

Letter Bk. III Sir is the Situation of the Officers that have commanded the Maryland Troops since the 8th of Oct^r last when the Money which had been granted by the Assembly for their Support was entirely expended, I am persuaded Your Excellency will think their Case extremely hard & I flatter myself you will if possible relieve them from their Distress.

With respect to M^r Ross who has victualled the Garrisons at Fort Cumberland & Fort Frederick & furnished the friendly Indians that have come thither with Provisions Liquor & a few necessaries, his Case is worse than that of any of the Officers, as the Sums which he has expended & the Debts that he hath been obliged to contract to victual the Troops & support the Indians in pursuance of Colo. Stanwix's Letter & on the Encouragement which I gave him amount to much more than the Pay of a single Company; I do not indeed know what is the exact Sum that is due to him at this time but the Expence of carrying Provisions to Fort Cumberland for the Garrison ever since Captain Dagworthy has had the Command there must have been very considerable as the Distance from our Frontier Settlements to that place by the old Waggon Road was near 100 miles. The Expence likewise of supporting the Indians that have come to Fort Cumberland & F. Frederick since the 12th of May 1757 when Colo Stanwix gave Orders to Capt Dagworthy & Capt Beall to support & cherish them as had been usual on the Frontiers of these Colonies must have been very considerable. I suppose these two Articles together with a Hospital Account might amount to £2000 Currency & that the Expence of Victualling our Troops from the 8th of Oct^r to the End of this Month will amount to near twice as much. A sum much greater I am confident than M^r Ross is worth & unless Y^r Excell^y shall commiserate his Condition & think of some method to relieve him he must I am persuaded be inevitably ruined. Should Your Excellency upon considering what I have now submitted to you think fit to give any Orders for the Payment of the Officers or M^r Ross I will with Your Approbation order the Muster Rolls to be laid before any Person that might be appointed by your Excellency to receive them & I will also order M^r Ross to wait upon him with his several Accounts made out & proven after such Method as may be required & as he can conform to. I should have observed to Your Excellency that altho my late Applications to our Assembly for Supplies have not had the desired Effect yet they did in an Address which they presented to me the 17th of April last speak of the Troops that were then at F. Cumberland & F. Frederick as in the Pay of this Province, & they engaged as it were to pay them whenever a Bill should pass for raising