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deliver them a very small Present which the Assembly enabled me to
send them. I hear that the Party of these People that was come to Winches-
ter (in number about 90) went out near a fortnight ago with a consider-
able Detachment from the Virginia Regiment to fall on one of the
Shawana Towns which lie a great way below Fort du Quesne. They
that were at Fort Fredrich are since gone to Winchester but I expect
most of them will return to our Frontiers very shortly as I have given
the Interpreter who has a good Deal of Influence among them a
Commission in one of our Companies; They will be of great Service
to our People by teaching them to track the Enemy & will, I am persuaded
contribute very much to the Security of the Frontier Inhabitants. I
have given the Commandant at the Fort Orders to send an Officer &
some Men with them as often as they go out on the Scout & am glad
to find that they are fond of having some of our People with them, out
of Compliment to the white People that accompanied them the other Day
they permitted them to make the first Fire on the Enemy whom they
found at Breakfast after having pursued their Tracks two Days &
they received my Present for the Scalps they gave the Soldiers that
were with them a Share; & gave no room to complain of their Behaviour
unless their Refusing to give up the Prisoners & to suffer their Scalps to
be destroyed agreeable to the Directions of our Act of Assembly can be
called criminal. For my part I think they should be indulged in
their own Customs as much as possible, & as the Evidence of the Officer