Taken into consideration the giving an Answer to his Ex^{ncy} Lib. H. D. the Govern^r of New Yorks last Letter hither sent, bearing Date the 30th of August past, as also to another by his Ex^{ncy} Whitehall Rec^d from the honor^{ble} his Ma^{ts} Councill of that Province, Dated 9th of September after, which said Letters together with certain Indian propositions inclosed were afore read in Councill & laid before the House of Burgesses for their consideration & Run in these following Words, Viz^t

Governr of New York, August the 30th 1695

Lre for Assistance Yor Excell Letter by Mr Tasker came hither the 27th instant which I yesterday laid before the Councill, who were of Opinion (the necessities of the Governmt being so p. 251 great) that the Bills by him offered should be Received, tho the assistance they give holds no proportion with that Required by her late Mats Royall Letter nor the present Whitehall necessities of this province.

It does not seem reasonable that 1198 Men should be appointed by the Crown for the Colonies & provinces vpon the Main for the defence & assistance of this Province (which in truth is the safety of all the rest) without Arms, Ammunition, Officers pay & other incidents, the want of those would render them useless, the Charge for one year amounts to £30000 a sume not to be supplyed here, the burthen of it would make the inhabitants quit their dwellings (which too many here have already done by reason of the charge of the Warr which has lain so heavy vpon this province some years past) the ffrench are very diligent, and both by force & fraud Endeavour to divert & debauch the ffive Nations of Indians from their fidelity to the English; the keeping them firm does not cost this province less yearly than £2000 and in this New York has the least concern, being setled in Towns and so more capable of defence.

By my last advice the ffrench are resetling Cadaracqui which had I force sufficient might easily be prevented; how prejudiciall to his Ma^{ts} intrest and dangerous to his Subjects in those parts the ffrench advances on the back of these Colonies will prove every rationall man acquainted with their scituation must be extreme sensible of

His Majesty has been pleased to Entrust me with the directions of the Quota's of Men or other assistance appointed; and as to Maryland so to the other Colonies, I have applyed for their full Quota's at different times, and shall take care the assistance come proportionably and do again apply my self to your Ex^{ncy} for your Quota, I am S^r Yo^r Excell humble Serv^t Govern^r Nicholson)

Ben: ffletcher

Maryland