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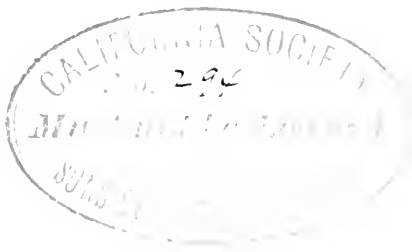
PUBLIC PAPERS
OF
GEORGE CLINTON,
FIRST GOVERNOR OF NEW YORK.

1777-1795—1801-1804.

VOLUME V.

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PREFACE TO VOLUME V.

The period embraced in this volume is from June 1, 1779, to July 10, 1780. These thirteen months were fraught with the most stirring and exciting events. The atrocities committed by the Indians kept the settlers along the widely exposed frontier in a state of constant apprehension. The principal events were: the capture of Stony Point by General Wayne; the expedition of General Sullivan to chastise the troublesome Indians; the appointment of John Jay as Minister to Spain; the transfer of New York's western territory to Congress, for the common good; and the return of General Lafayette, who brought from the French government to Washington the commission of Lieutenant General and Vice Admiral of France.

HUGH HASTINGS,

State Historian.

State Capitol, Albany, N. Y., November 6, 1901.

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	31						

ILLUSTRATIONS.

- No. 1—COLONEL NICHOLAS FISH—Frontispiece.
No. 2—MAP OF STONY POINT—opposite page 152.
No. 3—GENERAL ANTHONY WAYNE—opposite page 156.
No. 4—GENERAL JOHN SULLIVAN—opposite page 224.
No. 5—CHANCELLOR ROBERT R. LIVINGSTON—opposite page 446.
No. 6—COLONEL PHILIP VAN CORTLANDT—opposite page 472.
No. 7—COUNT POLASKI—opposite page 616.
No. 8—GENERAL JOHN STARK—opposite page 788.

Public Papers of George
Clinton.

MISS. VOLUME VIII.

MANUSCRIPT VOLUME VIII.

[No. 2346.]

Capt. Uriah Drake's Company of Exempts, Ulster County.

Return of the Strength of Capt. Uriah Drake's Company of Exempts.

Uriah Drake, Capt; Peter Ostrander, 1 Lievt; Thom's Dun, 2 Lievt; Lewis Slut, Ensign; Daul. Ostrander, Clark; Joseph Baker, 1 Serjt; Peter Aldridge, 2 Serjt.

Henry Cranck	Richard Garrison
Fredrick Gee	Jonath'n Terwillger
David Harton	Daul. McDowel
John Tarepening	Stephen Odle
Jonath'n Ostander	Joseph Devine
Edmon Turner	Stephen Semore
Jonath' Brundidge	Henry Lockwood
Franc's Smith	Henry Evence
Saml. Hodger	Jonath'n Knap
Will'm Hodger	Miele Redman
John McColm	Abenes'r Reydmou
Thom's McColm	Caleb Lockwood
John Parlemain	Henry Hanes
Bejam'n Wise	Alexand'r Makke
Robt. Poore	Saml. Wyatt
Math'w Phenix.	

Private

Total Rank & File 31

RETURN OF CAPT. DRAKE'S COMPANY OF EXEMPTS JUNE TH 1 1779.

	appeared.	Press'd w'th Teems.	Sick.	Not appeared.
Uriah Drak, Capt.				
Peter O-lander, Lievt.	1			
Thom's Dun, Lievt.	2			
Lewis Slutt, Insighn		1		
Sam'l. Woott, Quart'r Master	1			
Joseph Baker, Serjt.	2			
Mathew Phenix, Serjt.	3			
Robt. Poor.	1			
Jonathan Olander,	2			
Stephen Semor,	3			
Conlius Turner,	4			
William Dun,	5			
Calep Lockwood,	6			
Abinez'r Brush,	7			
	8*			
	14			
Danl. Olander, Clark			1	1
Peter Oldge, Serjt.				2
Henrick Crank				3
Fredrick Gee			2	4
David Horton				5
John Tarepening				6
Edmond Turner				7
Jonath'n Brundage				8
Francis Smith				9
Sam'l. Hedger				10
Jonath'n McColm				11
Thom's McColm				12
John Porlement				13
Benjam'n Wise				14
Rich'd Garrison				15
Danl. McDowel			3	17
Stephen Odle				18
Joseph Devine				19
Henry Lockwood				20
Henry Evin		2		21
Jonath'n Nap				22
Mich'l Redman				23
Abinez'r Redman				24
Henry Haynes				24
Alexder Mackey				
John Degroe				
William Reaglean				
Total not appeared				24

[No. 2347.]

*General McDougall Furnishes Governor Clinton With a List of the
Enemy's Vessels in the Hudson River.*

Village, June 1st 1779, 7 A. M.

My dear Sir, I Received your Favor of 10 O'Clock Last Night, Early this Morning. The Enemy Debarked all his Force, Mostly on the East Side. From Croton's to Tallar's Point, and Towards the Ferry. Two Prisoners taken Last night, agree in

the accounts, that the Enemy's Detachment is Return'd from Virginia, and Composed part of the army, now on the River. It did not Land in New York. The Militia to assemble at Fish kill, I Suppose will wait orders there, and give what assistance they Can in Guarding the Stores. At Foot you have a List of the Enemy's Vessels. No Intelligence this Morning. I am Sir, Your Humble Servant

Alex'r McDougall.

13 Ships, 3 Brigs, 4 Topsail Schooners, 6 do Sloops, 3 Gallies, 15 or 20 Smaller Vessels, a great number of Flat Bottom'd & Gun Boats.

His Excellency Governour Clinton.

[No. 2348.]

Robert Benson Reports All Quiet at Kingston.

Sir, I arrived at Poughkeepsie just after you set out. All is quiet at Kingston which Place I left at Sunrise this morning.

Yrs. respectfully

Robt. Benson.

His Excellency, Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 2349.]

Colonel Udry Hay Disapproves of American Dispositions.

Fish Kill 1st June 1779, 10 A. M.

Sir, Nothing new that I know of; the Little Fort at Kings Ferry keeps firing every now and then on the Enemy's shipping.

The enclosed arrived just now, the militia are coming in. We want animation. I wish to God you were here. I can not say that I think we shall be attackd here, but if we are, I am afraid our disposition will not be such as you would approve of. I am respectfully, Sir, Your most obed't Ser't

Udry Hay.

Governour Clinton.

[No. 2350.]

GOVERNOR CLINTON GOES TO THE FRONT.

*Is Willing to Act Subordinate to General McDougall, as a Brigadier
in the Continental Line.*

Fishkill, $\frac{1}{2}$ past 12 o'Clock P. M. 1st June 1779.

Dear Sir; I am this Moment arived at this Place. The Militia are in full march; one Regt. are already come in & Detachment from others must be near at Hand. The Stores are principally removed & before night, I doubt not we shall have Teems enough to remove the whole & a Surplus. I mean to act under you in the Character of a Brigad'r Genl. in the Continental Army unless an Officer superior to you in Command shoud arive in which Case I cannot. The Militia woud not submit to it. You understand without Explanation what I mean. I propose taking Post & throwing up some Works at a very Advantageous Pass about three Miles below this, near the lower Baracks & I also propose to have Guards consisting of about 60 Men each on the Horse Pound & Wickepee [Wiccopee] Road & act occasionally as Circumstances may require untill I receive your further Orders. I find I shall be able to man three Pieces of Artillery. I think it necessary, therefore, to inform you that I mean to keep two Six & one four Pounder. I am perswaded they will be of great use, besides they will give Confidence to the Militia. The rest will be immediately sent off. I have only to add that I am, with the greatest Regard, D'r Sir, Your most Obed't Serv't

Geo. Clinton.

Genl. McDougal.

[Nos. 2351, 2352.]

CONGRESS AND THE NEW HAMPSHIRE GRANTS.

An Effort Made to Promote an Amicable Settlement of the Existing Differences.

Philadelphia 1st June 1779.

Sir, Your Favor of the 29th Ult. arrived this morning while Congress were in a Committee of the whole house considering the several applications of the State of New York respecting the disturbances on the Grants.

It is with pleasure I obey the Unanimous Order of Congress, contained in the enclosed Resolution, for informing you that a more early attention would have been paid to the pressing applications of your State relating to the disturbances mentioned in your several Letters, had they not been prevented by matters of the greatest Importance, and that Congress will continue to pay equal attention to the Rights of the State of New York with those of other States in the Union.

You will also receive herewith enclosed, a Copy of another Act of Congress of this day, on the same Subject, from which you will perceive it to be the design of Congress, to send a Committee to the Inhabitants on the Grants to enquire into the Reasons why they refuse to continue Citizens of the respective States which heretofore exercised Jurisdiction over that district, and to take every prudent measure to promote an amicable Settlement of all differences, and prevent Divisions & animosities so prejudicial to the United States.

There is reason to believe that the measures adopted by this act of Congress will prove salutary, especially as it was passed with uncommon Unanimity. The Committee will be appointed

tomorrow when another Express shall be dispatched to inform you of their names &c. I have the honor to be With great Respect and Esteem, Your Excellency's Most Obedient and Humble Servant,

John Jay, Presid't.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

In Congress, June 1st 1779.

Whereas divers applications have been made to Congress on the part of the State of New York and of the State of New Hampshire, relative to disturbances and animosities among Inhabitants of a Certain District known by the name of the New Hampshire Grants, praying their interference for the quieting thereof, Congress having taken the same into consideration,

Resolved, that a Committee be appointed to repair to the Inhabitants of a Certain District known by the name of New Hampshire Grants, and inquire into the reasons why they refuse to continue Citizens of the respective States which heretofore exercised Jurisdiction over the said district: For that, as Congress are in Duty bound, on the one hand, to preserve inviolate the rights of the several States, so on the other, they will always be careful to provide that the Justice due to the States does not interfere with the Justice which may be due to Individuals.

That the said Committee Confer with the said Inhabitants, and that they take every prudent Measure to promote an amicable settlement of all Differences and prevent Divisions and animosities so prejudicial to the United States.

Resolved, That the further consideration of this subject be postponed until the said Committee shall have made report.

Ordered that they report specially and with all convenient speed.

Extract from the Minutes.

Charles Thomson, Sec'y.

In Congress 1st June 1779.

Resolved unanimously, that the President inform the Governor of the State of New York that a more early attention would have been paid to the pressing application of that State relating to the disturbances, mentioned in his several letters had they not been prevented by matters of the greatest Importance and that Congress will continue to pay equal attention to the rights of that State with those of other States in the union.

Extract from the Minutes.

Charles Thomson, Sec'y.

MEMBERS OF THE NEW YORK DELEGATION WRITE TO GOVERNOR CLINTON.

*Philadelphia 1st June 1779.

Sir, We were honored with your favor of the 29th ulto. this morning. Congress was then in a Committee of the whole House considering that subject. They came to several Resolutions which were almost unanimously agreed to by the House and of which the President sends you a Copy by the Express who carries this.

It gives us Pleasure to inform you that our New England Bretheren came very generally into the measure and appear sincerely disposed to terminate those unhappy Disorders. The Moderation observable in those Resolutions we hope will meet with your approbation. The more gentle just & persuasive the Proceedings of Congress in this Business are the more likely they

*From the Documentary History of New York.

will be to succeed and if treated with neglect by the People of the Grants, the greater Degree of Indignation will such neglect create through all the States. These Resolutions coincide exactly with the Ideas of the Eastern Delegates. The Committee will be chosen to-morrow. We shall for many obvious Reasons vote for a majority of eastern men. The Proclamations doing Justice to the Revolters have had a happy effect here. In our opinion it will be wise to abstain from Hostilities for the present and rather suffer a little than shed blood. If the Members of Congress are really as much in earnest as they appear to be all will be well. We are very much disposed to credit their Declarations on the subject & have ground to hope that this and every other Cause of Jealousy may be done away and Mutual Confidence, Harmony & good Understanding take place between New York & her sister States to the eastward. These are essential to their common Prosperity & must give sincere pleasure to every well wisher of the American Cause. Be assured that our attention to the Rights of our Constituents on the present important occasion shall not cease and that we are with great Respect and Esteem Your Excellency's most obt. Servts.

Wm. Floyd, John Jay,

Gouv'r Morris, James Duane.

His Excellency Gov. Clinton.

[No. 2353.]

JAMES DUANE AND THE NEW TAX.

Doubtful of His Success -- He Fears General Schuyler Has Hurt His Cause.

Philad. 2d June 1779.

Dear Sir. Be pleased to accept my Thanks for your Excellency's very friendly and obliging Letter of the 15th ult. Sensible of the Embarrassments of Government under the multitude of

Cares which surround you, I can easily conceive of your want of Leisure for friendly correspondence.

Your Excellency is no stranger to the part I have acted for General Schuyler;* considering his abilities and high military Rank to be of the most essential Importance to our State; after defeating all the attempts for his destruction, and seeing him honorably acquitted, he has disappointed all my Labours by persevering in, or rather reiterating, his Resignation in Terms the most absolute. It is true he has many Provocations; but by this step he has equally hurt the feelings of his Friends, & gratified his Enemies.

I shall long impatiently to hear how the new Tax of 15 millions is relished in our state. It is a great Effort but nothing less could prevent the total Loss of our publick credit? Does the address tend to produce a Confidence that the money will be ultimately secure? I take that to be the cardinal point.

I thank your Excellency for your particular attention to me, & I hope the same favourable sentiments of my attention to duty will pervade the Legislature. I am confident if application, assiduous application, entitle me to Indulgence it will not be withheld. There are a few things I wish to see accomplished, & then to be permitted to visit my Family & look after the shattered Ruins of my Fortune. The power of fixing the Routine of the Delegates ought doubtless to be vested in your Excellency. Without this it will never be equal, or indeed tolerable to any Man who is not wholly divested of domestic Feelings. I recollect that for the period of 28 months, I was in the whole only four with my Family. Is not this beyond any Rate of proportion?

*There is no man, that can be more useful as a member of the Congress, than General Schuyler. His perfect knowledge of the resources of the country, the activity of his temper, his fruitfulness of expedients, and his sound military sense, are all we wish, above all things, he may be appointed. Washington to James Duane, May 14, 1780.

Your Excellency will receive the acts of Congress respecting the Revolt from our State by this Conveyance. On this subject I refer you to our publick Letter. It is my opinion that if the proposed Committee act with propriety, they may influence a great Majority to return to their Duty; But I am equally perswaded that if they please they can fix them forever in their opposition. This is not a desirable Hazard, altho' it is preferable to the Effusion of American Blood. In short, Sir, much depends on the Candour of the New England Delegates, some of whom have fomented this seperation. Now the Property is secure to their Friends, they may be contented. They are loud in their professions, and I am disposed to meet them with some degree of Confidence; Indeed to bury all animosities in everlasting oblivion.

With most respectful Compliments to Mrs. Clinton I have the Honour to be, Sir, with the utmost Regard, Your Excellency's most Obedient humble Servant

Jas. Duane.*

His Excellency Governour Clinton.

[Private.]

*Some Queries, Political and Military, Humbly Offered to the Consideration of the Public.

(Maryland Journal and Baltimore Advertiser, July 6, 1779.)

Pennsylvania (Philadelphia) —, 1779.

1st. Whether George the First did not, on his accession to the throne of Great Britain, by making himself king of a party, instead of the whole nation, sow the seeds not only of the subversion of the liberties of the people, but of the ruin of the whole empire?

2d. Whether, by proscribing that class of men, to which his ministry were pleased to give the appellation of Tories, he did not, in the end, make them not only real Tories, but even Jacobites?

3d. Whether the consequence of this distinction, now become real, was not two rebellions; and whether the fruit of those rebellions, although defeated, were not septennial parliaments, a large standing army, an enormous additional weight and pecuniary influence thrown into the scale of the crown, which in a few years have borne down, not only the substance, but almost the form of liberty, all sense of patriotism, the morals of the people, and, in the end, overturned the mighty fabric of the British empire?

4th. Whether the present men in power, in this state, do not tread exactly in the steps of this pernicious ministry, by proscribing and disfranchising so large a proportion of citizens as those men whom they find it their interest to brand with the denomination of Tories?

5th. Whether liberty, to be durable, should not be constructed on as broad a basis as possible; and whether the same causes, in all ages, and in all countries, do not produce the same effects?

[No. 2354.]

Colonel Webb Expresses Disappointment in Not Seeing Governor Clinton.

Fishkill, 3d June 1779.

I am happy, my Dear Sir, once more to address you from a land of freedom; it gives me pain that I cannot have a personal interview. I did expect it last evening at New Windsor (not knowing you had left your former residence) and was not a little morti-

6th. Whether it is not natural and even justifiable, for that class of people (let the pretext be ever so plausible) who have been stripped of their rights as men, by the hard hand of power, to wish for, and endeavor to bring about, by any means, what ever, a revolution in that state, which they cannot but consider, as an usurpation and tyranny?

7th. Whether a subject of Morocco is not, when we consider human nature, a happier mortal, than a disfranchised citizen of Pennsylvania, as the former has the comfort of seeing all about him in the same predicament with himself; the latter, the misery of being a slave in the specious bosom of liberty? The former drinks the cup, but the latter alone can taste the bitterness of it.

8th. Whether an enlightened member of a French parliament is not a thousand times more wretched than a Russian serf or peasant? As to the former, the chains, from his sensibility, must be extremely galling; and on the latter, they sit as easy as the skin of his back.

9th. Whether it is salutary or dangerous, consistent with, or abhorrent from, the principles and spirit of liberty and republicanism, to inculcate and encourage in the people, an idea, that their welfare, safety, and glory, depend on one man? Whether they really do depend on one man?

10th. Whether, amongst the late warm, or rather loyal addressers, in this city, to his Excellency General Washington, there was a single mortal, one gentleman excepted, who could possibly be acquainted with his merits?

11th. Whether this gentleman excepted, does really think his Excellency a great man, or whether evidences could not be produced of his sentiments being quite the reverse?

12th. Whether the armies under Gates and Arnold, and the detachment under Starke, to the Northward, or that immediately under his Excellency, in Pennsylvania, gave the decisive turn to the fortune of war?

13th. Whether, therefore, when Monsieur Gerard and Don Juan de Miralles, sent over to their respective courts the pictures of his Excellency General Washington at full length, by Mr. Peal, there would have been any impropriety in sending over, at the same time, at least a couple of little heads of Gates and Arnold by M. de Simithere?

14th. On what principle was it that Congress in the year 1776, sent for General Lee quite from Georgia, with injunctions to join the army under General Washington, then in York-Island, without loss of time.

15th. Whether Congress had reason to be satisfied or dissatisfied with this their recall of General Lee, from what subsequently happened on York-Island, and at the White Plains?

16th. Whether Fort Washington was or was not tenable? Whether there were barracks, casemates, fuel, or water, within the body of the place? Whether in the magazines, the defences were in any decent order? And whether there were even platforms for the guns?

17th. Whether, if it had been tenable it could have answered any one single purpose? Did it cover, did it protect a valuable country? Did it prevent the enemy's ships from passing or repassing with impunity?

18th. Whether, when General Howe manifestly gave over all thoughts of attacking General Washington, in the last strong position in the rear of White-Plains, and fell back towards York-Island, orders should not have been immediately dispatched to

fyed at my disappointment. General Parsons will give you my reasons for not waiting on you now, which I hope will be satisfactory, as early as my situation will admit. I shall take great pleasure in paying my respects to you; in the inteerim I am respectfully and very sincerely your friend & Affec't Hum's Serv't

Saml. B. Webb.

Be pleasing enough to excuse the little ceremony and great hurry.

Gov'r Clinton.

the evacuation of Fort Washington, and for the removal of all the stores of value from Fort Lee to some secure spot, more removed from the river? Whether this was not proposed and the proposal slighted?

19th. Whether the loss of the garrison of Fort Washington, and its consequent loss of Fort Lee, with the tents, stores, &c. had not such an effect on the spirits of the people, as to make the difference of twenty thousand men to America?

20th. Whether, in the defeat of Brandewine, General Sullivan was really the person who ought to have been censured?

21st. Whether, if Duke Ferdinand had commanded at Germantown, after having gained, by the valour of his troops, and the negligence of his enemy, a partial victory, he would have contriv'd, by a single stroke of the Bathos, to have corrupted this partial victory into a defeat?*

22. Whether our position at Valley Forge was not such, that if General Howe, or afterwards General Clinton, had been well informed of its circumstances, defects, and vices, they might not at the head of ten, or even of eight thousand men, have reduced the American army to the same fatal necessity as the Americans did General Burgoyne?

23d. Whether the trials of General St. Clair, of which court-martial General Lincoln was president, and that on General Lee, were conducted in the same forms, and on the same principles? Whether in the former, all hearsay evidences were not absolutely rejected; and in the latter hearsay evidence did not constitute a very considerable part?

24th. Whether, if the Generals Schuyler and St. Clair, had been tried by the same court-martial as General Lee was, and, instead of Congress, General Washington had been the prosecutor, those gentlemen (unexceptionable as their conduct was) would not have stood a very ugly chance of being condemned? And whether, if instead of General Washington, Congress had been the prosecutor, General Lee would not probably have been acquitted with the highest honour?

25th. Whether it must not appear to every man who has read General Washington's letter to Congress, on the affair at Monmouth, and the proceedings of the Court-Martial, by which General Lee was tried, that if the contents of the former are facts, not only General Lee's defence must be a tissue of the most abominable audacious lies, but that the whole string of evidences, both on the part of the prosecution and prosecuted, must be guilty of rank perjury, as the testimonies of those gentlemen, near forty in number, delivered on oath, scarcely in one article coincide with the detail given in his Excellency's letter?—From New York Historical Society Collections.

*In one of the numerous publications which have lately infested Philadelphia, it was brought as a crime against Mr. Deane, that he had, directly or indirectly, made some overtures to Prince Ferdinand of Brunswick, to accept the command of the American army, who must of course have superseded General Washington. This crime appeared to all the foreign officers who are acquainted with the prince's reputation as a soldier, in so very ridiculous a light, that they never think or speak of it without being thrown into violent fits of laughter.

[No. 2355.]

A Return of the Brigade of Militia of the County of Dutchess Under the Command of Jacobus Swartwout, Colo. Commandant.

Present fit for Duty.

REGIMENTS.	Commissioned Officers						Staff Officers				Non-Commissioned			Rank & File						
	(Colo. Comdt.)	(Colo.)	Colos.	Major	Capt.	1st Lieut.	2nd Lieut.	Ensign	Major's Brigade	Surgeon	Adjutants	Qr. Master	Serjt. Major	Serjts.	Prints	Fifers	On Command	On Command	On Command	Absent without Leave
Colo. Morris Graham	1			1	6	5	5	4			1	1		18						
Colo. John Fear	1			1	8	6	7	7			1	1		22	2					
Colo. John Field	1			1	3	4	4	3			1	1		13	1	1				
Colo. Roswell Hopkins	1			1	2	5	4	3			1	1		11						
Colo. Henry Ludington	1			1	1	6	4	4			1	1		18	5	2				
Colo. Abraham Brinckerhoff	1			1	1	5	5	6			1	1		16	1					
Colo. James Van Der Burgh	1	6	4	8	37	30	31	28	2	1	7	5	3	98	9	3	1114	172	4	23

N. B. Colo. James V. D. Burgh absent. Capt. Geo. Brinckerhoff of Colo. Brinckerhoff's Regt. with 3 Subs & the 60 Men Mention'd in the Return on Command Guarding the Passes at Weecopy.

Lt. Todd of 5d Regt. with 12 Men Mentioned on Command as a Guard at N. Hackinsack.
1 Capt. & 3 Subs with 60 Men Mentioned, of Colo. Luddenton's Regt. on Command, Guarding the passes at the foot of the Mountain.
1 Capt. 3 Subs & 40 Men Mentioned, of Colo. V. D. Burgh's Regt. on Command, Guarding the stores at Colo. V. D. Burgh's.

Highlands, June 3rd 1779.
By Order of Jacobus Swartwout, Colo. Comdt.
Hend'k Wyeckoff M. B.

[No. 2356.]

Ration Returns of Associated Exempts at Fishkill.

A provision return of the Associated Exempts Stationed at the New Magazine in Fishkill Commanded By Collo. Command't Swartwout, made out for three Days this 3 June 1779:

Capt's.	Lieutenants,	Quartermaster,	Serjeants,	Corporals,	Rank & file,	No. rations.	rations pr day,	rations Total,	rations for three days,	rations retained,	rations drawn,
5	7	1	10	8	128	176	176	501	54	447

Sir, Deliver the above Rations Provisions.

Jacobus Swartwout, Colo. Comdt.

June 3d 1779.

To N. Stevens, A. C. Issues.

[No. 2357.]

A Regimental Return of Colo. Hardenbergh's Regt. of Militia, Now at West Point agreeable to the Returns delivered by the Commanding officers of the Respective Comp'ys of said Regt. (as follows):

	Colo.	Lt. Colo.	Maj'r	Adj't.	Q. M.	Serjt. M.	Capt's.	Lts.	Ensigns	Serjts.	Corp's	Dr. & files	Privates	Total
Colo. Joh's Hardenbergh	1													
Maj'r Saml. Clark			1											
Adj't. Kelsey				1										
Q. M. Donivan					1									
Capt. Jacob Wood						1	1	2	1	3	2		29	34
Capt. Jacob Conklin							1	2	1	3	2		16	21
Capt. Arthur Smith							1	1	1	4	1	1	18	24
Capt. Stephen Case							1	2	1	4	1		31	36
Capt. O-trander							1	2	1	1	1		16	18
Lt. Denton								1		3	2	1	24	30
	1	0	1	1	1	1	5	10	4	18	9	2	134	163

June 3. 1779.

P. Joh's Hardenbergh Jr., Colo.

[No. 2358.]

*A Return of a Part of the 2d Regiment of Militia from Ulster County
Commanded by Lieut. Coll. Jacob Newkirk. West Point, June
3d 1779.*

	Colonel	Lieut. Coll.	Major	Adjutant	Qt. Mstr. & Surgt Major	Captains	Lieut'ns	Ensigns	Serjants	Corporals	Dr. & File	Rank & file	Total
Field & Staff Officers		1		1	2								4
Capt'n Tiford						1	2		4	2		30	39
Capt. Humphry						1	1		4			47	54
Capt. Vankeuren						1	2	1		3	1	18	26
Capt. McBride						1	2		2			17	23
Capt. Nicholl						1	1	1	3		2	17	25
Capt. Hunter							2	1	4	2		33	42
	1	1		1	2	4	10	3	17	12	3	143	190

George Denniston, Adjutant.

[No. 2359.]

*Petition in Behalf of Jonas Ramsey.**

[No. 2360.]

*President Jay Writes to Governor Clinton Regarding the Vermont
Embroglio.*

Philadelphia 3d June 1779.

Dear Sir: It will doubtless give you pleasure to hear that the York Delegates voted for each of the members of the Committee mentioned in the Letter herewith enclosed, four of them were unanimously appointed, and there were but two Ballots which did not contain the name of Mr. Root. The unanimity of Congress on this occasion is an agreeable Circumstance. Mr. Laurens moved that Vermont should be desired to send Deputies to

*Omitted.

represent their Case to Congress but nobody seconded him. He denies Allen's Report so far as it respects him to be true. He confesses often to have seen Allen & to have promised that he should be heard, before Congress did any thing in the matter. The few dissenting voices on the Question disliked the moderation of the Resolutions, and were for coercive measures in the first Instance. Their future Conduct however (should the Controversy continue) will be influenced greatly by the Report of the Committee who are not ill disposed towards us at present. Care should be taken that they return with favorable Impressions. I wish General Schuyler would interest himself a little in this matter. His address, acquaintance with men, and Knowledge of this Dispute & the Characters concerned in it, might be useful. I mean that he should attend to and inform, not accompany, the Committee. Inclosed is a Letter from Roger Shearman to Chittenden, which he shewed me. It informs him of the appointment of a judicious Committee & advises him to use his Influence to maintain the public Tranquility &c. A Copy of the Resolution is enclosed in it. I think it would be proper to forward it speedily. It may prevent outrages for the Present. My best Respects to Mrs. Clinton. I am, Dear Sir, your ob't Serv't

John Jay.

Gov'r Clinton.

The New Hampshire Grants Committee.

*Philadelphia July (June) 3d 1779.

Sir, I did myself the Honor the Day before yesterday to transmit your Excellency a Copy of an Act of Congress of the 1st Inst. directing among other Things that a Committee be ap-

*From the Documentary History of New York.

pointed to repair to the Inhabitants on the New Hampshire Grants for the Purposes mentioned in it. The Committee was appointed yesterday. They are the Hon'ble Oliver Ellsworth and Jesse Root of Connecticut, Timothy Edwards of Massachusetts Bay, Doctor Witherspoon of New Jersey & Colo. Atlee of Pensyl'ia. Notice will be immediately sent to each of the Gentlemen of their appointment, and I shall take the liberty of pressing them to enter on the Business committed to them without delay. I have the honor to be &c. &c.

John Jay.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 2361.]

Joseph Sackett Pleads for Jonas Rumsey.

Gray Corte June 4. 1779.

To his Exelency George Clinton. Esqr.

I Culd not Signe the Petetion in favor of Jonas Rumsey in the forme it is Drawn, But as I was the person agreavd and the Cheaf Evidence ag't him, am Very Desireas that he may be Pardoned, as I am Credablely Informed he had been Drinking hard all the Day proceading. I never Saw him before that Evening as I know of; that I knew nothing of his Carreeter: when he told me he must have my money I opened my pocket book & took the money from other papers & handed it to him: it was one Seven Doller Bill, a few Small Bill which amounted to near about Seven Dollers more, it mite be a little more or less, I Begg your Exelency's mercy for the young man: Consider his youth; I hope he may live to be Useful to the Community; from one of your Exececys petisoners and Humble Serv't

Joseph Sackett.

[No. 2362.]

Commissary Elmendorph Establishes a Depot at Marbletown.

Kingston 4th June 1779.

Sir, Agreeable to your Excellency's Letter of the 28th May,* I Have a Sufficient Magazine Laid in for the time you Specified. It is Lodged at Mr. Dewitt's at Marbletown, agreeable with Colo. Pawling's advice, where is a guard Kept at Nights. I am, Sir, your most obedient Humble Serv't

Coenraedt J. Elmendorph, A. C. P.

To His Excellency George Clinton.

[No. 2363.]

Colonel Malcom Reports the Disposition of his Troops in the Highlands. $\frac{1}{2}$ way between Fort Montg' & the Furnace, June 4. 1779.

Dr Sir; I send Mr. Hallet with notice of my Situation &c. Several reasons induced me to march the Militia last evening to this place. I am now posted on the Two passes from Haverstraw, with Guards at F't Montg'y extending to the furnace, & piquets advanced three miles on the principal roads leading up from Kings Ferry. I have also taken a Guard boat wth me, so that the Garrison can not be taken by Surprize.—& my Plan is, in case the enemy advance, to collect at the alarm & obstruct them, retiring towards the Garrison. I hope this plan will meet with your Excellency's approbation. I am well convinced of its propriety. One of the O. C. (Orange County) Regts. got to the fort this morning. I am not yet determined whether to order them out or to allow them to remain there. There are 68

*See Vol. IV pages 553-554.

Vessells at Kings Ferry, none above, & a very few Tents on Stony Point.* Mr. Hallet will shew your Excellency a letter from Co. Pawling, & will also tell you any matter concerning us &c. &c. that you may desire to know, and will also receive your Excellency's farther Commands for me. I have the Honor to be, with Respect, Your Excellency's Most Obed't & very H'ble serv't,

W. Malcom.

I beg my Respects to Genl. Scott to whom I would write, but am told that he is with your Excellency.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

*From Ringwood Iron Works under date of June 6, 1779, Washington wrote to the President of Congress:

Sir, On the 3d I had the Honor to address Your Excellency from Middle Brook and Morris Town—and to transmit you all the intelligence I had then received respecting the movements of the enemy on the North River; and of the measures I had taken and was about to pursue in consequence.

I am now to inform you, according to the advices I have obtained, that, on the 2d in the morning, the Enemy opened a Battery at Stony Point, which lies on the West side of the Hudson at the landing at King's Ferry, against a small detached work which had been erected on Verplanck's Point, on the East Side, and kept up a constant fire upon it, in conjunction with their Ships, till four in the aft-noon, when the party stationed in it, finding that it was also invested on the land side in force, surrendered by capitulation.* The next day, that part of the Enemy which was landed on the East side of the River, computed at five thousand, advanced to the Bald Hill below the Continental Village, when it was expected that they meant to attack our troops in that quarter and to gain, if possible, Nelson's Point opposite to Fort Arnold,† while Sir Henry Clinton, with the remainder of the army, should proceed from Haverstraw Bay against the Fort, by the routes on the West side. This however was not attempted, and the body of the Enemy, that appeared before the village, returned, without making any attack, to the ground from which they had moved. The Enemy have remained since in two divisions on the opposite sides of the River. Their Vessels have generally fallen down below King's Ferry, and twelve square-rigged, with Eight of a smaller size and Fifteen flat-bottomed boats, with troops on board, stood down the River yesterday, and were seen till they turned the Point, which forms the upper part of Tappan Bay. The rest of the fleet (the whole of which is reported to have consisted of about Seventy sail, and a hundred & fifty flat-bottomed boats great and small) keep their station; and the division of troops on this side, from the latest advices, were very industriously employed yesterday in fortifying Stony Point, which, from its peninsular and commanding form, is naturally strong, and which, from the

*The enemy landed in two divisions, one on the east side of the river under General Vaughan, eight miles below Verplanck's Point, and the other on the west side three miles below Stony Point, where the garrison consisted of about forty men. They evacuated the post, as the enemy approached, on the 31st of May. Opposite to Stony Point was a small fort at Verplanck's Point, called Fort Lafayette. This was garrisoned by a company of seventy men, commanded by Captain Armstrong, who was compelled to surrender when attacked by the cannonade from Stony Point, and by General Vaughan's party on the other side. The following were the terms of the capitulation.

"On the *Glacis of Fort Lafayette*, June 1st, 1779. His Excellency Sir Henry Clinton, and Commodore Sir George Collier, grant to the garrison of Fort Lafayette terms of safety to the persons and property (contained in the fort) of the garrison, they surrendering themselves prisoners of war. The officers shall be permitted to wear their side-arms.

"John André, *Aid-de-Camp*.

†Fort Arnold was at West Point.

[No. 2364.]

Captain Darby Reports His Command Too Weak for Comfort.

Honor'd Sir, Colo. Hughs has Just Deliverd your Exelency's Orders for having the millitia Guard at Fishkill Bridg Relived by the troops at this place. Lt. Colo. Badlam, who Late Com-

narrowness of the neck, that connects it to the main, may be insulated and maintained without very great difficulty. This, Sir, is a summary of the intelligence, and of the situation of the Enemy.*

Their movements and conduct are very perplexing, and leave it difficult to determine what are their real objects. However, as the posts in the Highlands are of infinite consequence, and the point in which we can be most essentially injured, I shall take every measure in my power to provide for their security, and accordingly shall make such a disposition of the army as shall best promise to answer the end. If they should not operate against those posts, it would seem that one part of their expedition, and a principal one, is, to cut off the communication by the way of King's Ferry by establishing Garrisons. I have the honor to be, &c.

From the "Camp at Stoney Point" 5th June 1779. General Pattison wrote to Sir Henry Clinton:

I was honor'd with your Excellency's Letter last Night.—This Morning a Deserter came in from West-Point, he is a very Intelligent Fellow, & gives so clear & distinct an account of the Forces & Positions of the several Works at that Place, as to admit of a tolerable Sketch being taken by his Description alone.—If you are not, Sir, in Possession of a more perfect one, this (done by E. Major Williams) may serve to give

*Sir Henry Clinton, who commanded this expedition in person, was not entirely satisfied at the present juncture with the instructions he received from the ministry, and the part he was made to act. In writing to Lord George Germain, after stating the numerous difficulties with which he had been obliged to contend, and hinting at the apparent want of confidence implied by the tenor of the instructions lately received, he goes on to say: "Is it to be supposed, that I am not on the watch to profit by every favorable disposition, in any part of the continent, or to improve every accidental advantage of circumstances? I am on the spot; the earliest and most exact intelligence on every point ought naturally to reach me. It is my interest, as well as my duty, more than any other person's living, to inform myself minutely and justly of the particular views, connexions, state, and temper of every province, nay, of every set of men within the limits of my command, and it is my business to mark every possible change in their situation. Why then, my Lord, without consulting me, will you admit the ill-digested or interested suggestions of people, who cannot be competent judges of the subject, and puzzle me by hinting wishes, with which I cannot agree, and yet am loath to disregard? For God's sake, my Lord, if you wish that I should do any thing, leave me to myself, and let me adapt my efforts to the hourly change of circumstances, and take the risk of my want of success. I do not wish to be cautious, but I certainly have not had that attention paid to my wishes, and that satisfaction, which the weight of my situation, and the hopes which you held forth for me, gave me reason to expect."—New York, May 22d.

The persons here alluded to, as communicating "ill-digested or interested suggestions," were the refugees and late civil officers in the colonies, who had gone back to England. Through their friends in America, they received intelligence from every quarter, exaggerating the distresses of the people, the weak condition of Washington's army, the dissensions in Congress, and the exhausted state of the country. It was said, that the people were groaning under the tyranny of their leaders, and suffering an oppression, which they would not much longer endure. The prospects of the loyalists were painted in the most flattering colors, and nothing was wanting for the success of their cause, but perseverance on the part of the government, and a vigorous prosecution of the war. Promises were held out at different points, in Carolina, Virginia, and New England, that a respectable body of troops would give countenance to the loyalists, and draw together numerous concealed friends to the government, whose fears would be overcome only by such a substantial encouragement. These reports were carefully conveyed to the ministers, who lent to them a willing ear, and sent out instructions to Sir Henry Clinton, recommending attacks at different places, and thus deranging all the plans which he had formed, after having obtained the best knowledge of facts and circumstances. This delusion prevailed during the whole war. The ministers acted under a perpetual deception. In looking back upon events, as they actually occurred, it is impossible to conceive a collection of state papers more extraordinary for the erroneous impressions, contracted knowledge, and impracticable aims of the writer, than the correspondence of Lord George Germaine with the British commanders in America.—*Sparks*.

manded at this place is removed to Hackensack, & the few Troops at this place is fallen under my Command. I have not but about thirty six men for to suport the provost Guard with thirty prisoners and the other Small Guards; had I men Should think my self happy to obey your Exelency's Commands. I am, Sir, at your Exelency's Commands

Sam. Darby, Capt.

Fishkill 4th June 1779.

His Exelency Govener Clinton.

a general Idea of the whole, as the Man declares it bears the strongest Reason; I therefore enclose it, together with his Narrative and have likewise sent by this Opportunity the Man himself to answer any further Questions, and to be dispos'd of, as you shall be pleas'd to direct—

The several Works here being nearly completed, & every cautionary step taken, to make this Place as secure as possible, I propose returning to New York, on Saturday, and paying my Respects to you in my Way thither.

This Post is perfectly quiet, & the Country People begin to bring in some few Supplies. I have the Honor to be With great Regard & Consideration, &c.

Sir Henry Clinton.

On the same day from Stony Point, Pattison wrote to Lord Viscount Townshend:

All the Troops on Long Island, except one Provincial Battalion, having quitted their Cantonments, and crossed over the East River to York Island, a Movement was made on Friday the 28th May, of the following Corps, which March'd from the Lines of Kingsbridge in four Column's Viz'r:

Left Column	Left Center Column	Right Center Column	Right Column
Mounted Jagers	Ferguson's Corps	Emerich's Corps	Queen's Rangers Legion
3rd Batt'n Hess'n	Light Infantry of the Line	17th Foot	7th Foot.
Grenadiers	Loy'l American Regt.	23d do	6th Foot.
Regt. of Bose		33d do	
		64th do	

and form'd a Camp about five Miles beyond it on a very strong ground, the Camp extending to East Chester Creek, and the left to Phillips's House on the North side. The British Grenadiers march'd from Jamaica to Whitestone, and passing over the Sound to East Chester, join'd the Encampment. The little Park of Artillery consisting of 4 light 12 Prs., 2 Royal Howitzers and a Colonel's Mortar of a 10 lb. Cannon, under the Command of Capt'n Rochfort march'd the day following, and was posted in the Center of the Camp on a very commanding Height call'd Van Hook's Point. The Command of the British Troops at this Camp was given to Major Genl. Vaughan & the Light Troops & Cavalry to Sir William Boscawen. The Troops left with the Lines of Kingsbridge, were the 11th & 55th Regts. and 3 Hessian Regts. under the Command of Genl. Knyphausen; the two Battalions of Guards wth Hessian Regts. to Garrison New York, & the 26th & 37th Regts. wth 2 Provincial Battalions on Staten Island, under Major Genl. Leslie.

About a fortnight previous to putting the Army in Motion Sir Henry Clinton communicated to me his Design of attempting to reduce a Rebel Fort, call'd Fort Mifflin, situated at Verplank's Point on the East Side of the North River, in the narrow Part of Haverstraw Bay, and that he intended to give me the Command of a Detachment to be employed on this Service.

This Fort being erected for the Protection, of the Passage from the Kings River, on

[No. 2365.]

Colonel Ludington's Regiment Detached.

Head Qrs. Budds, June 4th 1779.

Sir, I am directed by General McDougall to acknowledge the Receipt of your favor of this day, communicating his Excellency's opinion to detach Colonel Ludington's Regiment which he approves: And has accordingly given orders to march for Crompond, and take the best position to answer the object of his Command. I am, Sir, your humble Servant,

Ranald S. McDougall, A. D. C.

the opposite Side, it was considered as an Object of Importance, to become Masters of it, since it would cut off the principal communication between the Eastern and Western Colonies, and oblige all the Supply's of Provisions or Troops for Mr. Washington from Connecticut & New England, to make a large Detour over the Highlands.—On the West Side of the River directly opposite to Fort La Fayette is a very high Bluff Rock, call'd Stoney Point, which commands it, and upon which the Rebels were raising Works, the General therefore determined to get Possession first of this Post, as the surest Means of reducing the other.

