

at Fort Cumberland, which I am apprehensive may be for returning back, to their own
country unless prevented, I have therefore with the Advice of Capt Broomworth ordered
Capt Pearis to that Fort who is in case they are for returning home to use his best Endeavor
to carry them to Fort Loudoun, as this is interfering with Indian Affairs and
doubtful how it may be taken, a Line of Advice with regard to this Matter will much
oblige Sir etc

To Capt Evan Shelby. The 15 of June 1758.

As it will be of the greatest Benefit to His Majesty's Service to keep open the Communication
between Fort Frederick & Fort Cumberland. You are hereby directed to reconnoitre
and make out as straight a Road as the Country will admit from this Place to Fort Cum-
berland taking particular Notice of the several waters that are to be passed, the Soil
on each Side of the Fords, & where Bridges may be necessary; If any Rocks or Marshy
Land you are to report the same with the time that 500 Men will take to cut the Road.

To Sr John St Clair the 23 of June 1758.

Your Packet of the 22 Inst has relieved me from many Anxieties & am well, assured
that both Officers & Men are much oblig'd to You. Should the General be of Opinion
that I can in the least contribute towards forwarding the Expedition, You may let him know
that his Commands shall be cheerfully obeyed. What Col: Bump has wrote concerning
the Road I am apt to believe will have but little weight when I assure You that Capt
Shelby had not at the time the Col: met him reconnoitred the least Part of the Road
he undertook to lay out - except Sidling Hill; it is now eight Days since he left this
Place, & no News of his Return. The Instructions that he received at going off are inclosed
& You may rest assured that no time shall be lost in communicating his Answer; Had
Capt Matson of whom You take not the least Notice, been prevailed on to come hither
much time would have been saved, for You well know I am not in the least acquainted
with the Road proposed. The Camp that was for Col: Byrds Regiment were sent
immediately away to Winchester. I must defer writing to You about the Waggon till
my next which I hope will be in a Day or two at furthest.

To Sr John St Clair. Fort Frederick, the 25 of June 1758.

This Evening Capt Shelby who returned hither in the Afternoon delivered me the
inclosed Report which I send You by an Express, I shall give no Orders about Opening the
Road untill I hear from You again, not indeed can I as we have not more than three
or four Axes here & no sort of Tools, I shall however take a Ride to Licking Creek in
the Morning & order our Troops which are at this Fort to prepare Timber for