

**Robert Stewart to George Washington, July 7, 1761,
Letters to Washington and Accompanying Papers.
Published by the Society of the Colonial Dames of
America. Edited by Stanislaus Murray Hamilton.**

FROM CAPTAIN ROBERT STEWART.

CAMP BEFORE FORT CHISWELL July 7th. 1761 —

MY DEAR COLO.

I did myself the great pleasure to write you by Mr. Jo: Watson from the Camp near Staunton from which we mov'd the day following, and after a tedious and fatiguing March we arriv'd last week at this our most advanc'd Post, about three hundred Miles from Winchester —

Major Lewis March'd from hence yesterday with 3 Compys. to open the Road leading to Holston's River, the Colo. myself and 5 Compys. will follow in 2 or 3 Days. Lt. Colo. Stephen with the 2 remaining Compys. will stay here some Time to forward up Provisions — We have yet heard nothing certain of the North Carolina Troops — the last Intelligence of the Enemy (now of an ancient Date) say they had some Skermis with the Troops under the Orders of Lt. Colo. Grant and were Assembling their whole Force to give him Battle on the issue of which I conceive our Fate will greatly depend¹ the obstructions our Operations met with by delays in the Contractors Department are very unlucky as it now appears impracticable for us to get near the Enemys Country in Time to co-operate with Colo. Grant which I understood was to have been the principal Object of our destination, for in the Event of his being foil'd or by any means be obliged to Retreat we will have to cope

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with the united Force of all their various Settlements, to which you'll I believe readily grant our small number encumber'd with Stores, Baggage, Sick and diminish'd by the Garrisons of several little Posts is inadequate, but we have this comfort that in the event of the worst we cannot with Justice be censur'd and if contrary to expectation we should prove victorious we will derive the more honr. from it. We are in daily expectation to receive accots. of a very interesting nature from Colo. Grant when they arrive or when anything occurs that can merit your notice I will be happy in transmitting you the best information I can.

Mr Kennedy informs me that a resolution is taken to bring Suit against him for something he drop't about a certain horse affair and as it's so long since these extraordinary affairs were transacted he fears it will be difficult to evince them, without the assistance of a paper you receiv'd in Winter 58² and as a Copy of which would be of the highest importance to him I hope you will be able to procure it against next Winter I beg you'll be pleas'd to tender my most respectfull and obliging Compléments. to your Lady and Family & believe me ever to be

With the highest Esteem & most perfect & unalterable regard

My Dear Sir Your most Affecte. most Obliged & Most Obedt. hble Servt. ROBERT STEWART

1 Five miles from the Cherokee town of Etchoe, near the spot of Colonel Montgomery's defeat the preceding year, Colonel Grant had a long, but successful, engagement with the savages.

2 Vol. ii., page 260.