, he had received it by Express from Col. *Thomas Cresap*, in Order to get it signed by the People; that Mr. *Chapline* gave the Writing to Col. *Beall*, to read it to the People there met, and that it was a Writing addressed to the Lower House of Assembly, in Substance as follows, to the best of this Deponent's Memory and Belief, viz. It expressed a Satisfaction of the Conduct of the Lower House in opposing the Stamp Act, and intimated a Reliance that they would endeavour, like the renowned antient true *Roman Senate*, to suppress any future Attempt to deprive them of their Liberty; it also expressed, that the Signers were informed, that a very large unjust Claim in Tobacco, was made against the Public, by particular Gentlemen in *Annapolis*, preventing the Payment of other just Claims, and desiring that if the said unjust and dishonourable Claim should still be insisted upon, that the Lower House would give speedy Intelligence, in Order that the Signers might come down, and cause Justice to take Place. This Deponent saith, that after the said Writing was read by Col. *Beall*, he this Deponent read it, and counted the Number who had then signed it to be about Thirty-five; but that none of the Company present, when the said Writing was produced, did sign it in the Presence of this Deponent; this Deponent remembers that Mr. *Chapline* jocularly asked Col. *Beall* if he would Sign, who answered, that he did not like Hanging, or Words to that Effect, and this Deponent saith, that observing the Writing to be of a threatening Nature, he jocularly asked, if no more Rifle-Men could be got from above, and that it was then said, by some of the Company, that it was one of the old Colonel's Schemes, by whom he understood Col. *Cresap* to be meant.

DAVID ROSS.”

“ Council Chamber, 11th December, 1765.

“ Sworn before, HENRY HOOPER.

WILLIAM