

General would not let them be Sufferers, they scrupled not to pay their Men as long as they
had Money to do so, & to give them Orders on the Dollars that were settled about the
Fort for such Necessaries as they at any time stood in need of, by these means the Men
were kept pretty quiet - indeed they had little reason to complain, but the Officers have
deeply involved themselves & unless Your Excellency will fulfill the Earl of Loudouns
Engagement & reimburse them, they & their Families must be very great Sufferers or
perhaps be entirely ruined, for nothing else can be expected but that as soon as they
march in Obedience to Your Excellency's Orders & are without the Limits of the Province
their several Creditors will endeavour to secure themselves in the best manner they can
by attaching all the Effects that the Officers shall leave behind them. This Sir is the
Situation of the Officers that have commanded the Maryland Troops since the 8th of
Oct: last when the Money which had been granted by the Assembly for their Support
was entirely expended, I am persuaded Your Excellency will think their Case, ex-
tremely hard & I flatter myself You will if possible relieve them from their Distress.
With respect to Mr: Prop who has victualled the Garrison at Fort Cumberland
& Fort Frederick & furnished the friendly Indians that have come thither with Pro-
visions Liquor & few Necessaries, his Case is worse than that of any of the Officers, as
the Sum which he has expended & the Debts that he hath been obliged to contract to
victual the Troops & support the Indians in pursuance of Colo Starwix's Letters & on
the Encouragement which I gave him amount to much more than the Pay of a
single Company; I do not indeed know what is the exact Sum that is due to him
at this time but the Expence of carrying Provisions to Fort Cumberland for the Gar-
rison ever since Captain Dagworthy has had the Command there must have been very
considerable as the Distance from our Frontier Settlements to that place by the
old Wagon Road was near 100 miles. The Expence likewise of supporting the Indians
that have come to Fort Cumberland & Fort Frederick since the 1st of May 1757 when
Colo Starwix gave Order to Capt Dagworthy & Capt Beall to support & cherish
them as had been usual on the Frontiers of those Colonies must have been very
considerable. I suppose these two Articles together with a Hospital Account may
amount to £2000 Currency & that the Expence of Victualing our Troops from
the 8th of Oct: to the End of this Month will amount to near twice as much
& Sum much greater I am confident than Mr: Prop is worth, unless Mr: Prop