

Disputes & to grant £30,000 for the King's Use that is for the better Defence  
of their own Frontiers for as they had brought themselves £10,000 in Debt, the  
remainder will at the rate they have expended this last Year be sunk in  
their Frontiers in three or four Months. The Men that were raised for the  
Defence of that Province have lately made an Attempt on producing an  
an Town to the Westward of the Allegany Mountains, it is said that another  
body is marched ag<sup>st</sup> an Indian Town on Beef River, but as no Notice is taken  
of it in the Pens<sup>il</sup> Paper I am afraid the Report is without Foundation.  
I do not find that any circumstantial Acc<sup>t</sup> of the Siege or Surrender of  
Oswego has been yet received, but it seems the Intelligence concerning the  
Garrison's being put to the Sword is without foundation the Gov<sup>r</sup> Dinwiddie  
has thought proper to mention it in his Speech to the Virg<sup>ia</sup> Assembly as an  
indisputable fact. In a Let<sup>r</sup> that I have lately received from S<sup>r</sup> John Blair  
he tells me that unless the Enemy are very strong indeed he apprehends they  
cannot attempt any thing more this Season to the Northward with probability  
of Success but whether Lord Loudoun & all the Regular & Provincial Troops  
are to remain on the Defensive only he does not say, tho' I am apt to think that will  
be the Case as we have nothing of their being in Motion. We have not for a Month  
or Six Weeks ~~not~~ been at all disturbed by the Heathen (as our people call them)  
but they have paid the Virginians another Visit & invested Fort Dinwiddie, a  
Stoecade in Augusta County, Col<sup>l</sup> Washington is marched from Winchester to its  
Relief but I doubt not the Enemy will have reduced the place or given over  
their Entrenchments long before he can come up with them. So much for general News  
I am now to communicate to you something that more particularly relates to myself  
I desire your good Offices in case a Set of People whom I have some reason  
to suspect should think proper to become my Enemies; You may remember that  
I told you in a former Letter that the Roman Catholics were much displeas<sup>d</sup>  
at my having averted to the Act for granting a Supply of £40,000 for His Majesty's  
Service because it imposes a double Tax on the Lands of all Persons of that  
Persuasion. They are I find determined to apply to His L<sup>dy</sup> or the King in General  
for Relief & to remonstrate by what I can find ag<sup>st</sup> my Conduct in referring to the