

L. H. J. His Excellency delivered to M.^r Speaker the following Papers—
 Liber No. 47 viz. ^t
 February 26

W.^{ms}burg Virg.^a Jan.^{ry} 29th 1754.

Sir

Your kind assurances of Cooperating with me in the Common Cause for his Majesty's Service gave me Such pleasure as a Zeal like that which Inspired them ought to give And I now Address your Excellency the more chearfully As I am perswaded of your Promptitude to contribute Effectually to it. The Progress of the French & their avowed Designs make it necessary for me to apply for your
 p. 38r Assistance and that the Men you can furnish may join our people as early as possible in March at a place Called Wills Creek on the head of Potowmack which I have Chosen for the Rendezvous believing it to be the most convenient to all His Colonies of any that is near the Scene of Action the French have fortified themselves on Lake Erie on a Branch of the Ohio And have 220 Canoes ready made and great many more blocked out and everything in Readiness to execute their Designs of sailing down the River When the Waters Serve in the Spring and Building Forts [at] every place of Consequence. The Fort my Messenger was at mounted Eight pieces of Cannon Six Pounders & was garrisond with 150 Men and they have already Engaged the Chippoways, Ottoways and Orundacks to take up the Hatchett against the English and themselves have Seized the effects of his Majestys Subjects who were Settled thereof made Prisoners of their persons, how they justify this Conduct Your Excellency will See by the Inclosed Letter from their Commandant to me.

I think it would conduce very much to the Success of the Service that the Command should be Undivided and therefore I should be very glad of your Concurrence with my Sentiments and that the men you furnish might be put under the Command of my General officer I expect to meet our Assembly that 14th of next Month when I hope to be enabled to enter on more Vigorous Measures—at present I have ordered out a Detachment from the Militia to Cover the Works that are Carrying on at our Fort on the Ohio and Shall with all Dispatch furnish them with the Stores and other Necessaries for it's Completion; But as the French intend to be on the Ohio early in the Spring with a greater Force than they had in the Fall which then consisted of 1500 Men it will be of the last Consequence to have a Sufficient Strength there early to oppose them and the present Temper of the Indians increases the necessity as they Seem to defer Coming to Action till they See Us at their Backs to Support 'em and I am perswaded that they then will act honestly & Effectually, otherwise it is apparent to me that they Will be lost to the British Interest as their Scituation & the Genius of that People will lead them to Join with the Strongest Side,