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him the 15<sup>th</sup> in compliance with Colo. Bouquets Request & that he was satisfied 350 Men might open such a Road as he proposed in three Weeks, that he was certain it would not be 60 Miles in length & that altho two or three Hills did intervene yet that they were not so steep nor difficult to ascend as those which lay between Fort Lyttleton & Prays Town had been represented. Upon the whole the Report was such as gave Sr John to whom I immediately sent it so good an Opinion of the Proposal that by a Letter which my Captn returned with the 29<sup>th</sup> he desired me to give Orders for its being carried into Execution & promised to send three or four hundred Men hither for that purpose, The same Day a Detachment of 60 Men from the first Battalion of the Royal American Regt came hither from Carlyle with 33 Waggons loaded with Bomb Shells & Musket Ball which Sr John desired me to send up to Fort Burn. I observed by Water giving as a Reason for their coming this way that there were at that time upwards of 200 Waggons loaded with Provisions etc. on the Road from Carlyle to Prays Town & that he was afraid to send any more that way just then lest the Roads thro the narrow Gaps of the Mountains should be rendered impassable. Had these Stores six times as many been brought hither in the Month of June they might have been carried to Fort Cumberland by Water before this time & at less than half the Expence that they could by Land but unluckily the Store Ship did not arrive at Phila. till late in June & the Waters of Potomack are now so low that Barges (which carry 4 or 5 Tun each) cannot pass & I question whether Barges which do not carry more than 2000<sup>lb</sup> each can be got up. As soon however as the Stores were brought hither I sent a Party of the Militia down