

A Message from the Upper House, (with the Bill—For his Majesty's Service) viz.

**W**E are as desirous that a Present may be made to the Indians, to cultivate their Friendship at this Juncture, and to do every Thing in our Power for his Majesty's Service, as you can be, and therefore passed the Bill entitled, *An Act for his Majesty's Service*, with the Application of the Money on the Ordinary License Law, which would replace it in a very short Time; and we having now re-considered the said Bill, cannot in any other Manner pass the same.

The House adjourn'd.

Friday, March 8.

An Address to the Governor, (in Answer to his Message on Wednesday) was ordered to be prepared.

His Excellency communicated the following Message, viz.

*Gentlemen of the Lower House of Assembly,*  
THE favourable Opinion you have been pleased to conceive of my religious and civil Principles, I shall endeavour to preserve, by countenancing or encouraging none but such as are esteemed sincere Friends to the present happy Establishment both in Church and State; and as I never desire to see extraordinary Power in Hands where it may endanger the Safety and Welfare of his Majesty's good Protestant Subjects, you shall not want my Concurrence in any Thing which is reasonable and expedient for the Security and Prosperity of those, who are intitled to that Appellation: A due Execution of the Laws in Force in this Province, you may be assured I will always encourage and promote. **HOR<sup>o</sup>. SHARPE.**

The Bill, — *Improving the Justice of Frederick County, &c.* was brought down, Passed.

An Ingrossed Address was brought in, which was presented to his Excellency, by Mr. Stodert, and 13 other Members, viz.

To his Excellency **HORATIO SHARPE, Esq;** Governor and Commander in Chief in and over the Province of MARYLAND.

The humble Address of the House of Delegates. *May it please your Excellency,*

**I**N answer to your Excellency's Message of the sixth Instant, sent us together with the Governor of Virginia's Letter; we sincerely profess, that it gives us no small Concern, to have any Occasion of differing in Sentiments with your Excellency, and likewise, that we have not been able to procure a Bill, sent from this to the Upper House, for his Majesty's Service; but, upon the most mature Consideration of your Excellency's Message, and the Letter therewith sent, we humbly conceive, that the Situation, or Circumstance, of our Neighbours of Virginia, with regard to any Violence or Outrage, threatened, or perpetrated against them, by the French, does not require our immediate Aid or Assistance, by the raising of an armed Force here, agreeable to the Instruction given us, in the Earl of Holderness's Letter; and therefore, we do not think it necessary to do any Thing in that Matter at present.

A Motion being made, for Leave to bring in a Bill, For the raising a Sum of Money to be laid out in purchasing Presents for the Northern and Southern Indians; the Question was put, Whether Leave should be now given, or Not? Carried in the Negative. Nays 29. Yeas 12.

Two of the Members were ordered to acquaint the Governor, that no Business lay before the House.

His Excellency communicated a Message to the House.

The House adjourn'd.

Saturday, March 9.

Some Resolves were brought in and Read, and the Question was put, Whether the Earl of Holderness's Letter, mentioned in the Resolves, should be Printed with the Proceedings of the House, or Not? Carried in the Affirmative. Yeas 20. Nays 12.

Then the Question was put, Whether the Resolves should be entered as the Resolves of the House, or Not? Carried in the Affirmative. Yeas 22. Nays 10.

A Message from the Governor, required the Attendance of the Lower House in the Upper House. Mr. Speaker, and the House went up.

The Governor passed the two following Bills, into Laws, in the usual Manner, viz.

A Supplementary Act, to the Act entitled, *An Act for amending the Staple of Tobacco, for preventing Frauds in his Majesty's Customs, and for the Limitation of Officers Fees.* And

*An Act to empower the Justice of Frederick County, to assess and levy on the taxable Persons of the said County, the Sum of 118 £. to enable the said Justice to repay, &c.*

And then made the following Speech, viz. *Gentlemen of the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly,*

**I**CANNOT sufficiently express to you my great Concern at our having put the Country to a very considerable Expence, without doing the Business, which I conceived, Duty, Prudence, and good Policy, obliged me so earnestly to recommend, and I hope the Behaviour of all the neighbouring Colonies on the same Occasion, will justify my Conduct in this Affair. But to shew how averse I am to have the public Debt increased, without a Prospect of advantaging our Country, and how uneasy I am at the Thoughts of detaining you against your Inclinations, I have, with the Advice of his Lordship's Council of State, thought fit to prorogue this Assembly to Wednesday the First Day of May next; and you are to take Notice you are prorogued to that Day accordingly.

So ended the Session.  
**WILLIAMSBURG.**  
February 16th, 1754.

To the Honourable **ROBERT DINWIDDIE, Esq;** His Majesty's Lieutenant Governor, and Commander in Chief, of the Colony and Dominion of Virginia.

The humble ADDRESS of the COUNCIL.

**S I R,**  
**W**EHIS Majesty's faithful and loyal Subjects, the Council of Virginia, now met in General Assembly, beg Leave to return your Honour our hearty Thanks, for your kind Speech at the Opening of this Session.

We cannot forbear to express our just Indignation at the unwarrantable Encroachments, and hostile Proceedings of the French; and at the same Time to testify our Approbation of the prudent Steps already taken by your Honour, for the Defence and Security of the Colony.

Our ardent Zeal for the Support of His Majesty's Crown and Dignity, and our tender Regard for the Welfare and Prosperity of our Country, will incline us, by a cheerful Concurrence with the House of Burgesses, to exert our most vigorous Efforts to support and effectuate your Honour's Proceedings, in what we agree to be the common Cause of all the British Colonies upon this Continent, and more especially of this Dominion: And we assure your Honour, That in all our Consultations we will proceed with that Harmony and Dispatch, that the Importance of the Subject, and advanced Season require.

