

The Assembly were more liberal in the address with their thanks than their promises; for they merely engaged in general to contribute to the ease of his administration, and therefore he repeats his request when they come before him to present it.

From their dread of the success of the sugar act, they did not hesitate about a revenue to support the government for six years; nor to secure out of it, the payment of a salary of fifteen hundred and sixty pounds to the Governor, with the emoluments of four hundred pounds per annum in fuel and candles for the fort, and one hundred and fifty pounds for his voyage to Albany, besides a sum for presents to the Indians. But it was late in the session before they voted any compensation for his assistance to the agents, and not till after the support bill had been passed. They then agreed only to present him with the sum of seven hundred and fifty pounds. The Governor, who had intelligence of it, intimated his disgust; but in terms which, though it procured him an augmentation of two hundred and fifty pounds more, lost him their esteem. He accosted Mr. Morris, one of the members, on this occasion, in terms expressing a contempt of the vote. "Damn them," said he, "why did they not add, shillings and pence? Do they think I came from England for money? I'll make them know better."

This year was the first of our public attention to the education of youth: provision was then made for the first time to support a Free School, for teaching the Latin and Greek tongues, and the practical branches of the mathematics, under the care of Mr. Alexander Malcolm of Aberdeen, the author of a Treatise upon Book-keeping. The measure was patronised by the Morris family, Mr. Alexander, and Mr. Smith, who presented a petition to the Assembly for that object; such was the negligence of the day, that an instructor could not find bread, from the voluntary contributions of the inhabitants, though our eastern neighbours had set us an example of erecting and endowing colleges early in the last century.