

*Extract from the Report, dated March 15, 1756, as follows, viz.* "Your Committee beg Leave to inform you, that the Firelocks and Pistols, in general, are unfit for Service, owing entirely to the Neglect and Incapacity of the Armourer."

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

*Ordered,* That Mr. *Williamson* and Mr. *Beall* 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 receive the Address immediately in the Conference Chamber.

*Ordered,* That Mr. *Smallwood* and Mr. *John Goldborough* do present the Address.

Col. *Tilghman*, from the Committee of Laws, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker a Bill entitled, *An Act for preventing Indians, disaffected to the British Interest in America, from coming into this Province as Spies, or on any other evil Design*; which was read the first Time, and ordered to lie on the Table.

Mr. *Carroll*, from the Committee of Laws, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker a Bill entitled, *An Act for the Naturalization of Foreign Protestants*; which was read the first Time, and ordered to lie on the Table.

*The House adjourns until II of the Clock Afternoon.*

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

*Samuel Chamberlaine*, Esq; from the Upper House, delivers to Mr. Speaker the following Message, *viz.*

"By the Upper House of Assembly, May 14, 1756."

"Gentlemen,

"AS there are in the Supply-Bill that was sent the 12th Instant, by Messieurs *Lloyd* and *Gassarway*, and which now lies before us, several Clauses that particularly relate to, and very circumstantially prescribe, what Measures shall be taken, and Method pursued, with regard to Military Affairs; and as the Constructing Forts, Regulating and Supporting Garrisons, Forming Regiments or Companies of Soldiers, and, in short, every Thing of this Sort, is in a Manner quite New to us, and of which we do not profess or think ourselves competent Judges; we have thought proper to request the Favour of his Excellency, (who, from his Experience and Knowledge in these Matters, and his Acquaintance with the Western Parts of this Province, must be able to advise us) to communicate to this House his Sentiments on several Parts of the Bill, and as his Excellency has not refused to oblige us therein, we submit to your Consideration the following Propositions, hoping, as it is not yet too late, that if all, or any of the Propositions meet with your Approbation, you will not be averse to such a Correction of the Bill, as might render it more perfect, and make it Answer, better than it may do in its present Form, the good Ends for which it was designed and framed.

"I. Though a Fort on the *North-Mountain* will be very proper and necessary, yet such a Fort alone, Garrisoned with only 200 Men, will not effectually secure and protect the Inhabitants; because the *North-Mountain* is so near the Settlements on *Conococheague*, that Parties of *Indians* may easily pass the Fort, come down, destroy the Inhabitants, and retire again beyond the Fort, in a few Hours, without being observed, or before an Alarm can be given: But if, besides such Fort, another strong one was to be raised on the Eminence, at the Conflux of the North and South Branches of *Patorwack*, and a Block-house, or small Fort, between that and the *North-Mountain*, and a Body of 300 Men supported to Garrison them, and patrolle or range on the Frontiers, it would be very difficult for the Enemy to make any Incursions, and destroy the Inhabitants, without being discovered by such patrolling or ranging Parties: And in Case they should venture down, yet, as soon as they should do any Mischief, an Alarm would be given, and Detachments from the Western Forts timely apprized thereof, and ordered to dispose of themselves in the best Manner, to cut off the Enemy's Retreat. Most of the 300 Men would be ready to join and act in Conjunction with the Troops of the neighbouring Colonies on Occasion, or would be able of themselves, to march into the Enemy's Country, and annoy them in their Towns or Hunting Grounds. And as the constructing and garrisoning such Forts to the Westward of the *North-Mountain*, would also contribute much to the Safety of the neighbouring Provinces, and is no more than is necessary to be done, before any Expedition be undertaken or carried on to the Westward, the Expence thereof might be defrayed out of the Sum proposed to be granted for his Majesty's Service, and which the Bill directs to be paid to the Commander in Chief, that is or may be appointed to carry on such Expedition. A Fort, at the Mouth of the *South Branch*, would secure a large Tract of adjacent fine Pasture-Land,