

Men that will always go out with them is enough to prevent the
Frauds that the Assembly were solicitous to provide against; I shall
endeavour to get that part of the Act which forbids the Agents to pay
for any Enemy's Scalps till they are actually burnt repealed at
the next Session. Some of the Men that are posted at Fort
Cumberland (the Garrison of which Place at this time consists of 150
Men under the Command of Capt Dagworthy) have lately had
several skirmishes with Parties of the Enemy that have appeared
near the Fort, but they have not succeeded so far as to bring in
either a Scalp or a Prisoner. I am informed by Capt Dagworthy
that a Sergeant of the Virginia Regiment & a Catawba Indian
who were carried away Prisoners to Fort du Quesne in November last
have made their Escape & are come into Fort Cumberland, They make
that Escape from an Indian Town & have not been at Fort du Quesne
some Months but they say that when they were last there the Garrison
did not consist of more than 150 Men tho it was given out by the
French that they expected to be joined in the Spring by a large Body
of Regular Troops & a very considerable Number of Indians from
different Nations, & that then some Expedition would be undertaken ag^t
Fort Cumberland or one of these Colonies. That we may be as well
prepared for them as possible in case they should think of such an
Enterprise I have sent Instructions to the Commanding Officers of
the Militia in the Frontier Counties & ordered them to hold their Men
always in readiness to march, & if they should receive certain Intelli:

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