

from this the Descent down the Ragged Mountain for about a quarter of a mile is pretty
steep it is a staly Soil not broken, 200 Men would I believe make it a good Road
in two Days by making one Traverse. At the Distance of 5 or 6 Miles from this lies Sid-
ling Hill Creek, the Land is pretty much covered with small Stones but is not Rocky &
I think 200 Men might make it a good Road in two Days. The Ford over this Creek is a
very good one; from Sidling Hill Creek to Sidling Hill the Distance is about 7 Miles
from a level Ground, I imagine 200 Men would clear it in a Day. The Ascent up Sid-
ling Hill is gradual the Descent on this Side pretty quick, it is about a mile over; I
suppose to make this mile a good Road would employ 200 Men four Days. from the Fork of
Sidling Hill to the Mouth of little Tonalloway Run the Distance is 7 miles over a gravelly
Soil, I believe 100 Men might make it a good Road in 2 Days. The Distance from little To-
nalloway Run to Tonalloway Creek is two Miles, here is already an old Wagon Road but
it will require widening & some Digging I suppose a hundred Men would finish it in one
Day. The Distance from Tonalloway Creek to Fort Frederick is 9 Miles, near Licking
Creek (which is about 3 Miles from Fort Frederick) are some Rocky Points that ought to
be blown perhaps 7 or 8 Blasts will be enough to make the Road sufficiently wide for two
Waggons to pass abreast; there must likewise be a Bridge thrown over Licking Creek which
is about 80 Yards wide & five Log Bridges ought to be made over as many small Gullees
that intervene; I suppose it would require a hundred Men about 17 Days to make these
9 Miles a good Road. Upon the whole it is my Opinion that a Road might be made
between the two Forts which will not be 60 Miles in Length & there will be no bad
Pinches for Waggons to ascend nor any bad Fords which I submit to your Excellency
I am Sir &c
Gwan Shelby

To Mr. John St Clair. Fort Frederick the 20th of June. 1750.

Your Letter of Yesterday's Date I have just received & shall agreeable to
your Desire order Capt Shelby & a Person whom he has desired me to employ
as an Assistant to blaze the Road mentioned in the Report which he did me the
25th Inst. Having a Company of Militia here as a Garrison I ordered Capt M^r
Beall with our Troops on Monday last to throw a Bridge over Licking Creek
by a Report made me this Day I expect all the Piers of it will be finished to-
morrow Evening. the next Day Capt Joceline with 30 Men of the Royal Americans
will relieve Capt Beall & I suppose the Bridge will be finished next Saturday
After that Capt Joceline will proceed to open a Road between this Place & the