

the Navigation of all the Lakes and Rivers, is easy to conceive; especially if the Indians of the Six Nations should desert our Alliance; and join the French, which must in such Case be a decisive Blow to the British Interest on that Part of the Continent.

At the same Time, if they are not prevented by a Coalition of the Colonies from finishing the Scheme, which it is most manifest they are forming against the Eastern Provinces, and already far advanced in, they must soon have it in their Power equally to distress them likewise; and all the English Colonies will be involv'd together in one general Flame. It is true, those Colonies are far superior to the French in their Numbers and Strength; but if that Strength, Gentlemen, is not properly exerted by an Union among themselves, how little will it avail?

It is not difficult to imagine that such a Body of Troops as the French may soon collect, together with the Assistance of all the Indians scatter'd throughout this Continent on the Back of the English Colonies (as the French Settlements likewise are) when under the Command of the Governor General of New France, who upon all Emergencies can direct their Force as he pleases, may reduce a Number of disunited Provinces, many of them very remote from each other, tho' much superior to them in Point of the Number of Inhabitants.

For forming this general Union, Gentlemen, there is no Time to be lost: The French seem to have advanced further towards making themselves Masters of this Continent within these last five or six Years, than they have done ever since the first Beginning of their Settlements upon it: And how determined they are to accomplish their Scheme as soon as possible, appears from their breaking thro' the most recent solemn Treaties and Agreements made between the two Crowns, in order to effect it.

Gentlemen,
His Majesty hath given the strongest Proof of his paternal Care of his Colonies, and constant Attention to their Safety, in directing his Governors to promote this Union within their respective Governments: And I hope you will not be wanting on your Parts to contribute all in your Power towards effecting it, by improving the Opportunity which the approaching Interview with the Indians of the Six Nations at Albany happily presents for that Purpose: And I doubt not but that you may depend on all reasonable Support and Protection on the Part of his Majesty, against all present and future Enterprizes and Attempts of the French against you.

WILLIAM SHIRLEY.

Council-Chamber, April 2, 1754.

(Continuation of the ASSEMBLY AFFAIRS begun in N^o. 471.)

Monday, May 27, 1754.

THE Report from the Committee appointed to enquire into the Amount of the Allowances, made by the several County Courts, to Pensioners, was brought in. [In the Year 1753, there was allowed, by all the Counties, 604,742 lbs. of Tobacco, beside the Commission to the Sheriffs of 6 per Cent, which is 36,285 lbs. and makes in the whole 641,027 Pounds of Tobacco, for one Year only.]

The following Address, was brought in, approved, ingrossed, and presented by Mr. Key, and five more 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,

IN Answer to your Excellency's Message of the 25th of this Instant, we assure your Excellency, that our Actions have corresponded with our Professions at the Opening of this Session: And that for the Purposes mentioned in your Excellency's Speech, we resolved on Ways and Means for raising a Sum of Three Thousand Pounds Current Money, to be applied for his Majesty's Service; as also Three Hundred Pounds Sterling, to be laid out in a Present to the Six Nations of Indians; and One Hundred and Fifty Pounds Current Money, to defray the Expences of Commissioners to be sent to Albany to deliver the said Present, and to renew the Covenant Chain with those Indians; for which Purposes we prepared a Bill, which was sent to the Upper House, and for the Passage of which we used all the Endeavours in our Power, and made as many Concessions as was consistent with the

Right and Liberty of the People we represent; and we can with Truth assure your Excellency, that the Failure of that Bill gives us the utmost Concern.

To demonstrate our hearty Desire to secure the Friendship of our Indian Allies, we have agreed, that a Sum of Five Hundred Pounds Current Money be paid by the Treasurer of the Western Shore, to be laid out in a Present to those Indians, by such Commissioners as your Excellency shall be pleased to appoint to deliver the said Present, and renew the Covenant Chain with them; and the further Sum of One Hundred and Fifty Pounds, to be paid by the said Treasurer, to defray the Expences of the Commissioners; and have great Hopes that our Conduct upon these Occasions, will meet with your Excellency's Approbation.

