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Tracks of the Enemy's Party or perhaps the Party itself they had been alarmed, & that their Fear made them magnify the Objects that had struck them. I presume this was pretty much the Case, tho' perhaps as there was no Body at Fort Cumberland that was well acquainted with the Language of the Cherokees the Mistake was owing to nothing but the Want of an Interpreter. However as Capt Dagnowthy writ in such a manner as convinced me that he did not believe that the French were marching any considerable Body towards him & as I was unwilling to put the Province to any Expence that could be prudently avoided, I did immediately on my Receipt of his second Letter countermand the Orders that I had before sent to the Militia Officers & the Men were accordingly dismissed the next Morning. As Copies of the Letters that were brought to me were sent to Colo Stanwix & Colo Washington & by the latter forwarded to Governor Dinwiddie. Colo Stanwix was preparing to march with the five Companies of the Royal Americans & some of the Pensilva^a Forces, & seven Regiments of the Virg^a Militia were ordered to advance towards the Frontiers with the utmost Expedition. It happened that Dagnowthy's second Letter reached Colo Stanwix before he decamped but the Virg^a Militia continued out some Days which must have occasioned a very considerable Expence to that Govern^t. The Day after ours were dismissed I returned again to Annapolis & I have the pleasure to inform Your Ldp that the Peoples Fears are again vanished, & that our Fortness rep to march on this Alarm had so good an Effect on the Frontier Inhabitants that none of them left their Settlements on this Occasion.