

on their Guard, & I shall be very glad the Meeting at Winchester may succeed, for a Peace between the Northern & Southern Indians I have had greatly at heart—At that Treaty it was agreed that Monacatoocha shou'd carry a black Belt of Wampum & a Hatchet to the Six Nations at Onondago, acquainting them that some of the six Nations, Shawannoes & Delawars had taken up the Hatchet against the French, & desiring them to do the same. If this cou'd be effected it wou'd be of great Service in engaging many Tribes of Indians to join us. Col<sup>o</sup> Innes desires me to send four Belts of black Wampum, for this Dominion Maryland, Pensylv<sup>a</sup> & N York, which is wrong, but have now wrote the Gov<sup>r</sup> of N York on that Subject for his Interest with these People to declare themselves in our Fav<sup>o</sup> & if he see proper to send a black Belt in behalf of this Colony. A Letter from you to him on the same Subject, I think would be proper.

I am sorry for the Acc<sup>t</sup> Col<sup>o</sup> Innes sends you of the arrival of 1100 French & 70 Arondocks at the Fort. I am in Hopes the Intelligence is false; first because Indians cannot count Numbers, & as they must pass Oswego Fort, the Gov<sup>r</sup> of N. York promised to give me due Intelligence of any Numbers that passed that way; but we must conclude they will bring as many Forces as they possibly can by the Spring of the Year.

And I have reason to expect 1000 regulars from Great Britain in six Weeks Time. The Transports were taken up in October last, & Comodore Keple in a 50 Gun Ship comes their Convoy.—I also doubt the 400 French & Indians at the Head of the Ohio, or the 300 Families settled at Mad Creek. I shall be very glad to have the Acc<sup>ts</sup> contradicted. I am glad you have ordered Col<sup>o</sup> Stephens to march, & that you will review them, there is a Company of fifty on the Frontiers of Augusta, that shall join the others when you write me to that purpose.

Your Presence at the Camp will undoubtedly be of very great Service, I therefore hope your Assembly will not sit long, & that they will consider properly our present situation, & grant you a further Supply. The Cherokees & Catawbas I think are strongly in our Interest. I have wrote M<sup>r</sup> Glen to influence them & to perswade a Number of their Warriors to join our Forces near the Ohio, early in the Spring—And I am fully convinced a Message to the Twightwers will be of great Service as they have hitherto appeared strong Enemies to the French; if they knew our Intentions they may be of great use in galling the Enemy in their rear, or at least prevent a thorough Junction of their Indians; the sooner this is done I think the better, but it must be such Messengers you can confide in.

What you order Col<sup>o</sup> Innes to do in regard to paying the