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This last Acc<sup>t</sup> had more alarmed our back Inhabitants than  
the General Defect, they concluded that they should be  
now left exposed to the Incursions of the Indians, an easy  
prey to a victorious & cruel Enemy. Some that were returning  
to the more populous parts of the Province, I persuaded to  
return with me & encouraged many others who entertained  
thoughts of removing to remain on their plantations by pro-  
mising them that some effectual measures should be instantly  
taken for their Protection & Security. Accordingly I have ordered  
some small Forts to be constructed in the distant Parts of the  
Province to which the neighbouring Families may resort in case  
of an alarm & unite with the Garrisons which are composed  
of some Volunteers that went out so far with me. The Expence  
of this I shall be enabled to defray by the Subscription that has  
been made here for such purposes, out of the same Fund I shall  
support Capt Dagworth's Company that was with the General  
which is now with the Virg. Troop at Fort Cumberland the  
last of July when I reached the Camp Col. Dunbar gave  
Orders to the Troops to put themselves in readiness to march the  
Saturday following but Friday morning he sent to me desiring  
I would give my Attendance at a Council that he had called  
upon the Receipt of your Letter. The Proposition or Question  
submitted to us was whether he should march again immediately  
to attack Fort Du Quare, against which we were unanimous  
& I think you would not have been of a contrary Opinion had  
you seen the Troops & been acquainted with their Disposition  
& wants, you know I presume how much of the Artillery Ammu-  
nition, Stores & Camp Equipage fell into the Enemy's hands  
& how much Col. Dunbar destroyed by the Order of the General  
before