His Excellency
Thomas Sim Lee Esqr
Governor &c. of the State
of Maryland at
Annapolis

Bruxelles March 6th 1782

Dear Sir.

503.

Being this moment informd that the Vengeance is on the point of sailing from Nantes to Maryland, I seize the occasion to send you the inclosed resolve & address of the British Ho: of Commons, which passed the 27th Ult.o by a Majority of Nineteen against all the efforts of the Ministry.

I do this more anxiously because the English papers resound now with the Idea that the American War is at an end, which may tend to deceive & prevent those vigorous exertions that are as necessary now, as they ever were at any former period, not only to provide for your defence against the attacks of the Enemy, but to attack also in your Turn & drive the Enemy off from the Continent. Whatever may be the wish of the British Nation, you may be assured that the Kings disposition (and he is all powerfull) are by no means changed & that he thirsts now, as much as ever, for the blood & devastation of America, therefore look not on Peace as already at yr. doors but at a Great Distance.

This spirit in the Ho. of Comons may indeed for the present, compel the King to make some alterations in the plans he had formd of carrying fire & sword into various parts of America, under the direction of his present bosom friends Sir Jno. Johnston & the Traitor Arnold. The latter was to have gone out immediately as second in command under Sir Guy Carleton, who is appointed Commander in Chief in America in the room of Clinton. Common Sense

tells

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