

Gentlemen

It has been Generally believed, and by severall Persons often affirmed that the frequent Meeting of Assemblies has been very Burthensome and Chargeable to the Province and if I mistake not Such Charges as were Occasioned by Assemblies only were the Chief Motives and Pretects, that Davis and his Complices had for their Defection from the Government in the late Rebellion that happened at the Cliff.

The Ramours therefore of Such Buse. Malicious fellows as those and my own — willingness to avoid all Charges on the Inhabitants that were not of Absolute Necessity, Occasioned me to forbear calling you together so soon as otherwise I should have done, And truly had there not been some Murders and other Outrages Committed this Summer by Indians that as yet we have not fully Discovered, I should not have given you the Trouble of this Meeting untill October next but being Daily Alarmed by the Approaches of considerable Parties of Indians that have been discovered and discoursed with by Capt. Rand. Brandt in Charles County, And very much apprehending some sudden Attempts by them on the Inhabitants, I conceived it Absolute Necessary you should meet this Day to the End I might Communicate to you in time the Urgent and pressing Occasion both I and my Council find of renewing very Speedily those Articles of Peace and Amity that were made some few years since by Col Henry Coursey on the behalf of this Province, with the Senecas These Articles as I have been Informed have never been renewed Since Col Courseys Return from that Negotiation which I fear has been a great Omission in this Government, and may have Occasioned some disgust or at best some Jealousie, in those Nations that we Value not their friendship, when I am certain that (at this juncture of time) we ought to seek and highly cherish their kindnes and friendship for it must be by their Means and Assistance that we are to hope to rid the Province, of these Susquehannas and other Misch Nations that come yearly down and infest both Maryland and Virginia Therefore Gentlemen I hope, and very earnestly Desire, you, in the first Place take this great and weighty Affair in to, your Serious and most prudent Considerations and by some early Course and Means endeavour to Secure the Inniquos Our friends according to Our Articles formerly made with them, that so they may be gained to Aid and Assist us in the cutting off these Enemies of Ours that certainly Designe Our Destruction so soon as they have taken from us Our friends the Neighbouring Indians, The Speedy effecting of this I recommend to you as the only Sure foundation upon which Our future Peace and Tranquility must Depend, And next to this I must with some earnestness desire that you will this Sessions prevent by some severe Act the great Licence and Liberty severall Wicked Malicious Persons give themselves in broaching Lyes and false Stories which greatly Disquiet all good People and tend very much to the Disturbance of the Governmt. Some bad Effects have been already Seen, and if timely care had not prevented you might ere this have Seen another Rebellion on foot in this Province of this I will give you an Account in due time —

That which now remains for me to tell you is that I will not at all be wanting on my part to Join with you in any thing you shall