

Paper No. 2. containing
Mr. Waller's reasons for
not furnishing the Hadley

The Honble. Council of A. S. Thomas, Seniors

Standard

Recorded
Exam'd

Sir,

Wm. H. Corner Collection

I conceive it will be unnecessary to say much respecting the State House in Addition, to what is contained in my several Memorials to the General Assembly on that Subject, which I presume are in your Possession and to which I beg leave to refer you—According to the most accurate Calculations of Genl. Cornwall with the Excellence of Buildings, the Sum allotted by the Public, was considerably too small for the Completion of the State House, in the manner proposed nevertheless finding there was no hope of the Building being undertaken by any other Person, I determined to encounter the arduous & hazardous task, relying on my Industry and laborious Care, to save me from Loss, and calculating on no other gain but what might result to me in common with my fellow Citizens, from the fixing the Seat of Government, at this place. I cheerfully resolved to devote a number of my most precious Years to the Service of my Country. — All the Parts of the Business matters went on prosperously, and I resolved to execute the Work in a much more elegant, and richer Style than I had contracted for, that I fulfilled this Determination, now fully appear, and the report of the Committee appointed to view the Building, be found —

I shall now take leave to mention some of the disastrous Incidents which occurred during the Prosecution of this Business — The September Storm of 1775 blew off the Roof,

The Building unavoidably lay open near the whole Winter, in
consequence of which, the Work of the Upper Rooms, which was
entirely finished, was totally destroyed. At another Time
Lightning very much damaged the Room, repairing of which
cost much Expence & loss of time. In 1777 when the British
Fleet appeared in our Bay, all my Workmen left me and
went from this City, to the Antient Parts of the State, where
they got engaged in Business, and though I made every
Effort in my Power, I could not thereafter draw together
one fourth part of the sufficient Number of Workmen, this
Event greatly retarded the Work, and occasioned my being
under the Necessity of paying very high Wages in 1779, for Work
which could and would have been executed in 1777 on
moderate Terms. To the above I must beg leave to add, that
after the Apartment destined for the Provincial Court was
completely finished according to Contract, its Appearance
not corresponding with my Views of the Dignity of the
State, I pulled the Work wholly down & rebuilt in a far
more elegant Style, which cost me a pretty Considerable
Sum. The Assembly early in 1777 gave sit to Order,
Galleries to be built in the Senate Room and that of the
House of Delegates, I also executed them and have
not received any part of the Sum set apart for that
Purpose. I though I believe, the Building hath cost

me a large Sum beyond the Amount received of the
Public, yet as I am anxious to have a final Settlement
with a View to the Exoneration of my securities, I
will agree to relinquish my Claims against the Public
for said £500, and I can't help observing that if
more is required of me I shall severely suffer by my Incon-
-sistency to leave the Public. What I shall say no
more on the subject, you are to settle the Matter between
me and my Country, and I have not a Doubt of your
doing Justice to both.

The honor to be

Yours

Your most Obedt. Servt.

Cruttall