

ately supplied by the Governments of *Virginia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania*, separately or jointly, according to the Agreement made at *Alexandria*: From whence we conceive that at the late Congress held there, upon forming Estimates of the Expences necessary for the common Service, the Proportions were stated and agreed upon, which it was thought reasonable for each Province to contribute towards the whole, or each particular Service, and more especially that which occasions the present Requisition; if so, your Excellency's Favour in communicating it to us, may be a great Mean of expediting our Resolutions on that important Affair.

Which was read and assented to, and signed, by Order of the House, by the Honourable Speaker.

Ordered, That *Philip Hammond, Esq;* and *Col. Tilghman*, do acquaint his Excellency, that this House hath prepared an Address to be presented to him, and desires to know when, and where, he will please to receive it: They return, and acquaint Mr. Speaker, that the Governor was pleased to signify, he would be ready to receive the Address immediately in the Conference Chamber.

Ordered, That *Mr. Lloyd*, and Three more, do present the Address.

His Excellency the Governor communicates to Mr. Speaker the following Message, *viz.*

Gentlemen of the Lower House of Assembly,

I RETURN you Thanks for your Address, and your Promise to take the Matters, which my Duty has obliged me to recommend to you, under your immediate Consideration. Your Expressions of Affection, Zeal, and Duty, to the Best of Kings, give me great Satisfaction: And I beg Leave to assure you, that a Disposition to promote the true Interests of your Constituents, and to preserve to them their just Rights and Privileges, shall never be wanting on my Part; and I shall rejoice to see you carefully avoid every thing at this Time, which may tend to occasion a Division among the several Branches of the Legislature, and to render our Intentions for his Majesty's Service, and the common Safety of Ourselves and Fellow Subjects, ineffectual.

H O R . S H A R P E.

The House adjourns till 2 of the Clock Afternoon.

Post-Meridjem. The House met according to Adjournment, &c.

Mr. Handy appeared in the House.

His Excellency the Governor communicates to Mr. Speaker the following Message, *viz.*

Gentlemen of the Lower House of Assembly,

IN Answer to your Address that was this Morning presented me, I must acquaint you, that when we met the General at Alexandria, it was not easy to judge what Difficulties would occur to him in the Execution of the Plan of Operations, which was there concerted. As to an Agreement, that each Colony should furnish a certain Quota of Men or Money for the Service, none was entered into, it being apprehended that such a Stipulation might not have been agreeable to the respective Assemblies. We were however unanimous, that these three Provinces ought to be at the Expence of constructing and supporting some Place of Defence on the Ohio, for the future Security of these his Majesty's Dominions, and I persuade myself you will not entertain different Sentiments with respect to that Matter. What Sum of Money will be requisite to support the Men that are at present in the Pay of this Province, for any certain Time, you already know. The Expence of providing and conveying a sufficient Quantity of Victuals and Military Stores to the Fort, will, you must be sensible, be pretty considerable: I am informed, that the Assembly of Virginia have voted Six Thousand Pounds for that Purpose, and toward defraying the Charge of building a Fort, or raising additional Works so that of the Enemy's, in case of it's Reduction. I choose rather to leave it to yourselves to determine, than specify myself, what will be reasonable for this Government to contribute thereto; but I

hope

June Session, 1755.

B