

Letter Bk. III however I could not engage that the Men should be raised or supported unless the Assembly would first make provision for them nor could I undertake to Augment the Troops in the pay of this Province to 500 immediately on the Assembly's providing for the Support of that Number or by any certain Day. Since I have been impowered to order an Augmentation I have taken such Measures as seemed most likely to compleat the Companies, I promised the highest Commissions to them that should by a time appointed engage most Men but I am afraid that even such Steps will not be effectual, Men are no longer to be got here unless they could be impressed into the Service & such means our Assembly will never agree to. I observe what you say concerning the Orders that you have given the Commanding officers in the two Forts to cherish & support the friendly Indians that may come to those places, I had also given similar orders & with regard to the provisions that the Indians may be furnished with at Fort Frederick I beleive the Assembly will be brought to pay for them, but I am sensible that Indians rank many things besides provisions among the Necessaries of Life for which the Assembly will not make any Allowance nor reimburse the Officers that supply them. As Capt Alex^r Bealls Company was & is far from being compleat I should as soon as the Assembly impowered me have sent him Recruiting Instructions had there been any other Captain at Fort Frederick & if you had not sent all the Captains peremp- tory Orders to remain at their respective Posts I would now do so. I submit this matter to your Consideration & shall only intimate that if any Officer of that Company is to be ordered on the Recruiting Service it should be the Captain because he is most likely to meet with Success & because a Subaltern Officer would suffer much by being obliged to recruit on such Conditions as are imposed by our Laws. In obedience to a Letter which I lately received from the Earl of Loudoun dated the 5th Inst I have issued a Proclamation requiring all Officers of the Militia of this Province frequently to exercise the men under their Command & to see that they provide themselves with Arms & Ammunition, I have also sent more particular Instructions to the Commanding Officers of the Militia in the Frontier Counties viz to Colo. Thomas Prather in Frederick which is our Westernmost County & to Colonel John Hall in Baltimore County which lies to the East- ward of the other & makes our northern Frontier, the first of the abovementioned Gentⁿ lives about two miles from the mouth of Conegochiegh & the latter near Susquehanna River. inclosed you have a Copy of the Instructions that I have sent to them respectively but I must intimate to you