

vania in three different Places, and cut off or carried into Captivity a very considerable Number of those unhappy People.

L. H. J.
Liber No. 50
May 5

Should the Issue of this Session be such as I most earnestly hope it will, I shall immediately Countermand the Orders that have been sent to Captain Brome and to the Captain of a Company of Militia in Cæcil County; but if you should unhappily break up again, without making Provision for the Support of any Troops, either to act under the Command of Brigadier Forbes, or to be left on our Frontiers, I apprehend the Gentlemen of the Council will think it absolutely necessary that Two or Three Companies of Militia should immediately March, lest upon our Troops Disbanding themselves (as they then undoubtedly will, though no Member of your House shall advise them to do so) the Frontier Inhabitants should in Despair abandon their Plantations, or fall an easy Prey to their Savage and Cruel Enemies. I assure you, Gentlemen, that nothing could give me greater Uneasiness than to find myself obliged to take a Step which must necessarily put many of the People of this Province to Inconveniencies, and that it will not be because I have less Compassion for those whose Lot it may be to march, than yourselves, if I should issue fresh Orders, but because I think myself answerable for the Lives of the People committed to my Care, and that it is my indispensable Duty to use every legal Means in my Power for their Defence. I flatter myself that when the People consider this, they will cheerfully submit to the unavoidable Inconveniencies they may be put to, which however it shall be my study to render as light as possible: And as there will not be any Necessity for my Meeting you again before Winter, unless some very unlucky or extraordinary Accident should happen, I shall, in case Nothing be done, immediately after the Conclusion of the Session, repair to the Frontiers in order to take Command of the Militia that may be Ordered thither; if there are any Gentlemen among you, especially of Cæcil, Kent, or Calvert Counties, whose private Affairs or Interest will receive no great Detriment from their being absent a Month or two from Home, I shall be extremely glad of their Company, because I am persuaded, their Presence on the Frontiers will have a good Effect on the Militia that might be Ordered from their respective Counties; but if this is a Favour that I must not expect, I hope they will at least not discourage nor dissuade any from going, that may be inclined to accompany me, or, that I may, by Advice of the Council, require to march and serve in Arms for the necessary and immediate Defence of their Country.

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May 5, 1758.

Hor.^o Sharpe.

The House adjourns till 2 of the Clock.

Post-Meridiem. The House met according to Adjournment, &c.

Col. Tasker, from the Upper House, delivers to Mr. Speaker, the Bill, entituled, A Supplementary Act to the Act, entituled, An Act