

recede from the points they have insisted on, or give a Shilling more unless they are indulged in their own way. Your Honor informs me that on the Receipt of a Letter from General Braddock, very similar to mine, he has convened them again the 13th Inst. but does not entertain any great hopes of Success. I learn that the Virginians have granted £6000 for the purposes mentioned in the General's Letter; I do not understand by what Means or Scheme it is to be raised; but it is said that on Account of the Scarcety of Money in that Govt it is proposed to be raised by a Lottery. I am inclined to think the Threats of the French & their Indians to fall on the Back Inhabitants in hopes thereby to retard the General's Progress & recall him to our Defence will prove something more than a Torroad & have issued a Proclamation cautioning the Back Inhabitants to be on their Guard & prepared to defend themselves & each other against such Hostilities, & have also sent peremptory Orders to the Officers of the Militia to muster & discipline the Men under their Command; but alas we want a Militia Act similar to those of the Northern Governments without which I fear very little Dependance is to be had on our Men in Cases of Emergency & Danger. The inclosed Petitions for the Remission of Forfeitures to his Ld^{ship} I am intreated to transmit. Mr Well was a Man of some Fortune & well esteemed in the Country, but Accidents have reduced him in his Circumstances, & at the time he forfeited his Recognizance he dared not appear to seek for or bring the Offender who had been a Labourer of his to the Court for fear of being arrested himself, having not at that time compromised Matters with his Creditors. John Gibson the other Security is recommended as an Object worthy his Ld^{ship}'s Clemency for the Reasons offered in his petition which with the other I submit to his Ld^{ship}'s pleasure. The Account of the Gross Amount of Fees to the Company's Office for one year which is herein transmitted was presented me a few Days since by Mr Dubony

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