

were not contradicted. before that time, I should march towards
Fort Frederick on the 23rd Inst with about 100 Men, which I
doubted not but I should be able to assemble. At the same
time that I writ this Letter to Colo. Stanwix, I sent others to the
several Captains of Metcha in Frederick County advising them of
my being at Frederick Town in my way to the Frontiers & requiring
them to join me without Delay. I had the Satisfaction to hear next
Day that they were all in Motion in Obedience to the Orders I had
issued & found that I should be able to march with at least the
Number that I had given Colo. Stanwix Room to expect, but in
the Evening of the 22nd I had the pleasure to receive a second Letter
from Capt. Maguethy dated the 4th Inst wherein he told me that
another Party of Cherokees had returned to Fort Cumberland the
Night before with two Scalps which they had taken within a
hundred Yds of Fort Du Quesne & had assured him that the Party
of the Enemy which had been represented to him by the other Chero:
was as so formidable a Body was no more than a Scalping Party
& that they took neither Artillery nor Carriages with them. They
declared that they had lain in sight of Fort Du Quesne when the
Enemy marched thence & were very positive, that their Number
did not at most exceed two or three hundred, Being told what
the Cherokees who first came in & who gave the Alarm had in-
sisted on, they said that they were young Men & had been fright-
ened, that some Cannon had been indeed fired at the French Fort
while they were in sight of it when the Enemy's Party marched thence
& they supposed that on the Report of these Guns & seeing the
Tracks