The flank Company's of the Guards, 42nd Regt., Volunteers of Ireland & Regt. of Prince Charles arriving very opportunely from Virginia on Saturday Evening, the 29th of May, Sir Henry Clinton resolv'd to carry the intended Operations up the North River into immediate Execution, and accordingly ordered the Transports with those Troops to move up the River that night, to Phillips's House, where they were to be join'd by another Corps, that was to embark there the next Morning from Camp, consisting of the Light Infantry & Grenadiers of the Line, the Hessian Grenadiers, 33rd Regt., dismounted Legion, Loyal Americans & Ferguson's Corps, under the Orders of Major Genl. Vaughan.

The Artillery destin'd for this Service, to be commanded by Capt. Traille was 3 heavy & 1 light 12 Pr. one light 3 Pr., one 8 Inch Howitzer, one Inch mortar, four Royals & two Cohorns.—The whole of these, with their Ammunition & Stores had been embarked on board a Brig for several Days, except one Light & one Heavy 12 Pr. the 8 Inch Howitzer, two Royals & light 3 Pr. intended to be carried in Gun Boats for the first Landing, and on the following Day, (Sunday the 30th) they were accordingly put on board the Gun Boats, & proceeded with the Brig that Evening up the River, under the care of the Vulture Sloop of War.—The Reasonable Commodore Sir George Collier and the Camilla Frigate went up the same Evening.

Sir Henry Clinton left New York that Day about Noon, & went in one of his own Vessels to His Head Quarters at Phillips's House.—I was myself on board the Reasonable, but as it was inconvenient for that large Ship to move up higher than Tarry Town, the Commodore there shifted his Broad Pendant to the Camilla and we proceeded to Haverstraw Bay, which he reach'd about 12 o'Clock on Monday noon.—As soon as the Enemy discover'd our Fleet, we cou'd perceive they began to draw off many Things from Stoney Point, but whether Guns or Stores, we cou'd not discover, and very soon after they set fire to their Works & abandoned the Place.—About 4 o'Clock this Afternoon, the 17th, 63rd & 6th Regts. and a Detachment of 120 Jagers landed without Opposition in a small Bay near Stoney Point, whither we march'd directly & took Post. The Commander in Chief went on Shore in Person, and was pleas'd to put the Troops under my Command. A small Body of the Enemy made their appearance, but retired immediately on our landing—the Guns from the Opposite Fort fir'd a great many Shot upon the Arm'd Galley's that were stationed to cover our landing, but without effect.—

[No. 2366.]

Colonel Udy Hay Condemns Colonel Drake's Conduct in a Horse Matter.

Fish Kill 4th June 1779.

Sir, Complaint is made to me by one of the Deserters who came in today that Colonel Drake, wanting to buy the horse he had brought from the Enemy, promised to give him as much for him as he could gett any where else, telling him at same time if he did not pay him all in continental money, he would make it up in hard money, but on the whole gave him only two

The Troops had no sooner gain'd the Heights of Stoney Point, than Measures were taken to land the Artillery.—The Moon favored this Operation, and admitt'd of its being carried on during the Whole Night.—The landing Place for the Cannon was very inconvenient, being of deep Mud, and the Hill they were to be drawn up craggy, and of uncommon Steep Ascent, 58 Men in Harness, besides many more shoving at 12 Wheels, were scarcely able to get up a heavy 12 pr., but the Zeal & Activity of the Officers which I cannot sufficiently commend, and the good Disposition of the Soldiers overcame all Difficultys with so much Expedition that by 5 o'Clock next Morning, Batteries were prepared and open'd with a 10 Inch Mortar, an 8 Inch Howitzer & 2 12 Prs. and the Cannonading Bombardment carried on at the same Time—The Distance from this Point to the Fort was reported not to exceed eight or nine hundred Yards, but being found to be full fifteen hundred, the light 12 Pr. & small Mortars w^{re} of little or no use, but the 10 Inch Mortar, 8 Inch Howitzer & Heavy 12 Pr. were serv'd to very good Effect.

The Commander in Chief, who came on shore from on board his own Ship early in the Morning, and staid near an hour on the Battery's, had the Pleasure to see both Shot & Shells take Place—About noon upon a 10 Inch Shell falling into the Body of their Work, and as we since learn'd, Killing 3 Men, the Enemy ran off and evacuated the Fort, after throwing some Barrels of Powder into the River.—Sir Henry Clinton who was with Genl. Vaughan on the other Side, perceiving the Fort abandoned, sent me Notice of it, & orders to stop firing—But Genl. Vaughan's Corps, which had march'd from Teller's Point, where they landed the evening before, now appearing in Sight, the Rebels found that their Retreat was cut off, and therefore return'd to the Fort, and again fired their Cannon.—Sir Henry Clinton sent Capt. André, his Aide-de-Camp with a Flag of Truce to demand the Surrender of the Fort.—The Commandant asked to march out with the Honors of War, but finding that no other Terms would be granted than Surrendering Prisoners of War, they were after a Short Parly, consented to, and the British Colours hoisted in the Fort.—The little Garrison, consist'd of One Captain, 3 Lieutenants, a Surgeon & 70 Men.—They had one Officer & 3 Men Killed, but we had fortunately neither Officer or Man hurt.—Their Guns were fired in a good Direction, but generally so much elevated, on account of our superior Height, that the shot went over our Heads.—This small Fort appears to have been originally intended as a Block House, to be defended by Infantry, but a thick Parapet raised has since been rais'd round it, under which towards the River is a Barbette Battery mounting one 18 Pr. & two 4 Prs.—The Scarp of the Ditch has a Revetement of Stone & is Stockaded, the Whole encompassed besides with a very strong Chevaux de Frise & an Abbatis.

The two first Day's the militia were impertinently troublesome by coming down in small Bodies, and firing upon our Jager Post, but five or Six of them having been dropt by our Rifle Shot, they thought fit to disappear, and have given us no further Disturbance, not even to the advanc'd Picquet—One Jager only was wounded.

hundred and twenty Dollars, and being askt for the hard money, said he had none.

Such a mean pitfull piece of cunning in a man of his rank is truly despicable, besides being excessively impolitic, and predu-
dicial to the cause. I, therefore, desired the Deserter to wait

Stoney Point is by Nature exceedingly strong, from its several Commanding Heights, and being almost insular, by means of a Swamp & Creek from the River, is very inaccessible; but the Commander in Chief having determined to maintain this Post, and to render it as strong as possible, gave Orders for Battery's to be erected on the several Eminences. Working Parties were immediately employ'd under the Direction of the Engineer's (Capt'n Mercer & Lt. Fyer's) and so much Diligence has been used, that there are already Seven Façine-Batteries nearly compleated.—The Guns intended for these Works are two 24 Prs. and two 18 Prs., four 12 Prs. six 6 Prs., and one 3 Pr., one 10 Inch Mortar, one 8 Inch Howitzer, two Royal Mortars, and two Cohorns do—and the Platforms will be ready to receive them in a few Days—I have the Honor to send Your Lordship a Plan of this Post, shewing how the whole is at present fortified—There is no Ground that can be said to Command it, except one Hill which is at upwards of a Mile Distance, but the almost unsurmountable Difficulty's, which must attend bringing heavy Cannon over the Haverstraw Mountains makes any serious attack little to be expected, however I have Order'd all the Woods in our Front and on our right flank to be cut down, and Abbatis to be made in every Part of practicable Approach—A few Days ago one of the Refugees employ'd to bring in Intelligence, having given me Information that 300 Head of Cattle, which had been driven back by the Rebels, were collected at a place about Six Miles Distance, under a small Guard of Militia, I sent out a Detachment of 500 Men under Lt. Col. Johnson that Night, in hopes of taking them by Surprise, but whether thro' Accident or from Intelligence their March was soon discovered, which in great Part defeated their Design, however they brought in the next morning between Forty & Fifty Head of Cattle, with a Number of Calves, Hogs, &c. without Loss of a Man Killed or Wounded, tho' they were fired upon by scattering Parties upon their March.

The Commander-in-Chief return'd by Water to his Quarters at Phillip's House, after the Celebration of His Majesty's Birth Day, which was performed here, on both sides of the River by Royal Salutes of Cannon, Volleys of Musketry and every other Demonstration of Joy.

Our present Operations have certainly had one Effect much wish'd for, that of obliging Mr. Washington to Assemble his Troops and quit his Position in the Jerseys.—By the accounts I have receiv'd from all the Deserters, who have come into this Camp, his Army, which they say, does not exceed 3,000, is now march'd as far as Smith's Clove, a Narrow Pass of the Highlands and about ten miles from hence; that he is to halt there 'till he can judge of the Designs of the British Commander, as in that situation he will be able to return back to the Jerseys or proceed to *West Point*, the only Communication they have now left with Connecticut—This Place is a great Object of their Jealousy & Attention, and they have been long labouring to render it as strong as Art can make it.—A Deserter who came in Yesterday was so very accurate and distinct in the Description he gave of the Nature and Situation of their several Works as to admit of a Sketch being made of them, which I take the Liberty of enclosing, as it may serve (if your Lordship is not in Possession of a better Plan) to give a general idea of those Forts.—He reports that Genl. Parsons commands at *West Point* and the Garrison in the different Works consists of Seven Regts. from Massachusetts Bay, & two from North Carolina, besides the Militia who are posted in the Woods. That they are Working Night and Day to strengthen their Works, have got Pikes for the whole Garrison, and have stopt up all the Avenues to the Forts with felled Trees, & that the Chain which runs across the River to Fort Constitution is much stronger than that which was at Fort Montgomery, each link weighing above Seventy Pounds.

The Troops I have already mentioned under Genl. Vaughan, (except the Flank Company's of the Guards, 42nd Regt. Volunteers of Ireland, & Regt. of Prince Charles,

till I should know from your Excellency whether you thought it worth enquiring into. I am with true respect, your Excellency's most obed^t humble Ser^t,

Udny Hay.

Governour Clinton.

which were sent back to the Camp at Valentine's Hill occupy at present the opposite Post of Verplanks Point, where they have a very strong Position, and as it is intended, to maintain this Post, at least for a time, Block Houses are erecting on two Elevations near to Fort La Fayette.—General McDougal with three Brigades is said to be at *Continental Village* near Peck's Kiln River, about five Miles distant.

As the Works carrying on at Stoney Point are nearly finished and every cautious step taken to give the fullest Security to this Post, I shall in a few Days, with the Commander-in-Chief's Permission return to New York. From New York Historical Society Collections.

[No. 2367.]
A Return of Coll. Hardenbergh's Regt. of Militia Now at Bare Hill June 4th 1779.

	Coll.	En. Col.	Major.	Adjt.	Q. M.	Q. Serjt.	Serjt. M.	Surgeon.	Capt.	Lieut.	Ensign.	Serjt.	Corpls.	D. file	on Duty	Privets	Total
Coll. Hardenburgh	1																
Major Clark			1														
Adjut. Kelsey				1													
Qu't Donnivan						1	1										
Hull																	
Clark								1									
Hughy									1	2	1	3	1	2		33	39
Capt. Wood									1	2	1	4	2		7	18	22
Capt. Conkling									1	2	1	4	2		7	17	30
Capt. Smith									1	2	1	4	1		7	30	35
Capt. Case									1	2	1	4	1		7	7	15
Capt. Ostrander									1	2	1	4	3		11	16	34
Lieut. Denton Commandant			1	1	1	1	1	1	6	9	4	20	7	2	25	121	175

Pr Mc, Nath'l Kelsey, Adjt.

Job's Hardenbergh, Jur., Colo.

[No. 2368.]

Morning Returns of Exempts in the Highlands, under Governor Clinton.

The Morning return of the Regiment of Associated Exempts under the Command of his Excellency Gov'r Clinton, in the High Lands June 4, 1779.

	Captains	Lieut.	Ensigns	Sergents	Corps	Drums	Privs	Total
Present fit for Duty on Duty on Command	4	5 1 1	1 1	9 2 1	7 2	1	95 26 25	122 31 25
Total	4	7	2	12	9	1	141	176

Wm. Smith, Adjnt.

[No. 2369.]

*Highlands, June ye 4 ye 1779.**A Ridgemental Return of Coll. Ludington Ridgement, of Militia in the State of New York.*

1	1	1	6	12	1	1	1	21	14	7	155	12	251	293
Coll.	Lieut. Coll.	Major	Capt.	Intes.	Adjt.	Q R M	Ser. Maj.	Sergt.	Corps	Musick	Privs	On command	Fit for Duty	Total
1	1	1	6	12	1	1	1	21	14	7	155	12	251	293

Elijah Townsend, Agt. [Adjutant].

Henry Ludington, Coll.

[No. 2370.]

*A Return of the 2d Regiment of Militia from Ulster County Com-
manded by Lieut. Coll. Jacob Newkirk. Forest of Dean, June 4th
1779.*

	Colonell	Lieut. Coll.	Major	Adjut't	Qr. Mr.	Captains	Lieutts.	Ensigns	Serjt. Major & Dr. Major	Sergants	On Comm'd	D. & fifers	Rank & file	Total
Field and Staff		1		1	1				1					3
Capt. Tillord						1	2			4			31	38
Capt. Umphry						1	1			4			42	47
Capt. Vankeuren						1	2	1	1	1			20	26
Capt. McBride						1	2			3	1		10	16
Capt. Nicholl						1	1	1		3	3	2	20	31
Capt. Huater							2	1		3	3		28	37
	1		1	1	4	10	3	2	18	7	2	151	198	

George Denniston, Adjut't

[No. 2371.]
A Return of the Regiment Belonging to Coll. Hopkins for ye 4th of June 1779.

	Colonel	Lt. Col.	Major	Captains	1st Lieutenants	2d Lieut.	Ensigns	Adjutant	Qr. Master	Ser't Major	Sergents	Rank & file	fit for duty	Sick present	Sick absent	on Command	on furlow	Total	
field officers	1	1	2																
Staff								1	1	1									
Capt. Sutherland				1	1							17							3
Capt. Humphrey				1	2		1			3		19							21
Capt. Chamberlain				1	1					3		26							32
Capt. Haight				1	1		1					6							9
Capt. Wheeler				1	1					3		13							17
Capt. Lathrop				1	1		1			4		42							49
Capt. Hopkins				1	1					3		33							39
Capt. Welch				1	2					4		16							23
	1	10		7	10		6	1		23		172							224

Roswell Hopkins, Col.

[No. 2372.]

Governor Clinton Issues Discretionary Orders to Colonel Malcom.

June 5th 1779.

Sir, I have rec'd your Letter of yesterday and conversed with Mr. Hallett respecting our affairs on the west side of the River. I much approve of your Conduct & of the Disposition you have made of the Troops under your Command. Colo. Hay of Haverstraw writes me that the Enemy are plundering that Country and that his Regt., fatigued and harrassed with continual Service, are not able to resist them & that unless they speedily receive Succour will be obliged to yield to so superior a Force. You will, therefore, take such Positions as will enable you (if it can be done consistent with the Safety of the Fort) to cover the Country and defeat the Intentions of & harrass the Enemy, as you will be best able, from your Situation [to judge] whether they mean to attack the Fort or to sweep the Country of its stock and Grain; you must, therefore, in most Instances act Discretionary according to Circumstances, without expecting my particular Orders, at the same Time continuing to give me the earliest Information of the movements of the Enemy and of such measures as they shall take in Consequence of this. I am &c.

[G. C.]

[To Col. Malcom.]

[No. 2373.]

Governor Clinton Sends Instructions to Colonel Ludinton to Harass the Enemy.

Haight's House June 5th 1779.

Sir, I am directed by the Governor to inform you that some unexpected Business of Importance to the State will prevent

Mr. Duer, and Dr. Tappen from joining you, agreeably to his former intentions. He, therefore, thinks it necessary to let you know that his wish is, that you should in Conjunction with Colo. Drake, Major Crane, and Captain Delavan's Company of Horse, use every Exertion in your Power to give Protection to the Country in the Quarter to which you are sent, and to harass the Enemy, by keeping light Parties constantly hovering round them. A Proper Spirit of Enterprise shown on this Occasion will at the same Time, that it proves advantageous to the Common Cause, highly advance the Reputation of the Officers, who shall distinguish themselves by it. The Governor doubts not that the utmost Harmony will subsist between you and the principal officers; and that like good Citizens and Soldiers the only Contest betwixt you will be who shall best promote the general weal. You will give Early Intelligence of every material Circumstance, which may happen in your Quarter; and should you and the principal officers be of opinion that with a proper Reinforcement you will have an opportunity of giving the Enemy a good Partisan check, measures will be immediately adopted to enable you to effect it; and myself and Dr. Tappen will join you without Loss of Time. As it will be imposible for you to harass the Enemy and to give Countenance to Desertion without taking a Position pretty near to the Enemy, you will see the necessity of being extremely cautious in placing your Guards, and vigilant in preventing a Surprise. For this Purpose the Governor would recommend Employing Captain Delavan's Horse as Night Paroles in the Front and Flanks of your Piquets, and that for the greater Security you will frequently change the House where you Piquet is mounted. Persons of a Suspicious Character, and where Residence in the

vicinity of your Post will in your opinion prove hazardous to its Safety ought agreeably to act of the Legislature to be removed to a proper Distance. You will communicate this Letter to Colo. Drake, Major Crane, and Captain Delavan. I am, Sir, by order of his Excellency, the Gov'r, and with great Personal Respect your obt. & H'ble Serv't.

W. Duer, Aid de Camp.

P. S. Lt. McClellan an officer of approved partisan abilities will join you as a Volunteer. It is the Governor's wish that you should indulge him with the Command of a Small Party of Volunteers to Enable him to make some Prisoners from the Enemy. W. D.

[To Col. Ludington.]

[No. 2374.]

Governor Clinton Notifies General McDougall of His Dispositions.

June 5th 1779.

Sir, Colo. Ludington marched with his Regt. last Evening for Crumpond where he is to act in Concert with Colo. Drake & with the Force in that Quarter which will consist of his own, Colo. Drake's & Major Crane's Regt. & Capt. Delavan's Company of Light Horse; they are to make the best Disposition for Covering the Country & annoying the Enemy. As the Appointment of Colo's, Commandant might introduce Confusion in the Militia, and I am by no Means clear that I have Authority to consent to it, it will be best to omit it. Colo. Command't Swartwout's Brigade is large but as Ludington's Regt. is detached & a Part of it is at this Post, the Part which is with you will not be unwieldy.

The Commanding Officer of the Connecticut Militia is ordered to rendezvous his Troops at Fredrick's Burgh & Horse Pond, where I am informed most of them were assembling in the first Instance & there wait your further orders. I am &c.

[G. C.]

I enclose you a Letter I have just rec'd from Colo. Beardsly, command'g the Connecticut militia. Capt. Calkins the Bearer will deliver your orders to them.

[To Gen. McDougall.]

[No. 2375.]

Colonel Van Schaick Sends Intelligence to General James Clinton of the Intentions of Central New York Indians.

Fort Schuyler, June 5th 1779.

D'r Sir, Just after closing the Letter I wrote you this day some of the Oneida and Tuskerora Chiefs came down to the Fort and confirmed what Mr. Dean told me respecting the enemy's collecting in the Seneca's Country, and informed that they had often been told that our arm was long & strong, that the time was now come that we ought to shew it; That the Oneidas and Tuskeroras had by their attachment to the Americans, rendered themselves an Object of resentment to the upper nation, that without a speedy assistance they expected soon to be burnt out. They urged in the strongest terms, the necessity of the army's coming up soon, that they are ready to Join us, they are convinced that no peace can be effected with the upper nations but by Arms, and concluded by saying, that they expected to have seen the Army before now, and hoped that their brethren the Americans would not neglect them too long, they also in-

form me that the enemy's scouts are frequently about their Castle. I have sent Letters to the Commanding Officers at Forts Harkimer, Plank and Cherry Valley.

I send this by an Indian runner to the Commanding Officer at Fort Harkemer, at the request of the Chiefs, durst not venture out my own men, as the enemy's Scouts, by accounts, are Constantly about the Garrison. Your Obed't Serv't

G. V. Schaick.

Copy.

Brig'r Gen. Jas. Clinton.

[No. 2376.]
A Return of a Detachment of Col. Allison's Regt. Order'd to West Point. June 5, 1779.

	Field		Commissioned				Stat			Non Comm.			Privates	Drum & fife	Corpals	Absent	On Command at Foshen	
	Lt. Col.	Major	Capt.	1 Lieut.	2 Lieut.	Ensign	Adjut.	Quart. Mast.	Sergt. Maj.	Quart. M. Ser.	Sergants							
Field and Stat	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1										
1st Company			1	1	1	1										2	5	
2d Company			1	1	1	1										2	10	
3d Company			1	1	1	1										2	10	
Associated Exempts			1	3	2	2	1								6			
Total	1	1	3	3	2	2	1	1			6	4	4	66	6	50	56	15

Benj. Tusteu, Lt. Col.

2376

[No. 2377.]

A Return of Part of the Brigade of Militia of the County of Dutchess, Commanded by Colo. Comdt. Jacobus Swartwout.

REGIMENTS	Present fit for Duty													Rank & File								
	Commissioned Officers					Staff Officers				Non-Commis'd				On Command	On Furlough	Sick present	Sick absent	Deserted				
	Col. Comdt.	Colos.	Lt. Colos.	Majors	Capt.	1st Lieuts.	2nd Lieuts.	Ensigns	Majors Brigade	Surgeons	Adjutant	Q. Masters	Serj't. Major	Serjeants	Drummers	Fifers	Rank & File	On Command	On Furlough	Sick present	Sick absent	Deserted
Colo. Morris Graham	1	5	5	7	39	33	31	27	2	2	6	6	4	126	5	1	1166	126	1	19	2	17
Colo. John Frear	1	1	1	1	7	6	6	6		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	161			4		1
Colo. John Field	1	1	1	1	8	7	7	7									195					
Colo. Roswell Hopkins	1	1	1	1	4	4	4	3									166					
Colo. Abr'm Brinckerhoff	1	1	1	2	9	7	7	6		1	1	1	1	26	1	1	192					1
Colo. James V. D. Burgh	1	1	1	1	6	6	5	5		1	1	1	1	21	1	1	318	86		8	2	5
Total	1	5	5	7	39	33	31	27	2	2	6	6	4	126	5	1	1166	126	1	19	2	17

N. B. Officers absent & Officers & Men on Command the same as last Return, Except an additional Number of 14 Men to Capt. Geo. Brinckerhoff Company Guarding the passes at Weecopy. Also the Men left behind on the Hill without arms which are on fatigue the adjutants of Colos. Frear & Brinckerhoff's Regt. have omitted in their Returns. Colo. Hopkins Returns 41 Men on Command but not finding where or on what Command I have Omitted them in this Return.

By Order of Colo. Comdt. Jacobus Swartwout
Hend'k Wyckoff, M. B.

Camp Highlands June 5th 1779.
His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 2378.]

General McDougall to Governor Clinton Regarding Military Dispositions.

Buds 5th June 1779.

Sir, As you informed me, you had called for the Militia of Fairfield County, to take Post at Fredericksburgh I took the Liberty yesterday to request you to order a detachment of Col. Mosley's reg. which arrived at Fish Kill, to the Position you intended them for. If my memory serves me it was Fredericksburgh. I shall be much obliged to you to direct the commanding officer of that Militia at Fish Kill or Fredericksburgh to halt those which may be on their march there, till farther orders. I wish to see you and General Scott at 5 this afternoon, if its convenient. I am, Sir, your H^{ble} Servant

Alex^r McDougall.His Excellency Gov^r Clinton.

[No. 2379.]

Papers Relating to a Ferry on the Mohawk, at Half Moon.

Sir, I gave an account of the two Enclosed Certificates and forgot then to put them up. I dont mean it should Interfere with your military Business now, only that you may have them put up together & let it lay untill you have sent them Raggamuffens Bag again to New York. Send me as often as Convenient an account what the method you take for that Purpose. I am your very Hum^e Ser^t

Ab^m Yates, Jun.

Albany 6th June 1779.

Governour Clinton.

This is to Certify that we, the Subscriber Inhabitants of the Bocht and Half Moon in the County of Albany, neighbours of Mr. Isaac J. Fonda and well acquainted with the Situation of the place where he lives, being on the Banks of the Mohawks River nearly two miles above the Cahoes, where there now is and Necessarily has been a Ferry kept up for the Convenience of the Inhabitants and Travellers for a great number of years.

County of Albany 17th May 177[9].

Fraderick Cnute, Hendrick Vanderkar, Arent Vanderkar, Jan _____, Dirck Vanderkar, Goshen Van Schaick, John G. Rumsey, John Clute, Abraham Buys, Garrit J. Lansingh, Noah Jillett, Benjamin Matthews, Jacobus V'n Schoonhoven.

This is to Certify that we the Subscribers Inhabitants of the Bocht and Half Moon in the County of Albany, neighbours of Mr. Garret F. Cnut, and well acquainted with the Situation of the place where he lives, being On the Bancks of the Mohawk's River at the Cahoes where there now is and has Necessarily has been a good Gris mill kept up for the Convenience of the Inhabitants of this place.

County of Albany the 17th May 1779.

Jacobus Van Schoonhoven, Henry Fiero, (?) Garrit J. Lansingh, Handrick Wendel, Noah Gillett, Isaac Fonda, John G. Clute, David Fero Luycas Witbeeck, Abraham L. Witbeeck, Gerrit Witbeeck.

[No. 2380.]

A Return of Coll. Hardenburgh's Regt. of Militia now at Barr Hill, June 6, 1779.

	Coll.	Tr. Coll.	Maj.	Adjt.	Q. M.	Surgeon	S. M.	Q. M. S.	Capt.	Lieut.	Ensign	Serjt.	Corpl.	D. F.	on Duty	Sick	Fit for Duty	Total	
Coll. Hardenburgh	1																		
Mjr. Clark		1																	
Adjt. Kelsey			1																
Q. M.				1															
Surgeon Highy					1														
S. M.							1												
Q. M. S.								1											
Capt. Wood									1						16	2	14	33	
Capt. Conkling									1						4	3	12	23	
Capt. Smith									1	1					9	2	12	24	
Capt. Case									1	1					9	4	17	34	
Capt. Robertson									1	1					6		13	25	
Capt. Boston									1	1					10		10	26	
Capt. Ostrander									1	1					7		6	15	
Capt. Benton									1	1					13	1	9	32	
	1		1	1	1	1	1	1	7	12	4	23	17	2	76	12	85	218	

2 privets Deserted

Prime Nath'l Kelsey, Adj't.

John's Hardenburgh, Junr., Colo.

[No. 2381.]

A Return of Part of the Brigade of the County of Dutchess Commanded by Colo. Comdt. Jac's Swartwout.

Regiments	Present fit for Duty														Rank & File.								
	Field Officers				Commiss'd Officers				Staff Officers				Non Commiss'd						On Comm'd	On Furlough	Sick present	Sick absent	Deserted
	Colo. Comdt.	Colos.	Lt. Colos.	Majors	Capt.	1st Lieuts.	2nd Lieuts.	Ensigns	Majors Brigade	Surjeons	Adjutants	Q. Masters	Serj. Major	Serjeants	Drummers	Fifers	Rank & File	On Comm'd	On Furlough	Sick present	Sick absent	Deserted	
Colo. Morris Graham	1	1	1	1	7	1	6	6			1	1	1	1	25	1	167						7
Colo. John Frear		1	1	1	8	1	7	7		1	1	1	1	27	2	195				9			23
Colo. John Field		1	1	1	4	4	4	4			1	1	1	13	1	174							1
Colo. Roswell Hopkins		1	1	1	4	4	4	4			1	1	1	26	1	192							2
Colo. Abraham Brinckhoff		1	1	1	5	5	5	3		1	1	1	1	18	1	362		86	13	12			2
Colo. James Van Der Burgh		1	1	1	5	3	2	2			1	1	1	14		100		40					21
Total	1	5	6	7	38	31	31	24	1	2	6	6	4	113	5	2	1190	126	13	21			54

N. B. Brigade Major Woolsey absent, the other Officers absent, & Officers & Men on Command the same as last Return. 49 Men on Fatigue on the Hill at the works, 8 Men of this party Deserted; this Fatigue party is not Included in the above Return.

By Order of Colo. Comdt. Jacobus Swartwout.
Head'k Wyckoff, M. B.

Camp Highlands, June 6th, 1779.
His Excellency, Gov'r Clinton.

Colo. Henry Luddeinton's Regt. on Command at Crom Pond Consisting by the Return of June 4th of

Coll.	Lt. Coll.	Majr	Capt's	Subs.	Adj't	Q. M.	Ser. Maj.	Serjt.	Drum & fife	Privates.
1	1	1	6	12	1	1	1	21	7	185 & 12 on Command

Also the Regt. of Associated Exempts by Return of June 6th Consisting of

Cap's	Libts.	Serjt.	1 run	Rank & file	Lt.	Priv's
4	11	13	1	180	1	& 65 absentees

[No. 2382.]

*General Return of the Reg't of Associated Exempts Under the
Command of His Excellency Governor Clinton.*

Camp at Mr. Southard's High Lands June 7th 1779.

	Col.	Lieut. Col.	Maj'r	Capt'ns	Adj't	Lieuts.	Ensigns	Serg't	Corporals	Rank file	Total
Present fit for Duty on Duty		1	1	2		8	2	11	4	169	138
on Command					1			1	2	20	24
Sick						1	1	3	1	31	38
Absentees						1				11	20
Total		1	1	2	1	[1]0	3	15	7	191	220

Detail of the Guards:

Serg'n	Corpl.	Priv't	
1	1	14	Gov'rs Guard
	1	8	Qua'r ditto

Rufus Herrick, Lieut. Coll.

A Return of Part of the Brigade of Militia of the County of Dutchess Commanded by Colo. Comdt. Jac's Swartwout.

REGIMENTS

	Present fit for Duty												Rank and title										
	Field Officers			Commiss'd Officers			Staff officers						Non-Commissioned										
	Colo. Comdt.	Colos.	Lieut. Colos.	Majors	Capt.	1st Lieut.	2nd Lieut.	Ensigns	Brigade Majors	Sutheons	Adjutants	Q Majors	Yerl. Major	Serjeants	Drummers	Fifers	Rank and title	On Furlough	Sick present	Sick absent	Deserted		
Colo. Morris Graham	1	1	1	1	7	6	6	6		1	1	1	1	25	1	1	169						
Colo. John Frear	1	1	1	1	7	7	7		1	1	1	1	1	29	2	2	238						
Colo. John Field	1	1	1	1	4	4	4		1	1	1	1	1	12	1	1	134	1	2	7	27		
Colo. Henry Luddenton	1	1	1	1	6	3	3		1	1	1	1	1	24	4	4	185	12					
Colo. Roswell Hopkins	1	1	1	1	6	8	8		1	1	1	1	1	24	1	1	243	86	11		9		
Colo. Abraham Brinckerhoff	1	1	1	1	6	5	4		1	1	1	1	1	24	1	1	274	86	15		11		
Colo. James V. D. Burgh	1	6	6	8	41	36	33	27	3	7	7	7	5	146	9	6	1381	138	16	34	2	64	
Total																							

N. B. Colo. V. D. Burgh absent. Brigade Major Woodsey absent. Capt. G. Brinckerhoff with 74 Men of Colo. Brinckerhoff's Regt. on Command. Granting the passes of Woodsey. Lieut. Field of said Regt. with 12 Men. Guarding the stores at New Harkinsack. 1 Sub. & 12 Men of Colo. Luddenton Regt. on Command. Granting the passes of the passes at the foot of the Mountains. 40 Men properly Officered of Colo. V. D. Burgh's Regt. Guarding the Stores at this House. Colo. Luddenton's Regt. on Command at Cron pond. this Return of Colo. Luddenton was made June 4th; have had no Return since. Regt. of Associated Exemptis by yesterday's Return consists of

Cap.	Lt.	Serjt.	Drum	R. A	File	Lt.
1	11	13	1	1-0		1 & 65 absentees

Camp Highlands June 7th 1779.
His Excellency Govt Clinton.

By Order of Colo. Comdt. Jacobus Swartwout Colo. Comdt.
Henck Wyckoff, M. D.

On fatigue on the Hill at the Works 49 Men -

[No. 2384.]

*General Parsons Unable to Control His Command Either by Numbers
or by Orders.*

West Point, 7th June '79.

Dear Sir, I have seen your Letter to Genl. McDougal respecting the militia, and am concern'd that any Representations should be made which should induce you to imagine the Question relative to the militia is a Dispute about Command or Rank; I think it an exceeding improper Time to draw these Rights in Question and am as well satisfied that Col. Malcomb should use his Discretion about conducting the militia as to have any concern myself about the matter; indeed I choose it and have a very good opinion of Colo. Malcomb as an Officer & a Gentleman, but, Sir, I am ordered here to be answerable for the Safety of this Post and am inform'd three Thousand men are the Garrison, of which Part is from ye militia; of the latter I find none. My Guards, therefore, and Patroles Scouts &c. are as numerous as though the militia were not out. I have no Returns from them, nor any Information respecting their Guards &c., in Short they are so uncontrouble by my orders that I cannot consider myself as accountable for this Post, which is to be defended by 3000 men when a Sixth or fifth Part are deficient & when I have no such controuling Power as to compel them to come in when I call; there's no misunderstanding on the Subject between me & Colo. Malcomb on the Subject but I must have men under my command if I am to answer for their conduct.

I believe most of the militia are well posted at present but when I shall get them in if wanted I cannot tell. Col. Tuston with his Regt. came into the Fort today, but I believe they will

most of them go off tomorrow; I wish you will come over & see them. I am, D'r S'r, yr. Obed't Serv't,

Saml. H. Parsons.

To His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 2385.]

Samuel Townsend Obtains Permission to Seize Wheat Summarily.

Bedford 7th June 1779.

Hon'rd Sir, The Confused State in which the County of West Chester hath been in for Some time, by the Ravages of the Enemy, hath Disabled me from procuring a Supply of flour for the Guards of this County & Fairfield County. While a Considerable Quantity of wheat is yet in this County, which the proprietors Refuse to Sell, and now Since this present alarm, I am informed that Many Disaffected persons are Threshing out their Wheat, (which we Suppose is for the Enemy) and unless authority is Vested in Some person for Seizing and Securing the wheat & flour in this County (Below our Guards) for the army Very Soon, our Guards on these Frontiers will Soon be Discharged for want of Bread.

I have Exported Seventy four Barrels of Flour to Reubin Stiles, A. C. I. at Horse Neck, on the permitt of one hundred Barrels, Rec'd from your Excellency of the 12th of May 1779 and Expect to Send out two or three Loads more on the Same permitt this day, which will be almost the Quantity of Said permitt, and as I hope to make Some more flour, please to Send me by the Bearer a further permitt for one hundred Barrels of flour to be Exported out of this State for the use of the Guards in Connecticut.

I this Morning Applied to Jacob Purdy, Esqr. who Informed Me that he hath Received no authority for Seizing wheat or flour; therefore, as doubt not but that your Excellency will think our present Necessity worth attending to, Hope that a Commission may be Forwarded by the Bearer, for Remedying the present Evil. I am with all due Respect your Excellency's Very Hum'e Serv't

Saml. Townsend, A. C. P.

His Exc'cy George Clinton.

P. S. I am Informed that a Great Number of Live Stock is now below our Guards, Some of which is fatt, which the Enemy will get, if not Soon Removed, which I have acquainted Gen'rl McDougall with.

[Indorsement.]

Gilbert Purdy Esqr. is authorized & appointed to seize wheat & Flour in the County of West Chester in this State for the use of the army agreeable to the acts of the Legislature in that Case made & provided. Given under my Hand in Camp in the Highlands, Dutchess County, this 8th Day of June 1779.

[G. C.]

[No. 2386.]

General McDougall Notifies the Governour that Washington Wishes An Interriew at West Point the Next Day.

Buds, 7th June 1779 8 P. M.

Sir, received your favor of this afternoon inclosing Copy of Col. Woodhull's.* I was some days ago convinced of the Enemies intention to Establish himself at the Ferry, but have not had Power to dislodge him; on the East Side. And if I had, it would

*See page 50.

have been ineffectual as to the west Side. The Enemy has been far Superior to me on this Side, in regular Troops; superior to both militia & Continentals. Besides, there is but one Bridge on which we could enter, unless we exposed our selves to the Fire of all his shipping. I inclose a Letter from the Commander in chief.* By one to me which came with it, I conclude it is an invitation to meet him, to-morrow morning at West Point. Please to inform me by the return of the Bearer, whether you purpose going over. I am Sir, your Hble. Serv.

Alex'r McDougall,

[To G. C.]

[No. 2387.]

Colonel Malcom Urges the Dismissal of the Militia for Political Reasons.

Camp near Fort Montgomery June 7 1779.

D'r Gover'r, Mr. Boyde is not return'd. I therefore send an other messenger (Mr. Trimble) to your Excellency & inclose Co. Woodhull's letter. Three hundred Troops are just join'd from G'l Washington. The principal part of the militia are gone. Shall I discharge the rest. They *will* go tomorrow, & several political reasons urge the propriety of dissmising them in form. I mean McClaghery & Hardenbrook's & send Tuston to Haverstraw; it will proclaim the Strength of our regular army &c &c. Indeed we can get no provisions unless I abandon your designs, & leave Haverstraw to the mercy of the enemy. I have ordered Hathorn to Collect the Cattle below & see that justice is done to ye state respecting such as may [be] turned over to the

*Not found.

public. Pray send the bearer off directly. Yr. Excellency's most ob. Serv't

W. Malcom.

Woodhull's information is well corroborated. The militia officers are anxious for the answer to this.

Governor Clinton.

Camp Highlands June 7th 1779.

D'r Sir, I am favored with yours of today. Maj'r Boyd left me this morning. I communicated my sentiments to him so fully respect'g the Dismission of the Militia & other Matters mentioned in your Letter that I doubt not when you have conversed with him you will conceive it unnecessary for me to add another word on the Subject. I would however wish if possible that the militia sh'd be detained for a Day or two longer.

[G. C.]

[To Col. Malcom.]

[No. 2388.]

ACTIVITY OF THE ENEMY.

Colonel Woodhull Reports on the Work of Fortifying Verplancks and Stony Points.

Harvestraw June 7th 1779.

Dear S'r, I mean to give you a Short Detail of the Situation of the Enemy on and about the River as appears to me on a Close and Particular Review with a good Glass which I Could See allmost as well as if I was on the very Spot; they are at work Like a Parsels of Devils, in fortifying Both Stoney Point and Van Planks Point; they have got no Less than five Redoubts

to all appearance finished, and their Cannon mounted on Stoney Point; on Vanplanks Point to all appearance they have made two Distinct Lines all around our Little Fort and on the Back of the fort, a Large Distance, are Drawing a Line across the Point from their Present Situation; in my weak opinion it will be Extremely Difficult to Dislog them; if it is Done it must be by Storm, with Sword in Hand, as there is no Heights at a Proper Distance in my opinion that will Command them; admitting this to be the Case, it is Easey foretelling, without the Spirit of Provesie, the Bad Conquences of their not being Disloged. Their Ships of war are all Returned Down the River, Except one Sloop of Sixteen Guns, and it is Supposed that the main Body of their Troops is Returned Likewise. I Believ from Report Here that two Divisions of General Washenton army was within Eight miles of Kings Ferry Last night. This moment it is Reported that a Party of the Enemy Landed at the Long Clove and have Taken Some Stock of from the Neighbourhood of the Pond. Thus much in Hast from your most Hum'l Serv't

Jesse Woodhull.

To Coll. Malcom, Near West Point.

[No. 2389.]

The Connecticut Militia Dismissed, but Ordered to be Prepared to March at a Moment's Warning.

June 7th 1779.

Sir, The Main army being now so near the River as to be able to prevent the Designs of the Enemy the aid of the Militia under your Command becomes no longer necessary. His Excellency Genl. Washington has, therefore, impowered me to grant them

dismission & at the same Time in his Name to thank them for their alacrity in marching to the assistance of the Continental Troops; and be pleased also, to accept & offer to them my sincere acknowledgments for their immediate & ready Compliance with my Request in turning out for the Defence of the Common Cause when the Enemies of America were attempting to distress & ravage the Country. The Enemy are still at Verplank's Point & Stoney Point, fortifying the latter; it is, therefore, his Excellency's Request, that your Militia keep themselves in the most perfect Readiness to march upon an Emergency at a minute's warning to the Reinforcement of the army under his Command. I am &c.

[G. C.]

[To Col. Beasley.]

 [No. 2390.]

THE VERMONT CONTROVERSY.

Governor Clinton Writes to Egbert Benson and the Cumberland Committee on the Subject.

Camp Highlands, 7th June 1779.

Dear Sir: I have not yet received the final Determination of Congress respecting the Disturbances in the North Eastern Parts of this State, tho' they were some Days since in Committee on this Business. It might be attended with bad Effects to detain Mr. Sherburne any longer, especially as there is no probability of a Speedy Meeting of the Legislature. I have, therefore, advised him to return & have addressed a Letter to the Committee advising them to persevere with firmness in the Cause &c. You will Please to advance to Mr. Sherburne such Sum of Money to defray his Expences on this Jaunt as you may Judge reason-

able, taking his Rec't & I will repay you. We have no news; the Enemy are on Verplank's Point where I fear they mean to take a permanent Post. No fighting; we have Deserters from them daily.

Your most Obed't,

G. C.

Egbert Benson, Esqr.*

Camp in the Highlands, June 7th 1779.

Gent'n, Your Letter by Mr. Sherburne complaining of the violences lately committed by Ethan Allen and others upon the subjects of this State in Cumberland County, I have transmitted to Congress, and most earnestly pressed them for their immediate interposition, By an Express I am informed the Business is under Consideration; as soon as I receive their final determination which I have Reason to hope will be in a short time, I shall immediately transmit it to you.

