

since that to prolong the time of their Prorogation to the 6th of Feb^r
when I shall lay before them a Copy of Your Lordships Letter of the
10th of Decem^r: & endeavour to obtain the necessary Supplies for the Sup-
port of the Troops that are at Fort Cumberland & elsewhere on the
Frontiers of this Province: soon after I had the pleasure Yesterday
to receive Your Ldps Letters I wrote to Capt Dagworthy & others
Officers of the Maryland Forces, & gave them some room to expect
that both they & the Men under their Command will receive all the
pay that might be due to them when the Assembly shall have again
met: I declined making them any Promise lest it should be suspected
that I had received Instructions from Your Ldp to do so, I have like-
wise wrote to the Person that has hitherto victualled our Troops & desired him
to continue to supply ^{with provisions as well those that are at Fort Frederick as them that are posted at Fort Cumberland} them, being convinced by Your Ldps Letters
that you will not let him be a sufferer ^{in case} the Assembly should
refuse to make him any Satisfaction: as I am thoroughly persuaded that
our Gentlemen would never be brought to augment these Maryland Forces
again on any Terms whatever if I was now to reduce their Number, I shall
not since Your Ldp is pleased to leave that matter entirely to me, make
any Alteration or Reduction till I have once more tried whether the Assembly
will come into reasonable Measures or not: but if the Gentlemen of the
Lower House should ^{again} persist in the Resolution they lately
took I shall immediately advise Gov^r: Stanwicke thereof that with Your Ldps
Approbation he might thereupon give Orders for three compleat Companies
of 100 Men each to be formed out of the best of our Soldiers who with
their proper Officers might remain at Fort Cumberland as long as Your Ldp
shall think proper to support them, while some Companies of Militia
take possession of & garrison Fort Frederick in the stead of those ^{that} Men
that may be disbanded.