We cannot conclude without our earnest Prayers, that your Honour's constant Labours may be crowned with their deserved Success; and our warmest Wishes, that our Country may long continue to flourish under your Honour's Administration; from whence we may with Reason hope to see her Security and Prosperity established, on the most solid and permanent Foundation.

To which his Honour was pleased to return the following ANSWER.

*Gentlemen of the Council,*  
**I**Return you my sincere Thanks for your kind Address, and do assure you, it gives me great Pleasure, that the Steps I have taken in the present Situation of our Affairs, meet with your Approbation.

Your ardent Zeal for His Majesty's Crown and Dignity, and your Regard for the Prosperity and Welfare of our Country, with your Intentions of concurring with the House of Burgesses, to exert the most vigorous Efforts for supporting me in my Proceedings against the Enemy, call for my most unfeign'd Thanks.

And I have not the least Doubt of your Proceeding with Harmony, Dispatch, and Resolution, on the present Emergency. — I am much oblig'd for your Prayers for Success to my Endeavours, which I assure you, shall always be with a View for the Welfare and Prosperity of this Dominion; and I hope, by our Conduct that our Enemies will see, we are not divided, but closely connected in Defence of our Rights and Liberties.

February 18th, 1754.  
To the Honourable **ROBERT DINWIDDIE, Esq;** His Majesty's Lieutenant Governor, and Commander in Chief, of the Colony and Dominion of Virginia.

The humble ADDRESS of the House of BURGESSES.

**S I R,**  
**W**EHIS Majesty's dutiful and loyal Subjects, the Burgesses of this His most ancient Colony and Dominion of Virginia, now met in Ge-

neral Assembly, humbly beg Leave to return your Honour our Thanks for your kind Speech to the Council, and this House.

With Hearts full of Zeal for his Majesty's Service, and the Interest of this Country, and fired with Resentment and Indignation at the unjustifiable Proceedings and Encroachments of the French, and French Indians; we do, in the strongest Terms, express our utmost Abhorrence of their late barbarous Cruelties and Depredations, committed on the Frontiers, and his Majesty's Subjects inhabiting there.

We are truly sensible of the great Importance of the several Matters recommended to us by your Honour and we do assure you, that we will take the same into our serious Consideration, and ad therein agreeable to the Duty we owe to our King and Country.

To which his Honour was pleased to return the following ANSWER.

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Burgesses,

**I**Return you my sincere Thanks for your kind Address. It gives me singular Pleasure to find you so warmly expressing your Zeal for his Majesty's Service, and the Interest of our Country; from whence I draw an happy Presage, that you will take the most vigorous Measures, to prevent the Progress of our Enemies in their unjustifiable Proceedings and Encroachments; and secure his Majesty's People, your Fellow Subjects, from a Repetition of those barbarous Cruelties, that so justly fire your Indignation and Resentment.

At the same Time, Gentlemen, that you appear actuated by the highest Regard for your Duty to your King and Country, you will become an animating Example to the neighbouring Colonies, to exert themselves in the common Cause.

And in every Measure conducive to this Good, the House of Burgesses will always find my ready and affectionate Concurrence.

**ANNAPOLIS.**

Letters from Messieurs Trent, and Gift, to Major Washington, of Virginia, give some Account of their Situation near the Ohio. The first Letter is dated Feb. 19, at Yaughyauhganig big Bottom. The 17th Mr. Trent arrived at the Forks of Monongohella (from the Mouth of Red Stone Creek, where he has built a strong Store House), and met Mr. Gift, and several Others: In 2 or 3 Days they expected down all the People, and as soon as they came were to lay the Foundation of the Fort, expecting to make out for that Purpose about 70 or 80 Men. The Indians were to join them and make them strong. They requested him (Major Washington) to march out to them with all possible Expedition. They acquainted him, that Monsieur La Force (ou, La Farce) had made a Speech to some of our Indians and told them, that neither they nor the English there, would see the Sun above 20 Days longer; 13 of the Days being them to come: By what Mr. Croghan could learn from an Indian in the French Interest, they might expect 400 French down in that Time: A Messenger sent from the French Fort had Letters for the Commanders of the other Forts to march immediately and join them, in order to cut off our Indians and Whites, and some French Indians were likewise expected to join them: When La Force had made his Speech to the Indians, they sent a String of Wampum to Mr. Croghan, to desire him to hurry the English to come, for that they expected soon to be attack'd, and pressed hard to come and join them; for they wanted Necessaries and Assistance, and then would strike: They further write, that 600 French and Indians were gone against the lower Shawneese-Town, to cut off the Shawneese; 200 Ottawas and Chipawas came to Mushingum and demanded the White People there, and shew'd them the French Hatchet; the Wayondotts, tho' not above 30 Men, refused to let them kill them in their Town; but they expected every Day to hear they had cut off the Whites and likewise the Wayondotts. The other Letter is dated at Monongahella, Feb. 23. My

Gift writes, "An Indian who was taken Prisoner from the Chickasaws by the Six Nations some Years ago, has been this Year to see his Friends there; in his Passage up the Ohio, fell in with a Body of near 400 French coming up the River; he parted with them below the Falls, and then came, in Company with 10 of them that were sent up to treat with the Shawneese at the lower Town; on their Arrival there, the English Traders had agreed to make Prisoners of them, but the French getting a Hint from some Indians, they fled away in the Night without discovering their Business: We have also News of 600 French and Indians gone down to fall on the Shawneese if they will not admit the lower Army to pass up the River to join that above; it would therefore

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