

John Kirkpatrick to George Washington, August 14, 1756, Letters to Washington and Accompanying Papers. Published by the Society of the Colonial Dames of America. Edited by Stanislaus Murray Hamilton.

FROM JOHN KIRKPATRICK, ESQ.

WILLIAMSBG. Augt. 14 1756

SIR,

An Opportunity offering to Frederickbg. I thought it requisite to Acquaint you of Our progress, & prospects of dispatch,

The Speaker was from home, when we call'd,—its Said on Courtship of Miss Cheswell, —and only came to town last night—today he proposes a Comittee, but the uncertainty of Collecting a Sufficient Number is so great that I fancy, this day Will Stand a Blank in Business—& then we can expect, he says, no Comittee before Tuesday—However we must Assume patience and waite the Conviency of the Grandees of Government —

Nothing new here to inform you—Colo. Bird I am told has repudiated his Wife, who is now in a Delirium for his Behaviour, and is Resolved to make a Campaign under Lord Loudon —he has committed his Estate to the Charge of Some Friends, & Settled all w a design never to return to Virginia—Monsr. La Force had like to have escap'd but luckily catch'd¹—Brookes was not to be found when I pass'd there, but desir'd Capt. Lewis to Consult him, & to advise You the result —

Library of Congress

I Am in haste—Tho' w great Esteem—&c. Sir. Your Very Obt & Hum Servt. JNO.

KIRKPATRICK

1 La Force had been taken prisoner in the attack upon de Jumonville, May 28, 1754, and had been treated by Dinwiddie with extraordinary severity. He succeeded, by almost incredible efforts, in escaping from his prison in Williamsburg, and in reaching King and Queen courthouse, without a compass, and in absolute ignorance of the country through which he was passing. There he was arrested by a backwoodsman, who, in spite of bribes of every description, delivered him to the authorities at Williamsburg.