

Letter Bk. III ments. In the Letter which I addressed to you the 18th of May I intimated that General Forbes being desirous to have the Maryland Troops kept together untill the End of the Campaign was inclined to advance them a Sum of Money on the Credit of the Province in hopes that the Assembly would at their next Meeting agree to pay it & would moreover raise a Sum of Money to satisfy all the Claims that both the Officers & Men may have on the Province at that time; Agreeable to this Scheme he has now advanced near £2000 Currency or £1250 St^s which notwithstanding it is not a third part of what is justly due (they not having received any Pay from the Province since the 8th Day of Oct^r last) yet it has enabled & encouraged them to proceed & to continue with the Rest of the Troops to the End of the Campaign, & as they have all been in the Service a considerable time & are inured to Hardships & Fatigue I flatter myself they will answer the General's Expectations. I have said that by the money which General Forbes had advanced the Maryland Troops they will be encouraged to keep together till the End of the Campaign but I should have observed that the Officers had before at sundry times advanced the Men of their respective Companies all the money that they were Masters of & had likewise contracted pretty large Debts in order to supply their Men with common Necessaries. In a Letter which I took the Liberty to write the 22^d of Oct^r I told you that our Assembly had Resolved that they would not thereafter provide for the Support of any men that should be placed as a Garrison in Fort Cumberland. Upon their coming to this Resolution I wrote to the Earl of Loudoun & to Brigadier Stanwix advising them thereof & desiring them to order some other Troops to take Possession of that Fort. The Winter being pretty far advanced before my Letter reached His Ldp who happened to be in the most distant part of N. York, & the Regular Forces being so disposed of in their Winter Quarters as made it very difficult & inconvenient for any of them to March to Fort Cumberland at that Season His Ldp desired me to keep ours there untill the Spring if it was by any means possible & that no Encouragement might be wanting His Ldp permitted me to promise them that if the Assembly should refuse to pay them at their next meeting he would, & Colo Stanwix with the Earl of Loudoun's Approbation gave the Person that had been employed by the Assembly to supply our Troops with provisions till that time a Warrant or Order to continue to victual them as long as they should be kept at that post. Relying on the Earl of Loudoun's Engagement the Officers scrupled not to advance Money for their Men as long as they had any themselves & they have been victualled almost ever