

ever our Quota for the flying Camp was struck at 3400 as you will see by the resolve inclosed by the President, but it was not understood that the Militia were to be drafted or compelled to march. And it is left altogether at large how they are to be collected. Some additions to the resolutions on that subject are talked of but not formally proposed. We are astonished at the ungenerous and malevolent Turn given to the Proceedings of our Convention by that of Virginia, and hope they will be as unsuccessful in their nefarious attempt to stir up the People of Maryland against their representatives, as they have hitherto been in their Endeavours to render the Councils of that Province suspected. We are exceedingly sorry to observe this unfriendly disposition in a neighbouring sister Colony, but hope there will be found spirit enough in the Convention of Maryland to resent this most injurious Treatment in the manner it deserves. The proposition from the Delegates of Virginia to declare the Colonies independent was yesterday after much Debate postponed for three weeks then to be resumed, and a Committee is appointed to draw up a Declaration to prevent Loss of time in case the Congress should agree to the Proposition at the day fixed for resuming it. This postpone was made to give an opportunity to the Delegates from those Colonies, which had not as yet given Authority to adopt this decisive measure, to consult their constituents; It will be necessary that the Convention of Maryland should meet as soon as possible to give the explicit sense of the Province on this Point. And we hope you will accordingly exercise your Power of convening them at such Time as you think the members can be brought together. We wish to have the fair and uninfluenced sense of the People we have the Honour to represent in this most important and interesting affair and that it would be well if the Delegates to Convention were desired to endeavour to collect the opinion of the people at large in some manner or other previous to the meeting of Convention. We shall attend the Convention whenever it meets if it is thought proper we should do so. The approaching Harvest will perhaps render it very inconvenient to many Gentlemen to attend the Convention. This however must not be regarded when matters of such momentous Concern demand their deliberation. We beg you will inform us as soon as may be of the Time you fix for the Convention to meet, and we should also be very glad to receive the Proceedings of the last Session. We see with the deepest concern the attempts from various Quarters to throw the Province into a state of confusion Division & Disorder, but trust, the Exertions of those who are the true friends of Virtue & the American Cause will be adequate to the surrounding