

Danger of the Men's deserting for Want of Pay at least on this Side
Christmas, & as they have been very lately clothed & are supplied with a
Quantity of Provisions in Consequence of Your Orders to Mr. Pugh, I shall
suffer the Assembly to delay Business & protract the Session as long as they
please in hopes that His Ldp. will be able to undertake a Journey to Annapolis
before Matters are brought to an Issue between Us & that his Presence
here will have a good Effect: As soon as the Fate of the Bill now
depending shall be determined, I will order three or four Companies of Militia
to hold themselves in readiness to march on the first Notice & if the Lower House
of Assembly shall after all means have been tried to bring them to Reason
absolutely refuse to support any Troops at Fort Cumberland I will make
Capt Beall a Major of Militia & oblige as many Men to serve under
him as may be necessary for the Defence of Fort Frederick & the more
immediate Protection of the Frontier Inhabitants, this Step will make
the Assembly sensible that I can even without their Assistance or Consent
oblige the Militia to do the Duty or Service that they intend tho' I
am to their great Mortification invested. It is true I cannot instantly
punish every Person that shall refuse to march but I can order him to
be prosecuted before the Judges of our Supreme Court & I am thoroughly
satisfied that they will not suffer such a One to escape with Impunity & tho'
I have no Power to levy Money without the Consent of Assembly to pay
any of the Militia that shall march in Obedience to my Orders yet I can
impress as much Provisions or other Necessaries for their Use as they shall
stand in need of. I apprehend that You will not order any Troops to march
to Fort Cumberland before You shall receive another Letter from His Ldp.
or farther Advice of our Assembly's Proceedings, I shall embrace every Opportu-
nity of writing to You until the Affair is finally determined & communicate