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 & I am persuaded that they then will Act honestly and effectually. Otherwise it is apparent to me that they will be lost to the British Interest as their Situation & the Genius of that People will lead them to join with the strongest Side

Sir

Since Writing the above I recd yours of the 26th: 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 these Colonies from the Insolence of those that want to disturb our Peace; an Answer to this by the Bearer will greatly Oblige

Your Excellcy

most Obedt. Hum. Sevt.

Robt. Dinwiddie