

Letter Bk. III that your Ldp might see after what an easy & simple manner considerable sums of money can be raised in this Province to pay Assembly Mens wages & other publick Debts when His Majesty's service does not come in question I take the Liberty to inclose a Copy of a Law that was made here very lately for raising upwards of £30000 & just such another Bill will I doubt not be framed for the same Purpose within these two or three years. In hopes that your Ldps Business will not detain you much longer at N York & imagining you would be willing to see the Gent<sup>n</sup> of our Assembly I have only prorogued them to the 17<sup>th</sup> of Ian<sup>y</sup> but if Your Ldp should be obliged to defer Your Journey to Annapolis beyond that time or not be desirous of meeting them at all You will be pleased to favour me with timely notice that I may prorogue the Assembly to a longer Day, for it is my opinion that It would answer no End for me to meet them again after what hath passed, at least for some time & untill Your Ldp can be present.

In behalf & at the earnest Request of the Inhabitants of this small Place I take the Liberty to represent to your Ldp the great Inconveniencies to which they are subjected by having so great a Number as five Companies of Soldiers quartered on them whom they are obliged to furnish with Lodging & Necessaries at their own private Expence. They made frequent Application to the Assembly for Assistance both before & after the Bill of which I send Your Ldp a Copy was rejected but could obtain no Relief. In fact many of the Gentlemen of the Town are obnoxious to the Lower House of Assembly on account of their holding offices under the Govern<sup>t</sup> & having Connections with me & therefore the Burgresses were not displeas'd at seeing them distressed, especially as they themselves were thereby exempted from bearing the least share of the Burthen. The Number of Families that reside in this Place are far short of a hundred & as several of these are scarcely able to maintain themselves the Gentlemen are obliged to receive or provide Lodging Fire & necessaries for 15 or 20 men each. This being the Case I hope Your Ldp will permit Col<sup>o</sup> Haldiman to send some of them to the neighbouring Towns or if he shall think proper to quarter them on the Gent<sup>n</sup> that resides at a small Distance from Annapolis & can easily accommodate them—Among the Papers that I send Your Ldp is one which contains the Information of a French Deserter & of a Prisoner who were brought hither a few Days ago from Fort Cumberland. They were examined by Sr J S<sup>t</sup> Clair Col<sup>o</sup> Haldiman & myself. The Cadet I have committed to the Custody of the Sheriff till I can be honoured with Y<sup>r</sup> Ldps orders concerning him—