The Legislature were to have met a few days after Mr. Sherburne arived, which induced me to detain him; but the Incursion of the Enemy up the River has prevented their meeting for the present, and obliged me to take the Field with the militia, to oppose the common Enemy; the moment the safety of the Country will admit of my return, I shall issue a Proclamation to convene the Legislature & I shall lay this most important matter before them, when I trust such measures will be concerted as will most effectually tend to ensure the peace & safety of the good people in your part of the State. In the meantime, I most earnestly recomend to you to continue firm in the cause in which you are engaged, and to conduct yourselves with prudence & discretion towards the Revolters, and

* See Egbert Benson to John Jay, page 113 of seq.

you may rest assured that I shall make every exertion for your protection of which the executive authority of government is capable. I am, with great Respect, Gentlemen, your most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

Samuel Minott, Esqr. Chairman of the Committee of Cumberland County.

[No. 2391.]

CIVIL WAR CLOUD ON THE NEW YORK HORIZON.

Governor Clinton Dissatisfied With the Inaction and Injustice of Congress Toward New York in the Vermont Affair.

Camp Highlands, 7th June 1779.

Sir, I had the Honor of receiving your Letter, of the 1st June covering sundry Resolutions of Congress relative to the pretended State of Vermont. at this Place, where I have Collected a very large Body of the Militia of the State in order to strengthen the Continental army under Major Genl. McDougal and to oppose the Designs of the Enemy who had advanced in Force within 8 Miles of our army. The Legislature of this State were to have met on the 1st Inst., but have been prevented by the present alarm, great Part of the Members as well as the principal Officers of Government being now in the Field. This has rendered it impossible to lay before the Legislature at present the Resolutions of Congress transmitted to me which from their Nature demand, in my Opinion their most serious Consideration.

It is with an astonishment equal to my Concern, that I observe the Congress have passed over in profound Silence the

Remonstrances on the Seizure and Imprisonment of the principal Officers of Government in the County of Cumberland by the Revolters of this State. So that without the Interposition of this Government (which consistant with the Honor and Justice of the State cannot be withheld) these Persons must fall a Sacrifice to the ambitious and interested views of a violent and wicked Faction. And, what renders their Silence still more extraordinary is, that Ethan Allen, having the Rank of Colonel in the Service of the United States, was a principal actor in this outrage. How far this Conduct is consistent with the repeated Resolutions of Congress recorded on their Journal, that they will discountenance every Species of Disrespect shewn by any Officers in their Service to the Legislative or Executive authority of the respective States or with their Resolution of the 1st June now transmitted to me, that they will pay an equal attention to the Rights of the State of New York with those of the other States in the Union, I shall for the present leave it for their Candor to determine. I cannot, however, forbear observing, that the present Inattention of Congress on this Point strikes me with additional Surprise, when I consider this is not the first Instance in which the Person I have mentioned and some other of their Officers of high Rank have aimed a bold stab at the Honor and authority of this State. So long ago as the month of August last, I remonstrated to Congress, thro' Genl. Washington, on the Conduct of Brig'r Genl. Starke then command'g at Albany, for receiving from the revolted Subjects of this State, several of its Citizens who had been apprehended and destined to Banishment by Colo. Allen and his associates and for detaining them under military Confinement. To this atrocious Insult on the Civil

authority of this State, Congress though made acquainted with it, has not to this Day thought proper to pay the least attention.

However pure the Intentions of Congress may have been in this Resolution for appointing a Committee to confer with the revolted Citizens of this State, I am apprehensive it will by no means produce the salutary Effects for which I suppose it was calculated, for notwithstanding the just and generous Terms offered in my different Proclamations founded on the Resolutions of the Legislature of this State, the refractory Disposition of the principal actors in this Revolt has still increased. By them it will be considered as an implied acknowledgment of their authority & thereby tend to strengthen the usurpation; and in the minds of the well affected Citizens who know the repeated and uncontradicted Declarations which the principal Revolters have made that they received Encouragement from several Members of Congress, some of whose Names are mentioned and who have observed that the most flagrant Insults against the civil authority of this State even by Officers of Congress have been totally disregarded it will I have too much cause to fear excite fresh Jealousies. For these Reasons and because the last Clause of the Resolution seems to hold up a Principle which may be considered by the Legislature as subversive of the internal Polity of the State, I submit it to the Consideration of Congress, whether it wo'd not be prudent to postpone the Journey of the Committee 'till such Time as the Legislature have convened and taken the Resolutions of Congress under Consideration. For, however, prejudicial a Delay in this Matter will certainly be to the Interests of the State, the Evils resulting from it wo'd not be so extensive as those

which might ensue from a Breach betwixt the Legislature of this State and the General Congress.

These Remarks it has become my Duty as the Supreme Executive Magistrate of this State to make on the Resolutions transmitted to me.

What the sense of the Legislature on them will be I cannot take on me to determine, but if I can judge from the Sentiments of several Members of the Legislature and principal Officers of Government now with me, to whom I have communicated them, I have Reason to think they will be considered as by no means satisfactory.

The measure of the Sufferings of this State is nearly full. Those which have been brought upon them by their spirited Exertions in the Common Cause and the Operations of a powerful and enraged Enemy they have, I trust submitted to with a becoming Firmness. In what Light they will consider the attacks made upon them in the Hour of their Distress by those who ought to be their Friends & Supporters will be best judged of by considering the unconquerable Spirit they have shewn in resisting the Inroachments and usurpations of the British Government.

As the critical Situation in which the Resolutions of Congress have placed the Executive authority of this State will constrain me to quit the Field in Order to convene the Legislature, you will be pleased to direct your next Letter for me at my House at Poughkeepsie. I am &c.

[G. C.]

His Excellency John Jay, Esqr., Presid't of Congress.*

*See Jay to Clinton, page 117.

*Governor Clinton Writes a forcible Letter to the New York Delegates
in Congress on the Same Subject.*

*Camp in the Highlands 7th June 1779.

Gentlemen, I received your letter respecting the Resolutions of Congress relative to the pretended State of Vermont at this Place where I have collected a large body of the Militia of the State in order to strengthen the Continental Army and to oppose the Designs of the Common Enemy—my public letter to Congress of this date is expressive of my sentiments on those Resolutions & I am confirmed in them by the concurring opinion of several members of the Legislature & of the principal officers of Government who are now with me in the field. I lament extremely that at a crisis so alarming, not only to the safety of the State but to the general weal, I should be under the necessity of withdrawing from the immediate command of the militia at this Place & of convening the Legislature in order to lay before them the Resolutions of Congress. What effect this must necessarily have upon the militia I shall leave it to yourselves to determine. Had the Resolutions of Congress taken proper notice of the late atrocious outrage committed against the Authority of this State by an officer holding Rank in their service, and had they adopted some measure for liberating the civil & military officers of the County of Cumberland now imprisoned, by persisting in their allegiance to this State & for preventing the like outrages in future, it might at least for the present, have in some measure atoned for the insufficiency of their Resolutions. How the interposition of this State in favor of their Servants can, consistent with its Honor and Justice, be longer withheld I am at a

*From the Documentary History of New York.

loss to determine. You will be pleased to direct your next letters to me at Pokeepsie. I am &c. &c. &c.

Geo. Clinton.

The hon'ble The New York Delegates in Congress.

TO VINDICATE NEW YORK'S HONOR.

The Governor Notifies Washington of His Determination to Take the Field Against the Vermont Blustersers.

*Camp Highlands June 7th 1779.

Sir, It is with infinite Regret I inform your Excellency that in consequence of some violent Outrage lately committed in the County of Cumberland, and which the Resolutions of Congress (copies of which I do myself the honor to transmit) do not in my opinion tend to remedy, the Duty I owe to the State will soon constrain me to quit the field, in order to convene the Legislature and to make the necessary arrangements for vindicating the Authority of this government. I had flattered myself that in consequence of my Representation, that Ethan Allen having the Rank of a Coll. under Congress had with his associates seized & imprisoned the principal civil & military officers of this State in the County of Cumberland, the justice and wisdom of Congress would have adopted such measures as might have prevented this State from the cruel necessity they will too probably be reduced to in a short time of opposing force to force. Your Excellency who knows my Inclinations & Conduct, the Zeal & Exertions of this State in the Common Cause, & their long and patient forbearance under the usurpation of its revolted citizens, will judge with what anxiety we look forward to the cruel di-

*From the Documentary History of New York.

lemma to which, by the great principle of self preservation we may shortly be reduced; and this anxiety is rendered doubly Painful by the Reflection, that the genl. interest of America must necessarily be affected by applying the Resources for maintaining the authority of this State, which have been so amply and liberally afforded by them since the commencement of the war in support of the common Cause. It is become my Duty, however, to provide in time for such operations, as the Legislature may think proper to adopt in consequence of the Resolution of Congress, which I have reason to imagine will be considered as by no means satisfactory. I have, therefore, to request that your Excellency will be pleased to give the necessary Directions for returning within the State the six brass six Pounders together with their apparatus, which the State lent for use of the Army in 1776 or that in case of loss, you will order them to be replaced as soon as possible. In order that timely Measures may be adopted for supplying a sufficient quantity of Provisions for the Army, I think it incumbent on me to inform your Excellency that the Magazine of Flour which the Legislature have authorized me to collect, may probably be wanted for the operations which may be deemed necessary to support the authority of the State; and that it is not unlikely I shall not only be prevented from filling up the continental Battalions by the drafts from the Militia already made, but that by the Attention to the civil and military duties I owe particularly to the State in this critical Conjunction, I may not be able to carry into Execution the measures I suggested to your Excellency, and which you thought proper to approve of, for favoring the operations on the western frontiers. However, as I am particularly anxious for the success of the Enterprize in that quarter, it is my determination, to abide by my

former Intentions, unless restrained by superior Considerations, and to continue to give your Excellency every aid in my Power, under the present Circumstances of the State, for opposing the common Enemy. I am &c. &c. &c.

Geo: Clinton.

His Excellency Genl. Washington.

[No. 2392.]

Governor Clinton to General McDougall Relative to Military Dispositions Near West Point.

[June 7, 1779.]

Sir, I should have answered yours of yesterday immediately on the Receipt of it had I not expected to have waited on you in the Evening at your Quarters. It was my Intention that as great a Part of the Militia on the West Side of the River as you might judge necessary for the Defence of the Posts at West Point should be ordered into them & of Course be under the immediate Command of the Officer commanding those Posts. I ordered Colo. Malcom to take such Position with the Residue as should appear best calculated to give succour to the Fort which he was to regard as the principal object & at the same assist Colo. Hay's Militia to cover Haverstraw & the Adjacent Settlements from the Incursions of the Enemy. This I was induced to by Account [of] Colo. Hay of the Ravages & plunders committed by the Enemy there & the Necessity he would be under of abandoning that Quarter or submitting to the Superior Force of the Enemy unless he could have some Assistance. Colo. Malcom has accordingly taken Post with Detachments of several Militia Regts., West of Fort Montgomery well situated to Answer both the above Purposes & as he is an Officer of Inferior Rank to General Parsons, I cant conceive that any Dispute can possibly arise about command, as the latter will take it when they

act together & I am perswaded that the Officer commanding the Fort could not wish to be burthened with the Care attending the Service with which Malcom is charged, neither could he, however active & vigilant, find Leisure to attend to them fully. I wish to avoid every Difficulty with respect to Rank & Command. For my own Part I only mean to retain the Power of calling out & dismissing the Militia & of detaching such Parts of them as may be necessary to such Quarters of the State as are infested by the Enemy & this I am not authorized to give up. And I sincerely wish to do every Thing consistent on this Occasion that is best calculated for the Safety of the Country and for promoting the public Service regardless of every other Consideration. I am, Sir, yours &c.

[G. C.]

[To Gen. McDougall.]

[No. 2393.]

Gerrit Groesbech's Vouchers for the Distribution of £250 Among the Frontier Sufferers as Received by Him from Major Lush.

Account of Cash Received of Steephen Lush Esqr to be distributed among the poor of the Westren frontiers that have been driven from their Settlements by the Enimy.

1779		1779		
May 17th	To Cash paid Ab'm Yates Esqr.	May 16	By cash	£250, 0, 0
	Expences on Flour		By 1 Barrel Flour	
20th	To Thomas Clump	8, 16, 0	W'tt	1, 3, 17
	To James Food	24, 0, 0	Tare	19
	To Robert Mildrom	16, 0, 0		<u>1, 2, 26</u>
	To Andrew Seankland	16, 0, 0		
	To Will'm Carr	16, 0, 0		
	To James Marr	12, 0, 0		
	To Syntia Boom	8, 0, 0		
	To James Hendry	12, 0, 0		
	To Ruben M'Collom	16, 0, 0		
	To Charles Collon	12, 0, 0		
	To Will'm Shankland	12, 0, 0		
	To Elizth Bagnal	12, 0, 0		
	To Benj'm Dickson	16, 0, 0		
June 8th	To Robert Meldrom	6, 0, 0		
	To Rose Shankland	6, 0, 0		
	To James Hendry	6, 0, 0		
	To James Maer	6, 0, 0		
	To W. Johnston	6, 0, 0		
	To Robert Meldrom	9, 12, 0		
	To James Hendry	9, 12, 0		
		<u>£250.—0.—0</u>		

Albany, May 20th, 1779.

We whose names are underwritten acknowledge to have Received of Mr. Garret Groesbeck, the sums opposite our Names as a Donation, we being driven from our Settlements on the Western Frontiers.

Thomas Clump	Twenty four pounds	£24-0-0
James Food	Twenty pounds	20-0-0
Robt. Meldrum	Forty Dollars & $\frac{1}{2}$ C Flour	40-0-0
Andrew Shankland	Forty Dollars & $\frac{1}{2}$ C Flour	40-0-0
William Carr	Forty Dollars	40-0-0
James Marr	Thirty Dollars & $\frac{1}{2}$ C Flour	30-0-0
her		
Syntia X Boom	Twenty Dollars & $\frac{1}{2}$ C Flour	20-0-0
mark		
James Hendry	Thirty Dollars & $\frac{1}{2}$ C Flour	30-0-0
Reuben McCollom	Forty Dollars	40-0-0
his		
Charls X Collon	Thirty Dollars	30-0-0
mark		
Wm. Shankland	Thirty Dollars & $\frac{1}{2}$ C Flour	30-0-0
Elizabeth Bagnall	Thirty Dollars & $\frac{1}{2}$ C Flour	30-0-0
Benjamin Dickson	Forty Dollars	40-0-0

Albany 8th June 1779

we whose names are under written acknowledge to have Received of Gerret Groesbeck the sums opposite our Names as a Donation we being Driven from our settlements on the western Frontiers.

Robt. Meldrum	Fifteen Dollars	£15-0-0
her		
Rose X Shankland	Fifteen Dollars	15-0-0
mark		
James Hendry	Fifteen Dollars	15-0-0
James Marr	Fifteen Dollars	15-0-0
W. Johnston	Fifteen Dollars	15-0-0
Robt. Meldrum	Twenty Four Dollars	24-0-0
James Hendry	Twenty Four Dollars	24-0-0

[No. 2394.]

THE SITUATION BECOMING CRITICAL.

The Sentiment for Independence Evidently Growing in Vermont in Spite of New York's Hostility to It.

Brattleboro, 8th June 1779.

May it please your Excellency; In the present critical and alarming Situation of our affairs, we have agreed to send John Session, Esqr., to acquaint your Excellency and the Legislature

with the Difficulties which many of the Subjects of New York in this County have met with on account of their Loyalty to the State, and for acting in Pursuance of your General Directions.

As Colo. Allen & others confidently report that two thirds of the Members of Congress favor the pretended State of Vermont, it is our earnest Desire (if the Legislature is willing) that Mr. Session may be sent forward to Philadelphia, at the State's Expence, to expedite if possible a Determination of that honorable Body, in a matter which so nearly concerns us; or at least to satisfy the People here whether the Members of Congress favour the Separation from New York as much as is reported.

It is expected that an officer under Vermont will speedily be round to levy the Fines & Cost. If the Parties immediately concerned have to pay them, it will not only be extremely hard, as they have been troubled only for acting agreeable to your Excellency's Directions to oppose the authority of Vermont; but we apprehend it will be ruinous to the Interest of New York if those who suffer in the Cause of the State are not reimbursed.

The Narrative of the taking & Trial of the Persons imprisoned we have examined, & have the utmost reason to believe true, (several of us being knowing to the Facts).

In the time of the Disturbance, the People of Westminster, who are opposed to New York forcibly took the Town Stock of Powder belonging to that Place (near about 100 lb.) & delivered out, as we are informed, about 25 lb. to that Party, with the view we suppose of supporting their authority, altho' it was given by the State of New York.

We would beg leave to inform your Excellency that we cannot long endure our present distressing Situation; & if Congress does not immediately interfere, or the State protect us effect-

ually and without Delay, we shall be under the disagreeable Necessity of submitting tho' reluctantly, to be governed by the Enemies of the State. We are, Your Excellency's most obedient & very humble Serv'ts,

Signed by order of Committee from six Towns.

Samuel Minott, Chairman.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 2395.]

Important but Exaggerated News from South Carolina.

Important News—Baltimore, Wednesday 4 O'Clock P. M.

June 9, 1779.

Mr. James White, a Gent'n of Reputation, this Moment arrived here from Edenton in No. Carolina, brings the agreeable intelligence of the defeat of the British army from Georgia before Charlestown in So. Carolina, which by a rapid march they had invested on or about the 19th Ulto., having it is said been encouraged to Commit that Rash act by their evil counselors the Tories. The particulars of this great event are gone forward to Congress by Express & may be speedily expected here. Mr. White obtained his information from the Hon'ble Mr. Hughs of Edenton, who just as he left that place favour'd him with the Perusal of a late Letter from Charleston advising that the enemy's forces supposed to be under the Com'd of Gen. [Augustine] Prevost consisted of 3700 men, that they cannonaded the Town upwards of 3 hours to little effect, killing but two or three of the Garrison during the siege, which was suddenly raised by the gallant exertions of Genl. Moultrie & his troops who had to the number of 1500, previously entered

the Town, aided by Count Polaskie, his Corps & a noble band of Citizens, who have all gained immortal honour; that a sally of Volunteers closed the scene before the Town from whence the enemy fled with the utmost precipitation, leaving 553 of their number dead on the spot, and did not halt until they had run 10 miles; that they had but two or 3 days Provisions left, & as 4500 under Genl. Williamson had advanced within 15 m's of Charlestown, & Genl. Lincoln at the head of 2500 men had entered Jackson borough on Ponpon River (36 m's from that Capital) and taken all the Enemy's Baggage, Burning the village at the same time for lack of Righteous inhabitants, it was generally believed the Remnant of the enemy's defeated army must enevitable surrender themselves Prisoners. Mr. White adds, that the Express from Charlestown reported, that during the siege of that place, a great tumult had been raised by a number of disaffected Inhabitents which would have given success to the Enemy had it not been checked by the Execution of forty Traitors.*

*The statements contained in this handbill were not sustained by facts. When the English invaded South Carolina, and ravaged the state wherever they set foot, a proposition was made to arm the slaves and march them off to the American camp under the command of white officers. Washington opposed the plan on the assumption that the British could seduce the blacks by offering them more glittering equipment. But there was a strong sentiment in South Carolina also against the scheme, because for over a century an armed patrol regularly visited the negro quarters and confiscated arms of any kind that were found. When the English general, Prevost, appeared before Charleston and demanded an "unconditional surrender," the city council, stung with indignation and the thought that the state had been abandoned by the National Congress and had been left to look after itself, proposed, under a flag of truce, that South Carolina should be left neutral until the close of the war, when it should be decided by treaty whether she should join Great Britain or the United States. Prevost repudiated the proposition, and General Moultrie, the American commander, declared his intention to "fight it out." The conjunction of the forces of Count Pulaski and General Lincoln, who attacked Prevost, and who forced him to retreat after an insignificant skirmish, put an end to hostilities in that quarter for the time being.—STATE HISTORIAN.

[No. 2396.]

Reg'mtl Return of the Associated Exempts Under the Command of His Excellency Governor Clinton, Camp at Mr. Southard's High Lands June 9th 1779.

	Col.	Lieut. Col.	Major	Capt'ns	Adjut	Lieut'ns	Quar'r Mast'r	Ensigns	Sergents	Corporals	Rank & file	Total
Present fit for duty		1	1	7	1	8	1	2	6	5	120	152
on Duty									1	3	20	24
on Command						1		1	5	2	24	33
Sick											16	16
Absentees	1					1					82	84
Total	1	1	1	7	1	10	1	3	12	10	262	309

Rufus Herrick Lieut. Col.

[No. 2397.]

CIVIL WAR IMMINENT.

Ethan Allen Hurls Defiance at Governor Clinton—Three Thousand Fighting Men—Two-thirds of Whom Are Reported to Be Willing to Take Arms Against New York.

Brattleboro; June 9th 1779.

May it please your Excellency, As I doubt not you will have every particular relative to our Imprisonment Trial &c. from Mr. Session, I shall not trouble you with an account of those matters, but confine myself to others which he will be less likely to mention.

I observed that most of the Green mountain Boys with whom I had an Opportunity of conversing, were either unable or unwilling to tell what Number of fighting Men, or even how many Regiments, they have on that Side of the Mountains. But the Clerk

to their Assembly (who I thought exaggerated) informed me that they now have but two Regiments, that there has been three, & that they are soon to be divided into three again; that they have 3000 fighting Men, about two thirds of which he supposes will take arms against New York; and that they depend upon 1000 from Berkshire in Massachusetts, if they should be needed. He says their Number has of late increased very rapidly by Settlers coming in. This is the chief I could learn about their Force.

Colo. Allen repeatedly observed in public, that apprehending & trying us, was not done with the view of distressing Individuals, but was intended as a Challenge to the Govern't of New York to turn out & protect their Subjects; & more than once expressed his Desire that such word might be conveyed to your Excellency. He said they had been some time preparing, were now in readiness to receive you, & wished for the matter to be brought to that Decision.

After so open a Challenge, if Congress does not immediately determine this controversy in favour of New York or the state effectually protect their Subjects here, it cannot be thought strange if they should in a Body join the only Government under which they can be secure. Who will dare resist the Execution of the Laws of Vermont, unless upon tolerably sure Ground, when whipping, branding, &c. will infallibly be the Consequence if superior force does not prevent it? And, if Submission must be our Lot, will not the State hereafter, & with reason, have those who are now their Friends for Enemies? If Congress do not take up the matter presently, or if they make only a temporary Settlement, it is clear to me that Vermont is favoured & will infallibly maintain their Independance, unless the Force of New York prevents it immediately: for New York to delay taking

arms (however specious the Reason) is the same as to yield the Point. But should the Legislature be of opinion that the Honor & Interest of the State requires them instantly to protect their Subjects here, (as I doubt not they will, if the Circumstances of the other parts of the State will admit of it) it will doubtless be found the cheapest as well as the safest way to send at first a Force strong enough to bear down all opposition, at least in this County. If it is thought best to make use of the New Yorkers here, they must have a Supply of arms & ammunition sent them, & if I might advise, some experienced officers.

Should your Excellency march the Militia against the Green-mountaineers, I dare say you will excuse me for giving you a Caution against putting any, the least Confidence, in Colo. Hopkins of Dutchess County. He has three Brothers at Bennington, & is as firm a New States man as any Person upon the Grants.

I would beg leave to mention for your Excellency's serious Consideration of a Plan of my Father in Law, whose Judgment in this Case I much prefer to my own, as he is better acquainted with military matters, & has ever been a firm advocate for the State of New York as opposed to Vermont & Hampshire. It is to send 200 or 300 Troops to fortify around the Court House at Westminster; (a few Rods North of which is a pretty deep Descent, & every other way the ground is intirely level for a great Distance). He would propose by this Plan to have a Body for the New York Militia to join themselves to upon any Emergency, to have Courts opened under Protection of the Troops & for them to proceed gradually until good order is re-established & opposition in this County is at an End: & when this is done Charlotte County will be between two Fires.

When the Troops are here, so that People see the State is in earnest to assist us, it is probable a Company may easily be raised to help garrison the Fort, & considerable Provision be voluntarily given for their Subsistance. Colo. Wells says he will in such Case give 1000 lb. Beef & a Barrel of Pork, if not more, & doubts not but very considerable Contributions will be made.

The inclosed account of the Expences of my last Journey to Poughkeepsie, I expected to have sworn to on the 25th May, but was prevented by being made Prisoner the 24th; & have not since and probably shall not again, have an opportunity for want of a Magistrate. However I give my Honor that every part of it is true. I flatter myself it will upon the whole be thought a very reasonable one, & allowed without Difficulty. But should it not, I must look to my Employers. The account for my time & horse hire (which your Exc'y may remember Colo. Paterson wrote was engaged to me) is drawn separate, & I flatter myself will not be left for a few public spirited Individuals to pay, altho' your Excellency mentioned nothing of my sending it. I wish my Circumstances did not require my charging for time, but my Sufferings by the war have made it necessary. I am Your Excellency's most obedient & very humble Serv't

Micah Townsend.

P. S. I might have saved the trouble of writing a considerable part of this Letter had I known what the Com'e would have written.

His Exc'y, Governor Clinton.

[No. 2398.]

Returns of Delinquents in Col. Hopkins' Regiment, with Lists of Such as Are Whigs, Neutrals or Doubtful, and Tories.

Haight's, High Lands, June ye 10th 1779.

A Return of Colo'l Roswell Hopkins Delinquits in his Regt. To his Excellency the Govenor, of the Good whigs, Middling & Tories which are as follows

Good whigs: David Milk, William Drake, James Begle, Stephen Palmer, Ebenezer Lattmer, Theophilous Locwood, Joseph Reynolds, John Pnderson, Ezra Allen, Filkins German, Will'm Tharington, James Conkrite, Ju'r, Abraham Mosier, Thomas Bullock, Henry Adeset, Nathaniel Parks, Jonathan Olivet, Thomas Wilkerson, John Husted, Sylvanus Torbell, John Bushe, Asher Wickham, Joel Reynolds, Stephen Babcock, Isaac Butts, Daniel Daverson, Ebenezer Allen.

Middling: William Blunt, Jacob Everson, Henry Kinne, Hugh Wiley, Tobias Green, Thomas Green, Joseph Woolley, David Gage, Enoch Wilber, Timothy Green, Timothy Soper, Nathan Wolsey, James Pugsley, Elij'h Tenny, Oliver Erle, George Adtset, Hervey Culley, David Abbett, James Higings, Isaac Wicks, Matthew Progue, Michael Waltemire, Amos Crandel, Samll. Avery, Aron Henrys, Stephen Quimby, Lent Farr, Solen Lapham, Owen Wilber, Ebenezer Palmer, Pazzi Lapham, Caleb Foster, William Pugsly, Nathaniel Smith, John Northrup, Joseph Jeeocks, Joseph Sutherland, Gabril Dusinbury, Eliakim Hammon, James Marshal, Jeremiah Brown, Leonard Cook, Benj'n Waters, Christopher Dutcher, Isaac Waters, Freeborn Cogswell, Benj'n Paddock, Johnson Nash.

& Tories: Gideon Moshier, John Boice, Daniel Soles.

Colo. Hopkins Rgt. Companies,

Oliver Earle,	a Whig	Capt. Tammage.
Ashur Wickhsm,	Do	Capt. Southerland.
George Adsit,	Do	Capt. Tammage,
Thomas Bullock,	Do	Capt. Humphreys.
Joel Reynolds.	Do	Capt. Southerland,
Nathan Woolsey,	Do	Capt. Tammage,
Thomas Depuy,	Do	Capt. Southerland,
James Beadle,	Do	Capt. Walters,
William Drake,	Do	Do
Thomas Wilkinson,	Do	Capt. Southerland,
Timothy Soaper,	Do	Capt. Tammage,
Joseph Reynolds,	Do	Capt. Walters,
Henry Adsitt,	Do	Capt. Humphreys,
Robert Anson,	Do	Capt. Southerland,
Nathaniel Parks,	Do	Capt. Humphreys,
Lent Farr,	Do	Capt. Southerland,
Ebenezer Allen,	Do	Capt. Weller,
Isaac Butts.	Do	Capt. Southerland,
Jonathan Olivet,	Do	Do
Stephen Badeock,	Do	Do
Abraham Moysher,	Do	Capt. Humphreys.
Stephen Quimbey,	Do	Do
Thom Poodney.	Do	Capt. Hopkins.
Amos Crandel,	Do	Capt. Humphreys.
Eliakim Hammond,	Do	Capt. Weller.
William Thornton,	Do	Capt. Tammage.
David Abbit.	Do	Capt. Humphreys.
Freeborn Coggeshall,	Do	Capt. Weller.
Samuel Avery.	Do	Capt. Humphreys.
Hervey Colly.	Do	Do

John Bushey,	a Whig	Capt. Southerland,
Isaac Butts,	Do	Do
Owen Wilber,	a Tory	Capt. Southerland,
Joseph Woolley,	Do	Capt. Haight,
James Higgins,	Do	Capt. Humphreys,
Ebenezer Palmer,	Do	Capt. Southerland,
Samuel Hyatt,	Do	Do
Enoch Wilber,	Do	Capt. Haight,
Johnson Nash,	Do	Capt. Weller,
Benjamin Paddock,	Do	Do
Isaac Weeks,	Do	Capt. Humphreys,
Timothy Green,	Do	Capt. Haight,
Gideon Mosher,	Do	Do
Tobias Green,	Do	Do
Richard Farr,	Do	Colo. Frear's Capt. Spencer,
Thomas Green,	Do	Capt. Haight.

Gidion Mosher, John Boys, Danniil Soal, Jeams Barns, John Fisher, Jeans Robens, Benjamin Hiks, Thomas Bulis, John Hiks, John Germon, Fradreck Mabe, Peter Storms, Joseph Farington.

A Return of Prisoners Brought in & Delevered by Capt. Natha. Platt to the Officer of the main Guard June 9 1779.

John —, John Medlar, Peter Filkin, James Robuns, John Hunt, Stephen Lawrance, John German, Benjamin More, James Barnes, Phinchas Gallot, — Polhemus, John Hicks, Robt. Little, Benj'm Hicks, John Green, Edmund Hunt, Thom's Jaycox, Thom's Bulles, Jacobus Jostrandt, John Fisher, Jacob Medlar, Robt. Churchill, Peter Perdum, Patrick Murray, Moses Rau

dall, Corn's Soaper, Saml. Simmons, Jam's McEvers, Samuel Barnes, Wm. Yates, Isaiah Wiley, Jeremiah Dubois, David Paddock, Wm. Stoutenburgh, Richard Farr, Abrah'm Vantine, Corn's Lawrence, Richard Cantlin, Joseph Odel, Henry Pells, Wm. Van Orman, Stephen Doty, Stephen Cellow, Samuel Mott, Isaac Lammerie, Joseph Harris, Lieut., Joseph Scott, Peter Lawson Henry Van Denburg, Mich'l Clink.

Wm. Baldwin—paroled to meet at Poughkeepsie, but did not appear; Wm. Pauling—refused to come, and was compelled; Isaac Conklin—broke his parole; Baltus Frier—broke his parole; Wm. Carter—paroled to appear at Camp the 10th of June 1779; Bernard Doty—made his escape and has said that he was enlisting men for ye King; Richard Sneiderker—secreted himself, and sent his son out of the way—Evidence Isaac Salkeld; — Hoag a Quaker Preacher—delivered with his crime to the Commissioners at Poughkeepsie; Zaccheus Marshal a Quaker been to the meeting on Long Island without leave delivered to the Commissioners—he says a Number of others likewise went.

[No. 2399.]

Return of the Levies commanded by Lieut. Colo. Albert Pawling raised for the Defence of the Frontiers & stationed extending from Piepack to Great Shandeken, in Ulster County. Marlbtown June 10th 1779.

Officers commanding & their Stations	Commiss'd Officers			Staff			Non Commiss'd			Rank & file					
	Lt. Colo.	Major	Captains	Lieutenants	Adjutant	Qt. Master	Sergeon	Qr M'r Serge.	Sergeants	present fit for Duty	Sick present	Sick absent	on Commd	on Furlough	Total
Field & Staff															
Capt. Wood at Piepack	1	1			1		1		3	48					48
Lieut. Pawling, Mammacotting			1						2	23					23
Capt. Faulkner, Lezhweek		1		1				1	5	86	3	8	9		106
Lieut. DeWitt, Shandeken			1						4	45	1				46
Commissary Guard, Wawarsink								1	1	21					21
Total	1	1	2	2	1		1	1	15	223	4	9	9		245
Lieut. Ostrander Comm'd Albany												1	1		
Lieut. McBride Do Fishkill												1			
Sergt. Wherry Do Wallkill												1	8		
												4			
												4			
												1			
												9	9		

Two Sergeants & 53 Rank & File were sent from this in Care of Lt. Ostrander to Albany to be annexed to the Continental Battalions.

Pawling, Lt. Colonel.

[No. 2400.]

*Governor Clinton to General Washington.*10th June 1779.

I am honored with your Excellency's Letter* of yesterday and agree with you in the propriety of dismissing the Militia and delay it only until I can have an opportunity of apprizing Genl. McDougall of my Intention.

[G. C.]

[To Gen. Washington.]

[No. 2401.]

*The Enemy's Operations in Westchester.*Haight's 10th June 1779.

Sir; I inclose you a Copy of a Letter just rec'd from Colo. Drake* containing Intelligence respect'g the Enemy's Outrages in the County of West Chester, and submit it to you the propriety of transmitting it to his Excellency G. Washington who may possibly advise some measures for cover'g that Part of the Country. I am, Sir, your most obed. ser't

[G. C.]

The Hon'le Major Genl. McDougall.

[No. 2402.]

Beacon Erected in the Highlands and on the Hills North of Fishkill.

Buds, 11th June 1779.

My Dear Sir, I received your favor of yesterday, inclosing Colonel Drake's report of the Distresses of the people of West Chester, which are exceedingly affecting. I shall transmit it this morning, to the Commander in Chief. As it is necessary for me to keep the troops here collected, not being more than

*Not found.

seven hours march from the enemy, I beg you will be pleased to direct Colonel Brinkerhoff to erect, one or more Beacons on the hills above Fish Kill, to alarm the Militia. I shall direct General Parsons to erect some on Butter Hill, if Men can be spared from the Garrison.

Should the enemy move against us on this Side, a good Regiment of Militia will be well posted, on the Wikope Road, lest the enemy should attempt there to get in our Rear. I am, My Dear Sir, Your affectionate humble Servant

Alex'r McDougall.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 2403.]

Relating to William Haley, a Servant.

Sir, I Rec'd yours of the 10th Instant, Desiring Will'm Haley as a Servant; was it in my Power I Should be happy in Obliging you. So long as it can be Duu with Propriety I have no Objections to his Tarrying with your Honour for that purpose, unless he Should be Orderd to Join his Regt. Am, Sir, with Respect Your Humble Servant

James Miller, Lt. Col. Commdt.

Fort Arnold, June 12th 1779.

The Hon'ble, George Clinton, Esqr.

[No. 2404.]

The State's Provisions for the Families of Soldiers.

Poughkeepsie June 12th 1779.

Sir; I have rec'd your Letter of the 29th Inst. [ult.] The Justices of the Peace are now employed in distributing Provi-

sions to the wives and Families of the state soldiers agreeable to an Act of the Legislature passed at their last Meeting; there is some other Monies to which the Soldiery of the five Regts. in the State are entitled & it will be divided among them as soon as the present alarm is over & proper Returns are received from them to enable me to make the Distribution and whenever the new Legislature shall convene, which will be early in next Month, your present application shall be immediately & faithfully laid before them that they may give such further aid and Relief to the Soldiery as shall be esteemed equitable & proper under our present distressed Circumstances. And I cant doubt, but such Measures will be adopted as to remove every Just Cause of Complaint. I am with great Esteem &c.

[G. C.]

Capt. Rosekrans, or the Officer commanding Colo. DuBois Regt.

[No. 2405.]

An Anonymous Letter Touching the Strength of the Indians and Tories and Their Methods.

June 13th [1779?]

My humble Service to you Officers as Major Becker my Loving Friend and Capt. Stuprach and Jacob Sneyder and Lawrence Schoolcraft and all good Friends in Schokary—I have given myself out for a tory and I have found the Privatness how they will begin it, and how Strong they are. They are one Thousand one hundred, besites Twenty one from the Peaverdam, and from the Hellaberg Eigjteen they will first put a house on fire and when the People assample themselves to the fire, then the will attae at a Place where they are not Expectet, but at first at the

upper Eant, as fur as I can find out, and So I Remain your
friend and humble Servand

Schohary.

A true Cobby of a Letter which was found the 14th of this
Instant at Schohary.

[No. 2406.]

*Governor Clinton's Measures for the Protection of Westchester
County.*

[Draft of letter of June 13, 1779, to Colo. Drake, Lt. Colos.
Hammond & Budd and Major Crane, calling out their differ't
reg'ts to act for the defence of Westchester county:]

The peculiar Situation of your County exposed to the Ravages
of the Enemy now lying at Verplanck's Point & White Plains &
the Impracticability at this present Conjuncture (arising from a
variety of Causes) of sending to your assistance any considerable
Body of the militia from this Quarter, renders it indispensably
necessary for you to collect together as great a Proportion of
your respective Regiments as can be obtained, and to dispose of
them in such manner as will cover the Country from the Excur-
sions of that Part of the Enemy laying in the vicinity of the
White Plains. I have directed Colo. Drake & Major Crane with
a small Detachm't from Ludington's, to call out their Regts. &
post them in the Neighbourhood of Crompond to cover the Coun-
try from the Ravages of the Enemy at Verplanck's Point. Proper
Disposition of this small Force aided by Sheldon's light Horse,
whom I have requested Genl. McDougal to direct to act with you
and to furnish you with Patroles, may I hope, give a temporary
Protection to the Country. In the mean Time you may rest

assured that I will use every Exertion in my Power to obtain a more adequate Force for your Security. I am &c.

[G. C.]

To Lt. Colo. Hammond & Budd.

[The same to Colo. Drake & Major Crane except, instead of the words between laying in the thirteenth & to act in the twenty fourth Lines insert the following: "at Verplanck's Point I have directed Lieut. Cols. Hammond & Budd to call out their Regts. & post them so as to cover the Country from the Ravages of the Enemy at the White Plains & in its vicinity. Proper Disposition of this small Force aided by Delavan's Company of light Horse who are ——"]

[G. C.]

[No. 2407.]

The Governor Notifies General McDougall of His Dispositions.

13 June 1779. Pokeepsie.

Sir, I have just issued my Orders to Colo. Drake & Major Crane to call out their Regts. and post them with a Detachm't from Ludington's in the Neighbourhood of Crompond to cover the Country from the Ravages of the Enemy at Verplanck's Point and to Leut. Colos. Hammond & Budd to call out their Regts. & post them so as to Cover the Country from Excursions of the Enemy at the White Plains and in its vicinity. Major Delavan's Horse are to act with Drake's & Crane's Regiments. It is also necessary that Leut't Collos. Hammond & Budd, be furnished with Horse to act with the Militia under their Command. I would, therefore, wish that you wo'd give Colo. Sheldon (who I am informed is not now employed to the best advantage) the necessary Orders for this Purpose. There are many Reasons which I need not mention to you that forbid the calling out as

large a Number of the Militia as might be sufficient to cover that Country, and yet it would be improper to leave it entirely exposed; if, therefore, the Commander in Chief co'd find it convenient to grant one Continental Regt., for this Service, I am convinced the most salutary Effects wo'd result from it, and the Militia wo'd be more ready and march with greater alacrity to the Support of the Forts or for Reinforcem't of the main army in Case of Emergency than to a more distant Service. I wo'd, therefore, request that this might be suggested to his Excellency. I am &c.

[G. C.]

[To Gen. McDougall.]

[No. 2408.]

Lieutenant Colonel Parling on Regimental Affairs.

Wawarsink, June 13th 1779.

Sir, Inclosed you have a Return of such part of the Regt. as are under my Command in this Quarter, a Copy of which I have sent to Colo. Rensulaer. I have wrote to Colo. Malcom requesting him to know from Laurence, Hallett, Hunter, & Cronin whether they still incline to serve in the Regt. as I understood in a Letter lately rec'd they were with him. His Answer I have not got but expect it in a few Days. I undertook to give Mr. Laurence some Encouragement of being a Captain, one being wanted, and tho more induced so to do by Capt. Faulkener's Request, who tells me he had much rather be out of the Service than it wo'd be exceeding Glad to have one to take his Birth.

Mr. Pattison, issuing Commissary, with us begs the assistance of three Clerks, the one at Peenpack, one at Leghweck and the other at Shandeken. I am well persuaded of the Necessity he has for them & the Difficulty of keeping his Accounts without them

regular. I wish to have your Directions concerning it given to Major Van Bunschoten. News I have none; peaceable Times with us in this Quarter. My respectfull Compliments to Mrs. Clinton, Granny & Family. I am, Sir, Your most obed't H'ble

A. Pawling.

[To G. C.]

[No. 6422.]*

THE SULLIVAN EXPEDITION UNDER WAY.

General James Clinton Leaves Albany for the Front—His Final Arrangements for His Family.

Albany, June 13th 1779.

Dear Wife, The Day before yesterday I went with my Baggage to Schenectady and bid farewell at Albany, but after I sent of the Regts., to Conojoharie I Returned to get an opportunity to settle some affairs of my own, and send you some things which I Expected I Could do without being Interrupted, but in vain, for I Cant write a Letter without being Disturbed by somebody.

I send you a List of what things I take with me, what I Leave in Albany, and what I send you, which I hope you will Receive safe as they are now of great value, and will be of great Service to you and the family; and I spared no pains to Procure them, though I had but Little time; my Mother will see that I have not forgot her, as I send you Tea & Sugar & the Knives & Forks which are very good ones. I have Done the best I Could for you a'l, and if I had not, I would be ungrateful, as I am sure you have Done every thing in your Power to serve me.

