

which I make no doubt of: But as to the Number of *Indians* that he mentions, there is but little Dependence as yet on their being any Protection to us; for I beg Leave to acquaint your Excellency, that I am creditably inform'd that the *Catawbas* are all gone home but Eleven; the *Cherokeses* that are with us, I understand, design the same, without going out any more till they have been horrid: This I understood from themselves Yesterday, when I waited on them at Fort *Frederick*, so that I expect we shall be forced to defend our if we can till our own Troops comes. He also acquaints me, that your Excellency was inform'd, that during my Stay at *Baltimore*, that I complained to the Gentlemen of the Assembly of sundry Frauds committed by the Officers of Fort *Frederick*, which is wrong, for I made no such Complaint. I was asked many Questions in private Conversation, in Relation to their Conduct there, which I answered as far as I knew, and if it hath not been advanced on, I believe it won't be hard to prove what I said. I wish Mr. *Ross* had mentioned the Frauds he says I complained of, and I should have taken Pleasure in acquainting your Excellency with what I know relating thereto; but as I never made any Complaint, I don't see where there could be any Suspicion of my thinking his Excellency would favour such Proceedings; for altho' many People hath told me of the Usage they have met with there, yet never none of them desired me to lay it before you in a proper Manner, and as to myself, I have had very little Concern with them. There has been no Damage done in our Settlement since my last, and the People seems satisfied since they find the late News was false. There was Two Men taken away Captive out of *Pennsylvania*, near *M'Falls's* Fort, the 12th Instant, about seven Miles from our Station, and one of them made his Escape, and got safe back to the Fort, and says, that he was taken by Six *Indians*. I am, Sir,

Your Excellency's most obedient and humble Servant,

JOSEPH CHAPLINE.

HONoured SIR,

Baker's Fort, May 29th, 1757.

AGREABLE to your Instructions, we have sent a List of the Men now under our Command, and our Journal for the Month past, inclosed with this for your Excellency's Inspection. When we set out we engaged the Men only for one Month, tho' we are at no Loss to keep up a Company: yet should be glad, if it was your Excellency's Pleasure, to signify to us what Time you thought there would be Occasion of this Service; we should then be more able to judge as to our necessary Expence, without Loss either to Ourselves or the Public, which we now are, as it appears by your Instructions that we might expect to be released before this Time. There has been no Mischief done in our Settlement since my last: but I had News brought me this Morning from Fort *Cumberland*, that as a Party of our *Maryland* Company was out a Horse-hunting, the *Indians* fell on them, and killed Three, and took Three more Prisoners. I am, Sir,

Your Excellency's most obedient and humble servant,

JOSEPH CHAPLINE.

Copy.

S I R,

Annapolis, June 12. 1757.

THE Governor bids me acknowledge the Receipt of your Two Letters dated the 18th and 20th of *May*. If your Company is inclined to continue on Duty till the 12th Day of this Month, his Excellency has no Objection to your keeping them out until that Time, but no longer: as the Garrison of Fort *Frederick* will be then reinforced by a considerable Number of Recruits from hence, and Capt. *Beard* will be able to spare a Detachment, and to keep Men constantly out patrolling.

I return your Journal, that you may continue it on to that Time, and that you may note therein when any Man engaged or was discharged. The Governor is glad to find, that you did not entertain such a Suspicion as when I last writ to you; he was afraid you did; but he desires you will give him a particular Account of any Tricks that have ever been played by the Officers of the *Maryland* Forces, or of the Usage that any People, who have complained to you, have received from them, that he might at least give such Orders as may prevent such Misbehaviour for the future. I am, Sir,

Your most humble and most obedient Servant,

J. RIDGENT.

Capt. Joseph Chapline.

S I R,

Baker's Fort, June 10th, 1757.

THIS Instant received a certain Account from Fort *Loudon*, that Lieutenant *Holiday*, with Twenty five, fell in with a Number of *Indians* Yesterday about Twelve o'Clock in the *Great Cove*, supposed to be