

to take the Command, for till he be superseded no Provisions can be
by the Agents for him or his Company. I have endeavoured to convince the
Assembly of the Impropriety of such a Prohibition seeing Lord Loudoun
made the Proposition & had ordered Tagnoshy to take possession of the
Fort - but they were deaf to all the Arguments I could use & lest they should
appear more tractable than the Pennsylvanians (who have refused I am told to
transport any War to Carolina ^{they} took the Liberty to tell me that Lord Loudoun
must be better acquainted with the Situation of Fort Cumberland & the
Frontiers of Maryland or else he never could expect or desire the Inhabitants
of this Province to support Troops to garrison that Place. They have however
put it in the power of Colo. Hanwicke to draw as many of our Men when they
are raised out of the Province as I shall choose to part with or I may
order a Detachment from every Company to do Duty at Fort Cum-
berland for a Month & then to be relieved by other Detachments & upon the
Conditions or Considerations I have this Morning opened to their Bill. I have
received a Message from sixty two Cherokees who are come into Fort Frederick
whom they tell me that they have taken up the Hatchet against the French
& their Indian Allies & that they are come from home by Your Invitation to prosecute
the War against them. I shall send them an Answer with a Present to the Value
of £100 which is all that our Assembly have thought proper to appropriate to their
Use. I have also ordered the Commissary at Fort Frederick to supply them
with Provisions during their Stay on our Frontiers. I have this Instant received
Advice from Fort Cumberland that Part of the Garrison under the Command of
a Captain Lieutenant & Ensign had a Skirmish near that Place the fourth of this
Month with a Party of Indians who had killed three Soldiers that were
cutting Wood at a little Distance from the Fort. After Skirmishing some time
our people being much inferior in Number to the Enemy retreated to the Fort
with two of the Detachment wounded, the Indians disappeared soon afterwards leaving
a Matchcoat & a few Trinkets on the Place where the Action happened, about half
an hour after. Sergeant Tent of the Virginia Regiment & a Catawba who were both

taken