I have made my Will and Left it in my Chest at Mr. Taylor's sealed up, but I wanted you to Consult with. I wish I had

*From Volume XXIV, Clinton MSS.

time to send you a Copy of it; if I Can I will. If not I Can Inform you, that after Leaveing a few Legacies to you and Each of the Children, I have ordered an Equal Division of all my Estate, Real and Personal, amongst the Children and you when my youngest Son arrives at the full age of twenty one years, and you are to Live on which place you please while you Live. I hope it will please you, as I assure you it was my study. If not, I hope to Return to you again when I may have an opportunity to Consult you.

I have Concluded to Leave Capt. Gregg in Albany with a small party of Invalids as a guard to the stores and to Receive the sick from the Hospital on their Recovery. I have left him for several Reasons, though if it were not on his sisters acc't he would not be pleased. I tell him my Reason for leaveing him is, that if the Indians ketches him again they will Cut of his head as scalping Cant kill him.

Capt. Gregg is to forward the things to you and the Treasury Notes with the Directions how you are to settle them.

I set of tomorrow for Conojoharie, where I will be some Days getting the Boats and stores across to the Head of the Susquehanah, as we are to go Down that River. Your Brother has marched with the Regt. I Received yours by Mr. Umphry but Mr. Gale was gone before I wrote by him. If you Can, let me hear from you once more. Capt. Gregg wil forward it. I have much more to write if I had time, but must Conclude with my Love to you, and the Children, my Brother, Mother and all the Rest of the family. May God Bless and preserve you from all Danger untill we meet again.

I Cant Conclude without acquainting you of the Civility and good usage we Received of Mr. & Mrs. Taylor; they would take

no pay from us, saying they had Rec'd sufficient satisfaction already, which I believe they had, but there is few would know it, as they had not seen the acc't of what Provisions we Drew. However, I give them an order on the Q. Master for the use of the House, which they Refused till I told them it would Disoblidge me if they did not take it. I Likewise give them an order on the Com'y to Draw fresh Provisions in my absence on my acc't as it is not [to] be purchased here. Mrs. Taylor is a fine Little woman. I have not seen her out of Humor since I have been here, and I am sure she had Reason and trouble Enough with our Company. I must now bid you all farewell, but Expect to write you again from Conojoharie before I leave it. I am, Yours Affectionately,

James Clinton.

[To Mrs. Mary Clinton.]

[No. 2409.]

The Real Politics of the Vermont Situation.

Philad. 14th June 1779.

Dear Sir, Your Excellency's Letter to Congress respecting the Revolt has made a serious Impression. I applaud the wisdom & Spirit which it manifests. Congress seem to have relied rather too far on the Moderation and Passivity of our State: and yet there are Circumstances which Justify their proceeding with Caution. It is generally supposed and believed, that if active measures are passed by our State, the Friends and Relations of the Revolters in the Eastern States, even in defiance of their own Government, will Support them by arms: At the same time an opinion prevails that, by the mediation of the Committee, they may be prevailed upon to return to their Duty; at least

that the attempt is necessary previous to acts of Violence. The Eastern Delegates seemd Confident of its Success and were explicit in avowing their wishes that it might produce Submission & Tranquillity.

Your Excellency's Letter is committed to a special Committee, & I presume they will report that the Prisoners be set at Liberty & Col. Allen's Conduct as an officer of the United States be submitted to a Court Martial. At the same time Congress are so strongly perswaded of the policy & propriety of sending their Committee, that they will persevere in the Measure, & I wish our State could be so far reconciled to it as to give it no Obstruction. If the Committee are disregarded it will become the Cause of the United States: & we shall have a Right to call on Congress for Assistance to support their own authority. I suggest these Hints for your Excellency's Consideration, and remain with the utmost Regard, Dear Sir, Your Excellency's most obedient & very humble Servant

Jas. Duane.

No Express from the Southward! The great Events there still depend on uncertain Rumour.

His Excellency Governour Clinton.

[Private.]

[No. 2410.]

Continuation of Rumors from the South.

Fish Kill, 15th June 1779.

Dear Sir, Nothing new since yesterday, only the continuation of the old story from the southward. The following is an extract from a Letter of General Parsons to me this morning. He no doubt had it from his Excellency the General who is in the Fort:

“ In a letter from a member of Congress, the General is informed that the Enemy made an assault upon Charlestown and were repulsed; they made a second attempt and at that instant General Lincoln appear'd and attack'd their Rear and gave them a signal defeat; their loss 1480, this does not come officially but in such manner as leaves very little doubt of the truth of it.”

Whenever any thing of consequence comes to my knowledge, a relation thereof, will immediately be transmitted by Your Excellencies most obed. & very humble Ser.

Udny Hay.

Governour Clinton.

[No. 2411.]

General James Clinton Notifies His Brother of the Preparations Made for the Sullivan Expedition.

Albany, June 15th 1779.

Dear Brother, Yesterday I received a Letter from Genl. Sullivan datted the 11th instant, and one from His Excellency datted the 10th—the former of which points out my rout from hence, untill I join the army under him, the latter only refers me to any orders I may receive from Genl. Sullivan. I have ordered one hundred Boats to be loaded at Schanectady and transported up the river by the 3d N. Y. Regiment and the Detachment under Col. Butler, both which fleets have already sailed. I have ordered one hundred more Boats to be had in readiness immediately, as the Genl. has ordered me to embarke all the Troops, and take no P. Horses. I have ordered three or four hundred wag-gons to be collected at Connojeharie to transport the Boats and Stores across the carreing place to Lake Otsego, the place of embarkation where I shall wait farther orders to proceed.

I am informed that you are to march with a Detachment, up the Popactunk Branch of the Delaware, I shall be happy

to meet you and have requested Genl. Sullivan to inform you of the time I am to leave Lake Otsego Landing, as I cou'd not do it so expeditiously as may be necessary.

I have left two Companies of Butler's Detachment at Schoharie, who are to join me on the shortest notice. I am sorry to inform you that out of all the nine months men, we have received only one hundred and fifty. I shall be also under the necessity of evacuating Cherry Valley as we have no troops to garrison it, for altho Genl. Ten Broeck hath ordered out one fourth of his Brigade, few or none have made their appearance.

I have order Col. V. Schaick to repair to this Place to take the Command, in order to prevent the Difficulties which may arrise in that Particular during my absence, this I was the more inclined to do, as Captain John Graham is appointed Major of said Regiment.

I should be glad to hear from you by every Oppertunity, as there is a Post established from Wyoming to Fort Schuyler, thro' [thro'] Esopus and Albany. I am with great respect your very hu'ble Serv't

James Clinton.

P. S. I shall set off this day for Connojoharie. Enclosed are two Letters from Col. V. Schaick.

Gov. Clinton.

[No. 2412.]

System of Signals for the Posts in the Highlands.

At a meeting of the Major Generals of the Army, for establishing signals and beats, agreeable to the instructions of the Commander in Chief, communicated in his Circular Letter of the 13th Inst.

Present, Major Generals Putnam, Greene, De Kalb, St. Clair.

In case the Enemy should make an attempt upon the posts at the West Point, in order that there may be the less danger of falling into confusion, and that the several Divisions may act with the greater uniformity, and the different parts mutually support each other: the following Signals by beat of Drum are agreed upon:

The long Roll, beat once distinctly, will be the signal for the right wing to advance; twice for the Left, and three times for the whole Division to commence the attack.

The short Troop will be the signal for the right wing to retreat; the Pioneers March for the Left, and the retreat for the whole Division to retire.

The Communication is to be kept up as far as practicable, by messengers, Runners, and Expresses between the different divisions as it is conceived no signals can be sufficient for that purpose.

The General Officers are further of opinion, that no signals can be concerted by them proper for alarming the Militia (tho' it is important there should be such establish'd) as they are not sufficiently acquainted with the situation of the Country; nor are they informed whether any measures have been adopted for that purpose: or if there have been what they are. They, therefore, think it expedient for General Putnam immediately to write to Governor Clinton on the subject; and desire him to inform whether any plan has been fallen upon, and if not, that he will propose such an one as he thinks will be most conducive to answer the purpose in Question.

Smiths Clove June 15th 1779.

Extract from the minutes.

D. Putnam, Aide de Camp.

[No. 2413.]

Messrs. Jay and Duane's Reply to Governor Clinton's Letter on the Vermont Question.

Philadelphia 16th June 1779.

Sir, We have been favored with your Excellency's Letter* of the 7th Inst.† on the Subject of the late Resolutions of Congress respecting the Revolt in New York. The President will transmit to you their further Resolutions on that Head.

As the State of New York by their remonstrances to Congress demanded Justice against the revolters, they thought it reasonable to be assured that the State had done them Equity before Congress interfered, and for that purpose appointed a Committee to enquire & report. The Spirit of your Letter to Congress will advance the Business. We conceive it to be in a good train, & are clearly of opinion that the Committee ought to proceed. Any Decisions of Congress made ex-parte would have less weight than if made after hearing these people. The majority of the house have very proper Ideas on the subject and we flatter ourselves that it will terminate right.

*See page 54.

†In Congress June 10th 1779.

The Committee to whom was referred the Letter of 7th June from Governor Clinton brought in a Report whereupon Resolved unanimously that the Officers acting under the State of New York, who were lately restrained of their liberty by certain Persons of a District called the New Hampshire Grants ought to be immediately liberated.

Resolved, unanimously, that the Committee appointed to repair to the Inhabitants of a certain District known by the Name of the New Hampshire Grants be directed to inquire into the Matters and Things contained in the Letters of Governor Clinton of the 29th May and of the 7th Instant, and that Copies of the said Letters be transmitted to the said Committee and that they be directed to report speedily to Congress.

Resolved, unanimously, that it was not the Intention of Congress by their Resolutions of the first Instant nor ought the same or any part thereof to be construed to hold up Principles subversive of or unfavourable to the internal Policy of any or either of the united States.

That Congress expect very salutary effects from the Appointment of the said Committee, therefore, all further proceedings on Governor Clinton's Letter be suspended until they report.

Extract from the Minutes.

Cha. Thomson Secretary

We have the Honor to be with great Respect and Esteem
Your Excellency's most Obed't Servants

John Jay,

Jas. Duane.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 6423.]*

Du Simitiere Writes an Entertaining Letter to the Governor.

Sir, I hope my last I had the honour to write to your Excellency in date of the 26th April has come Safe in your hands; it contained a picture in black lead, a pamphlet & Some papers, I wish they may have been acceptable. Said letter was not Sent till the 4th May; it was given in my presence by Mr. President Jay to a person going to your place of residence. I imagine that it must have reached you about the time that the enemy was in your neighbourhood, therefore, can not expect that your Excellency has had much leisure to attend to its trifling contents; from the news that we have had from your government I am in great hopes that the threatening aspect of invasion has, by the vigilance, activity, & bravery of the troops under your command been dissipated & Shall be very happy to hear it confirm'd; we have been here for near three weeks in an anxious Suspence about the fate of Charlestown; all the accounts we have had hitherto, have been favourable and asserts the repulse of the enemies in two unsuccessful attacks by them made on the lines of Charlestown, but Still no authentic intelligence has arrived, and Congress is waiting for an express. A change has lately taken place in our internal affairs; commit-

*From Volume XXIV, Clinton MSS.

tees have been appointed by a numerous town meeting in this city to apply Some remedy to the enormous depreciation of the continental currency & to regulate the prices of various articles of necessaries of life, and also to inquire into the conduct & detect the machinations of our internal enemies, of which there is but too many remaining amongst us; these committees are composed of respectable citizens, active & zealous for the good of their country and much good is expected from their labours. It would be in vain for me to be more particular with regard to news, as I make no doubt your Excellency See our papers in which every thing of the kind is contained, as well as the animated controversy between particular persons relating to transactions of a political nature which has for upwards of Six months filled a great part of our publications & now & then blaze out afresh; on that Subject I Shall only add that there must be great faults & malversations Some where.

I forgot to mention in my last, that I had added to my collection of pictures of distinguished & eminent persons, a good likeness of the minister of France, who has very obligingly condescended to Sit for it. I have done no other Since, owing to Some disapointment, but it is only delayed. I have also painted lately a miniature of Mrs. Jay.

My old acquaintance Mr. Petrus Theobaldus Curtenius takes care of this letter to forward it to your Excellency by Some Safe hand, and hope that when the weighty & important affairs of your eminent Station will allow you a little leisure, you will favour me with a line which will give me the highest Satisfaction to receive.

With my Sincerest wishes for your Excellency & family's Safety & prosperity I have the honour to Subscribe myself with

the greatest respect. of your Excellency the most obedient & most humble Servant

Du Simitiere.

Philadelphia June 17th 1779.

His Excellency, Governor Clinton.

[No. 2414.]

Commissary Townsend's Efforts to Collect Wheat in Westchester County.

Bedford 21^t June 1779.

Hon'rd Sir. I Rec'd your Fav'r of the 8th Instant, But as yet have been able to Collect Very Little wheat, for want of Sufficient Guards, as three Quarters of my District is below our Guards Exposed to the Continual Ravages of the Enemy's Horse, who are often out in Considerable Bodys So that Very Little more wheat Can be Collected, untill we are better Supported, The Appointment Enclosed by your Excellency, for Gilbert Purdy, Esqr., I Conceived to be a Mistake, which I Suppose from Information to have been Intended for Jacob Purdy, Esqr., (as I Know of no Gilbert Purdy of any Note in West Chester County) and under our present Situation as no time ought to be Lost, Jacob Purdy, Esqr., has undertaken to act on that appointment, If Enabled, untill your Excellency's pleasure Can be further Known.

I Have this day made application to the Commanding Officer att Horse Neck (as I am Informed that he has 700 men Just Come in) for his assistance But as yet have had no answer. If the Troops att Horse Neck Should Conclude to act with our Small Guards to assist me in Collecting wheat & flour from Below, I make no Doubt that I Shall Collect att Least one thousand Bushels of wheat, in Less than Three days which Other-

wise we Shall Loose. I am, with all due Respect, your Ex-
celleys Very Obedt. Serv't

Samuel Townsend, A. C. P

His Excellcy, George Clinton.

[No. 2415.]

THE VERMONT DISPUTE.

*Governor Clinton's Frank Admissions to John Jay—The
Responsibility of Congress.*

Pokeepsie 23d June 1779.

Dear Sir, Since I had the Pleasure of writing to you last, I have been favored with your Letters of the 22d May & 3d June wh'ch I should have answered before, had the attention which I was oblinded to pay to the Military Duties of my Office on the late alarm allowed me a Moment's Leisure. On this Occasion I have the Pleasure to inform you, that the Militia particularly of this County behaved with an alacrity & Spirit that does them great Honor.

It will render me particularly happy if the Measures adopted by Congress for settling the Disputes in the Northeastern Parts of this State sho'd terminate agreable to your Expectations, tho' I must confess the greatest Hopes I entertain of their Success, arise from the unanimity of our Delegates on whose Judgm't & abilities I place the highest Confidence. The repeated applications that have been made by the State to Congress on this Subject, & the arts used by some Members who we have ev'ry Reason to believe, have countenanced & encouraged the Revolters to prevent a Decision, induce me still to distrust their Integrity. It is clearly the Interest of the Revolters to procrastinate, as while they continue to exercise the Powers of Govern't they are gain'g

Strength & Stability at our Expence, and I am lead to fear that if a Genl. Peace sh'd take Place, by w'ch the Importance of this State as it respects the common Safety wou'd in some Degree be lessened, we shall after we are worn out by our Efforts ag't the Common Enemy, be left at last to reduce these People by our own Efforts and perhaps at a Time too when some of our Neighbors will more readily venture [to] avow their Cause & openly step forth to their assistance. I wish I may be mistaken, but Candor forbids withholding my private Sentiments from you. Dr. Witherspoon & Colo. Atlee waited upon me on their way to the Grants. I delivered them such Papers as they thought might be serviceable but not being instructed by the Legislature on this Subject I conceived it improper in me further to interfere. Colo. Atlee with whom I had the greatest of conversing, appeared to be particularly communicative & candid & afforded me an Opportunity of giving him the fullest Information respect'g the nature [of the] Controversy & of the Temper & Conduct of the Revolters I judged necessary. I trust both these Gentlemen will acknowledge they were treated with every proper Mark of Civility & Respect. Mr. Session, of Cumberland County, lately elected a Member of our Assembly who was one of the Persons taken by Allen's Party, was with me when Doctor Witherspoon & Colo. Atlee arived, & by my advice accompanied them on their Journey to the Grants. He is a discreet sensible Man well acquainted with the People in that Quarter of the Country. He was formerly a Member of our Convention & is well known to Mr. Duane.

The Imprisonm't of our Officers by Allen & his Party at the very Point of Time when the Enemy were expected up the River, and Devastation threatened us from the westward, carries with it something like the appearance of a concerted Plan, and excites

suspicious unfavorable to the Parties concerned, which I wo'd fain hope, however, are groundless.

I am informed that Ethan Allen & a certain Doct'r Fay, lately passed thro' this State on their way to Philadelphia; consider'g their recent insolent Conduct, you will readily believe that nothing but the Respect which I wish to discover to Congress, and a Desire to avoid anything that might tend to interrupt the measures now pursuing by them, could prevent my hav'g them properly secured.

[G. C.]

[To John Jay.]

[No. 6424.]*

General Greene's Account of the Affair at Charleston, South Carolina.

Smiths Clove June 24th 1779.

Sir, There is a man now at my Tent whose name is Speneer with whom I am well acquainted. He has just returned from Ch's Town in South Carolina, and is on his way to Rhode Island from whence he sailed in a Brig of my Brother's some time since for Ch's Town, after a load of Rice on the public's account and was taken by one of Goodriches fleet and landed near that city.

He says he was in the action that happened on the 11th & from my knowledge of the person I verily believe it is true. He was Mate of the Vessel & is a person to be confided in.

His acco't is as follows:—Genl. Pulaski arrived there the 7th; on the 8th he went out & surprised the advanced party of the enemy that lay at the quarter House, about six miles from the city, & took one hundred & eighty four prisoners, four of which

*From Volume XXIV, Clinton MSS.

were Indians. On the 11th the enemy made an attack upon the town, about six o'clock in the evening; the attack was very severe & lasted three hours, when they were repulsed, leaving six hundred & fifty three upon the ground. They retreated back to the quarter house, where they remained when he came away. The town is fortified with two lines that runs across from Ashleys to Coopers river. Our troops were posted in these two lines. Gov'r Rutlige, Genl. Williamson & Genl. Moultrie were in the town. The Sailors belonging to the shipping were posted in the Batteries. Mr. Spencer who gave this acco't, among others. The Inhabitants who were capable to bear arms were all ordered within the lines, and it was thought the soldiers, sailors & citizens amounted to seven thousand. Our Rowe Gallies & other Vessels of force were drawn up in each river upon the flanks of the works to scour the trenches.

The enemy during the attack attempted to land 1500 men within the town in Ashley river; they went in between the shipping & the intrenchments. Our people discovered them as they attempted to land & gave them a repulse. They had passed the shipping undiscovered but the fire within the line discovered the manoeuvre to the fleet from which they kept up such a hot fire that they could not return and were obliged to retreat to Johns Island & from thence to James' Island. The fortifications of that Island being blown up & evacuated by our people at the same instant of time. Here they remained when Mr. Spencer came away, being unable to join the main body & obliged to retreat (if they can make any) by the way of Buford [Beaufort] or Portroyal. The town was in high spirits & wished a second attack. Mr. Spencer left the town the 13th & found the road lined with people going in. There was no certain in-

telligence where Genl. Lincoln was that was known to the common people when he came away; some said that he was within three days march of the town, others that he was in Georgia. The Enemy had no fleet in the Bay. Our people had high expectations of making the whole of the enemy prisoners. We lost but two men in the action. A major was killed afterward by accident by one of our own Sentinels. I am &c.

Nat'l Greene.

[To ———]

N. B. The common people were not allowed to go without the lines, but the report concerning the enemy that were left behind, was from Officers that had counted them. The reason why there has been no official accounts it is supposed the expresses have been killed on the road, as numbers of people have been killed in No. Carolina lately.

Mr. Spencer has sworn to this acc't.

(Copy)

[No. 2416.]

*The Congressional Committee Appeals to the Patriotism of the
Rebellious Vermonters.*

Bennington June 23d 1779.

Gentlemen, The Suscribers are here at present as Members of a Committee of Congress sent for the express Purpose of endeavouring to bring about an amicable Settlement of the Differences between the State of New York and the Inhabitants of the New Hampshire Grants who have form'd themselves into a State called by them the State of Vermont. We have understood that you & others of the State of New York have declined taking your Turn of Militia Duty for the Defence of the Frontiers because the Requisition was made under the authority of the State of

Vermont, and that you have met with some trouble on this account. We have, therefore, sent this to inform you, that we hope there will be by Interposition of Congress a happy accommodation of all Differences in a short time: in the meanwhile we have obtained a Promise from Gov'r Chittenden that you shall not be molested till matters are finally settled, and we have engaged to write to you voluntarily and freely to raise your full Proportion of Men whenever your Neighbours are called, and you are inform'd of this, either by continental officers or the new State, till such time as you have special Directions from the Governor of New York, which we hope to obtain for you on our return home. This we are confident, you will readily comply with, as otherwise People will be tempted to impute your Conduct to Disaffection to the Cause of the United States. We hope that you will understand that the Protection and Forbearance which is promised us on your behalf is to be considered, as on the Condition of your cordially complying with our Request, and in every Respect behaving quietly and orderly while the Measures for Pacification are on foot. We are, Gentlemen, your friends & Hbl. Serv'ts

Jno. Witherspoon,

Saml. J. Atlee.

Saml. Minott Esqr. & others.

(Superscribed)

Samuel Minott Esqr. and others the Subjects of the State of New York on the New Hampshire Grants.

Brattleboro' 5th July 1779.

I certify the within to be a true Copy of a Letter sent by the Subscribers thereof to Samuel Minott Esqr. & others.

Micah Townsend.*

* See pages 108 and 132.

[No. 2117.]

The New York Legislature Not to Convene Before August.

Pokeepsie 23d June 1779.

Gentlemen, I have been favored with your Letter of the 16th with the late Resolutions relative to the revolt in this State and the outrages committed on its Citizens. In Consequence of these and the sanguine Expectations you entertain of the happy Effects which may result from the Measures taken by Congress on that Subject I mean to defer convening the Legislature till the Beginning of August by w^{ch} Time the Committee may be able to make their report. In the Interim, I shall content myself barely with making such arrangements for supporting the authority of the State & giving Protection to its Subjects as (in Case any new Outrages should be committed on them) the Duties of my Office may render indispensibly necessary.

I have the Honor to be &c.

[G. C.]

[To New York Delegates in Congress.]

[No. 2418.]

The Vermont Dispute, the Enemy Along the Hudson, the Legislature and Domestic Affairs—George Clinton to James Duane.

Pokeepsie, 23d June 1779

Dear Sir, I am favored with your Letters of the 2d* 12th‡ & 14‡ Inst. The late Movements of the Enemy into the more interior Parts of this State & the Exertions that were necessary to defeat their Intentions have till the present left me without a Moment's Leisure to answer them.

*See page 10.

†Not found.

‡See page 84.

As I have written pretty fully to Mr. Jay respect'g the Vermont Business, I think it needless to trouble you with a Repetition of w't I have s'id on that Subject. I wo'd only add from the Information I have rec'd a majority of the common Péople of the adjacent States in the vicinity of the Grants entertain sentiments not so favorable to the Revolters as has been represented.

The Situation we are at present in, affords us little Time for speculating, nor is it easy in our present confused State, exposed to hourly alarms, to collect the Sentiments of the People on any Subject. I am, therefore, entirely ignorant what Effect the address of Congress has had on their Minds with Respect to the Paper Currency. I can only say that it continues to depreciate, which I conclude it wo'd, not if the address had produced a Conviction that it will be ultimately secured. As I mentioned in my last, I still believe that there is a Majority of the more sensible Part of the Community advocates for deep & repeated Taxation, considering it as the most effectual Measure for prevent'g a total Loss of public Credit.

I propose convening the Legislature on the 1st August next, when I hope it will be in my Power to make a happy use of the Hints which you have been so kind as to communicate, with Respect to the Settlement of our Frontiers, and the advantages to be derived from the Success already experienced and have Reason to expect from our future Operations to the Westward. You may be assured, Sir, that I will embrace the earliest Opportunity of represent'g to the Legislature your close & steady attention to the Duties of your office, & I cannot doubt but they will grant you a temporary Relief, from the Fatigues of public Business & afford you thereby an Opportunity of vissinging your

Family & of paying some attention to your Health & private Business. The Enemy still continue in Force at Morplank's & Stoney Point where they are throwing up Works. Those Grounds you know, are naturally strong & as long as they continue [to] occupy them, they will greatly distress the Country. I am, D'r Sir, with &c.

Geo: Clinton.

The hon'ble James Duane, Esqr.

(Privy.)

[No. 2419.]

The Legislature to Meet After the Harvest is Gathered.

Pokeepsie 23 June 1779.

Dear Sir, I was favoured with your Letter of the 30th Uho, in Camp where I had not Leisure to answer it. The Legislature will convene about the 1st August next immediately after the gathering in of the Harvest, when I shall endeavor to have the Routine of Duty to be observed by our Delegates in future fixed. I submit it to you, therefore, whether your Health admitting, it will not be best to continue your attendance in Congress until that Time, especially if your absence would deprive us of a full Representation. Like all other Men in public Life, you have doubtless your political Enemies who may have dropp'd Hints to your Disadvantage. Enmity like this, is an Evidence of your abilities, nor does it mark the want of Integrity and I have Reason to believe will be attended with no Consequences to your Prejudice in the Minds of your Constituents. Your Friends will not readily believe any Thing to your Disadvantage. I am, D'r Sir, with great Regard,
Your most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

[To Gouverneur Morris.]

[No. 2420.]

The Governor Acknowledges Communications from John Jay.

Pokeepsie 23d June 1779.

Sir, I had the Honor of receiving your Letter of the 16th* inclosing two acts of Congress of the 14th & 15th Inst. on the 21st Current. The Packet accompanying it, under Direction to the Hon'ble Dr. Witherspoon & others, a Committee of Congress, was immediately forwarded to them by Express, Dr. Witherspoon & Colo. Atlee hav'g left this Place the Friday preceding on their Journey to the New Hampshire Grants. I have the Honor to be &c.

[G. C.]

[To John Jay.]

[No. 2421.]

Judge Wynkoop Writes of Flour Purchased for the Commissary Department.

Kingston, the 24 June 1779.

Dear Sir, The Quantety of Flour you ordered me to Purchase for the State is Compleat and abought 100 Barrells over to be Delivered to the Commecery. I Should be Glead to know wether Mr. Sends is at Home. For I want the Remainder of my account audited; the Commisseary Desired me to Rite to his Excellency to know wether he might have any of the flour purchased for the State, as upon application to me I had told him that I had not any other orders then to Purchase and Store. I Should have Come over but the attendence of the Court Prevents me. Please to Give my Compliments to aunt, Mrs. Clinton and Children. I am your Excellency's Very Humble Servent

D: Wynkoop, Jun.

[To G. C.]

*See page 89.

[Nos. 2422, 2423, 2424.]

MONEY WANTED IMMEDIATELY.

General Greene Requests Governor Clinton to Make a Loan of One Hundred Thousand Dollars—The Governor Declines.

Camp in the Clove, June 28th 1779.

Sir, Col. Hay is in immediate want of about 100,000 dollars. If your Excellency could favor him (with propriety) with the loan of this sum for a couple of Weeks, it would benefit the public service, and greatly oblige the Department.

I have no doubt of being able to replace the money, in the Treasury, in two weeks; and your Excellency may depend upon its being punctually done, as soon as its in my power. A considerable part of the money is wanted for the preparations for the Indian excursion. Col. Hay will wait upon your Excellency to receive your answer. I have the honor to be with great respect your Excellency's most Obedient humble ser't

Nath. Greene, Q. M. G.

His Excellency, Governor Clinton.

GOVERNOR CLINTON'S REPLY.

June 29th 1779.

Dear Sir, I am favored with your Letter of yesterday and find myself particularly unhappy in not being able to comply with your Request. I have no authority to draw money from the Treasury and whatever weight my advice might have with the Treasurer on ordinary occasions I cannot with any Propriety make the Draft you require, as I know a Compliance with it wo'd be contrary to the Tenor of his Oath. If my Credit or private Property (tho at present I have by me but an inconsiderable sum when

compared to your Wants) can be of any use for the public Service you may freely command them. I am &c.

[G. C.]

[To Gen. Nathanael Greene.]

COLONEL UDNY HAY APPEALS TO GOVERNOR CLINTON.

Fish Kill 28th June 1779.

Sir, I beg leave to refer your Excellency to the enclosed; without your compliance with its contents I cannot see how the intended expedition can be fitted out in proper time. I make no doubt of being able to repay the sum you are pleased to lend (for which Capt. Harrison's receipt will be a sufficient voucher) in three weeks at furthest. I have the Honour to be wth due respect
Your Excellency's most obedient and very humble Ser't

Udny Hay.

Governour Clinton.

THE GOVERNOR'S REPLY.

[June 29, 1779.]

DEAR Sir, I inclose you a Letter to Genl. Greene in answer to his on the same Subject with yours of yesterday, which you will please to read, & seal & forward by Express.

Even if I had authority to draw money from the Treasury, I do not imagine there is now in it, in current Money, near the sum mentioned by Genl. Greene in his Letter to me, the greatest Part of it consisting of the Proceeds of the late Tax, which is chiefly of the Emissions called out of Circulation.

[G. C.]

[To Col. Udny Hay.]

Account of Flour Purchased by Major Hendrick Wyckoff in June, 1779.

A Return of Flour and Wheat Purchased and Delivered to Jonathan G. Tompkins, Esqr., Assist. Commissary of Purchase, for the Use of the Army of the United States, by Hendk Wyckoff in the Month of June, 1779.

Time when Purchased	Of whom Purchased	Where Deposited	Flour.		Wheat	Prices of		Total Amount				
			Hds.	C		Flour pr C	Wheat pr Bus.	Ɔ	s	d		
1779 June 3	John Vincent	Joshua Carman's Mill										
4	Abraham Brinckerhoff	Jacob Brinckerhoff's Mill	10	17	68	Ɔ	6.8	435	4			
4	Christain Gensheimer	Do Do	18	30				345	13	9		
4	Philip Sautzenbach	Do Do	8	12				599	11	53		
1779 June 5	Israel Knapp, Junr	Philip Sautzenbach's House	6	10				242	19			
7	Isaac Knapp, Junr	Jacob Brinckerhoff's Mill	6	10				3				
7	Isaac Knapp, Junr	Do Do	10	17				3				
8	Derek Brinckerhoff	Do Do	10	17				213	19	104		
9	John Robinson	Do Do	36	61				345	13	9		
9	John Robinson	Do Do	27	43				3				
10	Archibald Currie	Samuel Verplanck's Mill	2	3				598	19	31		
14	Derek Brinckerhoff	Jacob Brinckerhoff's Mill	15	26				3				
16	Anna Maria Verplanck	Jacob Brinckerhoff's Mill	60	111				2190	3	28		
17	Elbert Montfort	Samuel Verplanck's Mill	3	5				101	9	9		
17	Abraham Hoogland	Elbert Montfort's House	8	13				274	18	5		
21	John Altzell	Abraham Hoogland's Barn	8	13				329				
26	William Brower	Daniel Hasbrook's Mill	10	17	50		6.8	329				
28	Richard Southard	John Cook's Mill	1	1				348	11	53		
28	John Graham	Richard Southard's House	3	5				32	4	105		
28	Matthew V. Bunschooten	Job Taunet's House	3	5				100	19	6		
28	John Sickles	Tennis Van Bunschooten's Mill	92	166				3274	1	2		
28	John Sickles	Samuel Verplanck's Mill	4	7				144	10	51		
29	John Sickles	Jacob Brinckerhoff's Mill	1	2				185	9	3		
30	Joseph Jackson	Samuel Verplanck's Mill	4	6				136	Ɔ	104		
		Total purchased	1 319	555	0 15			512663	1	2		

Fishkill June 30th 1779.
His Excellency Govr Clinton.

Errors Excepted.
Hendk Wyckoff.

[No. 2426.]

Hendrick Wyckoff's Returns of Flour Seized in June, 1779.

A Return of Flour Seized by Hend'k Wyckoff and Delivered for the use of the Army of the United States in the Month of June, 1799.

Time when Seized.	Whose Property	Where Deposited	To whom Delivered.	Flour			Price of		Total Amount			
				Bbls	C	Qrs	lb.	Flour pr C	ask Contain'd	u	s	d
1779 June 6	Henry Schenk	Cornelius Van Sicklen's Mill Runbonts	Jonathan G. Tompkins, Esqr. A. C. P.	24	41	2	20	19	3	820	13	10

N. B. This Flour is Unsettled, as there has not yet been a Court Called to Determine it therefore Cannot ascertain whether said flour will be Condemned and forfeited for the use of this State; or not.

Errors Excepted

Hend'k Wyckoff.

Fishkill, June 30th 1779.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 2427.]

Returns of Lieutenant Colonel Albert Pawling's Regiment of New Levies.
 Return of the Levies Commanded by Lieut. Colo. Albert Pawling, stationed on the Frontiers of Ulster & Orange Counties July 1st '79.

Officers Commanding and their Stations	Commissioned Officers				Staff			Non-Commissioned		Rank & File				Alterations since last Return					
	Lt. Colonel	Major	Captains	Lieutenants	Adjutant	Qr. Master	Surgeon	Qr. Mr. Serjt.	Sergeants	present fit Duty	sick present	Do absent	on Command	on Furlough	Total	Dead	Discharged	Deserted	Joined
Capt. Wood at Peembeck	1		1	1				3	49		1	1		50				1	
Lt. Pawling Mamaracottin			1	1				3	26					27					
Capt. Faulkner Lechweck	1		1	1				4	61		4	40		105			3	6	
Lt. DeWitt Sbaudeken			1	1				4	44		3	1		47				1	
Commissary's Guard								1	20					21					
Total	1	1	2	4	1	1	1	15	200		8	42		250				3	
Capt. Hunter not joined.									Marbletown		1	1		1					
Sergt. Gillaspay Command Leuringkill.									Wawarink		1	14		14					
Capt. Hallett with thirty four men on Command in Westchester County.									Sick in Hospital		3	16		16					
									New Paltz		1	10		10					
									Esopus		1	1		1					
									Woodstock		1	1		1					
											8	42		42					1

A. Pawling, Lt. Colo.

[No. 2428.]

THE VERMONT COMPLICATION.

*Micah Toucuseud of the Opinion That Further Delay Will Benefit the
New State.*

Brattleborough July 5th 1779.

May it please your Excellency, As it is improbable that Doct. Witherspoon & Colo. Atlee will acquaint you with some of their Proceedings upon the Grants, I set down (inter alia) to inform you of such as have come to my Knowledge. The first Step of any Consequence was to bring about a temporary Conciliation of Parties; which I conclude occasioned the extraordinary Letter directed to "Samuel Minott Esqr. & others the Subjects of the State of New York upon the New Hampshire Grants."* This Letter Mr. Session brought over with him & it fortunately happened that there was a raising in Brattleboro' at which a Number of People were collected, the afternoon he arrived.

As Submission (at least in some sort) to Vermont appeared to be the Groundwork of the Conciliation, it was thought that we could not comply with their Recommendation; and Mr. Session was prevailed on to return immediately, with another Gentleman, to detain Messrs. Witherspoon & Atlee until the Com'ce of Cumberland could assemble and send some Persons to wait upon them with an answer to their Letter; or if that could not be done to give them the reasons why ye Subjects of New York could not comply with their Recommendation. Mr. Session carried Evidence with him of Vermont officers taking several Cattle which he did not before know of. This produced the Letter to Gov'r Chittenden (a Copy of which I inclose).

*See page 97.

Before the Departure of these two Gentlemen from Bennington they proposed eleven Questions to Gov'r Chittenden, which, with his answers I would copy for your Excellency, but make no doubt that they shewed them to you, as they promised they would, upon their Return to Congress.

Soon after their arrival at the Capital of Vermont, they dispatched an Express to the other Gentlemen of the Com'e, to notify them of their being at Bennington. Mr. Edwards had previously resigned his Seat in Congress, & another Delegate was appointed in his Stead: he, therefore, would not act in this Business. Messrs. Root & Ellsworth arrived the 26th June, a few Hours after the other two had set out for Albany; and it was partly at their Request that Mr. Session followed them to that City; but it was out of his Power to prevail upon them to return. Root & Ellsworth refused to do any Business without three at least of the Committee being together: Gov'r Chittenden, however, repeatedly pressing them to give the Inhabitants Directions how to behave in the present Exigence, they turned to the Persons sent by the Committee of Cumberland County, and said if *they* requested it they would give their advice. Upon which our Committee withdrew & after talking over the matter, agreed to tell the Gentlemen of the Congress Com'e that they should be glad of their advice how to conduct themselves, but first to shew them a Letter from your Excellency which directs the Subjects of New York to oppose every Exertion of the Vermont authority whether in raising Men or Taxes. They accordingly did so, & there was no more said about advice. Our People had good reason to believe from their Conversation that they would have advised a temporary Submission & shewed your Letter on purpose to prevent it. I have some

reason to think, indeed, the Vermont Party boasts of it, that they afterwards privately counselled Mr. Chittenden.

It is extraordinary that the Connecticut Gentlemen excused their Tardiness in coming by saying that the Legislature was sitting in Hartford, & that Business with them had kept them so long behind; whereas the News Paper informs us that the Legislature adjourned the 18th & they arrived at Bennington in the afternoon of the 26th June.

I should not have troubled your Excellency at present with a Letter by the Post, but to acquaint you that the New States Men are numbering their Party: and as they do it by going about to Individuals, & doubtless inveigling them, many unfair Practices will probably be used to make their Party appear larger than it is. They are also getting Subscriptions to some Paper the Contents of which I can not yet certainly learn. Every time their Proceedings require Trouble & Expence to counteract them, I am out of Temper at the Parsimony of our Legislature in this Controversy. In October last I had Instructions to apply to the Legislature for a Sum of Money to be lodged in the Hands of the Com'e to answer Contingencies. I was told by some leading Members of ye Assembly that they were not then in a generous Humor & advised not to apply in that Session for an account incurred by sending down for the Commissions, or for Pay for my own time; & consequently that application for Money for the Com'e would be unreasonable. If they had now a Sum of Money in their Hands, it would perhaps answer a very valuable Purpose for them to collect the Numbers of those who are opposed to Vermont in Cumberland & Gloucester Counties. If you, Sir, think it necessary I doubt not you will speedily take Measures for doing it throughout the Grants.

Your Excellency has doubtless before this had much said to you by Messrs. Atlee & Witherspoon about the Propriety of our assisting to guard the Frontiers at Rutland. I would beg leave to mention that the New York Whiggs here are willing to do their Part towards maintaining the War according to their Ability; but why should they guard Rutland in particular? It is not our Frontier, the Enemy will not come that way to attack us, nor is it a Frontier or Security to any Place which is not in Rebellion to the State of New York. Besides, if we send Men there, is it not highly probable, if you should march a Force upon the Grants for our Protection, that by being under Vermont officers, (which it is ten to one but they are) they will be compelled to fight in Support of this unreasonable Rebellion, even against the very Men who send them into Service?

New York I think has it now in its Power to compel Congress to do the State Justice in the Vermont Business. But, if the Legislature suffer the Oppertunity to pass unimproved, Vermont will in all probability succeed & be an eternal & inveterate Foe to the remainder of the State; whereas, Spirit properly exerted at this time, will almost infallibly get a final Decision of Congress in favor of the Rights of New York. A temporary Settlement will establish Vermont.

The next I expect will be a critical Session of our Legislature respecting this Business. I most ardently wish to be present, but have not yet determined whether to go the beginning of August, to which time I have heard a Report that the Legislature is prorogued, as it is uncertain to us who live at such a Distance from the Seat of Government, whether our long Journey will not be a fruitless one should we set out upon a bare report. Mr. Session expects that your Excellency will be kind enough to send

his word when the Legislature is to meet, at least this time, as the Day has been altered since he conversed with you upon the Subject.

* * * I must have more Patriotism than falls to the Share of one Man since the War has wrought so general a Change of manners, to induce me to attend matters of public Concern while I have so reasonable Excuse for being at home. I have not yet exactly ascertained the Quantity I have left, not whether it will be sufficient to carry me to Kingston at such a time. But begin to think whether it is not as unprofitable as it is an unfashionable Commodity. Sure I am from past Experience that it would be more for my Interest, as well as Ease, not to intermeddle in public Concerns, as I have hitherto acted from Motives purely disinterested, & have only had a Consciousness of that for my Reward: while many others whose only Care was their private Fortunes have succeeded to their utmost Wish.

But when I call to mind your Excellency, the Chief Justice, & several other shining Characters in the State, I am ashamed to have even in thought put private Interest in Competition with the Public. I am your Exc'y's most obd't Hum. Serv't

Micah Townsend.

P. S. Since writing the foregoing have learned that the New State Officers have returned some Cattle they had taken from our People in Putney & not sold. Perhaps this may be in Consequence of Dr. Witherspoon's Letter.

His Exc'y Governor Clinton.

Albany 28th June 1779.

Sir, We have received your Letter by Mr. Sessions, and are exceedingly concerned at this last Disturbance that has hap-
pened as it may be a means of defeating all our Endeavours for

promoting Peace. We are not willing however to consider it as a Breach of the agreement you made with us, because it is probable it was not known or distinctly understood, but were surprised to find that though Sessions was to have carried a Copy of both Letters yet he had only ours & not yours. We shall, therefore, only signify that in our opinion, the agreement will be wholly frustrated unless you not only put a Stop to any further Proceedings of this kind, but cause Restitution to be made to the People whose Cattle have been seized in this last Instance. You must be sensible that unless this is done, it would be absurd to desire them to send those Levies for the Want of which they have been fined & are supposed in fine to have made Compensation. We trust you will manage this matter with all possible Prudence & may expect to hear from us again after we have seen Governor Clinton. We are, Sir, your most obed^t Humble Serv^{ts}

Jno. Witherspoon

Saml. J. Atlee.

