

Letter Bk. III Fort Cumberland with all manner of Provisions, & I will recommend it to the Province to pay any Loss he may receive either by its being, or his Waggon's Horses &c taken by the Enemy which I am sure Lord Loudoun upon my Recommendation will be sure to let him who acts so well for the Publick Service be any Sufferer & if M^r Ross requires any orders general or particular either by warrant or other wise under my hand he shall have it. In Consequence of the abovementioned Letters from Col^o Stanwix the Maryland Troops continued to garrison Fort Cumberland & Fort Frederick as long as Col^o Stanwix remained on the Frontiers of Pennsylvania, & whenever any of the Southern Tribes of Indians have come to either of those places they have been victualled by M^r Ross agreeable to Col^o Stanwix's Orders & have been also supplied with Liquors & some other necessaries that friend Indians had been usually supplied with when they came to any of the Forts on the Frontiers of these Provinces

The Money which had been granted for the Support of the Maryland Troops being entirely expended the Beginning of last Oct^r I press't the Assembly to grant another Sum of Money for that purpose & to empower their Agents to send an immediate Supply of Provisions to Fort Cumberland as it appeared by the Commissary's Return that the Garrison must otherwise have been obliged to evacuate it within a few weeks for want of Food. The Assembly were so far from complying with my Request that they forthwith made a Resolve that they never would agree to support a Garrison at that Fort be the Consequence what it would. After the Earl of Loudoun was apprized of this he sent me a Letter to be communicated to the Assembly in hopes it would divert them from the Resolution they had taken, but when he was informed that it had failed of having the desired Effect & that the Assembly were determined to adhere to their Resolution he wrote to me again & desired that (notwithstanding the Assembly would not agree to support them) the Maryland Troops or at least so many of them as were necessary to garrison Fort Cumberland might be kept up & His Lordship promised that if I would find them Pay & Provisions he would repay me out of the Contingencies of the Army in Case the Assembly should not indemnify me at their next meeting. Upon receiving this Letter of which I have already sent Your Excellency a Copy I wrote to Capt Dagworthy & the Rest of our Officers & gave them some Assurance of being paid so long as they should remain with their respective Companies in the King's Service notwithstanding the Assembly had broke up at that time without making any Provision for them. As I was convinced that if the Number of our Troops was once reduced the