

L. H. J.  
Liber No. 52  
April 23

sent 200 of the Provincials of Virginia by Sea, at the Expence of that Province, to South-Carolina, and had 200 more of the Virginia Provincial Troops ready to be carried there, if that Service had not been provided for by the Arrival of a Regiment of One Thousand Men from Europe. I have shewed you above, that the King has the undisputed Right, that he has by his Commission put the Execution of it into my Hands, that Maryland alone have disputed the King's Right of Commanding his Subjects in Arms, altho' his Majesty's Servant in the Execution of that Trust, has had a particular Regard to the Ease and Security of the Province of Maryland. When I know Things really to stand on this Footing, and can have no Doubt that the Gentlemen that compose the Assembly of Maryland, mean, not only to protect the Province of Maryland, but to give every Aid to the Common Cause in their Power, I can have no Doubt that on a cool Reflection of the general Situation of the Affairs of this Country, the Duty they owe to the King and the Community (whatever Representations may have led them into the present Bill) they will immediately set those Things on a true Constitutional Footing, and enter heartily into the Common Cause for the Security of Maryland, and to give their utmost Assistance against the Common Enemy. I intended when I writ from Albany to have come directly to Annapolis, but some unexpected Business put it out of my Power at that Time, and now I cannot fix the Time I shall be with you.

“Hoping from your wise Management, and the People coming to see their own true Interest, that I shall very soon have better Accounts from you: I am, with sincere Regard, Sir,

“Your most obedient humble Servant,  
“Loudoun.”

Does it, Gentlemen, or does it not, appear from this Letter, that the Earl of Loudoun applauded the Conduct of the Upper House in rejecting the Bill, of which, at the Desire of the Lower House, I had sent him a Copy? If it does, I intimated no more nor less than the Truth, whatever Part of the Bill it was that induced his Lordship to commend them for returning it with a Negative. At the Time I sent him the Bill, I did not imagine he would Read any more of it than the military Part, as I told the Gentlemen of the Lower House in a Message dated the 6th of December, when they desired me to transmit the Bill to him; and from the Manner in which his Lordship expresses himself in the Beginning of his Letter, I am apt to believe he never thought of perusing more of it than that Part, nor do I see what good End it would have answered for him to have waded thro' that voluminous Composition; for tho' you are now pleased to signify to me, that the then Lower House expected his Lordship would peruse it, in order to see if there was any Thing impracticable in the Execution of the Plan for raising