P. S. What surprises us most is that these Measures were pursuing whilst Tucker was at Bennington when we understood all further Proceedings were to be suspended until his Return.

[To] Gov^r Chittenden.

[Copy]

EGBERT BENSON'S VIEWS ON THE VERMONT CONTROVERSY.

*Under date of July 6th, 1779, Egbert Benson wrote to Jay on the Vermont Controversy:

Dear Sir: Since I had the pleasure of writing to you last the Committee [of the Continental Congress] have returned from

*This letter from Judge Benson is of interest, not only as referring to the Vermont controversy, but as throwing light on the current expedients for raising war tax-making loans, and meeting the depreciation of the currency. It is to be read in connection with Jay's letter to Governor Clinton, following.

Vermont, and they passed thro' this place when I happened unfortunately not to be at home. Altho I have not had an opportunity to converse with them yet from what has been communicated to me by the Governor and the papers which I have seen, their embassy has not been productive of the good I both wished and expected. I am certainly exceedingly disappointed as to what I supposed was the principal object of their errand, namely information; for I imagined these gentlemen would have taken measures for discovering the general sense of the inhabitants instead of confining themselves to a short epistolary conference with Governor Chittenden, [of Vermont] proposing questions many of them foreign to the subject and contenting themselves in almost every instance with answers either unintelligible or evasive. It would be improper to charge these gentlemen with having intentionally acted wrong, and while I disapprove of their proceedings I would not mean to impeach their integrity. Notwithstanding the defective Manner in which they have conducted the business they have at least clearly established this fact, that Governor Chittenden *himself* is determined at all events not to reunite with us, for we may undoubtedly suppose such his determination, when with apparent Sincerity he says that his *religious* rights and priviledges would be in danger from a Union with a Government, by the fundamental [law] of which all Religions are tolerated and all Establishments expressly excluded. I am confident these sentiments do not generally prevail among the inhabitants on the Grants. I have conversed with several of them; tho, being ignorant of the true Nature of the controversy, blindly attached to the New State, yet they all seem disposed to acquiesce in the decision of Congress. The Governor I believe spoke his mind very freely to the Committee especially

with respect to their letter recommending to several towns on the Grants as it were a temporary Submission to the new State for military purposes. He utterly refused to countenance the measure by any orders to the Militia in that quarter, and offered to give the Committee the reasons of his refusal in writing but they declined accepting them. The assertion that Genl. J. Clinton has made a requisition of Men from Vermont you may be assured is false. The Legislature will meet early in the next Month when we shall be at our *ne plus* relative to this business unless something decisive is speedily done by Congress.

The People are much pleased that you have at last published your journals, tho' some of the proceedings are exceedingly reprehended, particularly the loan of 2,000,000 to Pennsylvania. We cannot comprehend the propriety of lending an enormous Sum to a trading State, their Government established and in full possession of all their territory. Advancing monies indefinitely to delegates without an application from their respective states is another proceeding for which Congress is censured. From what I can learn I think it more than probable you will be instructed as to both these matters. We have an idea that the politics of Pennsylvania have crept into Congress and that most of your proceedings are poisoned by their party disputes about their government and that Congress ought to remove from that State. How just this surmise is I will not determine, but it seems to be so much the opinion of many here that I should not be surprised if the Legislature were also to send instruction upon this subject.

A regulating scheme has not been attempted anywhere in the State except at Albany, and how it succeeds there I do not certainly know but can easily conjecture. It is amazing that people should still pursue a system so evidently futile and absurd. I

sincerely wish the *limitation* may be *limited* to the City of Albany. I possibly am in the opposite extreme and so far from reducing prices agreeable to this plan, I think the Embargo Act ought immediately to be repealed and our farmers indulged with an opportunity of carrying their produce to the highest market. We have already by embargos and other restrictions sacrificed too much to the Common Cause; it is time we should observe a different policy, and place our subjects upon equality with those of other States. Taxation is the only *honest* and rational remedy for the depreciation of the Currency, but I fear it will be too slow in its operation to answer the present purpose and recourse must be had to other expedients. An internal *compulsory* loan appears the most eligible; and I would therefore propose that Estates to a certain Amount should be obliged to advance a certain Sum on loan to the public. Our separate effort will avail little, but I believe if a plan of this kind was recommended by Congress and adopted by all the States very considerable sums might be raised. I could wish to be favored with your sentiments before the Legislature meets. It does not appear to me improper to take this method for cancelling our own emissions. Inclosed you have a list of the members chosen at the last Election in those instances where I have been able to procure the Names.

I congratulate you upon the Commencement of the third year of our Independence. We have at last secured a *possession* which among the lawyers is esteemed a Considerable point gained. My best respects to Mess's Duane and Morris. I am most sincerely yours

N. B. Holt in his last paper published the resolutions moved for by our delegates. We are at a loss to know where he obtained a Copy.—From writings of John Jay.

From Philadelphia, August 27, 1779, John Jay wrote to Governor Clinton:

If New York and New Hampshire, by acts of their respective Legislatures, will authorize Congress to settle the line between them, and if New York will further, by act of their Legislature, empower Congress to adjust the disputes with the people of the Grants on equitable and liberal principles, I am well persuaded it will conduce to the interest and happiness of the State. The apprehension of interfering with your police, on the one hand, and the apparent equity as well as policy of hearing the revolted before a decision against them, on the other, are obstacles which at present embarrass Congress.

Mr. Duane was of opinion before he left us that we should forbear further proceedings on the subject in Congress till the sense of our Legislature should be known. I hope it will be one of their first objects, and that they will not be too nice and critical in their reservations and restrictions. The jurisdiction is the great point; it is of no great consequence to the State, who possess and cultivate the soil, especially as we have vacant lands enough to do justice to individuals who may suffer by a decision against them.

There are many other matters about which I should write to you were it necessary; as Mr. Morris and Mr. Duane will be with you, you will obtain more particular information from them than from my letters.

I wish the Legislature would make it a standing rule to direct the attendance of some of their delegates at every session and enter into free conference with them on the great affairs of the Continent. Many advantages, not necessary to enumerate, would result from such a measure. In times like the present

it would be imprudent to trust some things to letters which at best cannot be so satisfactory as personal interviews.

Several circumstances which have come to my knowledge lead me to suspect that pains have been taken to injure Mr. Morris in the opinion of his constituents. Justice to him, as well as regard to truth, obliges me to say that he deserves well of New York, and America in general. It has been the uniform policy of some, from the beginning of the contest, to depreciate every man of worth and abilities who refused to draw in their harness. Pennsylvania suffers severely from it at this day; many of their former faithful servants have been dismissed, and others called to office who rather receive importance from, than give weight to, the places they fill. The moment any State ceases to be ably as well as honestly represented in Congress it becomes a cypher, and its vote will no longer be directed by the interest and sentiments of the State and Union, but by the art and management of designing and plausible politicians.

I think it my duty also, upon this occasion, to assure you that Mr. Duane's industry and attention to business, and his invariable attachment to the welfare of those who sent him, deserve their commendation. Colonel Floyd's conduct while here gained him much respect; he moved on steady, uniform principles, and appeared always to judge for himself, which, in my opinion, is one very essential qualification in a delegate, and absolutely necessary to prevent his being a mere tool.

I have prevailed upon myself to make these representations, because I think them just and because I cannot suppose they will be ascribed to improper motives by any—by you I know they will not. Popularity is not among the number of my objects; a seat in Congress I do not desire, and as ambition has in

no instance drawn me into public life, I am sure it will never influence me to continue in it. Were I to consult my interest I should settle here and make a fortune; were I guided by inclination I should now be attending to a family who, independent of other misfortunes, have suffered severely in the present contest.

It is of great importance that your delegation here do not remain long in its present situation. Whatever men you may think proper to send, let me again and again press you to send able ones. The reputation of the State is exceeding high, and it would be mortifying to see it diminish.

Permit me also to suggest to you the propriety of adopting the plan by which Massachusetts provides for the maintenance of their delegates. They have a house, and keep a table at the expense of the State, besides which an allowance is made them for the maintenance of their families, who ought not to suffer by the loss of that time which is devoted to public service. Your delegates, on the contrary, are not allowed sufficient to maintain, or rather to subsist, themselves. I have heard of two or three gentlemen proposed in your State for delegates—the Chancellor, General Schuyler, and General Scott. There is another, of whom I have heard no mention, Mr. Hobart, who, if he could be spared, would, I think, be a good member; during the winter he might remain here without great inconvenience to you.

John Jay.

[No. 2429.]

Massachusetts Asks for Flour That Was Seized by New York.
State of Massachusetts Bay.

Council Chamber Boston July 6th 1779.

Sir, A Letter from Mr. William Moore directed to the Board of War of this State has been communicated to the Council informing that three Teams of Flour, which he had purchased by Order of the Board of War for the use of this Government, as the Board of War inform us by your Permission, had been seized & was held for Tryal before Justice Stormes of the Town of Hopewell in Dutchess County in your State on the Twelfth inst. I am directed by the Council to desire your Excellency's Interposition in this affair & that you will give Orders that the three Teams loaded with Flour before mentioned may be permitted to pass on to this State, as we stand in great need of it at present, provided it shall be made to appear by Mr. Moore or by the Board of War of this State that the Flour was purchased for the use of this State & within the Quantity permitted. In the Name & behalf of the Council I am, Your Excellency's Most Obed't Hble. Serv't

Jer. Powell, Presid.

His Excell'y Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 2430.]

Colonel Hay Relative to Quartermaster Supplies, and a Guard for the Beacon—Governor Clinton's Reply.

Fish Kill 6th July 1779.

Sir, The want of Cash has prevented me from supplying Mr. Chanderett with all the Horses necessary for Colo. Pawling's Detachment, must therefore request your Excellency will grant an impress warrant by which the deficiency I suppose about thirty may be made up. I fancy the impress warrant will give

Mr. Chandlerett an opportunity of purchasing, which on several accounts I think is preferable. I have sent him an Assurance in writing to be shown the inhabitants that his certificate shall be regularly paid by me.

Mr. Trumbull his Clerk will probably be the bearer of this, from whom you can gett more particular information with respect to the forwardness they are in for marching.

Who is to furnish a guard for the Beacon to be erected on the mountain near this? If from the militia, lett me request they may be sent immediately; if not please lett me know, that I may make the proper application to head Qrs. I am wth due respect, your Excellencies most obed. & very humble Ser^t,

Edw. Hay.

Governour Clinton.

July 8th 1779.

Dr Sir, I have rec'd your Letter of the 6th and send Directions to Colo. Pawling where to apply for a warr't to impress the number of Horses which may be required for the Service of his Command in Case they cannot be procured by Purchase on Credit.

I expected from what pass'd between me & his Ex^{cy} Genl. Washington,* that the Guard at the Beacon was to have been furnished from those of the Cont^l Troops as were unfit for more active Service—this I conceive may be done without any Inconveniency, as a very small Guard will answer the purpose & they will be more vigilant than militia. I am &c.

Geo. Clinton.

Colo. Hay.

*On July 2, 1779, Washington had written to General McDougall: "As it is the anniversary of our independence to proclaim a general pardon to all the prisoners not under sentence of death in the army."

On the fourth of July, the Commander-in-Chief wrote to McDougall: "To day being the anniversary of independence, you will be pleas'd to have it taken notice of by discharging thirteen pieces of cannon at one o'clock. I wish we had it in our power to distribute a portion of rum to the soldiers, to exhilarate their spirits on this occasion, but unfortunately our stock is too scanty to permit."

[No. 6425.]*

JAMES CLINTON REPORTS PROGRESS.

Summary Fate of Lieutenant Hare and Sergeant Newberry Who Were Treated as Spies.

Camp at the South End of Otsego Lake, July 6th 1779.

I Left Conojoharie the 1st of July and am now at this place with all the Regiments and Stores for the Expedition, and only wait for orders to march; we have 208 Bateauxs in the Lake and a great quantity of Provisions and other Stores and although the Distance of the Carrying place was at Least twenty miles and the Road Exceeding bad, we got all over with Expedition and not a Single Accident.

My Dear, I hope you have Received the things I Sent you by Capt. Wendle with the Treasury Notes mentioned in a former Letter left in the Care of Capt. Gregg who is now here.

My Detachment will Consist of about 2000 men, Including Officers Voluntiers and twenty five Indians who are all healthy and in high spirits.

I have nothing further to acquaint you of. Except that we apprehended a Certain Lt. Henry Hare and a Serjt. Newberry, both of Coll. Butler's Regt., who Confesed that they left the Seneca Country with Sixty three Indians and two white men, which Divided themselves in three parties, one party was to attack Schoharry. another party Cherry Valley and the Mohawk River, and the ether party to Sculk about Fort Schuyler and the upper part of the Mohawk River to take prisoners or Sculps. I had them tryed by a Genl. Court Martial for spies, who Sentenced them both to be hauged, which was Done accordingly at Conojoharie. to the Satisfaction of all the Inhabitants of that place that

*From Volume XXIV, Clinton papers.

were friends to their Country, as they were known to be very active in almost all the Murders that were Committed on these Frontiers; they were Inhabitants of Tryon County and had Each a wife and several Children who Came to See them and beg their Lives.

[James Clinton.]*

[To Mrs. James Clinton.]

*"I have now at this place two hundred and eight boats, with all the stores, provision, and baggage of the army; so that I am now in the most perfect readiness to move down the Susquehanna whenever I receive General Sullivan's orders. I have thrown a dam across the outlet, which I conceive to be of infinite importance, as it has raised the Lake at least two feet, by which the boats may be taken down with less danger than otherwise; although from the intricate winding of the channel I expect to meet some difficulties on the way."—James Clinton to George Clinton, July 6th, 1779; from the Writings of Washington.

From headquarters under date of May 31, 1779, Washington had issued the following instructions to Sullivan:

The expedition you are appointed to command is to be directed against the hostile tribes of the Six Nations of Indians, with their associates and adherents. The immediate objects are the total destruction and devastation of their settlements, and the capture of as many prisoners of every age and sex as possible. It will be essential to ruin their crops now in the ground & prevent their planting more.—The troops to be employed under your command are Clinton's, Maxwell's, Poor's, and Hand's brigades, and Independent Companies raised in the State of Pennsylvania. In Hand's brigade I comprehend all the detached corps of Continental troops now on the Susquehanna, and Spencer's regiment. Cortlandt's I consider as belonging to Clinton's brigade; Alden's may go to Poor's, & Butler's & the rifle corps to Maxwell's or Hand's.

Clinton's brigade, you are informed, has been ordered to rendezvous at Canajoharie, subject to your orders, either to form a junction with the main body on the Susquehanna, by the way of Otsego, or to proceed up the Mohawk River and cooperate in the best manner circumstances will permit, as you judge most advisable. So soon as your preparations are in sufficient forwardness, you will assemble your main body at Wyoming, and proceed thence to Tioga, taking from that place the most direct and practicable route into the heart of The Indian Settlements. You will establish such intermediate posts, as you think necessary for the security of your communication and convoys; nor need I caution you, while you leave a sufficiency of men for their defence, to take care to diminish your operating force as little as possible. A post at Tioga will be particularly necessary, either a stockade fort, or an intrenched camp; if the latter, a block-house should be erected in the interior. I would recomd. that some post in the center of the Indian Country, should be occupied with all expedition, with a sufficient quantity of provisions; whence parties should be detached to lay waste all the settlements around, with instructions to do it in the most effectual manner, that the country may not be merely *overrun*, but *destroyed*.

I need not urge the necessity of using every method in your power to gain intelligence of the enemy's strength, motions, and designs; nor need I suggest the extraordinary degree of vigilance and caution which will be necessary to guard against surprises from an adversary so secret, desultory, and rapid as the Indians.

If a detachment operate on the Mohock River, the commanding officer should be instructed to be very watchful that no troops come from Oswegatchie and Niagara to Oswego without his knowledge: and for this purpose he should keep trusty spies at those three places to advertise him instantly of the movement of any party and its force. This detachment should also endeavor to keep up a constant intercourse with the main body.

I beg leave to suggest, as general rules that ought to govern your operations, to make rather than receive attacks, attended with as much impetuosity, shouting, and noise, as possible; and to make the troops act in as loose and dispersed a way as is

[No. 2431.]

The Massachusetts Board of War Asks for the Release of the Flour Seized in Dutchess County.

War Office Boston 7 July 1779.

Sir: We have received a Letter from Mr. William More of Southwick, in this State giving us an acc't, that three of his Teams Loaded with Flour for public use, are stoped in your State, and that a Tryal is to be had, thereon before Justice Stormes of Hopewell on the 12th of this Instant July. The Com-

consistent with a proper degree of government, concert, and mutual support. It should be previously impressed upon the minds of the men, whenever they have an opportunity, to rush on with the war-whoop and fixed bayonet. Nothing will disconcert and terrify the Indians more than this.

More than common care will be necessary of your arms and ammunition from the nature of the service—They should be particularly inspected after a rain or the passage of any deep water.

After you have very thoroughly completed the destruction of their settlements, if the Indians should show a disposition for peace, I would have you encourage it, on condition that they will give some decisive evidence of their sincerity, by delivering up some of the principal instigators of their past hostility into our hands: Butler, Brant, the most mischievous of the Tories, that have joined them, or any others they may have in their power, that we are interested to get into ours. They may possibly be engaged, by address, secrecy, and stratagem, to surprise the garrison of Niagara, and the shipping on the Lakes, and put them into our possession. This may be demanded, as a condition of our friendship, and would be a most important point gained. If they can render a service of this kind, you may stipulate to assist them in their distress with supplies of provisions and other articles of which they will stand in need; having regard, in the expectations you give them, to our real abilities to perform. I have no power at present to authorize you to conclude a treaty of peace with them, but you may agree upon the terms of one, letting them know that it must be finally ratified by Congress, and giving them every proper assurance that it will. I shall write to Congress on the subject and endeavor to obtain more ample and definitive authority.

When we have effectually chastised them, we may then listen to peace, and endeavor to draw further advantages from their fears. But, even in this case, great caution will be necessary to guard against the snares, which their treachery may hold out. They must be explicit in their promises, give substantial pledges for their performance, and execute their engagements with decision and despatch. Hostages are the only kind of security to be depended on. Should Niagara fall into your hands in the manner I have mentioned—you will do every thing in your power for preserving and maintaining it, by establishing a chain of posts, in such manner as shall appear to you most safe and effectual and tending as little to reduce our general force as possible—This however we shall be better able to decide as the future events of the campaign unfold themselves—I shall be more explicit on the subject hereafter.—When you have completed the objects of your expedition, unless otherwise directed in the mean time, you will return to form a junction with the main army, by the most convenient, expeditious, and secure route, according to circumstances. The route by the Mohawk River, if it can be pursued without too great a risk, will perhaps be most eligible on several accounts. Much should depend on the relative position of the main army at the time. As it is impossible to foresee what may be the exigencies of the service in this quarter, this united with other important reasons makes it essential that your operations should be as rapid and that the expedition should be performed in as little time as will be consistent with its success and efficacy.

mittee appointed by this Government to apply to the Southern States for a Supply of Grain, reported to the Genl. Court upon their return that they had obtained permission to purchase 1000 Barrels in the State of New York, 500 Bbls. of which to be purchased by agents of the Town of Boston and the remainder by Persons employed by the Board of War. Col. Brown & Mr. More have been employed by this Board to purchase the quantity appropriated to us for the Supply of the public magazines, and we think we can so far rely upon their honor, that they would not by any means exceed the Quantity allowed them. We must, therefore, request your Excellency's interposition in this matter, and if it appears that Mr. More has exceeded the quantity permitted, he must abide the consequence, but if he has not, we are led to suppose that your Excellency, who is well acquainted with the Engagements made by your Government to ours in this affair, will take such measures that the Flour & Teams may be released. We have the honor to be very respectfully Your Excellency's Most obedient, and very humble Servants.

By order of ye Board

Sam. Phps Savage, Pre't.

His Excellency, Governor Clinton.

[No. 2432.]

Colonel Peter Van Vess's Certificate as to Money Collected of the Officers and Exempts of His Regiment.

An account of money Collected by way of assessment from the Officers and Exempts belonging to the Regiment under my Command and to be Distributed and divided among the Drafts to be furnished from said Regiment, pursuant to General orders dated at Poughkeepsie, April 13th 1779, as also an account of the Disposal of said money &c. &c.

1779

May 9	Rec'd from Capt. Corn's Hogeboom	664 Dollars	£265 12 0
	Capt. Abner Hawley	1043 Do	417 4 0
	Capt. Jonah Graves	612 Do	244 16 0
	Capt. Bart'w Barrit	610 Do	244 0 0
	Capt. Joseph Heath	645 Do	258 0 0
	Capt. Joshua Whitney	970 Do	388 0 0
			£1817 12 0
Do	Cash paid to 23 Drafts £60.0 Each	£1380	0 0
	Do Remaining for 6 Do in my hands £60		
	Each	360	0 0
Do	paid to the Sergeants of 4 Companies		
	for Collecting said money £8 Each	32	0 0
Do	paid to Sergeants of 2 Companies for		
	Collecting said money £6.8.0 Each	12	16 0
Do	paid to Lieut. Eleazer Spencer for		
	taking Charge of 15 of said Drafts		
	marching them to Albany to Muster	12	0 0
Do	paid David Bagley one of said Drafts		
	in addition to his £60.0 because he re-		
	ceived nothing from the Class from		
	which he was Drafted	8	0 0
Do	paid Samuel Wright one of said		
	Drafts his Expence going to Albany	2	16 0
Do	paid Richard Vawn for Expence to		
	bring a Draft up to Albany	2	0 0
Do	paid Lieut. Caleb Clark for bringing		
	to Albany Wil'm Murrel a Draft		
	from my Regiment who had deserted	8	0 0
			£1817 12 0

I Do hereby Certify that the within is a True account of the Money collected from the Officers and Exempts of the several Companies in the Regiment under my Command as p Returns made to me by the Commanding Officers of each respective Company, as also of the disposal of the same by me.

Peter Van Ness.

Claverack, July 7th 1779.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 2433.]

A Complicated Financial Transaction.

Albany July 7 1779.

Dear Sir, Inclosed I forward you an order on Col: Stephen Lush for Two Thousand Two Hundred & fifty pounds. It would be Easier to you to get it than I can, indeed, when I lent him the money he told me he would Chuse to pay it you, Please to Signify the rec't of the order & the Payment as soon as the Busyness is transacted. I am with Esteem Your most Obedt.

Jacob Cuyler.

To Mr. C. Elmendorph.

July 25th 1779. His Excellency Gov'r Clinton wrote a Letter to the Treasurer request'g him to pay the with [in] Sum of £2250 to the within mentioned Mr. Elmendorph.

Robt. Benson.

[No. 2434.]

Captain Hallett Ordered to Take Command of the Levies Detailed for the Defence of Westchester County.

Poughkeepsie 8th July 1779

Sir, You will proceed to Colo. Ludington's & take Command of the Levies raised from his Regt. & march them into West

Chester County for the Defence of the Inhabitants ag't the Incursions of the Enemy. The Detachment ordered from Colo. Field's Regt. is also to be under your Command. You will make regular Returns to Lieut. Colo. Pawling or to the Commanding Officer of his Regt., of which the Levies under your Command are part & with whom you are to draw your pay &c. I am &c.

[G. C.]

To Capt. Jonah Hallet.

[No. 2435.]*

Judges' report to Governor Clinton of the capital conviction and sentence, at the late Oyer and Terminer in Ulster County, of Jos. Brown, Wm. McCrany and Jonah Wood—with the papers relating to the pardon of Brown and McCrany.

[No. 2436.]

Colonel Ludinton Dismisses His Regiment and Praises His Command Highly.

Honoured Sir, I Embrace this oportunity of acquainting you, that according to Colo. Swartwont's orders to me of yesterday, I thought Proper to discharge my Regt. who I must beg leave to acquaint you, have acted with the greatest Spirit Since they have been hear, and have gon home with a full determination to turn out at a minute's warning. In my last I wrote you to know the mode adopted for Punishing those who have not turned out according to their being Warnd, for I am hiley sencible that if they ar not brought to a severar Punishment, it will give offence to those Who have dun their Dutey. I must allso Return your Excellency thanks for Recommending to me Mr.

*Omitted.

McClemmen, who has truly answered the Carrector I have had of him, as I have Exsperienced his services in Spiriting the Militia in their Parts and my Regt. in Particular. I Remain in the mean time, with Respect, your Excellency's most obedient Humble Serv't

Henry Ludinton.

Fred'k Burgh, July 11 1779.

To Governor Clinton.

[No. 2437.]

*General Sullivan to James Clinton.**

[No. 2438.]

Governor Clinton Places Conditions on the Exchange of Mrs. MacDonell.

Head Quarters New Windsor July 12th 1779.

Sir: I am now to address your Excellency in behalf of Mrs. McDonell wife of Capt. McDonell of the Royal Highland Emigrants, who I am informed resides at Schenectady. I am induced to perform this act of Friendship, both from the truly necessitous situation of the Party concerned, and from the obligation I am in some measure under to the Enemy for similar indulgencies granted (at my particular solicitation) to several of the officers' wives who are now in Captivity. I would not wish to give your Excellency trouble by urging her relief or appar importunate in a request which you might conceive as wholly improper or at least untimely, but was led to make this application from a Letter just now received from Mr. Wm. Gilliland informing me, your Excellency would consent to Mrs. McDonell's going in with

*Transferred to document 2446.

her Family & Effects, provided a proper and adequate Exchange could be made for her. As I set out immediately for Elizabeth Town to meet the British Commissary of Prisoners, I presumed it would not be an improper season to discuss and adjust this matter, proposing to him in Exchange for Mrs. McDonell any Lady in their Lines your Excellency would choose to be liberated in her Room.

I flatter myself I shall be able to effect this Exchange as the Enemy appear anxious for her return. A Letter directed for me at Head Quars. will come safely to hand. I am with the greatest respect & Esteem Your Excellency's 'mo. obt. & very Hble. serv't

Jno. Beatty.

His Excellency, Gov'r Clinton.

Poughkeepsie 13th July 1779.

Dear Sir, I am honored with your Letter of yesterday respecting Mrs. McDonnel. It woud give me Pleasure to comply with your Request in her Favour & without even insisting upon an Exchange I should have most cheerfully granted her Permission to go in to New York with her Familly & Effects had not the Enemy by their Late cruel and unmanly attack on the Women & Children of Cherry Valley, many of whom are their Prisoners, made it my indispsible Duty to detain Mrs. McDonnel & others, whose Friends are in the Enemy's Service until ours are liberated; and the more especially as Mr. Butler last Spring made overtures for an Exchange of this Kind to Genl. James Clinton commanding the Northern Departm't. I will readily consent to the Exchange of Mrs. McDonald & Familly for the Wife & Children of Colo. Campbell taken by the Enemy at Cherry Valley

& the moment they are liberated Mrs. McDonald shall be permitted to pass to New York.

[G. C.]

[To Col. John Beatty.]

[No. 2439.]

Steuben Sends a Copy of His Regulations to Governor Clinton.

New Windsor, July 12th 1779.

Sir, Before I left Philadelphia to come to the army, I had the honor to write to your Excellency a Letter* which I intended should have been sent together with a Copy of the Regulations. The Board of War took upon themselves the transmitting of both, and I have learnt since that the Letter hath been sent alone. I am extremely sorry for this mistake, and I cannot repair it otherwise than by sending you with this, a Copy of the Regulations, & referring for the rest to my former Letter.

As the Printing, Engraving & Binding of the Books were not under my Direction, I beg you will not ascribe it to me, if the whole is so ill executed. I have the honor to be, with great respect, Sir, Your most obedient and very humble servant,

Steuben, Maj. Genl.

His Excellency G. Clinton Esq. Governor of New York.

GOVERNOR CLINTON'S ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

Pokeepsie July 20th 1779.

Sir, I have had the Honor of receiving your Letters of the 20th April & 12th Inst., the latter accompanied with the Regulations lately publish'd for the use of our army. Relying more on the abilities & military Experience of the author than my own Capac-

*See Volume IV, pages 738-39.

ity to form a proper Judgment of a work of this nature, I cannot doubt that the Introduction of them in the militia of this State will be of singular advantage. I shall, therefore, take the earliest opportunity of communicat'g them to the Legislature. This State is peculiarly unhappy in being the constant seat of war, where tho' the Service of the militia is of the most Importance, yet the frequent Interruptions they meet from alarms, leave them little Leizure after the necessary attention to Husbandry, to improve in military Discipline. I have the Honor to be with the highest Respect & Esteem Sir Your most obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

The Hon'ble Major Genl. Baron Steuben.

[No. 2440.]

VERMONT'S CLAIM TO STATEHOOD.

Ira Allen Presents Her Case in a Clear and Exhaustive Address.

To the Inhabitants of the State of Vermont.

Friends and Fellow Citizens,

Pursuant to Appointment by the Legislature, and Instructions from the Governor and Council of this State, I waited on the General Court of New-Hampshire, at their Sessions in June last, and delivered the public Writings intrusted me by the Governor of this State, to the President, which were read in Council, and sent to the House for their Inspection. The House, after reading and considering the same, resolved into a Committee, to take into Consideration the whole Matter respecting Vermont, which was concurred in by the Hon. Board; and Thursday, the 24th of June, the Committee met in the Assembly Chamber, and the Resolves of Congress of the 1st and 2d of June, respecting the

Premises, and several other Papers were read; among which was the Appointment of Col. Peter Olcott, and Bezaⁿ Woodward, Esq; empowering them as a Committee from the Committee of the Cornish Convention, to use their Influence with the General Court of New-Hampshire, to extend their Claim and Jurisdiction over the whole of the New-Hampshire Grants. A Question was put to said Committee, by a member of the House, How many Towns were represented in said Cornish Convention, on the West Side of Connecticut-River? Answer, About twenty-two in the Whole, and about Half of them West of said River. Said Committee then proceeded to exhibit the Returns made on a Hand-Bill, formed by the Committee of the Cornish Convention, on the 23d of April last, and sent to the several Towns in this State, for the express Purpose of getting the Numbers of the Inhabitants that were willing New-Hampshire should extend their Claim and Jurisdiction over the whole of the Grants—their Returns were sixty-five Persons.. They also alledged, that they had mislaid or lost the Returns from one Town, in which there were one hundred and twenty Families, and but four Persons acted in Opposition to connecting with New-Hampshire; that the Reason why more Persons had not acted on said Hand Bill, was, that they had not circulated thro' the Grants, by Reason of their falling into the Hands of the New Statesmen, who secreted or burnt them:—that for eighty Miles up and down Connecticut-River, there were but two Members attended the Assembly of Vermont:—that so far as they had been able to collect the Sentiments of the People, they were very generally on the east Side of the Green Mountain, and a Number on the west Side said Mountain, for connecting with New-Hampshire: then refering to the Members of the House who lived (?) contiguous to Connecti-

cut-River, to inform what they knew respecting the Matter; Judge Marsh then arose, and with a Degree of Warmth asserted, that to his certain Knowledge, two-thirds of the Inhabitants of the Grants west of the River, would hold up both Hands to connect with New-Hampshire. A few more of the Members of the House, in Conversation with the other Members, had endeavored to insinuate Tenets nearly similar. I then proceeded to make my Defence: in which I observed, that it was strange those Gentlemen were at a Loss to determine how many Towns were represented in the Cornish Convention, as one was the Clerk, and both Members of the same:—that there were but eight Towns west of the River, represented in said Convention:—that the Town said Committee had reference to, as having one hundred and twenty Families, was the Town of Norwich, in which Col. Olcott lived:—that I was informed by several respectable Gentlemen of that Vicinity, that all due Pains were taken to convene the legal Voters on Town-Meeting Day; some refused to attend, as they would not act against the State of Vermont; others were tired of Town-Meetings, and neglected to attend; in all, thirty-one Persons met, twenty-seven for New-Hampshire, and four for Vermont:—that I had as good, if not a better Right, to count those who did not attend the Meeting for Vermont, as they for New-Hampshire:—that said Hand-Bills had been sent into the County of Bennington, in several Places; and that the People there did not take so much Notice of them, as to secrete or burn them:—that I was knowing to said Hand-Bills circulating thro' a very considerable Part of Cumberland County:—that in several Towns where they had Town-Meetings on other Business, said Hand-Bills were read, and the Towns unanimously voted to have nothing to do with them: in other Towns the Select-Men said they

knew nothing of "F. Marsh, Chairman;" and if they called a Town-Meeting at his Request, by the same Rule they might have a Town-Meeting every Day, if any Gentleman desired it; therefore they would have nothing to do with it: that by this open and public Trial, they had proved that Gen. Bailey, at least, was mistaken when he asserted in his Petition (preferred to the General Assembly of New-Hampshire, at their Sessions in March last) that the Inhabitants of the Grants were in general, desirous of an Union with New-Hampshire:—that the eighty Miles mentioned by said Committee, where there were but two Members attended the Assembly of Vermont, was true; but Part of that Distance was Woods, consequently no Member could from thence attend; and some of the other Part was thinly settled, and several Towns joined to chuse one Member; but in that Distance, and for more than eighty Miles more down the River, thro' a settled Country, there were but four Towns on the River where they had got so much as one Man to act in favor of connecting with New Hampshire; and not so much as one-fourth Part of the legal Voters in those four Towns—a very small Minority indeed in Favor of connecting with New-Hampshire.

I then proceeded to treat largely on the fundamental Arguments, viz. the Change of Jurisdiction in 1771—the Proclamation issued by his Excellency Benning Wentworth, Esq; dated about Feb. 1765—the Heads of the Grievances the Inhabitants of Vermont have suffered from New-York, since 1761, in the present Æra—Expence in sending Agents to Great Britain—New Hampshire refusing to exert herself to recover her Jurisdiction, although often requested by the Inhabitants of the Grants, when they were put to the greatest Extremity by New-York—the Right the People had to assume Government since the present Revolu-

tion—Constitution and Code of Laws established—Officers of Government, together with the Freemen of the State, sworn to support the Constitution thereof, as established by Convention—Letters from the General Court of the State of New Hampshire, in November last, giving their full Approbation to the State of Vermont's being established by Congress as such, provided the People there, as a political Body, would dissolve all Connections with sixteen Towns east of Connecticut-River, which they alledged to be a Part of New-Hampshire:—that every Engagement on the Part of Vermont to New-Hampshire, was fulfilled:—that it was one Thing for said State to lay a jurisdictional Claim to the Territory of Vermont, and another to exercise Jurisdiction.—

The Committee of both Houses dissolved, and the House resumed the Subject, and voted to lay Claim to the Jurisdiction of the Whole of the New-Hampshire Grants, to the Westward of Connecticut River; nevertheless, allowing and conceding, that if the Hon. Continental Congress should establish the State of Vermont, that in such Case the State of New-Hampshire will acquiesce therein; and that said State should not extend Jurisdiction farther West than the West Bank of Connecticut-River, till otherwise directed by Congress.—Concurr'd by the Hon. Board.—The General Court then chose a Committee to wait on the Committee of Congress, supposing they would come to the County of Grafton.

Although this Proceedure of the Court of New-Hampshire doth not appear to be to the Disadvantage of Vermont, but rather as a Bar against New-York; yet I must not omit to observe, that there are a Number of the Members of that Court, who would be exceeding glad to have the Territory of Vermont added to New-Hampshire. Their principal Motives to me appear to be these,

viz: that the Addition of the Territory of Vermont to that State, would most certainly bring the Seat of Government into another Neighbourhood; but a greater Inducement is the unappropriated and Tory Lands within this State, which, if added to New-Hampshire, would help them in the heavy Lift of Paying Taxes. If said Lands are a sufficient Motive for some Part of the General Court of New-Hampshire to wish to enlarge their Government for a Share in them, surely it would not be for the Interest of the Inhabitants of this State, to take in so many Partners on that Footing, but to the Interest of each Individual to oppose such an ungenerous Extention of New-Hampshire; and warrantable for the following Reasons:

The State of Vermont is at this Time formidable against its old Adversary, New-York, and has little or nothing to fear from her Power in Arms or Influence at Congress.—In former Days, when under British Administration, for any Sett of Men to rise and oppose the Authority, was thought a most daring Thing: People in general were under a strong traditional Bias in favor of Government, and but few, how much soever they might be oppressed, had that Fortitude and Patriotism that they dare appear in Arms to defend their just Rights, in Opposition to the undue Exercise of Law, when attempted to be exercised by legal Officers of Justice; and when they did, seldom failed of losing some of their Lives, and being vanquished by their Adversaries witness Nobletown, Livingston's-Manor, Bateman's-Patent, &c. In those Days the Green-Mountain-Boys were put to the sad Alternative of rising in Arms, and opposing the legislative and executive Authority of New-York, or of giving up their Lands and Possessions to the Land-jobbers of said Province. Then the Green-Mountain-Boys were few in Number, settled in a Wilderness

Country, generally poor, but little more than the Heavens to protect them and their Families from the Inclemency of the Weather, the Justice of their Cause not publicly known—a rich, powerful and intriguing Province to contend with, who did not fail to send their Emissaries amongst them, in order to make Divisions, by Commissions, and every other Way in their Power. In short, no Kind of Bribery or Corruption was too mean for them to be guilty of. Then were the Lives, Liberties and Properties of the People at Stake. In this Situation, a few small Companies of Green-Mountain-Boys, (stimulated by the same patriotic Spirit of Freedom which has since shined with a superior Lustre from one End of this Continent to the other) baffled all the diabolical Machinations of their inveterate Adversaries, for more than seven Years together. Can this be accounted for, without acknowledging the propitious Agency of the Deity?—In those Days, repeated Applications were made to New-Hampshire, to exert herself to obtain the Jurisdiction again; but her Language was then nearly similar to that of righteous Job; for it was the King gave, and the King had taken away, and blessed be the Name of the King: From that Day to this, said State hath not exerted herself to obtain Jurisdiction again.

It was by Virtue of a royal Edict, that New-Hampshire ever had a Right of Jurisdiction to the Westward of Connecticut-River, and by the same Authority, in 1764, the Jurisdiction was curtailed to the west Bank of said River; and the Assembly of said Province did then acquiesce therein. The Members thereof did publicly assert, that they had no Desire that their Province should extend any farther than said River; and that they would not do any Thing to obtain Jurisdiction over a Territory they did not want.—Had the People then

submitted to the Jurisdiction of New York, and since the present Revolution associated with them, and assisted in forming a Constitution, established Courts, &c. the Inhabitants would now have been effectually bound down to the Jurisdiction of said State; and it would have been now as much out of the Power of New-Hampshire to extend their Jurisdiction to their antient western Limits, as for the Massachusetts-Bay now to extend their Jurisdiction to their antient northern Limits, which I believe none are now so hardy as to think of.

By what has been already elucidated, it appears that the Inhabitants of the Grants, by their own Exertions, have saved themselves from the heavy Yoke of Bondage which New York had prepared for them and their Posterity; and that the Right of New-Hampshire (so late in the Day) to the Territory of Vermont, must be very inconsiderable: And now, for a few of the Members of that General Court, with the Assistance of a few Individuals to the East and West of Connecticut River (for sinister Views) to think of breaking up the State of Vermont, and connecting the Territory thereof again to New-Hampshire, is an idle Whim, a mere Chimera.—It is well known, that by Reason of Oppressions from Great Britain, America revolted from her, and published to the World a List of Grievances for the Vindication of her Conduct.—In like Manner the Inhabitants of the now State of Vermont, published a List of Grievances received from New-York, which to me appear as numerous and aggravating as those this Continent has against Great-Britain.

All governmental Power was given by God himself to the People; therefore, the Inhabitants of the now State of Vermont did associate together, and assume to themselves that inestimable Blessing of Heaven, civil Government. This they did upon

the same grand original Basis, or great Rule of eternal Right, that a Number of the present Powers of Europe revolted from the several Kingdoms to which they paid Allegiance, and on which the United States of America revolted from Great-Britain, and assumed to themselves civil Government. The Inhabitants of Vermont, for more than ten Years last past, have nobly exerted themselves for the Defence of their Liberties and Property, and in the present Revolution did most heartily join their Brethren for the joint Defence of the Liberties and Property of the Americans in general, and have distinguished themselves to the World, as a truly brave and enterprising People; and it is conceded to by the United States, that they have done their full Proportion in this War, consequently they are intitled to equal Privileges with the Rest of their Brethren in America.

They have not delegated their natural Right of Legislation out of their own Hands.—Their Numbers and Territory are sufficient for a State: and they have now as good a Right to govern their own internal Police, as any one of the United States have theirs. By their noble Exertions in the Cause of Liberty, they have acquired the Esteem and Confidence of the United States—merited a Right to the Articles of Confederacy, and a Seat in the Grand Council of America. These precious Privileges, I conceive, will be the ultimate Reward of their many expensive Toils, Battles and Hazards, and for the Attainment of which they have suffered such an uncommon share of concomitant Evils.—And, as I have Reason to apprehend, the Grand Council of America is composed of as great Patriots as any on Earth, doubt not, but in due Time they will grant us our reasonable Request:—Indeed it is for the Interest of the United States to do it, as soon as the Circumstances of the Continent will admit;

therefore, we need not hurry them.—It is an ancient maxim, that Representation and Taxation should go together; and until this State is represented in Congress, no Continental Tax can justly be laid on it.

Is it not strange that any of the Inhabitants of this State, who have perused the Constitution and Laws, and duly considered the Advantages that would accrue to each Individual by being and remaining a distinct State, would be willing to give up those Privileges, and connect with any other State? Surely the Constitution is upon the most liberal Foundation—the Laws are well calculated to preserve inviolate the Liberties and Property of each Individual—the Act of Oblivion settles past Controversies, and puts those who made the Laws and those who opposed them on one Footing, each having a Right to the Protection of the same; and as one common Interest runs thro' the Whole, hope that past Animosities will be forgotten, and all join Hand in Hand to support their common Rights and Interests.

