

Letter Bk. IV favourite Assessment Bill without any material Amendments. I informed you in my Letter of Yesterday's Date that the Assembly had again met to as little purpose as heretofore; herewith you'll receive a Copy of the Speech I made to both Houses at the opening of the Session together with their Addresses in answer to it, I likewise send you a Copy of a Message that I sent to the Lower House the 9th Inst with a Letter which I had just received from M^r Sec^y Pitt & have thereto annexed the Answer which they presented to me the 11th Inst. On the 16th they sent their Supply Bill (carried by a Majority of 28 agst 19) for raising £60000 on their old Plan, to the Upper House whence it was returned with a negative the same Day. The next morning a member moved for A Bill for granting a Supply of £50000 for His Majesty's Service by a Tax upon Land a Tax upon all the Taxable Inhabitants of this Province, an additional Tax upon all negro Taxables, a Tax upon all Ferries & Pilots to be Lycenced, An Additional Tax upon all Wheels, a Tax upon all Lucrative Offices, Places of Profit, Benefices & Professions, a Tax upon all Clocks, Watches Saddle Horses &c which was rejected by a Majority of Voices 23 agst 12. Upon this I sent a Message to the House desiring them to let me know whether they would or would not agree to raise the necessary Supplies by some other Bill beside that which the Upper House had then

p. 32 refused for the fifth time, that I might immediately advise Brig^r Stanwix of their Resolutions. Upon the Receipt of my Message, of which I also send you a Copy, those who were for another Bill moved that a Categorical answer should be forthwith given agreeable to my Request but the others opposing it 'twas Resolved to postpone the Consideration of my Message, & in the mean time to proceed to the Hearing of a Controverted Election & to other Matters not at all relative to His Majestys Service, Upon this the few of those who were willing to grant Supplies that were left declared that they would stay no longer since it was evident that the House would do nothing but Mischief & make Remonstrances or Resolves to inflame the People, whereupon the Gentⁿ of the Upper House unanimously pressed me to put an End to the Session & at their Request I prorogued the Assembly with a Speech which you will see in the inclosed Gazette. I am very sorry the Attorney Gen^l delayed so long to give his opinion on the State & Papers that were submitted to him, not that I think his opinion will be at all regarded by our People for I am satisfied they will never grant any Money otherwise than on their own Terms, especially since the Pensilvania Assembly have at length brought Govern^r Denny (whether by orders from his Constituents I know not) to assent to the Supply