

quires a vigorous and immediate Exertion of all our Powers to check their Progress.

The *Indians*, who are our Friends, likewise claim our Assistance. While their Warriors are in the Field with our Troops, their Women and Children are sent to us to be protected and supported: This is the greatest Demonstration they can give of the Confidence they place in us. Nor can I doubt, but that at this critical Period, when the *French* are employing every Artifice to alienate their Affections from us, you will embrace so fair an Opportunity of firmly attaching them entirely to our Interest, in taking Care to have their Wives and Children kindly and hospitably treated while they are obliged to stay with us, and implore our Protection.

As our Settlements on the Frontiers must be the first exposed to the Inroads of the Enemy, I have ordered a Supply of Ammunition to *Frederick County*; and, with the Advice of his Lordship's Council of State, issued a Proclamation, for the Militia to be put in the best Posture of Defence, that they may be prepared to act in Case of Necessity: And, by the same Advice, have, at the earnest Request of Col. *Innes*, Commander in Chief of the *Carolina* Forces, granted a Supply of Arms, which, considering the present Urgency of Affairs, could not have been denied.

The Money in the Treasurer's Hands, for the purchasing of Arms and Ammunition, being near exhausted, I must recommend to you, in the strongest Manner, the raising a sufficient Fund for that Purpose, so necessary at this Time for the Defence of the Province: And must likewise observe, that the present State of the Militia, requires your most serious Attention.

Gentlemen,

There never was a Conjunction, in which your Unanimity, Vigour, and Dispatch were more necessary than now: And, as I depend upon the Prudence of your Resolutions, I am persuaded you will make such Provisions adequate to the present Emergency, as will best express your Zeal for his Majesty's Service, the Security and Welfare of this Province, and the Support of the common Cause."

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