

pursued during the late Session, till I should be able to communicate to them
His Ldps Answer to their Address & his Opinion on the Bill, which they
desired me to send him a Copy of. I found myself obliged to prorogue
them to a longer Day which by the Advice of the Council is the 6th
of Feby. I am not entirely without hopes that the Gentlemen of the
Lower House will be then prevailed on to comply with His Lordships Requi-
sition, tho indeed my Hopes are not very sanguine, on the contrary I am
afraid that altho they may to save Appearances waive their Objections
to His Ldps having the absolute Disposal or Command of such Troops as
they may propose to support - yet that they will take effectual Care to dog
any Bill they shall offer with such other exceptionable Clauses as neither
the Upper House nor myself can consistently with our Duty & the Consti-
tution of this Governmt. agree to. But not to trouble You with Conjectures
the Reasonableness of which Time only can shew, I beg leave to inform
You that I have this Day ^{sent Letters} ~~wrote~~ to Capt Dagworthy & the other Officers
on our Frontiers as well as to Mr Pops, tho I did not think it advis-
able to assure the Officers that they will certainly receive all the
pay that shall become due to their respective Companies while they
continue where they are now posted, yet I am satisfied that Mr Pops
will not after he receives my Letter suffer any of our Troops to want Provi-
sions, & as well satisfied that none of our Men will desert for Want of
Pay at least till our Genll^{rs} shall have come to some Resolution in Con-
sequence of His Ldps Letter. As the Earl of Loudoun is pleased to leave
it to me either to keep up all our Troops till the Assembly shall meet
again, or such a part of them only as might be necessary to garrison Fort
Cumberland I am of Opinion that I ought not to reduce them ^{nor make any alteration} ~~because~~
the Assembly before I have once more tried whether the Lower House
are absolutely determined to persevere in their Obstinacy, If when
they meet again they should appear so disposed I shall send You im-
mediate Advice thereof that if You think proper Orders may be then