

before the Assembly & desired they would make proper Provision for their Pro-  
-tion & Encouragement. Upon the Assembly's granting the sum of One hundred  
Pounds to purchase the Liberator a small Present, I sent some Gentlemen  
to deliver these my Orders at Fort Frederick & as they had before this time  
been out with an Officer & some Men from that Place & returned thither with  
the good<sup>d</sup> found themselves at liberty to make such an Addition to the  
Assembly's Present as returned it very acceptable. I take the Liberty to make  
the Liberator's first - Refuge to me & the Report that has been made by those  
that were appointed to deliver my Orders. I hear that about 40 more of these  
Indians with a Detachment of the Virginia Troops went from the Frontiers  
of last Province & were sent to massacre the Shenandoah ~~and~~ ~~any~~ ~~English~~ ~~by~~  
to ~~be~~ ~~sent~~ ~~from~~ ~~the~~ ~~Assembly~~ ~~at~~ ~~that~~ ~~Place~~. I learn from  
Fort Cumberland that a Sergeant of the Virginia Regiment & a Catawba  
Indian who were taken <sup>Prisoners</sup> & carried to Fort Duquesne in November last have  
lately made their Escape &

declare that the Garrison of

that Fort did not in the Winter, exceed One hundred & fifty Men.

but that a large Body of Regular Forces & a great Num-  
-ber of Indians from different Nations were <sup>there in the Spring</sup> expected & that immediately  
on their Arrival an Expedition was to be undertaken ag<sup>t</sup> Fort Cumberland &  
a Descent made on One of these Provinces. Upon this Information & the  
Receipt of a Letter from Lord Loudoun I have sent Orders to the Officers  
of the Militia in the Frontier Counties to hold themselves in readiness  
to march in case Colonel Stanwic should stand in need of such Assistance  
I have also ordered a considerable Quantity of Ammunition up for their Use  
on such Occasion & if we should receive Advice of the Approach of any consi-  
-derable Body of the Enemy towards this or either of the Neighbouring Colonies  
I shall repair to the Frontiers Myself & proceed as the Officer appointed to  
command His Majesty's Forces in these Parts shall direct. I am &c.