A Message was sent up, proposing "That both Houses might agree in an Ordinance for the Payment of the 500 l. for the Present to the Indians, and 150 l. for the Expences of the Commissioners, and to be paid by the Treasurer of the Western Shore."

The following Address, was brought in, approved, ingrossed, and presented by Mr. Murdock, and five 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,

BY a Report, made by a Committee of this House, with a Copy of a Letter and Depositions, hereunto annexed, it is apparent that some Check is necessary to be given to the Papists within this Province, and at this Time it seems more so, as the French are incroaching on all his Majesty's Territories on this Continent, and spurring up the Indians to make Incursions and commit Hostilities on his Majesty's Subjects.

We therefore hope that your Excellency will be pleased to Order, that an exact Enquiry may be made into the Matter contained in the Depositions of Serjeant Willis, John Hamwood, and William Swallow, that the Rioters who obstructed his Majesty's Levies, and used such disloyal and traitorous Language, may be punished according to Law.

A Message was brought down, agreeing "That an Ordinance of both Houses be made on the Treasurer of the Western Shore, for the Sums mentioned above."

Several Petitions were brought down, referred to the Lower House.

The House adjourn'd.

Tuesday, May 28.

Two Bills, — Additional Supplementary to the Act for amending the Staple. — And, To make it penal to forge the Bills of the neighbouring Governments; were read a second time, passed, and sent up.

The Petitions of several Parishes were read and granted.

The Question was put, Whether the Consideration of a Bill to settle a Fund for the Establishment of a Seminary of Learning within this Province, shall be referred to next Assembly, or not? On this Question, the House was divided, there being 23 Yeas, and 23 Nays. It was determined by the Hon. Speaker, in the Negative.

His Excellency the Governor communicated the following Message, viz.

Gentlemen of the Lower House of Assembly,

THAT some Offences, of the Nature mentioned in your Yesterday's Address, had been committed in St. Mary's County, I was informed some Weeks since, and, immediately thereupon, took such Steps as appeared necessary for bringing the Offenders to condign Punishment; two of them I learn have been taken, and have recognized for their Appearance at the next Assizes: As the others, of whom one is a Roman Catholic, and charged as principal in this Affair, have disappeared, I could wish to be empowered to offer a Bounty or Reward for the more ready Discovery of them, and you may be assured it will be my constant Care to suppress, as much as possible, any such Disturbances whenever they shall happen.

HOR^o. SHARPE.

A Bill, — For Building a Prison in Frederick County; had a first Reading.

Post Meridie. A Bill, — To enable the Justices of St. Mary's County to levy a Quantity of Tobacco in King and Queen Parishes; had a first and second Reading, passed, and was sent up.

The Bill, — For Building a Prison in Frederick County; had a second Reading, passed, and was sent up.

The Report, brought in Yesterday Morning, was referred to the Consideration of next Assembly. The House adjourn'd.

Wednesday, May 29.

A Bill, — To enable the Receiver, &c. of Port Tobacco Parishes, to purchase Two Acres to build a Chapel, &c. was read a first and second Time, passed, and was sent up.

On Reading the Governor's Message of Yesterday, it was Resolv'd, That his Excellency be empowered to offer a Reward of 20 l. for apprehending Gerard Jordan, junior, and 10 l. for apprehending Joseph Broadway. [See his Excellency's Proclamation, on the following Page.]

An Address, to that Purpose, was brought in, read, approved, and ingrossed; and presented to his Excellency by Mr. Key, and Three other Members.

A Petition from St. John's and St. Paul's Parishes, in Queen Anne's County, was referred to next Session.

A Bill, — To prevent the Evils which may arise from the Importation of Irish Convicts, and Convicts from that Part of Great Britain called Scotland; had a first Reading, and was ordered a second Reading on the 20th of July next.

