

Packet of mine directed to M<sup>r</sup> Cecil Calvert & a small Box that is directed for  
brother William. My Letter dated the 21<sup>st</sup> of Dec<sup>r</sup> informed you that our Assem-  
bly had broke up without having granted any Supplies for the farther Support  
of our Troops or for any other purpose, whatever: You must know that the Earl  
of Loudoun, by a Letter which I laid before the Lower House, about the middle  
of Nov<sup>r</sup> demanded & insisted that we should continue to support the 500 Men w<sup>ch</sup>  
were paid by this Province last Summer & also that the said Men should be left  
entirely to his Direction, Disposition or Command; This Demand the Gent<sup>rs</sup> of  
the Lower House would not be persuaded to comply with, in any respect whatever,  
on the contrary they prepared a Bill for reducing our Forces to 300 Men immediately  
& restrained the Service of those in such a manner as not only to prevent their being  
ordered to Fort Cumberland but also to prevent their marching beyond the North  
Mountain on any account whatever. for Your better Information I send you an  
Extract of their curious Bill & likewise the Reasons that the Gent<sup>rs</sup> of the Lower  
House have given the Earl of Loudoun for declining or refusing to comply with  
his Requisition, every one of which you will I am satisfied at first view be  
able to ~~confute~~<sup>answer</sup> invalidate. Having not as yet received any Letter from the  
Earl of Loudoun since the Assembly was prorogued, I cannot tell you for  
certain what Steps will be taken for the Preservation of Fort Cumberland &  
Security of our Frontier Inhabitants, but I have ordered four Companies of  
Militia to hold themselves in readiness, & if the Earl of Loudoun approves that  
of I shall oblige them to march to Fort Frederick, immediately on my Receipt  
of His L<sup>ds</sup> Command.

To Colonel Stanwix. — the 22 of January 1758. —

D<sup>r</sup>

I had yesterday the pleasure to receive your Letter of the 13<sup>th</sup> just together  
with two from the Earl of Loudoun. — as I could not entertain the least hopes  
of the Assembly's falling upon a different Plan from that which they pursued