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of the Royal American Regt. & two Companies of the Penn^a. Forces hither
with 60 Waggon's loaded with Bomb Shells & Musquet Ball which he
hopes can be conveyed to Fort Cumberland by water. Had these
Stores & twice as many more been sent hither the Beginning of May
they might have been carried up by water long before this time &
at half the Expence that they could be carried by Land, but the Potow-
mack is now too low for any Vessels larger than Canoes that will carry
1000 weight to pass, nor will these (of which it will not be possible to
collect more than 12 or 13) be able to make a second Trip. They were
loaded & sent off the 2^d Inst under a Convoy of 50 Men composed of some
of our Provincials & of the Detachment of Royal Americans, the Rest of
the Royal American Detachment, the two Pennsylvania Companies are
going upon the Road which Colo Bouquet hath desired me to have made
thro this Province to Fort Cumberland: It would give me great plea-
sure to see it compleated because it will hereafter be of vast Advan-
tage to this Province, & if this Road had been opened in the Spring
it would in my Opinion have been the best Rout that the Army could
have marched, the Country being according to the Representations that
have been made to me much more level than that thro which the
new Road that Col: Bouquet is making must pass. I imagine that all
the Rest of the Virginia Forces except the Six Companies that are with
Colo Bouquet are by this time at Fort Cumberland, the new Levies as
well as the old Regt^s are very good Men. They are commanded by Col:
Washington & Col: Byrd a Gent^l of the Council & amount I suppose to
upwards of 1000 effective Men. I am sorry to inform Your L^{ty} that
most of the Cherokees who were some time since on the Frontiers of Virg^a
& on whom the General had some Dependance are returned home, wher