

Spring, which is all I think possible to be done now, but I shall be greatly obliged for your advice herein; as I am sensible of your Knowledge in Military Affairs.

I have earnestly wrote Home for Assistance of Men & Money, with<sup>t</sup> which I dread our Success; as also for a proper Supply of Ordnance Stores for we have none here suited for a Campaign or a Siege, which will be much wanted to dispossess the French of the Fort at Monongelicta.

I have Complaints from our Frontiers in Augusta County of many Parties of Indians &c. Robbing & ill treating our People, have therefore ordered a Comp<sup>a</sup> of our Regiment there to assist & protect them.

A Governor in the Discharge of His Duty to his King & Country, is much to be pitied, when it's considered his Transactions with an obstinate Assembly; full of their own opinions, & entirely deaf to Arguments & reason; I assure you I am heartily fatigued & quiet weary with the unjust opposition to every Thing proposed to them for the Gen<sup>l</sup> Good, & without the Government take some Steps to assist us I fear the Consequence from the indefatigable Motions of the Enemy.

The Establishment of the Pay to your Forces I think very equitable I have ordered Col<sup>o</sup> Innes to take Possession of the Ohio Company's Warehouse which will make a very good Magazine, & we had better pay rent than begin to build, have directed a Breast Work & the great Guns to be mounted for Defence; & if they can build a Shed round it, may be proper for the Soldiers to lodge in; & to proceed to the Mountains to build a Fort to secure a Pass by the Time we can collect a sufficient Force to attack the Enemy, to do it with the few Men we have, I think would be sacrificing their Lives.

I am glad you have directed the opening the new road from Rock Creek, which must be of great Service. I am an entire Stranger to the back Country, but have desired Col<sup>o</sup> Innes to get the best Information he can & to write me fully thereon— There is no Doubt but the French will do all in their Power to stop the Passes over the Mountains & endeavour to intercept our Provisions &c<sup>a</sup> I therefore am of opinion with our handfull of Men, we can only be on the Defensive till we increase our Numbers; & would willingly hope on next Meeting of our Assembly, they will more seriously consider their danger, & grant a Supply without any Clogg; but really their Behaviour this Session gives me a bad opinion of them.

Your Scheme is very just & intirely agreeable to me, but without Men & Money I cannot tell how to conduct myself & indeed it gives me very real Concern—

You may please to direct your Men for two Months as you may think most suitable, after that, the Season of the Year will