

Lower House seem to be absolutely determined to grant no Supplies unless they  
can at the same time carry certain Points which manifestly tend to subvert in  
a great Measure the Constitution, I render it more similar to that of Pennsylvania  
which I believe you do not think the most perfect; I expect to find myself under  
a Necessity of proroguing them in three or four Days. I am informed by a Lett.  
from Alexandria that a Ship which left England the 12<sup>th</sup> of Feby arrived at Hampton  
the 16<sup>th</sup> Inst. brings Advice that War was declared in England two Days before  
She sailed & that Lord Loudon & Col: Abercrombie with three Regiments were  
coming hither. The Indians have lately done a good deal of Mischief on the  
Frontiers of Virg<sup>a</sup> the Forts that were some time since built there for the  
Protection of the Back Inhabitants have been many of them attacked & some re-  
duced & destroyed, a Detachment from the Virg<sup>a</sup> Regiment of 50 Men commanded  
by Capt: Mercier has been defeated near Cape Capon about 18 Miles from Winchester.  
For the Captain, Lieutenant, 3 Sergeants & 15 private Men were killed or wounded  
& left to the Enemy.

To William Sharpe Esq: the 3<sup>rd</sup> of May 1756.

Dear Sir

Inclosed you have a Duplicate of my last to Mr John, this will be  
directed to Yourself as I am just favoured with your two Lett<sup>s</sup> dated the 10<sup>th</sup>  
Jan<sup>y</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> Feby & as I apprehend it makes no difference whether what I write  
for you both be addressed to Yourself or him: That I do not always send my Friends  
in England as early Advice of every material Occurrence in America as Gent<sup>l</sup> who  
reside in other parts of the Continent may possibly do it in great Measure owing  
to my want of Opportunities of transmitting Letters by the Maryland Ships which  
are comparatively but few & generally leave us all at one Season; & I cannot get  
Letters conveyed to & put on board Vessels that sail from other Provinces but at a  
very considerable Expence as you will judge when I inform you that I have been  
obliged to pay for Expences of Letters that I sent or received on His Majesty's Service  
this last Year more than £120 Stg which the Assembly are never scruple to repay  
me, arguing it should be done by the Fines & Forfeitures arising & appropriated by  
Acts of Assembly for the Support of Government & I know what Answer I should be

favoured