

To Governor Dinny the 27<sup>th</sup> of Nov. 1767

Sir The Earl of Loudoun having been pleased to intimate to Me that he intends to visit Annapolis very shortly & given me room to expect that You will not refuse to accompany him I have thereupon engaged a Gentleman's House for the Accommodation of His Ldp & his Family that there might be a greater part of my own at the Service of Yourself & Mr Peters or any other Gent<sup>l</sup> that will become my Guest. I presume You know that His Ldp has been determined to undertake this Journey at least sooner than he otherwise would by the Resolution of the Assembly of this Province to have our Provincial Troops immediately withdrawn from Fort Cumberland & to reduce them forthwith to 300 Men that Number being in their Opinion as many as are necessary for the Defence of this Province & the Protection of our Frontier Inhabitants & lest the Earl of Loudoun should not know how to dispose of them in the best manner for His Majesty's Service or our Security they have in a Bill which they have been employed more than two Months in framing particularly specified where the Men shall range or patrol & lie in Ambush & have forbid them to move from the Stations or Posts that they have been pleased to allot them on any account whatsoever. They are much surprized at the Earl of Loudoun's insisting that the Troops in the Pay of this Province shall be under his Command & will immediately on His Lordship's Arrival here undertake to convince him of the Impropriety of his Acquisition. My Lord on the contrary seems to hope that they will at length be brought to Reason but I am afraid his Ldp will find that his Hopes are without foundation. I suppose the Event will be that I shall find myself under a Necessity of obliging three or four Companies of Militia to march & serve on our Frontiers instead of the Soldiers that are now there & in this Expectation I have already ordered that Number to hold themselves in readiness to move on the first Notice. I take this Occasion of thanking You for the