

Letter Bk. I.
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I am sorry at being unable to put the Scheme your Ldp: was pleased to intimate for compleating the Governour's House in execution; for want of being covered the House is now reduced to so bad a State (the Timber work being mostly wasted & demolished) that less than £300 or £400. will not put it in the Condition it was left in by the workmen, & I apprehend to perfect it would require as many Thousand, so large a sum it is impracticable to raise by Lottery in these parts where it is with the greatest Difficulty that £100 or £200 can be raised by that method for executing any work of the most general Utility.

As the objection that many of the Lower House make to advancing a sum of Money for its Completion is, that they conceive the House is now become absolutely irreparable, I would engage (was that sufficient) to get a Subscription of £150—to shingle it, & by recovering it to its pristine appearance obviate that Objection, but as such a sum is much too trivial, unless your Ldp would be pleased to increase it; I must rest till a fair Occasion offers for pressing it to the Assembly; which I will endeavour to do in the most effectual manner, but cannot think of attempting it till after the Dissolution of this Assembly in November next, as the Incursions of the French on His Majesty's Dominions oblige me to push them on the disagreeable Business of granting money for that purpose at this time, & as it is too notorious that They always shew greater Backwardness in every last session to do any thing generous, lest it should induce their Electors to reject them when they offer themselves Candidates at the ensuing Election.

I met the Assembly the 25th of March upon the Business that was mentioned in my Letter dated the 10th of Feb^r the Contents of which I hope e'er this your Ldp is acquainted with, but neither my utmost Efforts or the Example of the Virginians who had just then granted the Sum of £10,000 for that purpose could induce them to make the least Provision for the Encouragement of the Ohio Expedition.—That a Sum of Money should be given for Commissioners to-be at the Interview proposed to be held with the Indians at Albany was pretty readily voted; but the Method proposed for raising it was such as could not be concurred with. The whole proceedings of the Session I have transmitted in the Journal of both Houses, & hope my Conduct with respect to that Affair will not appear to merit your Ldp's Disapprobation. The repeated Sollicitations of the neighbouring Governments who begin to be alarmed at the progress & at their summoning a Fort which the Virginians had built on their Frontiers to surrender have induced me to meet the Assembly of this Province again the 8th Inst. to procure if possible a more satisfactory answer to the Letter from the Lds of Trade as well as the Gov^r of Vir-