

there was no Body at Fort Cumberland; that was well acquainted with  
the Language of the Cherokees, the Mistake might be owing to Nothing  
but the Want of an Interpreter; However as Capt Dagworthy went  
in such a manner as convinced me, that he did not believe, that the  
French were marching any considerable Body this Way, & as I was un-  
willing to put the Province to any Expence that could be prudently  
avoided I did immediately on my Receipt of his second Letter counter-  
mand 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 also sent to Colo Stanwix & Colo  
Washington & by the latter forwarded to Gov. Dinwiddie, Colo Stanwix  
was preparing to march with the five Companies of the Royal Americans  
& some of the Pennsylvania Forces, & Seven Regiments of the Virg. Militia  
were ordered to advance towards the Frontiers with the utmost Expedition.  
It happened that Dagworthy's second Letter reached Colo Stanwix  
before he decamped, but the Virg. Militia <sup>being ordered from the lower Counties</sup> continued out some Days  
which must have occasioned a very considerable Expence, to that Govt.  
The Day after ours were dismissed I returned again to Annapolis &  
I have the pleasure to inform You that our Fort Orders to march on this  
Alarm had so good an Effect on the Frontier Inhabitants that None of  
them left their Settlements on this Occasion. I do not doubt but the  
Party of the Enemy that is come out will divide themselves & do Mis-  
chief on the Frontiers of these Provinces before they return to Fort Du  
quesne indeed some Mischief has been already done by them in Pens.  
but as we have at this time upwards of 200 Men at Fort Frederick  
I am in hopes that our People will be no great Sufferers. I have just  
hinted above that Capt Coolidge is arrived, the Ammunition that  
His Lop was pleased to order by him & Capt Johnson has been all received