

Original.
Calvert
Papers.

have been sent out every Day & altho several Indians have been lately discovered within the Limits of this province yet none of them have dared to venture down to fall on the Settlements, nor have they done any Mischief below this place besides killing the Horse of an Express that I sent about a fortnight ago to Carlyle. The Earl of Loudoun's being superceeded at such a time, together with the tedious passage which the Vessel had that was freighted with the Artillery & Stores for this Expedition, the late Arrival of Col^o Montgomeries Battalion & the Backwardness of the several Assemblys, the Difficulty of Collecting Waggons &c. & the time that has been & must be still spent in opening a new Road from Carlyle in Pensilvania to Fort Cumberland by the way of Rays Town, will I believe keep the Army on this side the Allegany Mountains till the Middle or at least till the Beginning of August. The General has I hear been much indisposed but he is now recovered & was expected at Carlyle the Beginning of this week. Col^o Bouquet with Six Companies of the Virginia Forces & some of the Pensilvania Troops has been a good while employed in opening a Road from Carlyle towards the Allegany Mountains, which is likely to prove a very laborious Task & it is said that that Road when it is finished will be far from a good one. Col^o Bouquet has desired me to have one made from this place to Fort Cumberland. Sr John S^t Clair has within this week sent a small Detachm^t of the Royal American Regiment & two Companies of the Pensilvania Forces hither with 60 waggons loaded with Bomb Shells & Musquet Ball which he hopes can be conveyed to Fort Cumberland by water. Had these Stores & twice as many more been sent hither the Beginning of May they might have been carried up by Water long before this time, & at half the Expence that they could be carried by Land, but the Potowmack is now too low for any Vessels larger than Canoes that will carry 1800 weight to pass, nor will these (of which it will not be possible to collect more than 12 or 13) be able to make a second Trip. They were loaded & sent off the 2^d Instant under a Convoy of 50 Men composed of some of our Provincials & of the Detachment of Royal Americans, The Rest of the Royal American Detachment & the two Pensilvania Companies are going upon the Road which Col^o Bouquet hath desired me to have made thro this province to Fort Cumberland; It would give me great pleasure to see it completed because it will hereafter be of vast advantage to this province, & if this Road had been opened in the Spring it would in my Opinion have been the best rout that the Army could have Marched, the Country being according to the representations that have been made to me much more level than that thro which the new Road that Col^o Bouquet is