The Circumstances of this State, in some Respects, is different from every other State on the Continent;—it is not in Debt—I have as much Money in my Office, as is due from the State, except what I have taken in upon Loan; to balance which, I have in my Office about as much Money in Continental Loan Office Notes, so that on a Balance, the State is little or none in Debt, excepting what may be supposed to be this State's Proportion of the Continental Debt—(If any Individual in the State is not satisfied with this Stating of Accounts, I invite him to wait on me at my Office, and I will exhibit the public Books of Debt and Credit for the Proof of the Assertion) But there are several valuable Tracts of Land, the Property of this State; how

far those Lands will go towards paying the Continental Debt, do not at this Time take upon me to determine.

Every one of the United States have emitted large sums of Money, some Part of which has been called in, by giving States Loan Office Notes for the same, which are yet due. By this and other Procedures of the several States, they are in Debt. The Inhabitants of the respective States, have received the Benefits of such Debts when they contracted them; but the Inhabitants of this State have received no Benefit from such Debts; and why they should, any of them, wish to connect with any such State, when they know they will be brought in to pay a Part of all such Arrearages, is a Thing almost unaccountable.

As there are four public Rights of Land in each Town in this State—one for the first settled Minister, one for Schools, one for the first settled Church Minister, and one for propagating the Gospel in foreign Parts—I propose for Consideration, whether it would not be advisable for the Assembly to direct each Town to lease out the two latter, and the Avails to be by each Town appropriated for the Support of the Gospel in the same.

Lastly, I proceed to state two Matters that are Facts, which I believe will not be disputed by any; from which I shall ask two Questions.

Fact First. A certain Fraternity of Gentlemen, contiguous to Connecticut River, after the Inhabitants of the Grants west of said River had declared themselves to be a free State, by the Name of Vermont, did assert that said State had a just Right to be a State; and that the Grants east of Connecticut River were unconnected with any State, and had a just Right to join said State.

Question First. Did the Dissolution of the Union (so called) lessen the Right the State of Vermont had to be a State before the said Union took Place?—If it did, in what Manner?

Fact Second. It was also asserted by said Gentlemen, that New Hampshire had no Right, Title or Colour of Jurisdiction to the West of the Mason Line. That the Grants West of the Mason Line, and East of Connecticut River, had a good Right to form themselves into a State, and would do it, if the State of Vermont would not take them into Union. The foregoing Assertions being granted;

Question Second. What Propriety is there now in requesting New-Hampshire to extend their Claim and Jurisdiction over the Territory of Vermont?

I am, Friends and Countrymen, your obedient and ever faithful Servant,

Ira Allen.*

Norwich July 13, 1779.

I beg Leave to subjoin the following Copy of a Letter from the Hon. Committee of Congress, to the Committee of the Yorkers in the lower Part of Cumberland County.†

[No. 2441.]

Zachariah Frigler to Governor Clinton—Petition for Release from Prison.‡

[No. 2442.]

Governor Clinton Places the Responsibility for the Flour Seized Upon the Massachusetts Agent.

Pokepsic July 14th 1779.

Sir, I have to acknowledge the Receipt of your Letter of the 7th [6th] Inst. requesting my Interposition with respect to the

*See Volume IV, pages 396-398.

†See page 97 for the letter alluded to.

‡Omitted.

Seizure of a Quantity of Flour intended to be exported out of this State for the use of your Board of War.

This Flour was seized upon Suspicion that it was intended to be exported out of the State contrary to the Embargo Act which, with the other Laws of this State in pursuance of a special Law for the purpose, I have by this Conveyance transmitted to you for the use of your State. You will readily perceive it is not in my Power to interfere in the matter, or stay the Proceedings, I have notwithstanding, certified to Mr. Storms that the Copy of Colo. Brown's Licence produced to me by Mr. More is genuine. Any farther Interposition would be unjustifiable as it would amount to a Suspension of the Law. If the Flour should be adjudged forfeited, I conceive it must be imputed to improper Conduct on the part of Colo. Brown, who in the affidavit upon which he obtained the Licence swore, that he would not export or cause to be exported, out of this State by Virtue or Colour of the Licence, any greater Quantity of Flour than was therein mentioned, which evidently implied that he would at least immediately superintend the Exportation himself, as he could not possibly otherwise comply with the Terms of the Oath; instead of which he has made Deputations or appointments to others and has by that means, contravened the Design of the Licence & deprived the public of the Security intended by requiring an Oath.

If the Information I have received is true, considerable Quantities of Flour have been illegally conveyed out of the State under Pretence of the Licence to Colo. Brown, and in a particular Instance related to me by Cornelius Humfrey, Esq., of Kinderhook, in the County of Albany, several Barrels purchased by Individuals on their own account were seized and to exempt them from Forfeiture, were afterwards claimed by Colo. Brown and covered by his Licence.

I conceived it my Duty to apprise you of these matters that if any of the Flour should be forfeited, the Loss may be charged, where it ought properly to be, to the misconduct of your agent.

With your Letter I received one from the Board of War upon the same Subject, and as this will suffice for an answer to both, you would oblige me in communicating its Contents to Saml. P. Savage, Esq., the President. I am, with the greatest Respect, your most Obed't Serv't

Geo. Clinton,

The hon'ble Jer: Powel Esqr. Presid't of the Council Massachusetts Bay.

[No. 2443.]

Colonel Hay Desires Information Relative to Van Tassel, a Prisoner.

Fish Kill 15th July 1779.

Dear Sir, I am this morning favoured with a Letter from Colonel Moyland accompanied by four Prisoners, one a British Grenadier, & two who left our Army or were taken Prisoners at Long Island, and have been with the Enemy ever since; the fourth is a very infamous Jacob Vantassell, who Colonel Moyland desir'd I would have conveyed to your Excellency but as I have seen him very safely moor'd and shall take care at Night to have an additional fast upon him, I believe there is no great danger of his making his escape till I learn by the bearer whether you think it best he should remain here till he can be tryed or would chuse to have him conveyed immediately to Poughkeepsie.

I have nothing certain from the eastward, it is reported they have burnt Stanford. I am wth great respect, Your Excellencies most obed't humble Ser't

Edny Hay.

I sincerely wish to see you congratulate your Country woman on the confirmation of the Irish news.

P. S. Be so good as inform if there is a reward and how much for this Vantassel offered by the State; if there is, Colonel Moyland has requested I would receive & transmitt it to his Regiment by whom he was taken.

His Excellency, Governor Clinton.

Poukeepsie 15th July 1779.

Dear Sir, I am favoured with yours of equal Date. I wish Van Tassel may be kep safe at Fishkill until he can be tried or at least till you hear farther from me. I fear tho an Infamous Villian, we must defer his Punishment at Common Law untill we can try him in West Chester County where his Crimes have been committed. He is not one of those for whom the State offered a Reward. Please to present Mrs. Clinton's & my best Respects to Mrs. Hay & believe me to be with very great Regard
Your most Obed't Serv't [G. C.]

I am anxious for News from the Eastward where it seems the Enemy are pursning their threatned Fiery System of War.

[To Col. Udry Hay.]

[No. 2444.]

Funds for Frontier Sufferers.

Poukeepsie 16th July 1779.

Dr Sir, From the Pains I have taken to obtain Returns of the Inhabitants of the Western Frontiers whose Possessions have been laid Waste & desolated by the Enemy, & who by

Reason thereof are unable to support themselves, I had Reason to hope I should long e're this have been able to have executed the Trust reposed in me by the Legislature by making an equal Distribution of the Sum granted among the Sufferers of each District; but owing to the Ignorance of some, & the Indolence & Inattention of others, I have not been happy enough to have this Business as yet accomplished to my Satisfaction. I have, however, lest I should be censured for Delay, ordered to be paid to those of Tryon and Albany Counties the Sum of £2250, and I now enclose you an Order on the Treasurer for £650 to be applied to the Relief of the Sufferers of Orange & Ulster, coming within the Description in the Act which I beg you will be kind enough to apply accordingly, either by delivering it to the Persons you recommend, or otherwise, as you may Judge most to the Interest of those Unhappy People & you will please take & transmit me proper vouchers for the Money. The above is the most exact & equitable Distribution I am able to make from the Returns I have received & I have no prospect of obtaining any more perfect. I am with great Regard Your Most Obed't Serv't

G. C.

P. S. Inclosed you have the news of the Day.
Judge Pawling.

[No 2415.]

Interceding for Jonah Wood, under Sentence of Death.

Warrick July 19th 1779.

Hon'd Sir, I should not presume to trouble your Excellency with this, had I not resolved never to set my hand to any Petition in behalf of any person Condemn'd by the Laws of his Country; during the present Contest. Yet as the Relations of Jonah Wood are nigh neighbors to me, & have requested that I should sign the Petition in behalf of their Son, or rather that your Excellency might be made acquainted with the Character of the Family, I must in Justice to them say that old Mr. Wood & Family (as far as my acquaintance with them has reach'd) have always appear'd

acted as true Friends to their Country; the old Gentleman has but one Son in this place, who has been very forward to do his duty on all Occassions, especially in detecting the private Enemies of our Country.

As to the person Condemned, I have no acquaintance with him, nevertheless the good Character friendly disposition & actions that this part of the family have shown towards their Country, I hope may Incline your Excell'y to think it Consistant to relieve them from the severe distress they suffer from this unhappy affair.

Your Excellency will, I hope pardon this Intrusion, & believe me to be with the greatest respect, Your Most Obedt. Humb'le Serv't

Danl. Gano.

Governor Clinton.

[No. 2446.]

THE SULLIVAN EXPEDITION.

*Failure to Receive Commissary Supplies Delays the Advance—
General Sullivan's Apprehensions.*

Camp Lake Otsego July 20th 1779.

Dear Brother, Yours of the 13th instant with its enclosures have been received yesterday; I am much obliged to you for the Information they contain.

We still remain here in the most anxious Expectation of marching Orders from Genl. Sullivan, I enclose you a copy of his last Letter dated the 11th inst. which contain all the Intelligence I am possessed of, at present, worth relating: by it you will see that it is generally expected the Enemy mean to harrass the Troops under my Command, on their march down the river. I have had Scouts out constantly, but have never been able to make the least Discoveries of them.

You will also see that Genl. Sullivan intends to notifie you of the exact time I am to leave this Place; this Information you will receive before it can reach me; it will require about seven days to proceed to Anaghquaga, so that you will be able to adix the time Lt. Col. Pauling is to march.

I will give you the earliest notice of the day I am to leave this Place, tho' I wou'd not wish you to wait for my Letter, as

from unforeseen accidents and delays, the Express may deceive you. I am, dear Brother, yours sincerely

James Clinton,

Gov'r Clinton.

GENERAL SULLIVAN TO JAMES CLINTON,

Head Quarters Wyoming July 11th 1779.

Dear Sir, I am this moment favoured with yours of the 6th instant, am happy to find you in such perfect readiness. I have been disappointed, and delayed respecting Provision and Stores in the most surprising manner. I hope, however, to march in a few Days, and shall notifie you in the manner you mention, also Governor Clinton. It is agreed in Council that this army is to reach Tioga by the Day prefixed for your march, that we may be ready to move up the Susquehanna to meet and convey you, in case we find the Enemy bending their Force against you, which I have great reason to expect. Genl. Washington has

*From New Windsor, July 1, 1779, Washington wrote Sullivan:

I have just received a letter from Genl. Clinton at Canajoharie, which has filled me with inexpressible concern, as I apprehend the worst consequence to the Expedition under your command, from the measures, which have been pursued there. My attention, and which I thought sufficiently explained and known to you, was, that the Troop under the command of Genl. Clinton should be at Canajoharie and in the evening, with Boats ready to proceed up the Mohawk River, or across to Otsago, as you should under a full consideration of all circumstances and information resolve on; and that if the latter should be the choice, he should move rapidly over, quite light, with a sufficient stock of provisions and stores only to serve him till he could begin his negotiation with you at Tioga, where every thing was to be provided.

Instead of this he had transported, and by the last aets, was transported, provisions and stores for his whole Brigade three months, and 220 or 30 Batts of Troops; them; by which means, in the place of having his design concealed till the moment of execution and forming his junction with you, in a manner by surprise, as he announced, the enemy watching him, and, instead of moving light, rapidly, and covered, he goes encumbered with useless supplies, and has not defore, were it not for the attention he must pay to convoy and the length of his line, at a time when more than probable, the whole force of the enemy will be employed to oppose him, and not expressly require that Genl. Clinton, in case of his forming a junction with you at Tioga, should proceed without provisions and stores; but, from the whole tenor and tenor of our several conversations on the subject, the difficulties and delays that were apprehended in ye rout, the preparations that were making for the winter on the Susquehanna, & other circumstances, I had not a doubt of its being understood, and took it for granted, when he was placed under your orders, that he would have been instructed accordingly. * * * I am, dear Sir, &c.

wrote me as he has you, but I have undeceived him, by shewing him, that in case you depended on our magazine for Stores, we must all starve together, as the Commissaries have deceived us in every article. You will, therefore, bring forward the Provision I directed. I thank you for the Intelligence contained in your Letter &c. I am &c.

Jno. Sullivan.

Genl. Clinton.

Copy.

[No. 2447.]

A Raid on Minisink—Albert Pawling Asks for and Receives Instructions.

Marbletown, July 22d 1779.

D^r Sir, By accounts this moment rec'd by Express from Lieut. Colo. Johnson I hear the Enemy have burnt Minisink & surrounded Fort Vanaken, where this Fort is or what Men are in it, I know not. I have no men lower than Leuring Kill excepting a Sergt. & 20 at Pienpeck. I wish as we are under marching orders to the Westward to have your Directions how to conduct myself in this affair. I am, with respect, your most obed^t Hbl. Serv^t

A. Pawling.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[July 22, 1779.]

Dear Sir, I have this Moment received your Letter of equal Date containing the disagreeable Intelligence transmitted you by Express from Lieut. Colo. Johnson of the destruction of Minisink by the Enemy and of their having surrounded Fort Van Aken. I am equally ignorant with yourself where this Fort is

situated, how constructed, or by what Troops it is Garrisoned. It is, therefore, & because I am uncertain what Moment you may receive orders to march, very difficult for me to determine what Directions to give you on this Occasion. I am perswaded however it must be a very Inconsiderable Party of the Enemy who have alarmed the Inhabitants & done the present Misschief at Minisink & that they will not attempt to continue any Time at that Place. The Situation of our Army to the Westward, who I have good Reason to believe are at this Instant on their March from Wyoming to Chemung confirms me in this Opinion. This being the Case, it is more than probable that before any Part of your Troops could reach Minisink the Enemy will have done all the Injury in their Power & left that Place. I think, however, it would be proper on this Occasion to put part of your Detachment in Motion towards that Place; it may be of Use at least to advance them as far as Mamacotting, from which Place they can readily join you, without Fatiguing them, and if when they arrive there, you should not learn that the Enemy have left Minisink, you will of Course at all Events march them on to the Relief of that Settlement with orders however to join you with all possible Dispatch after the Departure of the Enemy. You will inform Leut. Colo. Johnson of the orders you may give to your Detachment on this Occasion & request him also to march such Part of the Militia as may be necessary on this Occasion. I take for granted the marching Orders you mention are only such as you have received from me. I am &c.

[G. C.]

[To Lieut. Col. Albert Pawling.]

Washington Commends Colonel Fleury and Indorses His Application for a Furlough.

Head-Quarters, West Point, 25 July, 1779.*

Sir, Lieutenant-Colonel Fleury,† having communicated to me his intention to return to France at the present juncture, on some matters interesting to himself, I have thought proper to give him this letter to testify to Congress the favorable opinion I entertain of his conduct. The marks of their approbation, which he received on a former occasion, have been amply justified by all his subsequent behaviour. He has signalized himself in more than one instance since: and in the late assault of Stony Point‡ he commanded one of the attacks, was the first that entered the enemy's works, and struck the British flag with his own hands, as reported by General Wayne. It is but justice to him to de-

*For strategic reasons Washington on June 23 transferred his headquarters to New Windsor. By this change he was brought into closer touch with his widely scattered command on both sides of the Hudson. The main body of the army remained at Smith's Clove under command of General Putnam. General McDougall the most capable of the subordinate generals was given the command of West Point which had become an object of solicitude with Washington. The Brigades of Nixon, Parsons and Huntington were placed on the East bank of the river. The first at Constitution Island, the second opposite West Point, and Huntington's guarding the main road to Fishkill, the whole force commanded by General Heath recently detached from the command of Boston and ordered to headquarters.

July 21, Washington established his headquarters at West Point and remained there till December, when the army went into winter-quarters. It was during this period, that the strong works at West Point and its vicinity were chiefly constructed. Part of the time two thousand five hundred men were daily on fatigue duty. The right wing of the army, consisting of the Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Virginia troops, was commanded by General Putnam; the left wing, composed of the Connecticut brigades and some of the Massachusetts regiments, was under General Heath, and posted in the Highlands on the east side of the river. The centre, or garrison of West Point, was under the immediate command of General McDougall.—STATE HISTORIAN.

September 27, 1779, Congress gave Colonel Fleury nine months' leave of absence. October 1, 1779, the board of war, to whom was referred their report respecting Lieutenant Colonel Fleury, brought in a report; whereupon,

Resolved That Congress entertain a high sense of the zeal, activity, military genius and ability of Lieutenant-colonel Fleury, which he has exhibited on a variety of occasions during his service in the armies of these states, wherein, while he has rendered essential benefit to the American cause, he has deservedly acquired the esteem of the army and gained unfading reputation for himself.—Journals of Congress.

July 16, 1779. This morning, General Wayne, with the light infantry, consisting of about twelve hundred men, drawn from the whole of the American army on each side of the North River, surprised the British garrison, consisting of five hundred men, commanded by a Colonel Johnson, in their works at Stony Point, on the west side

The Chief MSS. are lamentably deficient in information regarding the battle of Stony Point, July 16, 1779, which will account for the number of foot notes following.—STATE HISTORIAN.



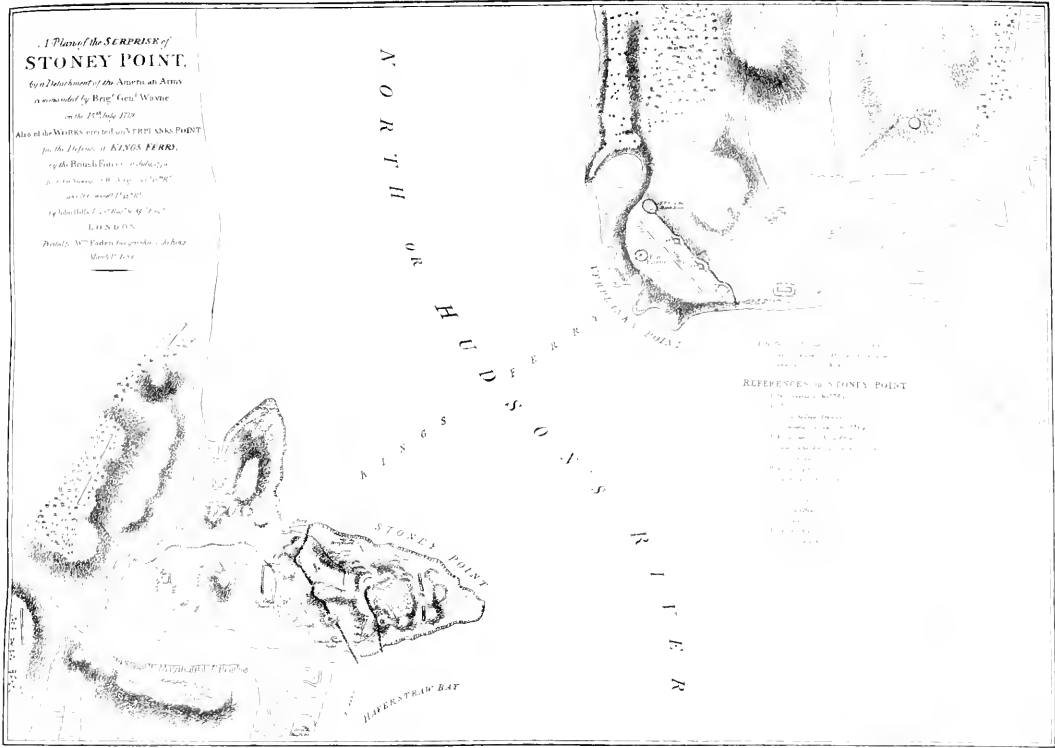
A Plan of the SURPRISE of
STONEY POINT,

*by a Detachment of the American Army
 commanded by Brig^d Gen^l Wayne
 on the 19th July 1780*

Also of the Weakness thereof on VERMILANS POINT
*for the Defence of KINGS FERRY,
 by the British Forces, in the Year
 1780, as far as appears from the
 Plans, &c. made by the
 Engineers of the British Army.*

LONDON

Printed by W^m Fisher, in Strand, at the
 Sign of the Ship, 1780.



N O R T H
 O R
 H U D S O N R I V E R
 K I N G S F E R R Y
 S T O N E Y P O I N T
 H A V E R S T R A W B A Y

LEGEND

REFERENCES TO STONEY POINT

1. The British Fortification
 2. The American Detachment
 3. The British Detachment
 4. The American Detachment
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clare, that, in the different stations in which he has been employed, he has rendered services of real utility, and has acquitted

of King's Ferry, and made the whole prisoners, with the loss of Col. Wayne killed, and General Wayne slightly wounded.*

The detachment marched in two divisions, and about one o'clock came upon the enemy's pickets, who, by firing their pieces, gave the alarm, and with great rapidity speed ran to the fort, from every quarter of which, in a short time, they made an incessant fire upon our people. They, with fixed bayonets and uncharged pieces, advanced with quick but silent motion, through a heavy fire of cannon and musketry, getting over the abattis, and scrambling up the precipices, the enemy called out, "Come on, ye damn'd rebels; come on!" Some of our people softly answered, "They are in such a hurry, my lads; we will be with you presently." And accordingly, in a little more than twenty minutes from the time the enemy began first to fire, our troops, overcoming all obstructions and resistance, entered the fort. Spurred on by their resentment of the former cruel bayoneting, which many of them and others of our people had experienced, and of the more recent and savage barbarity of plundering and burning unguarded towns, murdering old and unarmed men, abusing and treating defenceless women, and reducing multitudes of innocent people from comfortable livings to the most distressful want of the means of subsistence;—deeply affected by these cruel injuries, our people entered the fort with the resolution of putting every man to the sword; but the cry of "Mercy! mercy! dear Americans! mercy! quarter! mercy! Americans! quarter! quarter!" disarmed their resentment in an instant; in consequence of which even Colonel Johnson, the commandant, freely and candidly acknowledges that not a drop of blood was spilt unnecessarily. Oh, Britain! turn thine eye inward, behold, and tremble at thyself!

Colonel Fleury, who commanded the van-guard and behaved with his usual gallantry, was the first man who mounted the bastion and struck the British flag. As our officers and men behaved with remarkable bravery. They were even anxious to go upon the Forlorn Hope, which was decided by lot, when one gentleman thereby excluded from that command, spoke of himself as a child of misfortune from the cradle, while the other leaped for joy.

Of the Americans, about twenty-five are killed, and upwards of fifty wounded among whom are General Wayne, who received a slight wound on the side of his face; Colonel Hay, of Pennsylvania, a wound in his thigh; and of Colonel Meigs's regiment, Captain Phelps, wounded in the arm; Captain Selden, badly in the hip; Lieutenant Palmer, in the arm and thigh; Ensign Hall, in the hip, and his arm broken; five of the wounded privates are dead, the rest likely to recover.

Of the enemy killed, about sixty; and of whom was Colonel Few, of the 17th grenadiers, who was too obstinate to submit, and another officer who has died of his wounds. Their wounded are also supposed to be about sixty, among whom are two of the three officers. The prisoners of the enemy amount to four hundred and five, including the commandant, Lieutenant-Colonel Johnson, of the 17th regiment, and twenty other officers, all of whom are to be sent off to Pennsylvania.

Among the prisoners are two sons of Beverly Robinson, (of New York now a British in the service of the enemy against his country!) and a son of the late Rev. R. A. M. Muty, late rector of Trinity Church. It was with great difficulty these three were saved by our officers from being sacrificed to the resentment of the soldiers, who being about to retaliate upon them with bayonets, (the usage our people have so repeatedly received from the British troops,) they begged for mercy, and to exhibit their said they were Americans. This plea proving them to be traitors, well might they

*A correspondent in England says: "The American account of Stony Point is so pompous a parade of their courage as the French display'd of their intrepidity in our channel. The fact is, that they surprised the garrison, and beyond the mercy of the surrender was made. Had Colonel Johnson and his party been prepared for the reception the Americans would have fled at the very sight of the British flag, and in that case have as disgracefully retreated without making the attempt, as they shamefully afterwards abandoned the conquest they had made." *Apollon*, v. 230.

†When the gallant General Wayne received his wound in storming the fort at Stony Point, he was a good deal staggered, and fell upon one knee. But the moment he recovered himself, he called to his aids, who supported him, and said "Lead me forward, if I am mortally wounded, let me die in the fort." *New Hampshire Gazette*, September 7.

himself in every respect as an officer of distinguished merit, one whose talents, zeal, activity, and bravery, alike entitle him to par-

 ticularly increased the fury of the soldiers, who were upon the point of plunging weapons into their breasts, when they were restrained by their officers.—New York Herald, August 2.

Roxburgh, in the Royal Gazette of July 21, gives the following "best account yet," of this attack:—"We are informed that a large detachment of the rebel army, commanded by Mr. Wayne, last Friday morning, about one o'clock, attacked the fort at Stony Point, on the Hudson River, garrisoned by the 17th regiment, two companies of grenadiers of the 71st, one company of Colonel Beverly Robinson's regiment, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Johnson of the 17th regiment. The enemy were repulsed several times, and lost a considerable number of killed on the spot, but being supported by Mr. Washington with the main body of the rebel army, the garrison gave way to a vast superiority of numbers. The loss of the enemy, though considerable, is not yet known.

"Of the British troops, thirty were killed, including Colonel Few of the 17th regiment, forty-eight wounded, and two hundred and six prisoners. On Sunday some rebel provision vessels attempting to pass down the river by Verplank's to Stony Point, were prevented by a severe cannonade from Lieutenant-Colonel Webster, who commands at, and has very effectually defended that post, which is now become perfectly secure, as the rebels, baffled in their attempts upon Verplank's Point, on Monday evacuated Stony Point, and it was that evening again taken possession of by the British forces. Amongst the enemy's wounded, was Mr. Wayne, who commanded the attack."

Nothing can exceed the spirit and intrepidity of our brave countrymen in storming and carrying the British fortress at Stony Point. It demonstrates that the Americans have soldiers equal to any in the world; and that they can attack and vanquish the Britons in their strongest works. No action during the war, performed by the British military, has equalled this coup de main. The generosity shown by our men to the vanquished, when the parties of our enemy are repeating their savage barbarities, whenever they come by surprise, is unexampled. How much more honorable and manly is it to carry fortresses sword in hand, than to burn defenceless towns, and distress unarmed citizens, and even women and children? What action has Clinton to boast of, this campaign, that may be compared with this master-piece of soldiership by General Wayne? And how much provocation had he to have bayoneted the whole British garrison, when he recollected how cruelly the British had massacred the men he commanded some time ago, who fell into their merciless hands? How many of these brave men were killed in cold blood, after they could make no resistance? Clinton must be highly chagrined at this conquest, and employ some good pen to disguise and palliate this affair at the court of London. He has exceeded Howe in the ferocity and savageness of his exploits; but perhaps will not succeed better than he in accomplishing the designs of Britain.—New Hampshire Gazette, July 27.

From Light Infantry Camp, heights of Haverstraw, 26th October, 1779, General Wayne wrote to Major General Lee: Dear Sir, I rec'd your very polite favor of the 11th of August, some time since, but my papers and baggage being at a Distance, could not comply with your Request, as soon as I wish'd—Enclosed you'll find the Disposition of the British & Regulars at Stony Point—which I took a few days previous to the assault.

The circumstances you are pleased to pass on that affair—gives a sensation which I can much (better) feel than express, because they come from a Gentleman of the first experience—whose Military abilities stand high in this age of the World.

Give me leave to assure you Sir—that if I have fought with some success—your approbation of my Conduct, adds not a little to the pleasure I experience on that Occasion.

I remain I am with much Esteem Your most obt. & very Hum. Serv't
 Major Genl. Lee, Anty. Wayne.

— — — — —
Enclosure.

The Light Infantry Head Quarters Fort Montgomery 15th July 1779.

The troops will march this day at twelve o'clock and move by the right, making a short halt at the creek or run on this side Clement's's. Every Officer and non commissioned officer will remain with and be answerable for every man in their platoons.

ticular notice. He has intimated to me a desire to obtain a furlough for a few months. I doubt not Congress will be disposed

No soldier to be permitted to quit the ranks on any pretence, unless a formal

When the van of the troops arrive in the rear of the first Column, the General will form his regiment into a solid column of a half platoon in front of the first Column, and up. Colonel Meigs will form next in Febegeer's rear, and Major Hull in the rear of Meigs; these will compose the right column.

Colonel Butler will form his regt. in a column on the left of Febegeer and Major Murfree in his rear. Every Officer and Soldier are then to fix a piece of white paper in the most conspicuous part of his hat or Cap to distinguish him from the rest.

When the order is given to march, Colonel Fleury will take command of one hundred and fifty determined and picked men properly officered, and with their arms unloaded, placing their whole dependence on the bayonet will move about twenty paces in front of the right column by the route No. 1, and enter the sally port *C*. Fleury will Detach an officer and twenty men a little in front with orders to secure the Sentries, remove the Abbaties and other obstructions, that the column may pass through which will follow close in the rear with shouldered musquets under Colo. Febegeer with General Wayne in person.

When the works are forced and not before the victorious troops as they enter will give the *watchword with repeated and loud voice, and drive the enemy from the works & Guns.

Should the enemy refuse to surrender or attempt to make their escape by water, other wise vigorous means must be used to force them to the former, and prevent the accomplishing the latter.

Colonel Butler will move by the rout No. 2 preceded by one hundred men with unloaded arms & fixed bayonets under the Command of Major Steward who will observe a distance of twenty yards in front of the column which will immediately follow under the command of Col. Butler and enter the Sally ports *C* or *D*. Major Steward will also detach a proper officer and twenty men a little in front to secure the sentry works. As soon as they enter the works they are to give, and continue the watch word to prevent confusion and mistake.

Major Murfree will follow Colonel Butler to the first figure 3, when he will take a little to the right and left, and wait the attack on the right which will be his signal to begin, & keep up a perpetual and gauling fire, and endeavor to enter and possess the works *a*, *a*.

If any Soldier presumes to take his musquet from his Shoulder, attempts to desert, or begin the battle 'till ordered by his proper officer he shall be instantly put to death by the officer next him; for the cowardice or misconduct of one man is not to put the whole into danger or disorder with impunity.

The troops in advancing to the works will observe the strictest, & most profound silence, and pay the greatest attention to the commands of their Officers.

As soon as the lines are carried, the officers of artillery with the necessary detachment command will take possession of the Cannon, turn them on the shipping, and direct on Verplanks point so as to facilitate the attack on that quarter.

The General has the fullest confidence in the bravery and fortitude of the troops, and has the happiness to command; and the distinguished honor of leading a brave officer and soldier who have been drafted into this Corps by his Excellency, George Washington, the credit of the States they respectfully belong to, and their brave reputation will be such powerful excitements to each man to distinguish himself, that the General cannot have the least doubt of a glorious victory. And as a further encouragement, he engages to reward the first man who enters the work with five hundred dollars, and immediate promotion, to the second four hundred, to the third three hundred, to the fourth two hundred, & to the fifth one hundred dollar, and I will represent the conduct of every officer and soldier who distinguishes himself on this occasion in the most favorable point of view to his Excellency who receive the greatest pleasure in rewarding merit. But should there be any Soldier so lost to every feeling every sense of honor, as to attempt to retreat one single foot, or shrink in the face of danger the officer next him is immediately to put him to death that he may re-

*The Fort's our own.

to grant him every indulgence, which can be granted with propriety. I have the honor to be, &c.

[George Washington.]

[To the President of Congress.]—From Sparks' Washington.

[No. 2448.]

The Friends of New York in Vermont Show Signs of Despondency.

Brattleboro, July 28th 1779.

May it please your Excellency. A considerable number of the Inhabitants of Cumberland County from Principles of Duty

no longer disgrace the name of a soldier, or the Corps or the state to which he belongs. As General Wayne is determined to share the danger of the night, so he wishes to participate of the glory of the day in common with his fellow soldiers.

True Copy from the Original Orders.

H. W. Archer Vol. Aide de Camp.

The Hon Major Genl. Lee.—From the New York Historical Society Collections.

From West Point Washington wrote to the Rev. Dr. William Gordon under date of August 2, 1779:

Bear Sir, Your favor of the 22d ult. came to my hands by the last Post, and receives, as it deserves, my warmest thanks.—I have also to acknowledge myself your debtor for another letter of the 15th of Decemr., which the number I am obliged to write and read, with other papers to consider, prevented my answering till it had slipped my memory wholly.

The assault of Stony Point [July 16, 1779] does much honor to the Troops employed in it, as no men could behave better. They were composed of the Light Infantry of every State (now in this part of the army) commanded by Genl. Wayne, a brave, gallant and sensible officer. Had it not been for some untoward accidents, the stroke would have been quite compleat. The plan was equally laid for Verplank's point, and would most assuredly have succeeded, but for delays, partly occasioned by high winds, and partly by means which were more unavoidable.—A combination, however, of causes produced such a delay as gave the enemy time to move in force, and render further operations dangerous and improper; the situation of the Post and other circumstances which may be easily guessed, induced me to resolve a removal of the stores, and the destruction of the works at Stony point which was according done the third day after it was taken.

The Enemy have again repossessed the ground, and are busily employed in repairing the works, with a force fully adequate to the defence of the spot, which in itself, is a fortification—surrounded as it is by a deep morass exceedingly difficult of access.* The rest of their army has remained very quiet ever since, extending from Philip's pt. of the No. River to East Chester on the Sound, but by my last advices from the City of New York, transports were preparing for the reception of troops and 4 regiments, talked of as a reinforcement to Genl. Provost. Though I think it not very unlikely (if they have sailed, of which I have no advice) that they should have gone towards Philadelphia, as the *Raisable* (a 64 gun ship) and others, are said to have sailed for that place.

When Genl. Lee did meditate another assault on Stony Point, as he wrote to Mr. Gordon the 26th: "I wish for your opinion, as a friend, not as commanding officer of the Light Troops, whether another attempt upon Stony point by way of surprize is expedient in any other manner, under present appearances & information, no good I think can result from it.) Lord Cornwallis is undoubtedly arrived, and I have information, which bears all the marks of authenticity, that Adml. Arbuthnot, with the *London* fleet, left Tobay the 26th of May, with (as it is said) seven thousand Troops, British and British, for America. A deserter, who left the city of New York on Tuesday last, says it was reported that a number of Transports had arrived at Sandy Hook. I have not heard, nor do I believe, that Lord Cornwallis supersedes Sir H. Lee."



Anty. Wagner

and affection to the State of New York not having joined with those who disclaim its authority; for the sake of Union, and to give themselves greater Weight in opposing the Exercise of an authority which they esteem usurped, have since the beginning of the year 1778 chosen Committees to conduct their opposition. Very frequent have been the meetings of the Committee to preserve and increase the Interest of New York, and not infrequent their Messages to your Excellency.

Some of us for our attachment to the State have been imprisoned fined and otherwise harrassed; & several of those who continue loyal have materially suffered in their Estates for their Loyalty. In short, Sir, great has been our Trouble & Uneasiness occasioned by this internal Revolution, exclusive of the State of anarchy which we have been obliged to endure. We suffered all with Patience and Chearfulness, hoping that Congress would at length interfere, and do Justice to the State of New York by recommending to the revolted to return to their allegiance, & use their Influence to quiet the Disorders. And when the violent Measures of Vermont had attracted the Notice of Congress and threatened to disturb the Peace of the Continent, we rejoiced at what had occasioned Congress to attend to our Difficulties, though otherwise distressing.

But when we are convinced that those from whom we expected Relief, by public Recommendations and private advice countenance what we before thought was Rebellion, and instead of supporting the Jurisdiction of New York, advise its Subjects to a temporary Submission to Vermont and, (as we are informed, the Officers of Vermont how to conduct the opposition to New York; we are discouraged, & think it needless for us to spend our time and Money, and perhaps subject ourselves to Trials for Treason on account of our Duty to the State.

We shall, however, Sir, have one Meeting after the Return of our Representatives, and if we have not greater reason than any we have yet had, to believe the State will speedily be reunited, we shall then be under a Necessity to dissolve ourselves, & submit to the Powers that are, though with great Reluctance.

We believe, Sir, that if the State exerts itself immediately and with Spirit, it may yet retain its Jurisdiction over the Grants, and we shall in such Case do all in our Power to cooperate with Government: But if matters are permitted to continue in their present unsettled Situation for any Length of time, we are well convinced that Vermont will support itself as they daily gain Strength by the coming in of new Inhabitants.

We beg Leave to return your Excellency our sincere Thanks for the attention you have, since you were placed in the Chair of Government, paid to our Distresses, and for the Trouble you have taken, tho' yet fruitless, to restore Peace to this unhappy Country. We are, Sir, Your most Obed't Hum: Servant

By order of the Com'e

Samuel Minott, Chairman.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 2449.]

Outrages Committed in Westchester County by Refugees.

Pokeepsie July 24th 1779.

Sir, Frequent Complaints have been made to me of late of violent Outrages committed in this County and the adjacent Parts of West Chester by a Number of Persons stiling themselves Refugees,* making free Quarters upon the Inhabitants

*Under the act of the Provincial Congress, the following named persons were condemned as enemies to the cause and rights of America:

In Queens-county—Richd. Hulet, Thos. Cornell, Stephen Hulet, Jos. Beagle, of Rockaway; John Kendall, at Danl. Thomas's, Flushing; John Bodin, — Chase, of Jamaica; John Hulet, of Oyster Bay; and Isaac Denton, of near Rockaway.

and destroying and taking away their Property and abusing their Persons. When the Complaint was first made to me I referred it to the Atty Genl. who wrote to the Delinquents threatening them with Prosecutions unless they desisted from such Practices, but without effect. The proper mode of Proceeding would be an application to the Civil Magistrate, but as I apprehend it will be difficult to effect the Execution of a Process from the ordinary Justice of the Peace to a Constable, but as I conceive a warrant from one of the Judges of the Supreme Court to the Sheriff will have more weight and be more readily obeyed, I have, therefore, directed the Sufferers to wait upon you and must request you to issue your warrant to the Sheriff for apprehending the Offenders. They are at least Rioters and if I am not mistaken they have been guilty of Felony. When you send the warrant to the Sheriff

In the City and County of New-York.—Peter McLean, Saml. Galsworthy, Fredk. La Roach.

In Richmond-county.—Isaac Decker, Abm. Harris, Ephm. Taylor, and Mingo Epps. [*In the City and County of New-York.*] Wm. Newton, Linus King, John B. De Henry Law, Theop. Hardenbrook, Saml. Burling, John Woods, Beng. W. De Christopher Benson, Wm. Bayard, Fredk. Rhineland, Jas. Coggeshall, John M. and Theot. Bache.

In Kings-county.—Theo. Bache and Benjamin James.

In Queens-county.—Chas. Arden, John Moore, Senr., and David Beatty, or His instead.

In Westchester-county.—Fredk. Phillips, Caleb Morgan, Nath. Underhill, Saml. Corrit, Peter Corne, Peter Huggeford, James Horton, Junr., Wm. Sutton, Wm. De Joshua Purdy, and Absalom Gidney.

The following named persons "who, by reason of their holding Offices from the King of Great Britain, from their having neglected or refused to associate with their fellow citizens," "have been considered by their countrymen in a suspension of their Rights, whereby it hath become necessary as well for the safety as for the satisfaction of the people, who, in times so dangerous and critical, are naturally led to consider themselves their enemies who withhold from them their aid and influence".

In the City and County of New-York.—Oliver De Lancey, Chas. W. Apthorp, Wm. Smith, John Harris Cruger, Jas. Jauncey, Junr., Wm. Astor, Godfrey Loring, John Brewerton, Chas. Nicoll, Gerard Walton, Donald McLean, Chas. McEvers, Benj. H. W. get, Wm. McAdam, John Cruger, Jacob Walton, Robert Bayard, Peter G. De P. Van Schaaek, Andrew Elliot, David Mathews, John W. De, Junr., and F.

In Kings-county.—Augustus Van Cortlandt and John Rapade.

In Richmond-county.—Benjamin Seaman and Christopher Ellog.

In Queens-county.—Gabriel Ludlow, Saml. Martin, Thos. De, Am. De, H. David Colden, Richd. Colden, Geo. D. Ludlow, Whitehead Hall, Saml. G. De, Polliot, Saml. Doughty, Danl. Kissam, Gibt. Van Wyck, John Willett, De, De Charles Hicks, John Townsend, John Polhemus, De, Whit De, De, John Shoals, Nathl. Moore, Saml. Hallett, Wm. Weymar, Thos. De, De, Benjamin Lester.

In Westchester-county.—Solomon Fowler and Richard Morris.

I wish you would write to him directing him to call upon me for an Order to the Command't of the County, as I am determined to call out the Militia to aid him in the Execution of his Office upon this Occasion if it should be necessary. The most vigorous measures ought certainly to be taken to suppress these Practices. Several Persons have been abused by these People who to my Knowledge are of the fairest Characters and undoubted Friends to the Cause. I am &c.

Geo: Clinton.

The hon'ble Mr. Justice Hobart.

[No. 2450.]

The Affair at Minisink—Governor Clinton's Instructions to Colonel Pawling.

Marbletown July 24th 1779.

D'r Sir, Inclosed I send you a Letter I last night rec'd from Major Van Bunschoten the latest Accounts we have from Minisink, as also an Acc't of the Damages committed &c. I also send two Returns* of the Men under my Command since the date of which several men have joined me. I shall e're I leave this make you another. I wish to have one of them sent to his Excellency Genl. Washington as I have no Opportunity from here. I would be glad you'd be pleased to inclose it with a few lines to him. The marching Orders I alluded to in my Letter of the day before yesterday's Date were only them I had from you. I am, with great Esteem, D'r Sir, Your most obed't Hbl. Serv't

A. Pawling.

P. S. I have wrote to the Major not to move any of the Detachment.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

* See page 167.

