

neighbouring Colony, for that important Enterprize. For my own Part, I can see the Transactions of these People, against whom our Aid is solicited, in no other Light than that of flagrant Acts of Hostility, and I hope you will not give a softer Appellation than that of an Invasion, to their unjust Usurpations and Encroachments on his Majesty's Dominions, their Presumption to erect Forts on Lands to which our Sovereign has a most indubitable Right by a Concession, or rather a Purchase, not many Years since, from the Indians, who 'til that Time had held them in Possession. The Summons sent them to retire and relinquish Territories, to which they could have no just Pretensions, you see was answered with a Letter of Defiance [see pp. 409-411]; and by them, or at their Instigation, the greatest Violences were committed on several of our Fellow Subjects. 'Twas this Behaviour, and the Dread of repeated Insults, that obliged the Virginians to enter on Measures, which, as they demand our highest Approbation, we cannot, without the Charge of Inhumanity, render abortive.

L. H. J.
Liber No. 47
March 6

You are, I doubt not, fully certified of the Grounds for the Intelligence we received last Saturday, of the dutiful and generous Resolution of our Neighbours, to engage in supporting his Majesty's Right to the Country, which is at this Time invaded; but I submit to your Consideration, a Letter from the Governor of Virginia, confirming it; by that you will learn what Dependence they have on our Disposition to concur with them in an Endeavour, to extinguish at once our Enemy's Hopes of making farther Progress in their ambitious Schemes. This, the Duty of my Station obliges me to conjure you, by your Desire to maintain the Faith and Confidence our Neighbours have in us, by the Honour of the British Crown, and the Safety of these Provinces, with the utmost Dispatch to resolve.

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Hor.^o Sharpe.

And the following Letter from the Governor of Virginia, viz.

Williamsburg, February 23, 1754.

Sir,

I received the Favour of your Letter the 10th Current, and observe your Assembly were to meet the 25th, and hope they will chearfully aid the intended Expedition against the Enemies of our Country.

I prorogued our Assembly this Day, they have given 10,000 l. this Money, for the Support of his Majesty's Right to the Lands on the Ohio, in Consequence thereof, I design immediately to raise five or six Companies of Men, to march to Will's Creek with all prudent Expedition, but I dread their being there so soon as I formerly wrote you, but I hope they will be early in April, and should be glad your Forces could be there at the same Time.

I have wrote to the Cherokee and Catawba Nations of Indians, to the Southward of this, who some Months ago offered a Body of 1000 of their Warriors to go to the Ohio. I have, by Express,