

supplied, with whom they come among the Inhabitants, Upon  
the Representation of Major Brewster their Commanding  
Officers & by the Advice of His Lordship's Council I summo-  
ned the Assembly to meet the 24<sup>th</sup> of last Month but many  
of the Families in the Town being at that time ill of the  
small Pox. No more than 14 of the Burgeses would venture  
near us wherefore after four Days I thought fit with the  
Advice of the Gentlemen of the Council to comply with the  
Request of the Speaker & those that did attend, by proroguing  
them to the 30<sup>th</sup> of next Month when I hope we shall be pretty  
free from the Distemper abovementioned which on Account of  
their Families being very large is much dreaded by the Peo-  
ple of this Country. The Soldiers are however at present pretty  
well ~~accommodated~~ accommodated, the Gentlemen who live in & around  
the Places where they are quartered supplying them with such  
Necessaries as they stand in need of & require in hopes that they  
shall be reimbursed by the Legislature whenever the Assembly  
meets. The Companies should consist of 100 Men each but I  
believe they fall short of fifty & I am afraid they will increase  
but very slowly unless Recruits are sent from home, for we  
have not been yet able to raise more than half our three hun-  
dred for them tho' we offer a Bounty of £10 a Man  
& the Recruits desert so fast that I am told there are no less  
than 20 of the Royal Americans at this time under Sentence