July 24th 1779.

Dear Sir, I have rec'd your Letter of this 15th enclosing the acc't of the mischief done by the Enemy at Minisink, and your two Returns one of which shall be transmitted to Genl. Washington.

Just before I received yours I received a Letter from Colo. Newkerk containing a very inaccurate acc't of the affair at Minisink from which it would seem as if part of the militia were cut off; however, as the intelligence was bro't from thence by some of the militia who pretend to have escaped, but who very probably have deserted, I am in hopes it is not true. I have ordered Colo. Newkerk immediately to march such part of his & Colo. Hardenberg's Regim'ts to their assistance as may be necessary. With Respect to your Detachm't ordered to Mamacotting, you must be governed by Circumstances; if you have certain Intelligence that the Enemy have left Minisink, your Troops must return to their former Station & be held in readiness to march at a Moment's warning as before. I am &c.

Geo. Clinton.

Lieut. Colo. Pawling.

 [No. 2451.]

Certificate for Exchange of Johannes Snedeker for Justice Hewlit.

If Justice Hewlit of Long Island is released from his Confinement, & sent home, Johannes Snedeker now confined in New York shall have liberty to return to his home.

Jos. Loring, Com. Gen. Pris'rs.

29th July 1779.

To Whom it may Concern.

[No. 2452.]

THE DESTRUCTION OF MINISINK.

Evidence Furnished That Brant Led the Party—The Damage Done.

Goshen July 29 1779.

Sir, I was desired to send you inclosed the Examination of Moabury Owen a deserter from one of our state reighmts & to make the following representation viz: That last week upon a Tuesday, about 85 Indians & Tories under the Command of the noted Brant made a descent upon Minisink, Killed sundry Persons, Burned 11 Houses & as many Barns together with the Dutch Ch., took off some Prisoners, Cattle, Horses, sheep & considerable Plunder. That on Wednesday, a Party of our People collected, principally from this County, with some from Ulster & others from N. Jersey, pursued, & on Thursday came up with them, gave them Battle & were defeated with a loss, as is supposed, of 50 or 60 men, the number, however, not yet ascertained.

Among the missing, & it is feared Slain, are Coll. Tusteen, Capts. Jones, Wood & Little. Gabriel Wisner Esq: & Roger Townsend, an Instance of a converted Tory, *Rara avis in Terris*. In Short there are not less than 15 or 16 widdows by this affair in this Congregation.

A Party of 240 Set out on Saturday & we marched that day within 2 miles of the place of action, but the Rain on Sunday made it imprudent to stay, as many were not prepared to be out after such a wet day, nor was it in our Power to keep our Arms dry.

Some of the Indians were seen yesterday near, I believe at, Minisink.

The Frontiers are in the utmost consternation & great Numbers will no doubt soon leave their Habitations unless properly guarded.

I was desired & should have waited upon your Excellency myself, but in the march with the above s'd Party on Saturday I bruised my Leg against a Rock & think it not prudent to ride.

After saying that Coll. Heathorn told me he judged we had killed, he thinks, a considerable number of the Enemy, I shall only ask whether it will not be practicable for your Excellency to Station some of our 8 months men at that place together with some of the Militia?

My Compliments to Mrs. Clinton & Family; hope her health is recovered. I am, your Excellencies most obed't humble Serv't,

Nathan Ker.

His Excellency George Clinton.

The Examination of Moabary Owen Taken by Henry Wisenor, Esqr:

Saith he left Shomong ye 8th of July in Company with Hanek Huff, John Huff, Nicholas Miller, Lodiwick Seeley, Ruluf Jonston, William Crum, Benony Crum, Anthony Wesbroock, John Barnhart, John Chesseem, Daniel Cole, Johs. Cole, Ebenezer Allen and Forteene other Toreys, and about Sixty Engions, and that Josep Brant had the Command of Said party, and he Heard Said Brand gave Orders that they Should not Kill any woman or Children, and if they Knew any person to be a Torey not to Kill them, and any that would Deliver them Selves up to Take them prisnors, but any person Running from them to Kill them, and he Fur Saith, that they Thretten to Destroy Cats Kill Settlement, and that their is One Olde Sager, which was at the Destruction of Peampack and is now at Hallibarrack, and has Sixty Toreys Ready to Joine Brant, that a Number of them are of Burgoines Men: he Further Saith,

that Twenty Five Hundred is to Come from Cannady to Take Fort Stanwicks.

[No. 2453.]

*Governor Clinton to Gen. James Clinton, with Account of the Destruction of Minisink by Brant and His Party.**

[No. 2454.]

GOVERNOR CLINTON TO DR. KER.

Delay of the Sullivan Expedition Responsible for the Exposed Condition of Our Frontier.

Poukeepsie 30th July 1779.

Rev'd Sir: I have this Moment rece'd your Letter of yesterday with the very disagreeable Intelligence from Minisink. It was not before the Friday after the Enemy made their Appearance in that Neighbourhood, I received the first Account of it, and this was from Lieut. Colo. Pawling at Warwarsinck, who was not able to give me any Particulars respecting the Enemy's Strength or the Number of the Militia who had marched to oppose them or any other Particulars whereby I could form a right Judgment what was most proper to be done. On this Information, however, I put Part of his Detachment in Motion towards Minisink (tho they are under marching Orders on a different Direction) & next Day on an equally imperfect Account received from Lieut. Colo. Newkerk, I ordered Part of his & of Hardenbergh's Regt., to march for Minisink, but these I conclude could not have arrived in Season or must have returned on hearing that the Enemy were gone off. It is particularly unfortunate

*This document is substantially the same as document 2470 which is used in its stead.

that early Intelligence had not been transmitted me of the first Appearance of the Enemy (and by the Militia Law it is expressly made the Duty of the Commanding Officers of Regts., when they call out their Militia on such Occassions to transmit me immediate Accounts of it) as in such Case Pawling's Detachment might have by a forced March to the Delaware got in the Rear of the Enemy & effectually cut of their Retreat. If we may Venture to Judge from the Accounts you have furnished me of the Strength of the Enemy & that of the Militia who were engaged with them, there must have been either some very bad Management on this Occassion, or the brave Men who have fallen must have been shamefully deserted by their Friends & I wish there was not too much Reason to conclude the latter must have been the Case.

The Levies under Colo. Pawling are by the Direction of his Excellency Genl. Washington under marching Orders, & as I have reason to believe they will move very soon, I cannot, therefore, take upon me to order any Part of them to Minisnick, especially as in Consequence of a Letter written by the Legislature to our Delegates in Congress, they are taken into the Pay of the Continent & of Course are subject to the Orders of the Commander in Chief. Were the different Regts., to compleat their Complem't of these Levies, there woud yet remain a competent Guard for the Frontiers, but this is not like to be the Case. Albany County is very different & there is nearly 150 wanting to compleat (including Deficiencies by Desertions) those Orderd from Ulster, Dutchess & Orange, & tho have repeated the most express & possitive Orders on this subject to the Militia Officers we are not likely to have this Business perfected. Under these Circumstances, it is not in my Power to

afford the Settlement of Minisinek any Relief, but such as can be drawn from the Militia & I have by the Bearer issued my Orders & forwarded them to the different Regts., to furnish Detachments for this Service. The Source of our present Missfortunes is the uncountable Delay of Genl. Sullivan at Wyoming; we have had every Reason to expect that long before this he woud have been with his Army in the Heart of the Enemy's Country & all our Measures have been calculated to facilitate his Movements & Cooperate with him, which has unavoidably left our Frontier more exposed than it otherwise woud have been, as it has occasioned our collecting our Troops from their former Stations to certain Points. I am with great Regard, Sir, yours &c. [G. C.]

The Rev'd Mr. Kerr.

[Nos. 2455-2456.]*

[No. 2457.]

Oliver Wolcott Intercedes for a Prisoner Who Was Captured "Going to the Enemy."

Horsneck 30 July 1779.

Sir, Capt. Cornwell acting under your Excellency's Commission will deliver to your order Wm. Sutton, Danl. Hoynes and Wm. Smith taken on L. Island and Wm. Pierce of Crum Pond taken at N. Castle going to the enemy. Wm. Sutton by my Information, has conducted Very injuriously, but I beg leave to acquaint your Excellency that from his near Connexions I have

*These documents are consolidated with document 2463 to which they originally belonged - STATE HISTORIAN.

and expect farther to obtain the most usefull Information as to the Situation and Designs of the enemy. Their affections are excited by this man's misfortune; how far your Excellency might think proper to mitigate that Punishment which is due to Father on acc't of the Services rendered by his Children, shall Submit to your Excellency's Decision. I will only observe that I am sure that the Persons from whom I derive Intelligence do not deceive me. The Propriety of concealing their Services is what I need not mention. I am very respectfully, Sir, your most Obed't Serv't

Oliver Wolcott.

His Excell'y Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 2458.]

Return of the Levies furnished by General Ten Broeck's Brigade.

Return of Drafts of General Ten Broeck's Brigade who are to serve until the first day of Jan'y 1780.

Regiments	Number of men ordered to be Furnished	Furnished in the Continental Battallions	In Col. Van Rensselaer's Regiment	In Capt. Stockwell's Company	In Capt. Van Rensselaer's Company	In Capt. Van Rensselaer's Company
Col. Philp Schuyler's	23	12	7			4
Livingston's	30	5	5			
Van Alstine's	21	9	4			
Van Bergen's	17	14	2			
Lansing's	20	8	3			
Robert V. Rensselaer's	15	8	1			
Van Ness's	29	19	1			
Kilban Van Rensselaer's	31	3	23			
Quackenboss'	22	1	10			
Wemple's	19	14	3			
Schoonhoven's	27	6	10			
Whiting's	38	14	4			
McCrea's	32			1		
Yates'	32	1	1	16		4
Van Woert's	17			14		
Step'n J. Schuyler	22		13			
Vroman's	19		19			
	414	114	109	14		17

[No. 2459.]

Returns of flour purchased in July by Major Wyckoff.

A Return of Flour Purchased and Delivered to Jonathan G. Tompkins Esqr, Assistant Commissary of Purchase, for the Army of the United States, by Hendrik Wyckoff in the Month of July, 1779.

Time when Purchased	Of Whom Purchased	Where deposited	Flour			Prices of		Total Amount
			Bbls.	C	qrs.	lbs.	Flour per c	
1779 July 5	Hugh Connor	Tennis Van Bunschooten's Mill	12	22	2	13	19	444
6	Nathaniel Stevens	Do	26	45	0	14	19	837
7	Samuel Brewster	Do	2	4	1	6	19	84
9	Francis Way	Do	8	14	0	7	19	247
9	Aert Van der Bilt	Do	9	15	3	21	19	311
10	John Huff	Do	29	51	1	1	19	1008
10	Johannes Shurry	Do	13	23	3	4	19	464
10	Ryker Suydam	Do	22	37	3	26	19	748
11	Johannes Hoegtyling	Do	5	8	1	27	19	167
12	James Hicks	Do	18	30	2	24	19	605
12	Cornelius Adriance	Do	6	11	0	17	19	219
12	Peter Van der Voort	Do	11	22	1	17	19	410
12	John Wyckoff	Do	12	20	1	18	19	401
15	Peter T. Montfort	Do	3	5	2	3	19	108
16	Matthias Taxter	Do	22	40	3	14	19	793
17	Richard Southard	Do	2	3	1	1	19	61
17	Jacob Brinckerhoff	Do	11	17	2	14	19	348
19	Isaac Dennis	Do	2	2	2	26	19	59
20	Sylvanus Pike's	Do	20	29	1	7	19	580
20	Jacob Brinckerhoff	Do	4	6	2	25	19	132
21	Daniel Tor Boss	Do	1	2	0	4	19	39
22	Paul Rogers	Do	9	16	0	14	19	317
26	Israel Knapp	Do	3	5	3	15	19	115
26	Peter Hulse	Do	2	3	2	25	19	53
26	Adrian Brinckerhoff	Do	17	28	3	14	19	569
28	John Stekes	Do	49	89	0	1	19	1732
30	Matthew Van Bunschooten	Do	5	8	3	16	19	174
31	Peter T. Montfort	Do						
		Total Purchased	326	574	0	11	Total Am't £	11270
								34

Errors Excepted.

Fishkill July 31st, 1779.

Hendrik Wyckoff.

[No. 2460.]

Return of Flour Seized by Major Wyckoff in July.

A Return of Flour Seized and Delivered unto Jonathan G. Tompkins Esqr. Assistant Commissary of Purchase, for the use of the Army of the United States, by Hend'k Wyckoff, in the Month of July, 1779.

Time when Seized	Of Whom Seized	Where Deposited when Seized	Flour			At what price delivered		Amount				
			Bbls.	C	Qrs.	lb.	Flour per C	Cash Cont'g sd flour	£	s	d	
1779 July 8	Henry Schenk	Tencks Van Ranschooten's Mill On the Road going out of this State Jac. Emans & Jos'h Ogdon's Barns	17	28	1	49	c	24	5	8	13	6 1/2
11	John Brown, an Inhabitant of Boston		30	51	0	17	19	24	264	17	5	
14	Abraham Van Ambourgh, gone to the Enemy		5	9	2	17	19	24	189	7	5	
		Total Seized	52	92	0	16	Total	Am't	4312	18	10 1/2	

N. B. The above flour of Henry Schenk was Seized the 2nd of June but could not get the Bill until the 8th July, sd flour is also unsettled no Court having been called to decide it. The above flour of John Brown was Seized on Complaint of Mr. Sampson Duyckman and Condemned by Samuel Bodae and Thomas Storm Esqrs. According to Law, the Money for the same I have paid to Floss, Storm Esqr. agreeable to the sum in the above Return.

Errors Excepted,
Hend'k Wyckoff.

Fishkill July 31st, 1779.

[No. 2461.]

*Petition from Newburgh &c. for Pardon of Joseph Brown and William McCrany. July, 1779.**

[No. 2462.]

Petition of John Kathan of Fulham, Cumberland County, Vermont.

[July — 1779.]

To His Excellency George Clinton Esqr. Govener of the Staet of New York Generall in Chif of all the militry and admeral of the Navey of the same.

The Humble Petiton of John Kathan, of Fullom in the County of Cumberland and Staet of New York, wheras I, the said John Kathan, was the first setler, that settled in said tounship, in ye year 1752 and was apropted by Hamps'e Grant, and said Fullom was granted to me and my asosites the 29 of Novembr 1766, By the govement of New York and as the present Constiton of New York Plainly sais that all grants of Lands maid By the King of Great Briton shall stand good Befor the 14 day of Octobr 1775, and as your Exelencs Proclamiton Plainly says that our Persons and Properte shall be Defended against the Pretended staet of Varmont, notwithstanding all this, on the 17 of June 1779, they caim to my hous and by force and violance took one of my cows and sold said cow at publick wandue, for one hundrd and ten pounds, to hire a man as they say for ye army and the 23 Day of this instant Jully, Did braick into my inclosed mod and Carrd of about 3 Load of hay, By thos varmonts and if the Law of the staet of New York Dos not spedly taek Place, we shall all Be Ruined By thos varmont, and as your Humble Petisoner and all

*Omitted.

that stands for New York, are great sufferers that your Excellency with the honorable assembly, will send us speedy Relief, by Directly Establishing the Laws of New York, in this County of Cumberland, and we in duty Bound shall Ever Pray as witness my hand.

John Kathan.

and all those varmonts Crouded into this township after Being Granted By the Government of New York as Mr. Duan can maek fully apear.

[No. 2463.]

Judge Yates Reports the Conviction and Sentence of John Cittimon for Robbery.

Albany Aug't 1st 1779.

Sir, John Cittimon who stood indicted for a robbery committed in the House of Johannes Reghter, in the west District of the Manor of Rensselaerwyck, was thereof convicted by verdict, and yesterday sentence of death passed on him and his execution ordered on the thirteenth instant.

The two witnesses upon whose Testimony he was convicted, were in or near the House at the Time of the Robbery, and one of them possitive as to the identity of the person, the other as to his belief that the prisoner was one of the party. I am, with the greatest respect, Your Excellency's most obedient hum. serv't

Robert Yates.

His Excellency George Clinton Esqr.

[No. 2464.]

Hilkiah Grout Fined by the Superior Court of Vermont.

May it Please your Excellency, Agreeable to your Direction, I Did attend at the Superiour Court at Rutland on the second Thirsday of June Last, agreeable to my Recognisance; and made no other Defence then to Deny their Jurisdiction, and signified to them that I was willing to offer my Reasons for it, if I might have the Liberty, but was Denied. The Court then ordered me to pay a fine of one hundred and twentyfive pound, Lawfull money which is £166-13-4 York currency, and pay costs of sute which is forty eight pound, twelve shillings L. m: eaquil to £64-16-0 York Currency: I did not think proper to pay the money Down; their Clerk was verry faithful to them; he told me that if ye money was not paid Execution would be Leavyed on my Estate Immediately, unless I would ask it as a favour of the Court to stay Execution a few months; and doubted not but that any favour I should ask of the Court would cherefully be granted me. But, however, I was not in a Temper of mind to ask any favours of them, and so Returned home without any molestation, but have since heard that the Execution is sent into the County, and unless your Excellency find some way to protect the Friend to the state of New York, we must soon be obliged to yeald our obedience to Vermont or be made as miserable as Prejudic'd minds can make us.

I herewith send your Excellency an account of my expences at Both Courts that it might be laid Before the Legislature. I am, your Excellency's, most Humble Serv't

Hilkiah Grout.

To His Excellency George Clinton Esqr.

[No. 2465.]

HENRY REMSEN WRITES TO GOVERNOR CLINTON.

His Strong Recommendation for His Brother-in-Law as a Loan Commissioner.

Morristown, August 2d 1779.

Sir: Having lately heard that Dirck Ten Broeck, Esqr., Commiss'r of Loans in our State, has thoughts of resigning his appointment; should the same prove to be true, I beg leave to solicit your Excellency's patronage & interest, to have my brother-in-law Mr. Charles Dickenson, who now resides in Albany, appointed to the same.

I can with truth assure your Excellency, that he is a young man, of strict integrity, & veracity, as also sobriety;—has had a regular mercantile education, is fully master of accompts, and has steadily adhered to the cause of our country.

I beg leave to refer your Excellency for farther particulars respecting his private & publick character to Brig'r Genl. Scott, Gerard Banker, Isaac Roosevelt, Coll. Lott & Abraham Brasher, Esqrs., & to other Gentlemen from N. York who can fully inform your Excellency of what you may want information of, respecting Mr. Dickenson, & his connections. I believe there will be no difficulty for him to procure adequate security for what may be intrusted to him, as also for the faithful and assiduous discharge of his duty, and I verily believe there will be no reason of complaint, that the business of the office is neglected, should he be appointed thereto.

I shall esteem myself under equal obligation to your Excellency, whether your interest prevails in his favour, or if it does not.

Inclosed are two of the last Philad'a papers, by private Letters & Intelligence, they are much divided in that city, but I have the pleasure to quote a paragraph out of a Letter from a

friend in Congress, dated 28th ulto. viz. "All Ranks & classes of people in this Town, however differing in local politicks, are determin'd to carry into execution the plan lately recommended by the Committee for appreciating the money. This is a happy omen. It is reported in Town & believed, but not on official authority, that the enemy have evacuated So. Carolina & gone by water to Georgia."

Prior to the receipt of this Letter, I saw four Seamen, who passed thro' on their way to the Eastward; they left Charles Town 1st July, & all of them agreed that the British Troops had got off from So. Carolina on board of Transports, by means of a Bridge of Boats from their Ships & Transports, & that General Pulaski had pressed so hard on their rear, that the Bridge gave way by the weight of the Troops retreating in disorder, & that in consequence thereof about 500 of them were drowned, of which number near one half were negroes, that they had inveigled or taken from their masters.

By a Gentleman of credit, this day from Philad'a, I am informed that the capitulation for St. Vincents is arrived in that city, & that by Vessels from St. Eustatia they have advice, that Count D'Estaing is re-inforced by the arrival of Mons'r De la Mothe Piquet, so that he now has under his command 27 Sail of the Line, besides Frigates, a force superior to the British, & that it is probable there will be some interesting news from that part soon. I have the Honour to subscribe myself Your Excellency's Most Obed't and Very Humble Serv't

Henry Remsen.

P. S. The French Ambassador will soon sail for France in one of our Frigates. I am extremely sorry that he goes at a time when feuds prevail so much in Philad'a.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 2466.]

Ethan Allen Prepares for War Against New York.

Sir, In persuanee of orders Received from the Board of war of this state you are hearby Required to Detach one man from your company se that he is well armd & acutred and marches the 15th Day of this month to Rutland, their to join a company to be made up from the several Regiments in this State, to serve 2 months from the Day they march, unless sooner Discharged, in gaurding the frontears; you are to call upon those called Yorkers to Do their Part in Raising s'd men, but not to proscade in Law against them in Case of Refusial; at this time make Return to me of your Doing as soon as may be.

Also in Persuanee of orders from Bridgdear Genearl Allin, you are hearby Required to muster your company as soon as may be ——— arms, agreeable to the melitia act of this State, and in case of Deficiency, order the most Spedy & Effectual measures to be tacken, that your men may be well armed, together with ammition & accentirments acording to Law, but not to insist upon Penailtise at this time in case of Deficianey; and you with your company are to hold your selves in Ready-ness to march at the shortest Notis to oppose any Envrasion of this state, or in case of an Emmurgency to act in the Defence of any Naighbouring State against the common Enemy, and make Return to me of the state of your company as soon as may be.

Townshand 3d of August 1779.

Pr, Samll. Fletcher, Col.

to Capt. Jessee Burck.

the within is a true Coppy of Capt. Burk order.

From Coll. Fletcher.

Adjt. Bildad Easton.

[No. 2467.]

Return of Lieutenant Colonel Albert Pawling's Levies.

Return of a Detachment of Men stationed on the Frontiers of Ulster & Orange Counties under the Command of Lieut. Colo. Albert Pawling, Marbletown August 3d 1779.

Officers commanding Companies	Commissioned Officers				Staff			Non-Commiss'd			Rank & File			Alteration since last Return				
	Lt Colonel	Major	Captains	Lieutenants	Adjutant	Qr. Master	Surgeon	Qr. Mr. Serjt.	Sergeants	present fit Duty	Sick present	Sick absent	on Command	on Furlough	Total	Dead	Discharged	Deseerted
Captain Wood Wawarsink	1							2	39			4	34		63			1
Captain Faulkner Leghweck	1		1	1				3	53			4	34	1	92			
Captain Hunter Shandeken	1		1	1				4	43	2	2			2	43			
Lt. Pawling Marbletown			1	1				2	28	12	1			2	32			
Store Guards Wawarsink					1	1		1	37	1					38			
Total	1	1	3	3	1	1	1		12	200	5	6	58	5	274			1
Lt. McBride on Command Poughkeepsie.										Hospital	3		15					
Sergt. Faulkner Pienpeck Command.										Rochester	1		9					
Sergt. Jones Fredericksburgh Do										Woodstock	1		31					
Sergt. Gillaspay Do Leuringkill										Hatley	1		3					
Sergt. Ayres Command Armourer																		
Capt. Hallett with thirty four men on Command in Westchester County.											6		58					

A. Pawling Lt. Cole

[No. 2168.]

SULLIVAN UNDER WAY AT LAST.

Notifies General Washington—Sends Instructions to General James Clinton.

West Point Aug^r 3d 1779.

Dear Sir, I this minute received a letter from General Sullivan of the 30th ulto., and a Copy of one to your Brother the General, of both which I enclose you Copies. Your Excellency will be pleased to direct the march of Lt. Colo. Pawling at such time and in such manner as you shall judge best. You will also receive a letter addressed to you which came with mine.

I have inclosed a line to the General covering a Copy of General Sullivan's order for his march, which you will be pleased to transmit him, lest any accidents should have prevented him from receiving the original—a duplicate of which, according to General Sullivan, has been also sent him. I am, Dear Sir, with the greatest Regard & Esteem Y^r Excellency's most obt. S^t

Go. Washington.

Copy.

Gov. Clinton.

Camp Wyoming July 30th 1779.

Dear General, I have the honor to inform your Excellency, that I have at length surmounted every obstacle and shall commence my March tomorrow morning. I have taken the necessary precaution (by duplicates) to apprize Genl. Clinton of this circumstance a copy of which I do myself the honor to inclose you.

Your Excellency will be pleased to direct Col. Paulling to begin his march at such time, as you may think proper. I have

the honor to subscribe myself with great respect D^r Genl. Y^r
 Excellency's Obe'd, & very hum. serv't

Jno. Sullivan.

His Excellency Genl. Washington.

Head Quarters Wioming July 30, 1779.

Dear General; I with pleasure assure you (after surmounting every impediment to my march) that I shall leave this tomorrow morning.

I wish you to set out the 9th of next month (marching moderately) as some allowance is to be made for bad weather, which will probably detain us some time. On my arrival at Tioga, I will immediately detach a considerable body of light troops to favour and secure your march. I am, Sir, with respect Your very humble servant

John Sullivan.

Genl. [James] Clinton.*

[No. 2469.]

Tryon County Petitions Against Roving Bands of Indians.

Tryon County August 4th 1779.

May it pleast your Excellency; The humble Petition of the Freeholders and Inhabitants of Tryon County setting forth the great Distresses they labour under on Account of the Indians; whereof, Numbers pretending to be friends, stroll about the County, draw & eat up our provision, and are fed by public Stores, whilst they watch to cut our Throats. Several Instances of this kind have allready happened, which can be proved, and a Number of the Inhabitants have been murdered and scalped, some of which are alive yet, by pretended Friends. If it could be supposed, that there were some trusty enough, not to avail themselves of the opportunities of Murder and Rapine (a Thing very unwillingly believed by those, who are acquainted with the Nature of Savages, & who are so unlooky as to be so near them, as to be taught by Experience, which is the Case of your Petitioners); who can know, wheter he be met by an Honest one or a ravenous Creature. Your Petitioners, therefore, humbly beg, that such Regulations might be made, that the Friend Indians be called in to live in an inner part of the Country, and that all found at the Frontiers should be treated as Enemies. We do not doubt but it is generally Evident, that those who bear the Name of Friends at best are but a Cover to the Enemy; and that it must be indifferent to the Indians where they eat the public provisions. Relying on your Excellency's Goodness to take our Grievances into your most serious Consideration, we humbly beg your recommendation of the premises to the Legislature and otherwise to grant us such

*See page 154, Governor Clinton to Dr. Ker.

speedy relief, as in your Wisdom you think meet: & your Petitioner's Obedience will ever pray.

Cornelius Lamberson, Adolf Pickerd, George Stensel, George Barth, Bart Beyer, Scheffer, Henrick Dillibach, Adam Nellis, William Brower, Meff, F. Fols, Jacob Klock, John Pickerd, John Contryman, Frerick Walrad, Fridrich Conderman, Peter Langford, Jacob Schneyder, Nicolas Barth, Adam Franck, William Walrath, John Paris, John Pavill, Henry Embody, Adolf Walerrath, Jakob Walerrath, Johann Adam Walrath, Hannes Walrath, Jacob Klock, Christopher — Fox, Christ Stoffel — Fox, Georg Hess, John Zielley, Severines Kook, Samuel Vanette, George Klock, George G. Klock, Peter Grems, John Finck, Nicholas Coppernolls, George Waggoner, Andrew Braun, Nicholas Wesor, Jost Fox, Arent Botman, James Phillips, Adam Thum, Gottlieb Nestell, George Sprecher, John Helmer, Henry Klock, Henrick Walrath, Gerhart Walrad, Johannes Schuls, Wieliam Schuls, Christyan Blaber, Savareness Cook, Casparus Kock, Henrick Schuldeis, Savarines Deygert, John Suts, Peter Nellis, Robert Nellis, Prantz Frelig, Pitter Walrath, Adam Schnell, Jacob Laucks, Jacob Snell, Jost Snell, Heinrich Bratt, Bitter Nelles, John Pleekerd, Nicholas Stencel, Danl. McDougall, Adam Jas. Klock, Simon Nicols, George Laucks, John Nelles, John Gray, Wilim — Deykert, Conrath Thum, Nicolaus Wallrath, Jacob Schuldeis, John Schuldeis, John Furneyan, Isaac Paris, Henry Miller, Johnannes Egg (?), William (?), Henry J. Klock,

his his

Henry X Saffer, Christian X Nelles, Michael X Fenis, Conrath Kilty, Georg S mark mark

Werner Deygert, Philis Nells, Henry Saltzman, John Klock, Hendrick Walrath, Mark his

X Kunterman, Adam Fon, Adam Bellinger, Andres Zoller, Nicklas Sitz, Simon mark

his his his

— (?) , Georg Zlitz, Baxter X Luterman, Johannes X Felber, Tones X Gung, mark mark mark

his

Hannes Wallrath, Peter Felling, Piter X Quackenbush, Daniel Lappius, Peter War- mark

his

mud yu, Jacob X Rathenaur, William Fox, Isack Voncanb, (?) Cornelius mark

his his

Vankampen, Johannes Mauck, Andres X Reller, Josias X Couten, Jacob Diefendorff, mark mark

Kasber Gordan, George Gordan, George Conderman, ? George Grews, George Walrath, Henrik Felling, Peter Dunkell, Henrich Schmit, ? Henrich Meyer, Adam Zellach, Gung, Jonas Gung, Henrich Eckler, Durt, Gersid Gung, Johannes Bremer, Johannes Gell, Conrad Miller, George Press, Peter

his

Haus, Abraham Arndt, Kasber X Jordan, Johannes Daek, Salomon Meyer, mark

Ganetz, John Zimmerman, ? Christian Hess, Georg Schull, Ludweg George Gettman, Adam Ja Klock, William, John Atoush, Wilim

his his

Daniel, Atem X Gertag, Johannes X Hard, Wm. Petta, Henry, Peter

his

Weber, Fried. X A. Heilmer, Peter Hayer, John Mayer, Henry Mayer, Georg, mark

Jost Schmit, Gorg Weber, John Kessler, Jacob Bell, Henry, Lorenz Meyer, Friederick Meyer, John Cuningham, Gottfried Hils, Henry Widmer, Nicholas Weber, Frieterrick Weber, Jacob Zellig, Jacob Weber, Friederick Fox, Friederick Franck, John Campbell, Jacob ? Wilam Cline, Friederick Getman, Timothy Frick, Peter Beyer, Jacob Small, Jacob Krous, John ? Jacob P. Fick, ? Christian X, John Arkson, Dirig Feling, Hannes Feling, Dewald Zimmerman, Hilligas, Conrad Zimmerman, Conrad C. Zimmerman, William Zimmerman,

[No. 2470.]

GEORGE TO JAMES CLINTON.

*The Minisink Affair, Sulliran's Marching Orders to the General and
Other Topics of Importance.*

Pokeepsie 5th Augt. 1779.

Dear Brother, I am favored with your Letter of the 20th* Instant [ult.] with its Inclosures. I have forwarded Mrs. Clinton's Letter. Your family and Colo. Du Bois's are well. I now enclose you a Copy of the Information given by one Owens,† a Deserter from a Party of Tories & Savages under Brandt, who lately burnt Eleven Houses, Barns, &c. at Minisink, killed three or four & captured some of the Inhabitants. A Party of the Militia of Ulster & Orange, consisting of about 120, pursued the Enemy, came up with & attacked them about 25 Miles from that Place, but tho' the Part of them who were engaged behaved with proper spirit, they did not experience that Success which could be wished. Lient. Colo. Tusten, Capts. Woods, Little, Jones, & several other Officers & some Privates, making in the whole about 30, are missing, and must either have been killed or taken. I do not much credit Owen's account with Respect to Fort Schuyler, yet by comparing it with other Circumstances which may have come to your knowledge you will be better able to judge what Credit it deserves, than I am. I have also sent a Copy of it to Genl. Ten Broeck that he may have Seger & his Party at Hellebergh, if any such there are, secured.

Geo. Clinton.

Brig'r Genl. Clinton.

I have this Moment received the inclosed Packet for you, which by Duplicates forwarded to me by his Excellency Genl.

*See page 118.

†See page 162.

Washington* I am informed it contains your marching Orders & that the 9th Instant is the Day fixed for you to move from Lake Otsego. I have, therefore, Ordered Lieut. Colo. Pawling to commence his March, so to be able to meet you without fail on the 16th at Anaquaga, which is allowing according to computation, 7 Days for your Route to that Place; I doubt not but Colo. Pawling will meet you with punctuality, as he is in perfect Readiness to move. We have no News sufficiently authenticated to communicate. There are Reports that our Troops to the Southward have lately attacked the Enemy with great Success. Spies from New York confirm this Intelligence & we have imperfect Accounts of an Engagem't between the French & English Fleets in the West Indies which Terminated greatly in Favour of the Former. The N. York Papers mention an Engagem't but reverse the Account as to the Event. I most sincerely wish you a safe Junction with your Main Army a Successful Campaign & am yours, affectionately [G. C.]

I have Letters from Colo. Beaty to his Brother, & Capt. Geo. Tuder, which least this should not reach you, I will forward to them across the Country by Colo. Pawling. Colo. Beaty was well yesterday, of this Please inform his Brother.

[No. 2471.]

COLONEL ALBERT PAWLING'S MARCHING ORDERS.

Governor Clinton's Comprehensive Grasp of the Situation His Precautionary Suggestions.

Pokeepsie Aug't 5th 1779.

Sir, Inclosed is the Copy of a Letter from Genl. Sullivan to Genl. James Clinton, by which you will observe Genl. Clinton

*See page 177.

is to set out from Otsego on the 9th Inst. from whence to Anaquaga, as he computes it is about a seven Days march. I would, therefore, wish that with the Levies (except the Guards you may leave at the Posts of Shendekan & Leghewegh) & Detachments of militia from Colo. Snyder's & Cantine's Regiments, you may be at Anaquago the 16th Instant, and you are accordingly to commence your march so as to arrive there by that Day. On your way, you will take every Caution to prevent Surprise & each night throw up temporary works for your Safety & Defence if you shall think it necessary. If you arrive at Anaquago before Genl. Clinton comes up, you will form your Encampment as strong as possible, pursuing every measure requisite for the Security of your Troops and upon your joining Genl. Clinton put yourself under his command & follow his Directions for your future Service on this Expedition.

By the inclosed Letter you will observe that the Army with Genl. Sullivan, marched from Wioming the 31st July, that Genl. Clinton is to move from Otsego on the 9th Instant, at which Time the Army under Genl. Sullivan will have reached Tioga, and that strong Parties are to advance higher up the River to sustain Genl. Clinton on his Route in case it should be necessary. I mention this, to prevent accidents by your Men falling in with those Parties & taking each other for Enemies; against which, therefore, you make use of proper Precaution. On your Route to Anaquago you are to make such disposition of the Troops under your command as shall be best calculated to scour the Country of any lurking Enemy that may be in that quarter, without exposing yourself too much by dividing your Force into small Parties. When you join Genl. Clinton the Militia are to return Home, and with them may be sent your Horses and any other

articles that it shall not be necessary to retain. The Militia on their Return are also to bring with them any disaffected Inhabitants or other Persons who you may take on your march & deliver them over to the Commissioners of Conspiracies &c. I wish you a safe march & a successful Campaign & am &c. &c.

Geo: Clinton.

Lient. Colo. Pawling.

[No. 2472.]

James Clinton Confident of the Success of His Expedition.

Lake Otsego August 5th 1779.

Dear Brother, Last Evening I was favoured with a Letter from Genl. Sullivan dated July 30th informing me that he determined to leave Wyoming the next day, and requesting me to move the 9th instant, which I shall not fail to do.

I informed you in a former Letter that it woud require about seven days to move the Army to Anaquaga, so that it will be the 16th before I shall arrive at that place, when I expect to meet Lt. Col. Pauling with his Detachment; If I should arrive there before him, I intend to wait for him untill the 17th instant, and if he does not appear by that time, I shall move on the Troops without him; however, I have not a doubt of his Punctuality especially as I believe Genl. Sullivan has given you an intimation of his movements.

I congratulate you on the Success of Genl. Wayne at Stony Point, and hope to send you similar accounts from the Western World before the ensuing Winter. I am, Dear Brother, Yours affectionately

James Clinton.

Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 2473.]

Governor Trumbull Introduces Dr. Hodges to Governor Clinton.

Lebanon 5th August 1779.

Sir, This will be delivered by Doct. Silas Hodges, a Gentleman recommended to me by a Committee in Massachusetts and New Hampshire States, for the business which he will shew you, he is employed about. Since my acquaintance, he hath approved himself faithful, and well qualified for the employment. And take this opportunity to recomend him to your notice, and to such Service as you think fit. I am, with Esteem and Regard, Sir, Your obedient h'ble Servant

Jon'th Trumbull.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

A PASS FOR PETER SACKET.

The Bearer Peter Sacket has Permission to pass to Long Island to Vissit his Friends there & Return unmollested. Given at Poukeepsie in the State of New York this 14th Aug't 1779.

G. C. Gov'r.

[No. 2474.]

*Petition in favor of John Signum, Under Condemnation at Albany. August 7, 1779.**

[No. 2475.]

THE TROUBLES OF THOMAS MENZIES.

Held a Prisoner for Three Years, His Property Appropriated by the Troops, Indemnity Refused Him—And All for Declaring Allegiance to the Crown.

Sir: Since I find I can't be permitted to make personal application to your Excellency, and Encouraged by your Excellency's

*Omitted.

promise to pay attention to my bussiness, layd before you in writing, I take the liberty of representing, that I have been here in a State of Confinement upwards of three years; in the beginning of May '76 I was sent for by the County Committee; I appeared before them a prisoner; nothing was Objected to my Conduct, but being an officer on half pay under the Crown of Great Britain, they informed me there was a necessity of binding me, that I should not go to the British forces, or take an active part against the Measures of the Contry untill I was discharg'd or without the consent of the authority of the province, on which terms I was admitted to my Parole; that in October following, my papers were Sicz'd and myself carried prisoner to Fishkill, by the authority of the Convention of the State of New York; there, my papers were Inspected and myself Examined before the Committee for detecting Conspiracies &ca. Nothing was objected to my conduct or alledged against me, but being ask'd by the Committee whether I was an officer on half pay under the British Crown and whether I owed alliegence to the King of Great Britain, I acknowledged both, for these reasons, viz: my being a half pay officer and oweing aliegence to the King of Great Britain, it was judg'd inconsistant with the political Measures of the State to suffer me to live at my usual place of abod, and, therefore, ordered and sent to Westfield in the State of Massachusets Bay. The authority there not Chusing to receive me, I return'd with the officer who went to conduct me, to Fishkill, where I was detained about two months, and then Suffered to return here, being the place of my abod on parole as a prisoner of War and Confined to the limits of Six miles; here I have remained, and I believe no man will pretend to accuse me of the Smallest breach of my parole.

I am now for many reasons Extremely desirous to leave the Country: my Situation for these three years past has been Exceeding disagreeable; the Situation of my House being by the high way leading from Danbury to Fishkill and about an ordinary Stage from Danbury, makes it liable to be Continually troubled with parties, travellers, and Teams, Malicious persons of the Neighbourhood often prejudice Strangers against me as a dissaffected person, who Considering me as such, are often abusive, must have what they please, generally at their own price, and often without any Consideration for it. When the army lay here last fall, I sustained large damage; four Brigades were Encamped on my farm between two and three months, my fences were Totally destroyed and the most valuable part of my Timber, so that I was obliged to purchase rails at a very Extravagant rate to Enclose my farm, which I accomplished at a very great Expence. When the army removed, I apply'd to Mr. Paterson as a Magistrate, and he at my request, appointed six reputable Inhabitants, who upon Oath, Viewed and Estimated the damage they found, by Measuring 2490 Rods of fence destroyed, which they apprais'd at £2800, and 600 Cords of green timber which the[y] apprais'd at £400.

Besides the above damage I lost 23 Sheep, and six large hogs stolen by the Soldiers and a valuable breeding Mare Kill'd, and many smaller articles. I wrote to Genl. Green last winter concerning the timber and fences destroy'd for me by the army; he informed me that he was not authorized to pay any such damage, so I have not Received any recompence. Before the army left this place, they were often dissappointed and destitute of forage, at which times, they were under a necessity of taking my Hay and when their allowance has been Short, they have

severall times carried away a whole stack of hay in the night; in Consequence of which I was obliged to sell 25 head of my Store Cattle (for not more than one third of what they would now sell for,) for want of fodder. By these and many other Circumstances my Interest is greatly reduced, and if I am confined here much longer I shall not be able to Support my family. By being confined here, I am not only reduced to my present circumstances but have allso lost my Chance of promotion in the British army, and your Excellency must be sensible that at this day, were I so inclined, it is too late to Expect preferment, but I am in hopes if I go to Great Britain I can get in a better way of providing for my family. I therefore, pray that I may be suffered to Remove with my family and Household necessarys to New York, and as I am not sensible of my being guilty of any Crime for which by law or Custom I ought to forfeit my Estate, I pray I may be permitted to disspose of what little interest I remain possessed off, to enable me to Support my family. I get to my own Coutry if I shall find it necessary. I have the Honor to be your Excellency's most obedient and devoted Servant

Thos. Mifflin

Fred'sburgh Aug't 9th 1779.

His Excellency, George Clinton Esqr. Governour and Commander in Chief of New York.

[No. 2176.]

James Wilkinson Announces His Appointment as Clothier General to the Army of the United States.
Philadelphia, August 9th 1779.

Sir; The Congress having appointed me Clothier General to the Army of the United States, I take the Liberty of inclosing your Excellency the ordinance for the Regulation of that de-

parment and beg leave to urge the immediate appointment of your State Clothier, as indispensably necessary, for the precise prosecution of the Business & for the equitable supply of the Troops.

