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of Defence that the Bill will permit me to construct a strong Fort on the North Mountain at least to oversee for a while & put the Officers in such a way & give them such Directions as will enable them to complete it in the best manner & render it most defensible, this Journey of mine I think the more necessary as Engineers or Persons of Military Experience & Skill are not to be found in this Part of the World & as Fort Cumberland & the little Forts of Defence that have been built in the two Neighbouring Colonies are by no Means such as I would have built on the Frontiers of this Province. The Virginians have I hear at length determined by Draft from the Militia to complete the Regiment that has been so long raising & does not yet consist of 500 Men, It might be hoped that when full the said Regiment will be able to prevent such frequent Incursions into that Province but I believe if they had determined to raise twice the Number of Men by Drafts from the Militia their Commanders would not do much Execution in the Enemy's Country or beyond the Mountains at least for this Summer. We are told that all the Regiments & Troops to the Northward are in Motion towards the Places of their respective Destination, but as it is said that the Regulars are far from complete & that the Companies or Somebody have been a little dilatory in filling the Magazines I am not without fears that the Event of this Campaign will not be quite agreeable to our Wishes unless the Succours expected from England or Ireland shall speedily arrive.

Copy of a Letter to Lord Baltimore dated the 13<sup>th</sup> July 1766

My Lord

I am just honoured with Your Lordship's Instructions of the 9<sup>th</sup> of March & in Obedience thereto have sent to each of the Brent Halls & keepers a Copy of the inclosed Orders. I hope I need not use many words to persuade Your Lordship that I have already exerted myself as far as my Authority or Influence extended to get the several Brent Halls completed & I hope to gain Credit with Your Lordship when I assure You that Nothing has