

Lib. J. R. back to my Wife, or fly into one of the neighbouring prov-  
 & U. S. inces, & send for her thither. One Hancock who lived with  
 Gerrard Pendegrass of Ray's Town came frequently among  
 us and as I apprehended he was well acquainted with all  
 that part of the Country, I entred into Conversation with him  
 on that Subject, and from him learn't that there was a path  
 from Fort Cumberland thro' Ray's Town to pensilvania  
 behind any of the Maryland Settlements, being thus advised  
 I deserted in the Month of January with one Willoby Willett  
 of Captain Rutherford's Company intending to go thro' Ray's  
 Town and pursue the Road that Hancock had described to us.  
 We had not got more than a Mile or two before Willet re-  
 pented, and returned again as I apprehend to his post, I soon  
 after missed my way and travelled 9 Days without getting as  
 I afterwards understood more than 20 Miles from the Fort,  
 and the Weather being very severe one of my Feet was frost  
 bitten, and I was ready to perish with Cold and Hunger,  
 p. 149 when I discovered a Smoke, and going up to it found one  
 Kirking Pauley a Delaware Indian and his Daughter sitting  
 by a Fire, and three Horses standing by them I acquainted  
 the Indian with my miserable Condition, and intreated him  
 to carry me to some English Settlement, he told me that he  
 was just come from Fort Cumberland where he had been  
 selling some Skins to Captain Trent, said he must now make  
 the best of his Way home, but told me that if I would go to  
 his Cabin, he would give me Victuals, and something to cure  
 my Foot, and that when he should have Occasion to go again  
 to Fort Cumberland or any of the English Settlements he  
 would take me with him I embraced his Offer mounted one  
 of the Horses, and went with him to his Cabin which stood  
 on a River Run, that flows into the Allegany River about  
 25 Miles above Fort du Quesne, I was a good while before  
 I recovered the Use of my Limbs, or was able to walk but  
 as soon as I could go abroad, the Indian made me cut Wood  
 for him, dig some Ground, and plant Corn, and treated me in  
 every Respect as his Servant still promising me however to  
 carry me with him when his Business should call him to  
 Fort Cumberland or among the English. Last July was  
 Twelvemonth Kirking was informed by an Indian that came  
 from the Battle, that the English Army had been defeated,  
 and that all the Indians had thereupon declared for the  
 French: this News he immediately made me acquainted with,  
 and then told me that as his Nation would for the future be  
 always at War with the English he should not go to Fort  
 Cumberland again, or trade any longer with them, and that  
 I must become his Slave he having a Right to me for having  
 saved my Life. Within a few Days he pack't up his Hous-