

troubled you on this occasion if the Advantages which the Virginians received last year by the Embargo being taken off there a considerable time before I received Instructions from the Earl of Loudoun, to discontinue it in this Province had not made our Trading People very uneasy & apprehensive, that such another Step will be taken by them this Summer.

Our Assembly is still sitting but I apprehend to no manner of Purpose, as the Lower House seem determined to adhere to a Bill they have now offered four times to the Upper & which the Gentlemen of the Upper House have as often rejected & are determined on their Part never to agree to. As I understand that the Virginians have granted a Sum of Money for the Support of 2000 Men during the Summer, but that it will be absolutely impossible for their Officers to raise that Number in any reasonable time altho they give Ten Pounds by way of Bounty for every Recruit I will in case our Assembly should do Nothing & you approve of the Proposal write to M^r Blair on the Return of this Express & make him an Offer of the Men who are at present on the Frontiers of this Province & as the Money which they give by way of Bounty will be as much as the Means of lay that are due to our private Men the Expence to the Crown in consequence of the Earl of Loudoun's Engagement to me will by this measure be much reduced & indeed rendered very inconsiderable. As there were at Fort Cumberland the 8th of March 220 Men exclusive of Commission'd & Non Commission'd Officers, & 114 private Men were at that time in Fort Frederick. None of them have received any Pay since the 8th of Oct^r last.

To Brigadier Forbes the 6th of May 1758.

Sir Having an opportunity I do myself the honour to acknowledge the Receipt of your two Lett^{rs} dated the 2^d Inst & to inform you that the Assembly of this Province is still sitting, the two Houses being as yet unable to agree on a Bill for raising Supplies for His Majesty's Service. It is impossible to say what will be the Event but whether they give