

L. H. J.  
Liber No. 52  
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he gave Orders for some of the Troops that were raised in North-Carolina, Virginia, and Pennsylvania, to embark for South-Carolina, he had required us likewise to send a Company or Two thither? As I persuade myself, Gentlemen, that you would not choose to distinguish yourselves by obstructing the Measures, that the General whom his Majesty has intrusted with the Command of all his Forces in America thinks it for his Majesty's Service to pursue, I hope you will not oblige the Troops that are now at Fort Cumberland, to abandon it, with all it's Artillery and Stores, to his Majesty's Enemies: And as you alone will be answerable for the Consequences, I once more recommend it to you to make immediate Provision for the Support of that Garrison, as well as for the Support of the Troops that remain at Fort Frederick, and that are, agreeable to the Directions of our Act of Assembly, ordered to keep Ranging at a small Distance beyond the Frontier Settlements."

p. 72 Lest this Message should fail of having the desired Effect, I thought it my Duty to send the Earl of Loudoun immediate Advice of what had passed, to inclose his Lordship the original Address, which the Lower House had presented to me the 19th of that Month, and to tell him that unless a Supply of Provisions was sent to Fort Cumberland, without Delay, the Garrison would be greatly distressed, and obliged, perhaps, in a short Time, to abandon the Place for want of Food; and I desired his Lordship to give such provisional Orders as he should think proper, for the Preservation of that Fort, in Case the Lower House should come to such a final Resolution as their Address seemed to promise. The Earl of Loudoun being then at Albany, my Letter did not reach him before the 2d of November: The next Day he was pleased to return the following Answer:

"Sir, Last Night I had the Favour of yours of October the 21st, with an Account of the Proceedings of your Assembly, and a Copy of their Address to you: I must own the Restriction your Assembly endeavoured to lay on the Troops raised by your Province last Spring, surprized me, as it interfered with the King's undoubted Prerogative of Commanding all his Subjects in Arms, either by himself, or those he appoints under him. However the Troops were wise enough to obey his Majesty's Orders, given them by those who alone had Power to give them, and I was in Hopes the Gentlemen that compose the Assembly had reconsidered that Affair, and seen the Error of it; but your Letter, and their Address, have shewn me that I was mistaken, and yet I cannot help having that Charity for my Fellow-Subjects to believe that this Affair has not appeared to them in it's true Light; for I cannot think that the Assembly of Maryland ever intended to invade the King's undoubted Prerogative, nor can I possibly believe that they intend to throw the Frontier Garrisons of his Majesty's Dominions into the Enemies Hands, particularly when those Garrisons are in their own Province, and so