

framing in the Lower House. This Bill was afterwards sent ^{Letter Bk. I.} to the Upper House & thence returned with a Negative. It is impossible for me to send a Copy of the Bill by this opportunity but I have quoted a part of it in a Narrative of the Assembly's Proceedings & mine with regard to Fort Cumberland since my Return from Phila^a ^{p. 318} The principal matter that has at this time come under Debate was as Your Ldp will please to observe the Garrisoning that place. The Earl of Loudoun insists that the People of this Province should be at the whole Expence since a Part of their Quota of Troops cannot be otherwise employed to greater Advantage to the Common Cause nor contribute so much by being posted elsewhere to the immediate security of our Frontier Inhabitants. The Assembly however are of a different opinion & are determined to prevent any of the Maryland Forces being ordered thither hereafter by directing & particularly specifying in their Bill how all the Soldiers that they will ever provide for shall be at all times employed which the Extract of their Bill will shew your Ldp more clearly than I can describe. This Attempt or Proposal of the Assembly's will I am persuaded be represented home by the Earl of Loudoun as a most violent Attack on his Majestys Prerogative & be considered I presume as an Affair of the greatest Consequence for this Reason I have chosen to throw an Account of my Transactions relating thereto into the Form of a Narrative that all the Steps which have been taken by me may appear at one View. When I found that the Lower House of Assembly would not proceed after the Gentⁿ of the Upper House had rejected the Bill abovementioned to frame a second I prorogued them with the Advice of the Council to the first Tuesday in January next before which time I am in hopes that the Earl of Loudoun will be at Annapolis but should His Ldp be obliged to defer his Journey beyond that time I shall upon the Return ^{p. 319} of my Express from New York prorogue them to a longer Day. In the mean time I have left it to His Ldp to do with or dispose of our Provincials as he shall think fit many of them will I suppose be drafted into the Royal American Regiment & the Rest disbanded His Ldp was upon my telling him what the Issue of the Sessions would in all probability be some time ago pleased to give Orders for some other Troops being marched to Fort Cumberland, in Case our Assembly should not be brought to comply with his Requisition & I shall take upon myself the Care of Garrisoning Fort Frederick with Militia till other measures can be taken for our Security. For my own Part I have been a long time convinced that nothing effectual can be done in America unless all the Colonies are compelled to furnish their respective