

To Colonel Stanwix, the 1th of March 1758.

Mr. Clark having informed me that he is about to dispatch an Express to Lancaster I embrace the Opportunity to acquaint You that all the Proceedings of our Lower House of Assembly since they met the 13th of Feby. serve only to confirm me in the Opinion that I entertained when I writ to You the 22nd of Jan. y^e. Having spent a few Days in perusing the Letter that the Earl of Loudoun sent me the 30th of Dec^r. they passed a Vote for supporting 400 Men during the approaching Summer - half of whom were to be stationed according to their old Plan. The Rest to be at the Disposal of the Earl of Loudoun upon Condition that the whole Expence of supporting them should be defrayed by His Ldp. in case of their being ordered out of the Province. A Day or two afterwards the House reassembled their Vote & then it was Resolved that the Number of Troops to be kept up should be only 300. Before a Bill could be framed in consequence of this Resolution I received & laid before them another Letter of His Ldp's dated the 13th of Feby & requiring them to provide for the Support or Pay at least of an Additional Number of 400 Men over & above the five Companies that are at present in the Service of this Province about the End of next week I shall perhaps be able to advise You of their final Result on this Letter & of their being prorogued; at present I can only repeat what I have before told You that I am persuaded the Majority of them are averse to giving Money upon any Account whatever & that if they vote the Number of Men that His Ldp. requires there is the greater Probability that they will make such Proposals for raising Money to support them as neither the Gentlemen of the Upper House nor I can in Conscience or with Honour agree to.

To Mr Blair President of Virg^a. the 10th of March 1758.

Sir as I find by the contents of One which I have myself received that the four Packets herewith sent require Dispatch I have engaged an Express to proceed with them immediately to Williamsburg. I understand that they were brought to N York by a Man of War that is just arrived there but no