

making must pass. I imagine that all the rest of the Virginia Forces except the six Companies that are with Col<sup>o</sup> Bouquet are by this time at Fort Cumberland; the New Levies as well as the old Regiment are very good Men. They are Commanded by Col<sup>o</sup> Washington & Col<sup>o</sup> Byrd a Gentleman of the Council, and amount I suppose to upwards of 1800 Effective men. I am sorry to inform your Lordship that most of the Cherokees who were some time since on the Frontiers of Virginia & on whom the General had some Dependence are returned home, when they were press't to leave Winchester & to Join the Army at Carlyle many of them declared that they did not come with any Intention to Act in Conjunction with our Forces but only to see their Bretheren of Virginia & to talk with them about Trade; as they were returning home in different parties some of them plundered many of the Inhabitants on the Frontiers of Virginia & used them extremely ill, which it is said provoked the People so much that they Assembled & fired on one of the parties whereby several of the Cherokees were killed. About fifty of these People however continue with our Forces, & it is hoped that they will remain with the General to the End of the Campaign. We are told that the French have not been able to send any provisions from Canada this Spring to their Garrisons on this side the Lakes, which has much alarmed them, however I doubt not but the Troops at Fort Du Quesne will before ours can get thither receive supplies from the Settlements they have made down the Ohio. The last Accounts that we have received concerning that Fort was to the following purport, that the Garrison consists of about 500 Men but that most of them go over the Ohio every Morning to work on a Fort which the French are building about half a Mile beyond that River. M<sup>r</sup> Calvert having intimated to me that your Lordship was desirous of having some dried Rattle Snakes I sent home some of them powdered by a Ship of Col<sup>o</sup> Loyds which was to have sailed about the End of May, since I have been here I have collected a Dozen more which I shall send by the first Vessel that sails from this province

I am My Lord with the utmost Respect

Your Lordships

Most Devoted

Humble Serv<sup>t</sup>

Hor<sup>o</sup> Sharpe

Fort Frederick

The 9<sup>th</sup> of July 1758.