

during the Summer the Assembly were prevailed on without much Difficulty  
to pass a Vote for supplying that Number but as this Colony has been much  
drained of Men by the Officers of His Majesty's Regular as well as the Provincial  
Troops I am afraid it will be some time before the two New Companies  
that I have given Orders for raising will be compleated ~~as the Assembly has~~  
~~been so parsimonious in expending a Number of Money for a Company to be~~  
~~raised~~. In Answer to that part of Your Letter whereby You signify it to  
be His Majesty's pleasure that these Troops should be put under the Direction  
of the Earl of Loudoun or the Officer that may be appointed to command in  
these parts I must inform You that I recommended it to the Assembly  
the most correct manner & insisted on their coming into this Measure so long  
as it was thought advisable to do so, but I was at length obliged  
either to give up this point or dismiss the Assembly without  
obtaining any Supplies for the general Service or the immediate Defence  
of this Province. In the Act that was made for the Support of the  
Men they would insert a Clause directing how they should be posted & disposed  
of who they were persuaded to leave it to Colo Starvie to march a part of them  
out of the Province on an Expedition or if the Emergency of Affairs should so require  
yet they would not agree to their being disposed of while within the Province  
otherwise than is specified in the Act & I am sorry to say that that Disposition  
is not quite agreeable to the Earl of Loudoun's Plan or my own Opinion.  
~~While the Assembly were sitting I received a Message from Lady Cherokee~~  
Indians who were just come into this Province in which they told me that they  
had come from hence at the Invitation of the Governor of Virginia who had  
signified to them that it was His Majesty's Pleasure that they should take  
up Arms against the French & the Indians in their Alliance who had  
without any just Cause made Invasions into these Provinces, that they  
had therefore come to a Resolution to act in conjunction with their Brethren  
the English & to pursue the War against their Enemies. This Message was  
brought