

U. H. J.
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Whatever the Fate of the army may be it is impossible to foresee, but whether we are successfull or not, it is necessary to Leave as Large and Extensive a Barrier as Possible to cover the Frontiers of Virginia, Maryland, and Pensylvania, the Number of the Kings Troops that I have under my Command does not exceed twelve Hundred men the Greatest Part of which I must send to the Inhabited part of the Country to Recruit and fit them selves out for the ensuing Campaign for were I to leave the whole dureing the Winter in the uninhabited parts of the Country these corps would not be in a Condition to March on Service early in the Spring

I shall Lay before you the Posts that are Necessary to be kept up which are now in Possession of us Leaving it to you and the Assembly of your Province to Judge of their Importance to them, and to know how far they will Contribute in men and expence in Supporting the Necessary Garrisons and makeing the Soldiers Life comfortable without the Latter no real Service can be expected from them.

Whatever the fate of this Army may be the Posts of Loyal Hannon, Cumberland, Rays Town, Juniata, Littleton, Loudoun, Frederick, Shippensburg and Carlisle ought to be Garrisoned, besides Winchester, the Forts on the South Branch of Potomack, and the Frontiers of Augusta, I have wrote to the Governors of the two other Provinces to know how far their Assembly' will go in keeping up these Frontier Garrisons, I hope your new assembly will not only chearfully Contribute to the expence of the Garrisons but grant money to Pay off the Large arrears which is due to their Troops who must have Starved with cold if I had not Advanced Money for Providing them with Necessaries. I expect by this Time they have granted a Sum adequate to the Sum I advanced out of the Kings Money (without any orders) for keeping up the Troops of the Province for its Security it will easily occur to you the things that are Necessary for makeing the Soldiers Life comfortable in the Severe Climate dureing the Winter the most Necessary are a second Blanket in lieu of a Bed, Flannel Jacket, a new pair of Breeches, two pair of Stockings, and a pair of Shoes

I should be glad to know how far your Assembly will go in putting it my Power to Maintain the ground that is gained, if they do Nothing for the safety of the Province I am certain it is not in my Power to defend them dureing the Winter with the Strength that I shall have left : and which I must expect will diminish Dailey

To Cover your Frontiers will in my opinion require five Hundred men which is a Small Proportion in Comparison to the Other Provinces