

Col. Hammond, and Samuel Chamberlaine, Esq; from the Upper House, acquaint Mr. Speaker, that the Governor requires the Attendance of the Lower House immediately in the Upper House,

L. H. J.  
Liber No. 47  
July 17

Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and (attended by the Members of the Lower House) went to the Upper House; where his Excellency made the following Speech, viz.

Gentlemen of the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly,

p. 472

The Cheerfulness with which you have attended every Business, relative to the common Interest of these his Majesty's Colonies, obviates every Doubt that I might entertain of any Exception being taken to my calling you together again so soon: And I flatter myself, that the present dangerous Situation of Affairs, will not only evince the Necessity of it, at this Time, but engage you, without Hesitation, fully to comply with the Directions contained in the Earl of Holderness's Letter.

The Designs of the French must now be evident to every one: They have openly, in Violation of all Treaties, invaded his Majesty's Territories, and committed the most violent Acts of Hostility, by attacking and intirely defeating the Virginian Troops under Col. Washington.

In this Emergency, the Hopes and Expectations of our Neighbours, whom, in Duty, Honour, and Interest, we are engaged to support and defend, are fixed upon us for Assistance; and what must the World think of our Conduct, or what Calamities may we not expect, if, from an unseasonable Parsimony, we coldly look on, while they are cut to Pieces? The boundless Ambition of the common Enemy, and the cruel Rage of their savage Allies, now upon our Borders, flushed with Victory, indispensably require a vigorous and immediate Exertion of all our Powers, to check their Progress.

The Indians, who are our Friends, likewise claim our Assistance: While their Warriors are in the Field with our Troops, their Women and Children are sent to us, to be protected and supported: This is the greatest Demonstration they can give of the Confidence they place in us. Nor can I doubt, but that at this critical Period, when the French are employing every Artifice to alienate their Affections from us, you will embrace so fair an Opportunity of firmly attaching them to our Interest, by taking Care to have their Wives and Children kindly and hospitably treated, while they are obliged to stay with us and implore our Protection.

As our Settlements on the Frontiers, must be the first exposed to the Inroads of the Enemy, I have ordered a Supply of Ammunition to Frederick County; and, with the Advice of his Lordship's Council of State, issued a Proclamation, for the Militia to be put in the best Posture of Defence, that they may be prepared to Act, in case of Necessity: And, by the same Advice, have, at the earnest Request of Col. Innes, Commander in Chief of the North-Carolina