The Journal of Accounts was brought in, read, assented to, and sent to the Upper House [The Public Debt, at the Foot of the Journal, is 3,403,025 Pounds of Tobacco, and 956 l. 15 s. 10 d. Currency. In October 1753, the Public Debt was 2,929,129 Pounds of Tobacco, and 912 l. 21 s. In June 1752, it was 2,444,027 lbs. and 846 l. 14 s. 11 d. — The Public Debts have not been paid since May 1747, when they were paid off, and amounted to 2,674,414 Pounds of Tobacco, and 1233 l. 1 s. 6 d. Currency: Having then been accumulating from September 1742.]

Post Meridie. Four Bills, — Additional Supplementary to the Act for amending the Staple; — To make it Penal to Counterfeit, &c. — To enable the Justices of St. Mary's County to levy, &c. — And, For Building a Prison in Frederick County; were brought from the Upper House, all passed.

The Ordinance, (mentioned on Monday) was read and assented to, signed by the Speaker, and sent to the Upper House.

The Report from the Committee to inspect the Arms and Ammunition, was brought in; and then an Address to the Governor, was ordered to be prepared.

The House adjourn'd.

Thursday, May 30.

The Bill, [Numb. 6.] was brought in, had a first and second Reading, passed, and was sent up.

The following Address was presented, by Col. Harrison, and Three 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,

BY the Report of a Committee of this House hereunto annexed, we find, that the Arms are in bad Order, through neglect of the Armourer; wherefore we humbly conceive, that some Other, who would execute his Duty with more Care, should be placed in his Room, that the Arms may be kept in more effectual Order for Service.

As there is now in the Hands of the Treasurers of this Province, Sterling Money for purchasing Arms and Ammunition for Defence of the same, we submit it to your Excellency, Whether at this Time, when the French and their allied Indians, are making Incroachments on our Frontiers, it may not be expedient to send for such Arms and Ammunition for that Money, as may be convenient to send to the Western Limits of this Province, in Case of Need.

Four Ingrossed Bills, [Numb. 1, 2, 4, and 5.] were brought in, read and assented to, and sent to the Upper House, with the Paper Bills.

Two Bills, [Numb. 3, and 6.] were brought down from the Upper House, Passed.

Post Meridie. The same two Bills were brought in Ingrossed, read and assented to, and sent up.

His Excellency communicated the following Message, viz.

Gentlemen of the Lower House of Assembly,

THE Armourer, of whose Negligence you are pleased to complain, pleads to me, in Excuse of his seeming Fault, and Defect of Duty, his strict Obedience to the Orders I some Time since

since thought proper to divert him from the Arms lately incident fallen into his hands, delivered into his belief, have endeavoured to be hopes his noble Hearing, as general Satisfaction in the Execution of your Request. I will be glad to be informed of the Number of Arms, unless you can inform me of the Sum of Money established some reduced very low exhausted.

Two Bills, — The County Court Majesty's Dominions, within the with a Negative.

The Journal with a Message, The House of the Growth of the Votes and Papers.

The Six Papers A Message was That no public

A Message from Mr. Speaker, that quired the immediate House, in the C

Mr. Speaker, his Excellency passed into Laws, in the

1. An Addition to the Act for amending the Staple, and for the

2. An ACT to vest the Bills of Exchange, East or West, in the Counties on Delaware and Sussex; or to vest within this Province.

3. An ACT for the County, to levy Taxable Inhabitants said County, for

4. An ACT and Churchward Charles County, Quantity, not extension to build a and to empower levy on the Taxable Quantity of Tobacco

5. An ACT rick County.

6. A Supplement to the Act for the the Laws of this ment of Jonas G Printer.

After which he Speech, viz.

Gentlemen of Assembly,

AS I had per who has or the neighbour Emotion, of the Exemies, to Majesty's Territories induced to think remain indifferent ject's good Subject exerting themselves just Right and P of their own a indulge myself w at this Season, afford Occasion making such Pre the important B Fellow Subjects, left no Room s tween our Zeal, the neighbourin though your R expect the full C Advices or Inst