

Letter Bk. III for the Encouragement of such Indians as shall act in Conjunction w<sup>th</sup> our Forces or annoy our Enemies, but they are not to receive any Part of the Money that is appropriated for their Encouragement unless they first do some real Service, When the first party of Cherokees came to this province which they did in April last Our Assembly was sitting & on my laying before them the Message which the Indians had sent me they granted a Sum of Money for a small Present to be sent them together with my Answer & at the same time desired me to have it signified to that Party & all our Indian Allies that for every Indian Enemy which they should take prisoner & deliver at either of our Forts & for every Indian Enemy's Scalp which they should give up to be destroyed by any one of our Magistrates they should receive the Sum of Fifty Pounds. They had not been long with us before they fell in with a party of the Enemy & returned to Fort Frederick with two Indian Prisoners & four Scalps. The Prisoners they would on no Account deliver up, consequently they could not under our Act of Assembly claim any Allowance for them but the Gent<sup>n</sup> who carried them my answer to their Message found themselves at Liberty to give them £200<sup>s</sup> worth of Goods for the Scalps, which Goods as well as the present that I had sent them were kindly received, & in their Reply they made great Professions of Friendship. As often as any of these Indians have come into this Province they have been furnished with as much provision as they stood in need of, & I am persuaded that in that respect none of them will ever complain of the Treatment that they meet with in Maryland, but as I have already observed to you it is not in my power to order them any Presents unless they first produce some Prisoners or Scalps, nor to reward them for ranging ever so much on our Frontiers if they do not happen to be successful. The Cherokees I observe alledge that the Virginians promised them two pieces of Stroud for every Scalp that they should bring in but that altho they have brought in several Scalps no Strouds have been yet given them. This is such a Complaint as I am persuaded they will never have Occasion to make ag<sup>st</sup> this Govern<sup>t</sup> The Sum allowed by our Act for a Prisoner or Scalp will I am told purchase five Pieces of Stroud at least, & if the Indians who may be successful shall prefer the Goods to Money the Officer at Fort Frederick will always be ready to lay it out for them to the greatest Advantage; or the money will be paid to M<sup>r</sup> Croghan or any other Person that shall attend the Indians to Fort Frederick & deliver their Prisoners or Scalps agreeable to the Directions of our Act & of this I beg the favour of you if you think proper to order M<sup>r</sup> Smith to inform the Indians that are now with you or any