

Letter Bk. I.
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[Sharpe to Calvert.]

Novem^r 29th transmitted by Capt: Alex: Piddie in the Francis.

Sir:

Inclosed I have sent the Addresses of the Upper & Lower Houses of Assembly together with a Representation of the Latter w^{ch} They delivered at the Conclusion of the Session on the 17th Inst: when among other Laws (which I shall be careful to transmit with the Proceedings of the House by the first opportunity after they can be prepared) were enacted the two supplementary Acts specified in my Instructions concerning Negroes & Princess Ann Town & the Law for Inspection of Tobacco but with some few Alterations which the Upper
p. 10 House rather than reject it entirely thought proper to admit The Temper & Moderation which the Burgesses seemed to shew gave Me great hopes of seeing Them pass the Journal which has long afforded occasion for Disputes but am sorry to inform you that at length They determined not to recede from the Conditions with regard to the Council's Allowance which had been insisted on by preceeding Assemblies.

The Revival of the Law for Arms & Ammunition I did my utmost to promote but neither my Exhortations nor the Secretary of State's Letter requiring them to join in the Defence of the neighbouring Colonies against any hostile Attempts of the French or Indians could induce them to think such a timely provision reasonable & necessary a Copy of the Secretary's Letter with my Message on the receipt of it to the Assembly & their Address in answer to it I have taken this opportunity to transmit as His Ldp might think proper to acquaint the Earl Holderness of the due obedience which has been paid his Commands. The Journal of Accounts being not agreed on by both Houses I had no opportunity of continuing M^r
p. 11 Bladens Demand on the Publick which I am afraid tho' the justness of it is not questioned will never be favourably heard & could wish He had not contrary to advice built so much on the publick Credit That Claim I doubt is not the least thing that deters the Assembly from compleating the Gov^{rs} House which I should have recommended, but it was thought a Bill for that purpose proposed by some of their own Members next Session would promise greater probability of Success: the House at present is in a ruinous condition; The Timbers within & Roof being perished for want of a covering. My Compliance at present with the 83^d Article of private Instructions by giving orders to the Agent for the receipt of the Money arising from Ordinary Licences is rendered impossible by a Law passed in June 1746 Entitled an Act for issuing & taking out of the Office of the Commissioners or Trustees appointed for emit-