

Letter Bk. III thence & were very positive that their Number did not at most exceed 200 or 300. Being told what the Cherokees who first came in & who gave the Alarm had insisted on they said that They were Young Men & may have been frightened at the Report of some Cannon which had been fired at Fort Du Quesne, that they had probably discovered the Tracks which the Enemy's party had made or perhaps seen the party at a Distance & as they may have been much struck with the Sight their Fears had magnified the Objects that occasioned their Terror. I presume this might have been the Case or possibly as there was no Body at Fort Cumberland that was well acquainted with the Language of the Cherokees the first party might not have been rightly understood & the Alarm might have been owing entirely to the want of an Interpreter at that place. As I perceived by Capt Dagworthy's second Letter that he did not believe that the French were marching any considerable Body this way I immediately countermanded the Orders that I had before given to the Militia & so our Expedition ended without occasioning any Expence to this Province except what I gave the Persons that were sent Express with my Letters. I have since heard that they were in the utmost Consternation at Phil^a while the Alarm continued & as Colo Washington had forwarded the Letter that he had received from Fort Cumberland to Governor Dinwiddie the Inhabitants of that Province were much more disturbed than our people & as the Governor ordered the Militia of several of the Lower Counties to march & by not being on the Frontiers could not countermand his Orders till some Days afterwards the Alarm must prove an expensive one to that Colony. As the Pens^a Assembly has thought proper to observe to Gov^r Denny that the Embargo was taken off here before it was in some of the other Colonies, perhaps it might be asked at home how that happened, I would conclude this Letter with a particular Account of that Affair but as I have already detained the Person who waits for it longer than I intended when I begun to write I must beg leave to refer you to the inclosed Letter which is a Copy of one that I sent to Ld Loudoun, & shall only observe farther that altho Govern^r Dinwiddie has not yet intimated to me that the Embargo is taken off in Virg^a I advised Gover^r Denny as well as Ld Loudoun of its being taken off in this province so soon as I had complied with the Request of the Council to do so.

I am with the greatest sincerity

P. S. I will endeavour to get D^r S^r
 you some wild Turkies, & Your obliged & most aff^e B^r
 will also send you some
 American Seeds before the
 next Season for sowing them.