

we & as the Cherokee went out before I could send it to them & returned with
two Indian Enemies that they had taken & the Scalps of four others that they
had killed near the Frontiers of this Province. I found myself empowered by a
Clause in one of our Laws to make such an Addition to the Assembly's Medal
as rendered it acceptable. They are since gone to Winchester in Virginia where
Mr Atkins one of His Majesty's Agents for Indian Affairs is about to hold a Treaty
with them & some other ^{Southern} Tribes that are in our Alliance, as soon as he has done
with them I expect they will return to range on the Frontiers of Pensilva. & this
Province. I flatter myself that they will contribute much to the Security of
our back Inhabitants. About 90 more of these Friends that came to a Fort
on the Frontiers of Virginia when the others came to Fort Fredericks are gone
out with a Detachment from the Virginia Regiment to fall on one of the Cha-
wanese Towns that lye below Fort Duquesne. By a Letter which I have
lately received from Fort Cumberland I am informed that a Sergeant of the
Virginia Corps & a Catawba Indian who were carried away Prisoners last Novem-
ber are returned & say that when they were at Fort Duquesne in the winter the
Garrison of that Place did not exceed 150 Men, but that the French expected to
be joined by a considerable Body of Regular Troops & a great Number
of Indians from different Nations early in the Spring, & that they would
then make an Attempt on Fort Cumberland, or advance into one of these
Colonies. tho' I hope that the French will find themselves unable to
undertake an Expedition of that sort, this Summer I have taken such
Measures as would be expedient if they should carry such a Plan into
execution. & if certain Intelligence shall be given me of the approach
of any considerable Body of the Enemy towards either of these Colonies
I shall repair to the Frontiers & support Colonel Stanwix in the best
manner that I am able with the Troops & Militia of this Province. 24