

**Robert Stewart to George Washington, July 20, 1761,
Letters to Washington and Accompanying Papers.
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FROM CAPTAIN ROBERT STEWART.

CAMP AT STALNAKER'S ON HOLSTEIN RIVER 20th. July 1761 —

MY DEAR COLO.

Two days after the Date of my last. we March'd from Fort Chiswell (where Stephen, Woodward & their Compys. remain) and after a March of six Days we Joind Majr Lewis at this place where I understand a Post is to be Built —

On the 16th. two runners from the little Carpenter came into Camp, the Day following himself with 42 of his Friends Encampt about $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile without our advanc'd Sentries, on the 18th. he, Willynawa,¹ the Swallow's Nephew & 5 others of some distinction waited on Colo. Byrd and deliver'd a Talk a Copy of it as well as I can recollect you have Inclos'd. I think the Carpn. shews some address in forming (by his Intelligence) an union of all the Savage Nations against us to deter us from leaving our own Fronteers, and the French Governor refin'd Policy in discouraging the Cherokees from carrying on the War from which the French can derive no essential advantage and may in Time terminate in the destruction of their Southern Settlements as being the surest method by which we can put an end to the Indian War — a Fever which has confin'd me some Days to my Tent prevented my hearing Colo. Byrd's answer, but I learn he was very concise, gave them to understand that nothing but their making Peace with Colo. Grant could prevent their

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destruction to accelerate wch he (Colo. Byrd) was Marching into their Nation, and as they valued their preservation seriously to prosecute the means of procuring Peace.²

We yet know nothing of the Numrs. or Situation of the N. Carolina Troops, or whether they are to Join us — We hear that all our Recruiting Parties are got to Reed Creek with only fifty eight recruits.

We have twelve Officers, a number of the non Commission'd and near a hundred private out of the 8 Compys. here ill with a Fever which seems to be Epedemick and it's fear'd will go thro' the whole we have not yet got near the numr. of Carriages or horses necessary to carry us on, nor one Grain of Forrage, our next Post is to be a Big Island and our last at Broad River forty Miles from the Imperial City of Chota. But how our small numbers are to make Roads, Construct Posts, furnish Escortes &ca. &ca. for so great a distance & with the trivial remains Conquer a formidable Nation is to me quite a Mystery! But the will of the Great be done —

It is with great difficulty I am able to write being excessively out of order which obliges me to conclude by begging you'll forgive the incoherency of the above Scrawl, that you'll be so good as to offer my Respectfull and obliging Complemts. to your Lady & believe [me] ever to be With the most perfect Esteem & unalterable Regard

My Dear Sir Your Most affecte. & Most Obliged hble Servt. ROBERT STEWART

1 Willianawaugh of Tohoe.

2 Attakulla-kulla repaired immediately to Colonel Grant at Fort Prince George and sued for peace. Colonel Grant furnished him with a guard to Charlestown, where the Cherokee monarch in a speech of great pathos presented the sufferings and destruction of their nation, and asked that peace be granted them. His request was not refused, and the war against the Cherokees thus ended.