

To Colonel Stanwix. *Frederick Town June 21. 1757.*

Sir I dispatch this Express to inform You that upon hearing the Account that some of the Cherokee Indians have brought to Fort Cumberland I came hither last Night expecting that the Militia of this County had received Your Orders to march. tho I do not find that You have sent any Instructions to Colo. Prather yet as the Account which the Indians gave has not been contradicted I have ordered the Militia of these Parts to march hither immediately & I hope I shall be able to proceed next Thursday with about 200 Men towards Fort Frederick where I shall be glad to receive Your Orders which You may be assured I shall endeavour to obey. I am &c

To Colonel Stanwix. *Annapolis the 27 June 1757.*

Sir Your Favour of the 23 I received last Night together with a Copy of a Letter from Capt Dagworthy for which I return You thanks. the Evening after I writ to You from Frederick Town a second Letter was also brought to me from Capt Dagworthy wherein he gave me the same Account that he does to You, & as I was very unwilling to put the Province to any Expence that could be avoided I thereupon countermanded the Orders that had been before sent to the Officers of the Militia, the Companies that were in Motion which amounted to about 500 Men were the next Morning dismissed & on Thursday as some Business made my Return hither necessary I also left Frederick Town I have already intimat'd to You that our Militia Laws are very defective & that the Assembly will not be persuaded to amend them, in particular it is a Question whether the Militia can be compelled to march out of the Province, tho I am persuaded that none or very few would have refused to follow me had the Intelligence that was received the other Day proved true, yet I do not believe that any of them would march to garrison Fort Loudoun as they would conclude that the Assembly would never allow them any Pay