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as he is willing to march with as great a Force, as he can he
says he shall be much obliged to me for garrisoning Fort Cumberland
with Militia, for a few Weeks which will enable
him to strengthen the Rear of his Army with the Virginia
troops that are now there. The Resolves which the Lower
House of Assembly made at the last Session, denying my
Power to order any of the Militia to march unless in Case of
an actual Invasion, or according to their Construction, untill
the Enemy has actually made themselves Masters of a great
part of the Province has had no small Influence ^{on} the
People & it has not been without Difficulty that I have
got some Companies of Militia to march hither & garrison
this Place since the Assembly broke up, Was I there-
fore to order any of them to Fort Cumberland I am afraid
None of them would be afterwards prevailed on to come
even thus far, Such being my Situation, I have told
the General that I cannot undertake to garrison Fort
Cumberland with Militia, but as I am extremely anx-
ious about the Success of this Expedition & desirous that the
General should march with his whole Force, I am endeavou-
ring to engage 200 or 250 Volunteers to go to Fort Cumberland
in which Attempt I hope I shall succeed & by way of Encou-
ragement I have promised to take the Command of them
Myself & to remain with them at Fort Cumberland as
long as their Service there shall be thought necessary
which will not be more than a few Days after the