

This Resolution they adhered to notwithstanding His D^{ty} Letter or any
thing that could be offered to divert them therefrom. As the Bill which
they sent to the Upper House seemed to be purposely crowded with every
thing that tended to cramp the Service (which You will I believe be con-
vinced of on perusal of the enclosed Specimen of it) the Gent^l of the
Upper House rejected it without any hesitation & the Burgesses would
not afterwards be prevailed on to frame any other Bill whatever. This
being the Case I have ordered four Companies of Militia to hold them-
selves in Readiness to march on the first Notice, & after they have served a
Month or two I shall order four other Companies to relieve them &
either Capt Ald^r or Capt Joshua Beall (whom I shall forthwith ap-
point a Major of Militia) will be always at Fort Frederick to command
them. It remains with You to draft or to do with the Men that are now
at Fort Cumberland & Fort Frederick as You shall think fit. I suppose
they amount altogether to about 430 effective Men; of these I presume 250
or 300 are good Men engaged for Life or a long Term. Most of the re-
mains in Capt Dagworthy's Company & some of the others were enlisted for His
Majesty's Service in general the Rest only engaged to serve in the Maryland
Forces. They are all paid to the 10 of Oct: & are pretty well clothed.
Those of them that may be received into the Royal American Regiment
will I suppose expect their arrears of Pay from the Officers into whose Com-
panies they may be drafted & to the Rest their respective Captains will
give Certificates to shew that they have served this Province without Pay
from the 10 of Oct: to the time they shall be discharged which may perhaps
procure them their arrears of Pay hereafter when our Assembly shall be
brought to pursue different Measures from those which they have lately
taken. I shall not order the Militia to march till I receive Your
Answer & it will probably be ten or twelve Days afterwards before they