

Sir,

L. H. J.
Liber No. 47
February 26

Since Writing the above I Received yours of the 26.th December and am mighty glad of the hopes you have that your Assembly will Enable you to raise men for the Support of his Majesty's Undoubted Right to the Lands on the Ohio, and at the Same Time to protect those Colonies from the Insolence of those that want to disturb our peace, An Answer to this by the Bearer will greatly Oblige

Your Excell^y

most Obed^t hum^{ble} Serv^t

Rob^t Dinwiddie

The following is the Letter from the French Commandant as p. 38^a translated viz.^t

Sir

As I have the Honour to Command here in Chief [here] M^r Washington delivered me the Letter which you wrote to the Commander of the French Troops it would have afforded me great Pleasure if you had given him Orders or that he had himself been inclined to have proceeded to Canada to See our General to whom it belongs more properly than to me to put in a clear Light the Evidence and Reality of the Rights of the King my Master to the Lands Situated on Belle River and to contest the Pretensions of the King of great Britain in this Respect.

I am going to address your Letter to Monsieur the Marquis Duquisne whose Answer shall be a Law to me, And if he Orders me to communicate it to you, I Can assure you Sir I will not Neglect to Transmit it to you with all possible Expedition.

As to the Summons you have given me to withdraw I do not think myself under any Obligation to Submit to it, whatever your Instructions may be, I am here in Virtue of the Orders of my General, and I beseech you Sir not Entertain the least Doubt of my Constant Resolution to conform to them with all the Exactness & firmness becomming a Better officer.

I do not know that in the Course of this Campaign any Thing has happened Which can be construed an Act of Hostility or Contrary to the Treaties Which Subsist between the Two Crowns, the Continuance of which Concerns as much and is as Agreeable to Us as to the English.

If you had been pleased Sir, upon this Occasion to have entered into a particular Detail of the Facts which are the Motives to your Complaint I Should have had the Honour of Answering you in the most positive manner and I am perswaded that you would have had Room to have been Satisfied.

I have made it a particular Duty to receive M^r Washington with that Distinction that is Suitable to your Dignity and to his own Rank and great Merit, I flatter myself that he will do me the Justice