I shall be highly obliged by an account of the Clothing the state may have purchased & have on Hand for the use of its respective Troops, as it will assist me in forming my general estimate. I have the Honor to be with high respect Your Excellency's Most Obedt. & Most H'ble Servant

James Wilkinson.

His Excellency, George Clinton, Governor of the State New York.

[No. 2477.]

PROGRESS OF SULLIVAN'S EXPEDITION.

James Clinton Amused Over Certain Falsehoods Propagated and Disseminated by the Enemy.

Camp Jacum's Farm, twenty miles by land from Lake Otsego, and five miles above the Adoquetangy (?) Branch, August 10th 1779.

Dear Brother: Yours of the 5th instant with its Inclosures I received on my arival this day at this place. I wrote you from the Lake the 5th inst., which I hope you have received by this time.

I enclose you an account given me by a certain John House, who was brought into camp by one of my Scouts the day before I left the Lake; his Information I am inclined to credit as the particulars are chiefly confirmed by Col. Klock, in a Letter dated the 7th inst.

I have been informed in a Letter from Col. V. Dyke, as well as by other persons, particularly Indians, that the Enemy are pre-

paring to lay Siege to Fort Schuyler, that large Reinforcements have arrived from Canada, with heavy artillery at 1800. I stand for that purpose: that a Body of Indians had attacked and defeated Genl. Sullivan: this last information I received the day Genl. Sullivan's last Letter dated the 30th ulto. arrived in Camp, five days after it was written. These accounts seem to ware the similar complection, and illustrate each other: especially when we know that Genl. Schuyler and others have received frequent and undoubted intelligence that no Reinforcements had or were to be sent from Canada except Johnston's regiment, and McClean's Emigrants.

A moment's Reflection will point out the Intention of these amusing tales, evidently propagated with a View to support the Spirits of their discouraged Friends, retard the operations of the present Expedition, and prevent the Oneidas from joining us, the latter of which they have been perfectly successful in, as out of the whole nation only two have remained with the Army, and these of the lower Class.

The troops have advanced thus far without the least accident, in perfect health and high spirits—the most difficult parts of the river are passed, so that I expect to arrive at Anaquaga the 15th where I hope to meet Col. Pauling, if not I shall wait until the 17th.

Enclosed is a letter to my wife, please to forward it: remember me to your family and believe me to be yours sincerely

James Clinton.

[To G. C.]

DEPOSITION OF JOHN HOUSE.

John Hous's account given by himself, saith, that on the 2d instant he was taken Prisoner by Joseph Brandt and a Party of

twelve Indians & Tories, who conveyed him some miles into the woods, when Brandt and four Indians went off, leaving him in charge of the others, and after an absence of about four days they returned bringing Brandt on horseback, wounded in the ball of the great Toe by a Swan's Shot; that a Bullet and several other Swans shot had passed thro' his Coat and Breech clout; that he understood from one of the Tories they had made an attempt upon some of the Inhabitants of the Mohawk River near the Little Falls, where the said House lived, that they had taken one Prisoner, whom, being closely pursued, they killed and escaped narrowly with the loss of their Blankets and Plunder; that even after they discovered a Party of our People, which put them to flight; but House being lame by being tyed at night and marching without shoes, which with the greater part of his Cloathing, they took from him, they determined to kill him, but being an acquaintance of Butler's, he was permitted to return, after taking the Oath of Neutrality, a Certificate of which Brandt gave him written in the Indian Language signed by himself; that they also informed said House that they lately Come from Minisinek, where they had an action with our people and in which they took about thirty four prisoners, among whom were some Officers, and killed several; that they then proceeded to the River where they arrived the 2d inst. the day they took House, which was about twelve days from the action at Minisinek.

[No. 2478.]

In Regard to Flour for the State.

New Windsor August 12th 1779.

Dear Sir, I have your favour of yesterday. Mr. Cuyler waits on you to receive your orders for the flour and will take the

necessary measures for its being forwarded to the Garrison at West Point; he informed me Walter Livingston, Esq., has a quantity of flour collected for the state which I wish you to order delivered to Mr. Cuyler or his order, who will direct the whole to be paid for. I am, D^r sir, with the greatest respect, Your most hum. serv^t

Jere. Wadsworth,

His Excell^y Governor Clinton.

[No. 2179.]

An Order to State Agents to Deliver Flour to Commissary Cuyler.

Sir; You will please to deliver to Colo. Jacob Cuyler, Deputy Commissary General of Purchases, or such Persons as he shall appoint, all such Flour Meal and Grain as you have purchased or procured, agreeable to your appointment under the act of the Legislature, for procuring an immediate Supply of those articles for the use of the army, he paying for the same, together with the incidental Charges according to the Law.

[G. C.]

Kingston 12 Aug't 1779.

James Hunter, Daniel Graham, Dirck Wynkoop, Walter Livingston.

[No. 2180.]

Governor Clinton Writes to Washington Relative to the O. G. S. Col. Parling Received for the Sullivan Expedition.

Poukeepsie, 15th Aug^o 1779.

Dear Sir, I am this Moment honored with your Letter of yesterday. Immediately on the Receipt of your D^spatches of the 3d Instant I forwarded the Letter they inclosed directed to my Brother and I have the Pleasure of being able to assure your

Excellency that it reached him in due Season & that it was his Intention to commence his March on the 9th Instant agreable to Genl. Sullivan's Orders, which as well from a Letter I have since received from him dated the 5th Instant, as later Accounts I have not the least Reason [to] doubt that he did. Leut. Colo. Pawling with his Detachment moved from Legeweck & Shandecon the 10th, & if nothing extraordinary happens to retard their March, will be able to meet Genl. Clinton at Annaquga the 16th Inst't, which is the Day he expects to arive at that Place.

Soon after receiving your Excellency's first Letter, I set out for Kingston to meet the Legislature. This prevented my writing to your Excellency earlier on this Subject, which I shoud, however, have done this Evening, if I had not received your present Letter. I unfortunately left my Brother's Last Letter, Copy of Colo. Pawling's Orders at Kingston with my other Papers which puts it out of my Power at present to transmit Copies. If your Excellency shoud have any Commands for me you will please to forward them to Kingston as I mean to return to that Place Tomorrow Morning. I have the Honor to be with the most perfect Respect & Esteem your Ex'

[G. C.]

[To Gen. Washington.]

Inclosed is the last Return I received of Lieut. Colo. Pawling's Regt.; he marched ab't 300 men, 100 being militia were to return from Anaquaga with the Horses &c. He was directed to march by such Route as wo'd best enable him to scour the Country, taking Care not to expose his Men by dividing them into too small Parties, and if he arrived at Anaquaga before Gen. Clinton to throw up temporary works and to use every other necessary Caution there, & on his march, to prevent his being surprised.

[No. 2481.]

*The Case of John Douglass, Privateer-ship.*Philadelphia 16th Aug^t 1779.

Sir, I have the honor of transmitting to your Excellency a copy of an act of Congress of the 12th Inst. against John Douglass,* late commander of the Privateer Schooner the Hunter.

You will also receive herewith enclosed, a copy of a memorial of Mr. Nicholas Low of the State of New York, & of the certificate from Major General Sullivan referred to in it. By an act of Congress of the 10th Inst. of which the enclosed is a copy, these papers are ordered to be transmitted to your Excellency, & the vessel, (mentioned in the memorial) to be delivered to your order. I have the honor to be with great Respect & Esteem your Excellency's most obedient Servant

John Jay, Presid^t.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

*Thursday, August 12, 1779.—The marine-committee, to whom was referred the petition of Francis chevalier de la Nos, Jules Anne le Moine, chevalier de Neuville, &c. report, "That they have examined into the matter complained of in the said memorial, and find the facts therein set forth to be truly stated:" whereupon Congress came to the following resolution:

Whereas Francis chevalier de la Nos, Jules Anne le Moine, chevalier de Neuville, Julien Bouchand, and Joseph Jacob du Tetre, subjects of his most Christian majesty, have by due course of law recovered judgment against John Douglass, late commander of the privateer schooner called the Hunter, by commission under Congress, for the sum of £9780 for injuries they had sustained from the said John Douglass, while acting under pretext of his said commission, in seizing and taking the said Francis chevalier de la Nos, Jules Anne le Moine, chevalier de Neuville, Julien Bouchand, and Joseph Jacob du Tetre, their vessel and cargo; and that since the said judgment was obtained the said John Douglass hath absconded out of the state of Pennsylvania and fled from the said judgment, and prevented redress for the said injuries committed, therefore

Resolved, That the bond given at the time the said John Douglass obtained his said commission be put in suit, and that his said commission be vacated and made void, and also that the said John Douglass be not admitted to hold any commission under the United States, on board any ship or vessel of war, until such time as he shall surrender himself and abide the said judgment against him, or procure the same to be reversed or set aside by due course of law.—*Journals of Congress*.

[No. 2482.]

RELATIVE TO THE EXCHANGE OF CITIZENS.

*Correspondence Between Governor Clinton and General Robert Howe
on This Subject.*

Lower Salem, Aug't 17th 1779.

Sir: Our parties having in some enterprises about & within the Enemies Lines brought off several Prisoners who are the professed Citizens of the Enemy, & the Enemy having in possession some Citizens of ours, I write to your Excellency to beg the favour of you to settle an exchange for them should you think it expedient, not in the least inclining to intermeddle in any matter in which the Civil Department may, and ought to direct.

The Bearer seems to interest himself in behalf of two persons, in whose favour he has much to say, your Excellency will be pleased to hear his story & determine as you think proper. Lt. Colo. White informs me that General Wolcott had already promised, for all the Prisoners except two; this I knew not of till this moment, but your determination will govern the steps that are to be taken; however, there are two that even that engagement does not interfere with & the request of this man might be granted should it on examination appear proper to your Excellency. I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, Sir, your Excellency's most Obt. Hum. Ser.

Robt Howe,*

His Excellency George Clinton Esqr.

*Robert Howe was a native of North Carolina, where he was born in 1732 and where he died November 12, 1785. He descended from an English family, and when thirty-four years of age was appointed captain of Fort Johnson, N. C. He was a member of the Assembly in 1772-73, delegate to the Colonial Congress, August, 1774, and chairman of the committee which considered the speech of the loyal governor, Martin, who was so wrought up over Howe's rebellious reply that he issued a proclamation denouncing Howe for assuming the title of colonel. A few weeks later Howe was commissioned colonel of the Second North Carolina Regiment by the Colonial Congress. The follow-

P. S. Several Whale Boats said to be employ'd for the purpose of reconnoitring, seem to acknowledge no command & are said to committ such enormities on the improper side of the Sound & on improper persons, that it calls for correction; as I have been informed they were employ'd by your Excellency, I have taken the liberty to lay this matter before you, previous to my taking any steps upon the occasion, & to beg the favour of you to inform me to whom these people are amenable & what the end of their appointment.

R. H.

Aug't 19, 1779. Kingston.

Sir, I am much obliged to you for your Letter of the 17th Inst. which I have this moment received. I am sensible the Enemy are possessed of several valuable Citizens of the State whose Liberation I have much at Heart, and have taken great Pains to effect, but hitherto the Enemy have declined entering into any but partial Exchanges with me, such as neither my Duty nor Justice to the suffering Subjects of this State in their Hands would allow me to negotiate.* I have lately repeated

ing December he was ordered with his command to Virginia, where he assisted in driving the loyal governor, Dunmore, out of the eastern part of the state. For this meritorious act he was given the thanks of the Virginia Convention and of Congress, and was commissioned brigadier-general.

Howe saw considerable active service in North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida and Georgia, having in the meantime been commissioned major-general. When he left the city of Savannah, he carelessly permitted himself to be surprised by the British forces, and was compelled to abandon the city. A court martial acquitted him, but Howe's conduct was open to severe criticism which resulted in a blood feud between him and General Christopher Gadsden. Howe was superseded in the command of the southern department by General Benjamin Lincoln, proceeded northward to Washington on the Hudson. He was in command of West Point from 1776 to 1778, and led the troops that were sent to crush the mutiny in the Pennsylvania and Jersey army forces. In May, 1785, he was appointed by Congress to treat with the Indians. Upon his return to North Carolina he was overwhelmed with business, and was elected to the Legislature, but death intervened before he could take office. See *AMERICAN HISTORIAN*.

*Under date of Williamsburg, July 22, 1779, Thomas Jefferson writes to Sir Guy Carleton, Governor of Canada, as follows:

"We think ourselves justified in Governor Hamilton's strict adherence to the general principle of National retaliation. To state to you the particular facts of British cruelty to American prisoners, would be to give a noble and glorious history from the mouth

my Proposals to them for a general Exchange, but have not yet received their answer, and I have now confined in close goal several Persons of some Consequence, who have been bro't from Long Island & other Places within their lines, in Hopes that severe Retaliation will at Length induce them to listen to Reason & consent to a general and equitable Exchange. I shall be much obliged to you, therefore, that such of the disaffected subjects of this State residing within the Enemies Lines as your Parties may take, be closely confined, & if this cannot be done conveniently in your Camp, that they be forwarded to Pokeepsie

of Colo. Ethan Allen, at the beginning of the war to the present day, a history which I will avoid, as equally disagreeable to you and to me. I with pleasure do you the justice to say that I believe these facts to be very many unknown to you, as Canada has been the only scene of your service in America, and, in that quarter, we have reason to believe that Sir Guy Carleton, and the three officers commanding there, have treated our prisoners (since the instance of Colo. Allen) with considerable lenity. What has been done in England, and what in New York & Philadelphia, you are probably uninformed; as it would hardly be made the subject of epistolary correspondence. I will only observe to you, Sir, that the confinement and treatment of our officers, soldiers and seamen, have been so rigorous and cruel, as that a very great portion of the whole of those captured in the course of this war, & carried to Philadelphia while in possession of the British army and to New York, have perished miserably from that cause only; and that this fact is as well established with us, as any historical fact which has happened in the course of the war. A Gentleman of this Commonwealth in public office, and of known and established character, who was taken on the sea, carried to New York and exchanged, has given us lately a particular information of the treatment of our prisoners there. Officers taken by land, it seems, are permitted to go on parole within certain limits of Long Island, till suggestions shall be made to their prejudice by some Tory refugee, or other equally worthless person, when they are hurried to the Provot in New York, without enquiring "whether they be founded upon positive facts, be matter of hearsay, or taken from the reports of interested men." The example of enquiring into the truth of charges of this nature according to legal principles of evidence, has surely not been set us by our enemies. We enquired what these Provots were and were told they were the common miserable jails, built for the confinement of malefactors. Officers and men taken by sea were kept in prison ships infested with [] light on by the crowd *[parts of one line and all of another at bottom of the page lucking]* from five to ten a day. When therefore we are desired to the possible consequence of treating prisoners with rigour, I need only ask when did those rigours begin? not with us assuredly. I think you, Sir, who have had as good opportunities as any British officer of learning in what manner we treat those whom the fortune of war has put in our hands can clear us from the charge of rigour as far as your knowledge or information has extended. I can assert that Governor Hamilton's is the first instance which has occurred in my own country, and, if there has been another in any of the United States, it is unknown to me; these instances must have been extremely rare, if they have ever existed at all, or they could not have been altogether unheard of by me; when a uniform exercise of kindness to prisoners on our part has been returned by as uniform severity on the part of our enemies. You must excuse me for saying it is high time, by other lessons, to teach respect to the dictates of humanity, in such a case retaliation becomes an act of humanity.

But suppose, Sir, we were willing still longer to decline the drudgery of general retaliation, yet Governor Hamilton's conduct has been such as to call for exemplary punishment on him personally. In saying this I have not so much in view his par-

for this Purpose. I cannot consent that any of them be delivered to Genl. Wolcott who, as he commands the militia of Connecticut, may conceive it not improper to exchange them for subjects of that State, which wou'd be a manifest Injustice to this, & I am sorry to say I am warranted in this suspicion from some Instances which have lately happened.

With Respect of the Whale Boats cruizing in the Sound, I know but of one or two commissioned under this State, whose Capts. have express Instructions not to Land on Long Island, except obliged by Stress of Weather & in that Case not to offer

ticular cruelties to our Citizens, prisoners with him (which tho' they have been great, were of necessity confined to a small scale) as the general nature of the service he undertook at Detroit and the extensive exercise of cruelties which they involved. Those who act together in war are answerable for each other. No distinction can be made between principal and ally by those against whom the war is waged. He who employs another to do a deed makes the deed his own. If he calls in the hand of the assassin or murderer, himself becomes the assassin or murderer. The known rule of warfare of the Indian Savages is an indiscriminate butchery of men, women & children. These savages, under this well known character, are employed by the British Nation, as allies in the war against the Americans. Governor Hamilton undertakes to be the conductor of the war. In the execution of that undertaking, he associates small parties of the whites under his immediate command with large parties of the savages, and sends them to act, sometimes jointly, and sometimes separately, not against our Fleets or Armies in the Field, but the farming settlements on our frontiers. Governor Hamilton is himself the butcher of men, women & children. I will not say to what length the fair rules of war would extend the right of punishment against him, but I am sure that confinement under its strictest circumstances, for Indian devastation and massacre must be deemed lenity. I apprehend you had not sufficiently adverted to the expressions in the advice of the Council when you suppose the proclamation there alluded to, to be the one addressed to the Inhabitants of the Illinois afterwards printed in the public papers & to be affirmed to contain "dennu." [Two lines at bottom of page gone.] The King's Proclamation, there alluded to, contained nothing more than an invitation to our officers and soldiers to join British arms against those who had pleased to call Rebels and Traitors. In order to introduce these among our people they were put into the hands of the Indians; and in every house, where they were found or carried away the family, they left one of these proclamations, some of which were found sticking on the breasts of the persons murdered, one and the same proclamation of Governor Hamilton came to our hands. The Indians being the bearers of the proclamation under the hand and seal of Governor Hamilton (no matter what was the opinion of them) there can be no doubt they were acting under his direction, and in order to prove this proof, the fact was cited in the advice of the Council that the King would be good as to recur to the address of the Illinois, which you refer to, and which tho' it does not in express terms threaten vengeance, blood & massacre, yet it is plain that the Governor had made for us the most ample provision of all the cruelties. He there gives in detail the horrid catalogue of savage atrocities extending from South to North whom he had leagued with himself to wage a cruel war on our frontiers, and it is well known that that war would of course be filled with the most cruel Massacres of men, women and children. Other papers of this kind have since come to our hands containing instructions to officers to proceed with savage cruelties of Indians & Whites, and proving that kind of war was waged by the savages. No further proofs in abundance might be added, but I suppose the facts are sufficient to need them."—Writings of Thomas Jefferson.

the least Injury to the Inhabitants. A few Days ago, a Lieut. Cornwall had my Permission to go on the Island to take off some of the principal Inhabitants in the service of the Enemy for the Purpose of Exchange, but as I see the Propriety of your being previously apprized of every measure of this Kind, no Person in future shall have my Permission to go over to Long Island on any Pretence, without their first consulting you on the Subject and obtaining your Liberty. I am

[G. C.]

[To Gen. Robert Howe.]

P. S. I shall have no Objection to your Exchang'g any two disaffected Subjects you may have in your Hands for the two Brothers of the Bearer Mr. Weed &c.

[No. 2483.]

JOHN JAY RESIGNS AS CHIEF JUSTICE.

Determined to Retire to Private Life—But will not Shrink from His Duties as a Citizen—Compliments for Governor Clinton.

Philadelphia 18 August 1779.

Dear Sir, I send you two Sets of the Journals of Congress, two acts of the Legislature of Virginia, one for establishing a Land Office &c., the other laying a Tax payable in certain enumerated Commodities, six news Papers, from the 5th to the 18th Inst. inclusive, 3 parcels of German ones, and an Essay on Trade and Finance by Pelatiah Webster. There are also enclosed with this Letter, two for my Brother Frederick and one for the Chancellor, which I take the Liberty of committing to your care.

Mr. Duane, who set out from home last Monday, will give you much interesting Information. Mr. Morris will also be with

you soon. I should have written by Mr. Duane, but want of Leisure as well as want of Health prevented me.

Mr. Morris will explain to you very fully the Steps, which in our opinion are necessary to be pursued respecting the Grants. I, therefore, forbear saying any thing on that Subject now.

The Exertions of our State have placed her in a very respectable Point of View, and permit me to tell you, that your march to the Highlands has given occasion to many handsome things being said & written of you here.

In my Letter to the Chancellor* is enclosed a Resignation of my office.† Say nothing of it till you see him. You will find no Reasons assigned for this measure; to you they would be unnecessary. I shall return to private Life with a Determination not to shrink from the Duties of a Citizen, during the Continuance of the present Contest I consider the Public as entitled to my Time & services. My best Respects to Mrs. Clinton. I am, Dear Sir, very sincerely yours &c.

John Jay.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 2484.]

Colonel John Lamb, Outranked by Colonel Crane, Desires to Resign from the Service.

Fishkills 19th August 1779.

Dear Sir, I have the mortification to inform you, that I shall be constrain'd to quit the Service, contrary to my expectations, before the Ball is clos'd, owing to a late decision of a Board of

*Robert Livingston.

†On October 1st, when Jay retired from Congress to take the same business home, Congress passed the following resolution:

"Resolved, That the thanks of Congress be given to the Hon. John Jay, Esq. for his president, in testimony of their approbation of his conduct in the management and execution of public business." See page 261.

General Officers, appointed by General Washington, to settle the relative Rank of the Field Officers of Artillery; who have Ranked Colonel Crane, before me, altho' my Commission (as Captain) from Congress is of earlier date than his:—As I am possessed of Colo. Crane's pretensions, I am fully convinced they have done me the greatest injustice; in consequence of which, I have applied to his Excellency for permission to resign; which he has declined granting, and refers me to Congress;—Many of my Friends advise me, to apply to Congress for redress; but, as this will be attended with considerable expence, besides the uncertainty of obtaining justice, I am almost deterred from thinking of such a Step. I shall be extremely happy to have your Friendly advice on this very interesting matter; and should you think my application to Congress eligible, I shall be much obliged to you, if you will be so condescending as to write a Line to the President, and some of your other Friends; which will give weight to an application of mine for a hearing.

Should I be obliged to quit the Service at this time, it will intirely disconcert my Plan of settling in the Place of my Nativity, at the conclusion of the War; as I must either go abroad, or settle in Boston, or some other Capital Place, to obtain, by honest Industry, a living for myself and Family; and when I have once fixed myself, and entered into Business, it will perhaps, be attended with great inconvenience, and many disadvantages, to remove to any other place. I have the Honor to be, with the greatest Respect, Dear Sir, your Obligated, and Most Humble Servant

John Lamb.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 2185.]

GENERAL ORDER FOR UNIFORMS.

*With the Facings to Distinguish Troops from the Different States.*Philadelphia Aug^t 20th 1779

Sir, I have the honour to transmit you, the Copy of a Letter which I have received from the Board of War, with the ordinance of Congress for the Regulation of the Cloathing Department, and as the language of the Hon^{ble} Board is amply expressive of the Publick Necessity for your assistance, I shall wave every other Sentiment on the occasion but my warmest prayers for the success of our attempts to Clothe an army which most deservedly merits every possible Comfort. I hope to be honour'd with an answer to the material points contain'd in the enclosed Letter from the Board of War and have the Honour to be Your Excellency's most Humble Servant

James Wilkinson Clo. General

His Exc^y Geo. Clinton Esqr.

War Office, Aug^t 16th 1779

Sir: You will be pleas'd immediately to write the most pressing Letters to the Executives of the several States, earnestly requesting their immediate Exertions in procuring Supplies of Cloathing for the Troops of their respective Quotas; you will be pleas'd to inform them that they are look'd to & have been for a long time past for the principal Supplies, & that it is out of the power of the Officers employ'd by Congress to procure Cloathing in sufficient Quantities without the immediate and Vigorous Exertions of the Governments of the respective states

The Articles the States should most attend to are Shirts, Shoes, Hatts, & Blanketts; we have woolen Garments in greater Plenty than the Articles above enumerated, but not a sufficiency even of these. We are, Sir, your very obed. Servants

Richard Peters,

By Order.

It will not be amiss to inform the states that if they procure woolen Cloathing to be made up, the Breeches may be omitted, & woolen overalls lined as low as the Knee with Linen substituted in their Room, as these with Socks answer a better purpose than Breeches & stockings, & are concluded upon as the Winter Uniform. The Uniforms as agreed on for the whole army, to have the Ground Blue the facings of the following Colours as nearly as possible, to which it would be best to accommodate our present Provision of Cloathing.

N. Hampshire,	Facings White;	Vests & overalls of the whole White.
Massachusetts,		
Rh. Island,		
Connecticut,		
N. York,	Facings Buff;	
N. Jersey,		
Pennsylvania,	Scarlett;	
Delaware,		
Maryland,		
Virginia,		
N. Carolina,	Blue facings—Button Holes trim'd with white tape or worsted Lace.	
South Carolina,		
Georgia,		

[No. 2486.]

Governor Livingston of New Jersey Returns Thanks to Governor Clinton for a Copy of the Constitution of New York.

Raritan, 23d August 1779.

Sir, I have been honoured with your Excellency's Letter, inclosing the Laws of your State as a present from your Assembly to ours, and a Copy of your Constitution, as a present from your Excellency to me. For both, Sir, you have my thanks at present, & I doubt not our Legislature will return the Compliment by transmitting to you a compleat set of our Laws. To send your Excellency a Copy of our Constitution is not at present in my power, not having one Copy of it, but what is bound up with other papers. I am, with great Esteem, your Excellency's most humble Serv.

Wil: Livingston.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

Alexander Hamilton's Facetious Letter Introducing an Old Woman to Governor Clinton.

August 24, 1779.

Dear Sir, The bearer of this is an old woman, and of course the most troublesome animal in the world. She wants to go into New York. It was in vain we told her no inhabitant could be permitted by us to go within the enemy's lines without permission from the civil power. Old and decrepid as she is, she made the tour of the family, and tried her blandishments upon each. I assured her Governor Clinton would have no possible motive for detaining her within his territories, and would readily give his consent to her emigration, but nothing would satisfy her except a line from General Washington to the Governor. As she showed a disposition to remain with us till she carried her point with true female perseverance, as we are rather

straitened in our quarters, and not one of the gentlemen of the family would agree to share his bed with her, and as you must at all events have the favor of a visit from her, I at last promised her a letter to you—the direct and sole end of which is to get rid of her.

I dare say your Excellency will think you make a very good bargain for the State, by getting rid of her, also in the manner she wishes. She seems to be in distress, and to have a claim upon our compassion.

I have the honor to be with the truest respect and affection,
your most obedient servant,

Alexander Hamilton.*

You will probably have heard of the surprise of Powle's Hook, † on the night of the 18th, by Major Lee. He took 158 prisoners. Killed and wounded about 50. His loss not more than ten or twelve.

We have just received a letter from Sullivan from Tioga, dated the 15th. He tells us that hearing a body of the enemy was assembling at Chemung, he moved to attack them on the night of the 12th, and arrived early next morning, when he found the place evacuated. He destroyed the whole settlement, village, corn-fields, &c. He afterwards detached General Hand with his light troops in pursuit, but could not overtake the enemy. Hand's advanced guard was attacked by a small lurking party, and had a few men killed and wounded. The troops returned to Tioga, where they wait the coming of General Clinton
To Governor Clinton.

*The original letter from Alexander Hamilton to George Clinton is not contained in the MSS., but is taken from the American Historical Records.

†The original all reference to the affair at Paubus Hook, August 18, 1779, in the MSS., will explain the presence of the subjoined foot notes.

††The Third Quarter, West Point, 23 August, 1779, Washington wrote to the President of the Senate.

§ See the letter to enclose your Excellency Major Lee's report of the surprise

THE LEGISLATURE IN SESSION

Governor Clinton's Address—Condition of the State Financial Complications and Embarrassments.

Gentlemen of the Senate and Assembly: The Meeting of the Legislature, intended to have been held agreeable to their last Adjournment having been prevented¹ by several of the Members taking the Field with the Militia, the Business of the Session thereby remained unfinished; this, with the Importance of several other Matters I have now to lay before you, induced me to convene you at this early Season, with a View to your dispatching those Parts which require your immediate Attention.

& capture of the garrison of Powles Hook.* The Major displayed a remarkable degree of prudence, address, enterprise, and bravery, upon this occasion, which does the highest honor to himself and to all the officers and men under his command. The situation of the post rendered the attempt critical and the success brilliant. It was made in consequence of information, that the garrison was in a state of negligent security, which the event has justified. I am much indebted to Major-Genl. Lord Stirling for the judicious measures he took to forward the enterprise, and to secure the retreat of the party. Lieutenant McCalester, who will have the honor of delivering these despatches, will present Congress with the standard of the garrison, which fell into his possession during the attack. Major Lee speaks of this gentleman's conduct in the handsomest terms. I have the honor to be, &c.

*As early as August 9th Major Lee had submitted to Washington a plan for capturing Paulus Hook, based upon a suggestion of Washington, but the measure had been postponed as involving too much risk.

¹Read in Congress, August 27th. Referred to Paen, Allen, and DeKlaer.
"I have received your report of the attack of Powles Hook, and am very glad to hear of your success, which I have forwarded to Congress by Lieutenant McCalester. I am very sorry if this should be contrary to your wish, or Capt. Rudolph's, but I must have the best opinion of this gentleman's merit. My motives for sending McCalester with the despatches were, that he commanded one of the standards, and got possession of the standard. As custom required the sending of a standard, I thought the bearer of it ought to be the person, who had the good fortune to get possession of it, especially as you had forwarded it by him to me. It has been warranted by precedent to send one with the despatches, and another with the standard. You will find my sense of your conduct, and of the success of your command, expressed in the general order of yesterday. I have also congratulated you on your success."—*Washington to Major Lee*, August 27th.
"I have been duly favored with your letter of the 14th, which I received on the 17th, and that of the same date, of 1 o'clock P. M., containing the account of the success of Major Lee's having succeeded against Powles Hook. I am very glad to hear of your Lordship's on this occasion, and thank you for the success you had in completing the enterprise. The increase of confidence which has arisen from this affair and that at Stony Point, I flatter myself will be more than the least of the advantages resulting from these events.
"As the enemy must feel himself disgraced by these successes, it is natural for him to attempt to lessen it by a retaliation in kind. It is natural for him to attempt to expose the conduct of the enemy as lyc most exposed. This sentiment, I am sure, will be your Lordship, and will of course proportion your vigilance to the present situation, and the danger which may be apprehended from the execution of your letter of the 20th. Your Lordship will be pleased to see the success of the troops concerned in the capture of the garrison of Powles Hook, and their conduct and gallant behavior on the occasion. The success of the enterprise will be attended, and receive the British prisoners."—*Washington to Major Lee*, August 21 August, 1779.

P. S. The report not having been received till this morning, I have not mentioned the mission. Major Lee mentions twenty men lost, and that the British were obliged to

and fixing, by your own Adjournment, such future Day as you shall judge most convenient, for compleating what may be safely deferred.

With respect to the general Condition of the State, it is my Duty to inform you, that the Enemy, frustrated in their late Attempts to penetrate into the more interior Parts of it, and increasing in Barbarity, as they diminish in Strength, have, with Circumstances of extreme Cruelty, laid waste a considerable

that, since the report was concluded, several of the missing had returned, which will lessen the supposed loss near one-half.—*Washington's Works.*

August 29.—Yesterday morning, at three o'clock, an attack was made on the British garrison at Powle's Hook; which, after a faint resistance, surrendered prisoners of war, except Major Sutherland and about fifty of his men, who, under cover of the night, made their escape to a small block-house on the left of the fort. The American party was commanded by Major Lee, of the horse, who, in a letter to General Washington, gives the following particular account of the affair: "I took command of the troops employed on this occasion, on the 18th. They amounted to four hundred infantry, composed of detachments of the Virginia and Maryland divisions, and one troop of dismounted dragoons. The troops moved from the vicinity of the New Bridge about four o'clock in the afternoon—patrols of horse being detached to watch the communication with the North River, and parties of infantry stationed at the different avenues leading to Powle's Hook. My anxiety to render the march as easy as possible, induced me to pursue the Bergen road lower than intended. After filing into the mountains, the timidity or treachery of the principal guide prolonged a short march into a march of three hours; by this means the troops were exceedingly harassed; and, being obliged to pass through deep, mountainous woods to regain our route, some parties of the rear were unfortunately separated. This affected me most sensibly, as it not only diminished the number of the men destined for the assault, but deprived me of the aid of several officers of distinguished merit.

"On reaching the point of separation, I found my first disposition impracticable, both from the near approach of day, and the rising of the tide. Not a moment being to spare, I paid no attention to the punctilios of honor or rank, but ordered the troops to advance in their then disposition. Lieutenant Rudolph, whom I had previously detached to reconnoitre the passages of the canal, returned to me at this point of time, and reported that all was silence within the works; that he had fathomed the canal, and found the passage on the centre route still admissible. This intervening intelligence was immediately communicated from front to rear, and the troops pushed on with that resolution, order, and coolness, which insures success.

"The forlorn hopes, led by Lieutenant McCallister of the Maryland, and Lieutenant Rudolph of the dragoons, marched on with trailed arms in most profound silence. Such was the singular address of these two gentlemen, that the first notice to the garrison was the forlorns plunging into the canal. A firing immediately commenced from the block-houses, and along the line of abattis, but did not in the least check the advance of the troops. The forlorn, supported by Major Clarke at the head of the right column, broke through all opposition, and found an entrance into the main work. So rapid was the movements of the troops, that we gained the fort before the discharge of a single piece of artillery. The centre column, commanded by Captain Forsyth, on passing the abattis, took a direction to their left. Lieutenant Armstrong led on the advance of this column. They soon possessed themselves of the officers and troops posted at the house No. 6, and fully completed every object of their destination. The rear column, under Captain Handy, moved forward in support of the whole. Thus were we completely victorious in the space of a few moments.

"The appearance of daylight, my apprehension lest some accident might have befallen the boats, the numerous difficulties of the retreat, the harassed state of the troops, and the destruction of all our ammunition by passing the canal, conspired in influencing me to retire at the moment of victory. Major Clarke, with the right column, was directed to put in motion with the greater part of the prisoners. Captain Handy followed with the remainder. Lieutenants Armstrong and Reed formed the rear guard.

"Immediately on the commencement of the retreat, I sent forward Captain Forsyth to reconnoitre to collect such men from the different columns as were most fit for action, and to take post on the heights of Bergen to cover the retreat. On my reaching this point, I was informed by Corret Neill (who had been posted there during the night for the purpose of having the bridge and communicating with the boats) that my messenger had not been previous to the attack, had not arrived, nor had he heard from Captain Forsyth, who had charge of the boats.

"This was a great misfortune, that I should be disappointed in the route of retreat. I rode forward to the point under Major Clarke, whom I found very near the point of embarkation, and endeavored to receive them. In this very critical situation, I lost no

Part of Westchester County; which, from its Situation, must unavoidably be exposed to the Ravages of an Enemy who have the Command of the Waters by which it is nearly encompassed.

Such Part of the Levies destined for the Protection of the Northern and Western Frontier, as are raised, have been so disposed, as, with the Militia, in a great Measure, to afford Security to the different Settlements; which (if we except the Irruption of the Enemy at Minisink, at a Time when the Guards,

time in my decision, but ordered the troops to regain Bergen road, and march to the New Bridge. At the same time, I communicated my disappointment to Lord Stirling by express, then returned to Prior's Bridge to the rear guard.

"Oppressed by every possible misfortune, at the head of troops worn down by a rapid march of thirty miles, through mountains, swamps, and deep morasses, with the least refreshment during the whole march, ammunition destroyed, encumbered with prisoners, and a retreat of fourteen miles to make good, on a route which had been intercepted at several points by a march of two, three, or four miles, one body of troops in our rear, and another (from the intelligence I had received from the captured officers) in all probability well advanced on our right, a retreat naturally impossible, our left, under all these distressing circumstances, my sole dependence was on the persevering gallantry of the officers, and obstinate courage of the troops. I therefore was fully satisfied by the shouts of the soldiery, who gave every proof of manly vigor at the moment the enemy's approach was announced.

"Having gained the point of interception opposite Wechock, (Wechawken) Colonel Handy was directed to move with his division on the mountain road, to enable it to facilitate the retreat. Captain Catlett, of the second Virginia regiment, then joined me at this moment at the head of fifty men with good ammunition. I immediately halted this officer, and having detached two parties, the one on the Bergen in the rear of Major Clarke, the other on the banks of the North River, I directed the party under command of the captain on the centre route. By these dispositions the sudden approach of the enemy was fully prevented. I am very much obliged to this officer and the gentlemen under him, for their alacrity and vigilance at this critical moment.

"On the rear's approach to the Fort Lee road, we met a detachment under the command of Colonel Ball, which Lord Stirling had pushed forward, on the first of our situation, to support the retreat. The colonel moved on and occupied a position which effectually covered us.

"Some little time after this a body of the enemy made their appearance in the woods on our right, and moving through the fields directly to the rear, they immediately commenced a fire upon our rear. Lieutenant Reed was ordered to oppose them, while Lieutenant Rudolph threw himself with a party of men to the front, and commanded the road. These two officers were directed mutually to support each other, and give time for the troops to pass the English Netherbold Church, and the high pole. On the enemy's observing this disposition, they immediately retraced their route: they had approached, and gained the woods. The precipitancy with which they retired prevented the possibility of Colonel Ball's falling in with them, and the whole.

"The body which moved in our rear, having excessively fatigued the troops, and the rapidity of their march, thought prudent to halt before they came to the New Bridge.

"Thus was every attempt to cut off our rear completely baffled, and we retired safely at the New Bridge with all the prisoners, about one hundred and thirty in number. I should commit the highest injustice, was I not to acknowledge that the success that my endeavors were fully seconded by every officer and soldier who distinguished themselves by their valor and resolution. It is to be regretted that no discrimination justly be made, but what arose from opportunity, and that each other in patience under their many sufferings, and each other in the vicissitude of fortune with a resolution which reflects the highest honor on them. During the whole action, not a single musket was fired, and we were supported by our sole dependence.

"Having gained the fort, such was the order of the troops, that the officers and soldiers, that the soldiers were prevented from plundering, and that, in every sort, American humanity has been again signally manifested. The success was strongly dictated, on the retreat, the putting the prisoners to death, was not only fully justified it; notwithstanding which, not a man was killed, and not a single officer was wounded.

"During the progress of the troops in the woods, the loss of the British officers I conclude not more than fifty of the whole. The loss of the Americans, among the killed is one officer, supposed (from the intelligence I received) to be of Colonel Buskirk's regiment. Our loss on this occasion, I am persuaded, was not had a report from the detachment of Virginians, who were sent to the rear, proportionate to the loss of the other troops. I am, however, very sensible that the loss of the whole in killed, wounded, and missing, was not so great as it is generally

who had been stationed there, were withdrawn to assist in offensive Operations) have, for the most Part, remained undisturbed: And we have now Reason to hope, from the Movements of our Western Armies that the Inhabitants will not only enjoy Tranquillity in future but that just Vengeance will be taken on their savage Enemy.†

report comes to hand, I will transmit to head-quarters an accurate return. I herewith enclose a return of the prisoners taken from the enemy.

"At every point of the enterprise I stood highly indebted to Major Clarke for his zeal, activity, and example. Captains Handy and Forsyth have claim to my particular thanks for the support I experienced from them on every occasion. The Captains Reed, McClane, Smith, Crump, and Wilnot, behaved with the greatest zeal and intrepidity. I must acknowledge myself very much indebted to Major Burnet and Captain Peyton, of the dragoons, for their counsel and indefatigability in the previous preparations for the attack. The premature withdrawal of the boats was owing to the non-arrival of my despatches; and though a most mortifying circumstance, can be called nothing more than unfortunate. Lieutenant Vanderville, who was to have commanded one of the forlorns, but was thrown out by the alteration of the disposition of the battle, conducted himself perfectly soldier-like. The whole of the officers behaved with the greatest propriety; and, as I said before, no discrimination can justly be made, but what arose from opportunity.

"The Lieutenants McCallister, Armstrong, Reed, and Rudolph, distinguished themselves remarkably. Too much praise cannot be given to those gentlemen for their prowess and example. Captain Bradford, of the train, who volunteered it with me for the purpose of taking direction of the artillery, deserves my warmest thanks for his zeal and activity. I am personally indebted to Captain Rudolph, and Dr. Irvine of the dragoons, who attended me during the expedition, for their many services.

"I beg leave to present your excellency with the flag of the fort by the hands of Mr. McCallister, the gentleman into whose possession it fell.

"Among the many unfortunate circumstances which crossed our wishes, none was more so than the accidental absence of Colonel Buskirk, and the greatest part of his regiment. They had set out on an expedition up the North River the very night of the attack. A company of vigilant Hessians had taken their place in the fort, which rendered the secrecy of approach more precarious, and, at the same time, diminished the object of the enterprise by a reduction of the number of the garrison. Major Sutherland fortunately saved himself by a soldier's counterfeiting his person. This imposition was not discovered until too late.

"I intended to have burnt the barracks; but on finding a number of sick soldiers and women with young children in them, humanity forbade the execution of my intention. The key of the magazine could not be found, nor could it be broken open in the little time we had to spare, many attempts having been made to that purpose by the Lieutenants McCallister and Reed. It was completely impracticable to bring off any pieces of artillery. I consulted Captain Bradford on the point, who confirms me in my opinion. The circumstance of spiking them being trivial, it was omitted altogether.

"After most of the troops had retired from the works, and were passed and passing the canal, a fire of musketry commenced from a few stragglers, who had collected in the old work on the right of the main fort. Their fire being ineffectual, and the object being I determined not to break in upon the order of retreat, but continue passing the whole in front, I cannot conclude this relation without expressing my warmest thanks to Lord Stirling for the full patronage I received from him in every stage of the enterprise. I must also return my thanks to the cavalry for their vigilant execution of the duties assigned them."—*Moore's Diary of the Revolution.*

Pennsylvania Packet, September 2. General Sir Henry Clinton, in a letter to Lord Cornwallis, dated New York, August 21, 1779, says of this action: "On the 19th instant, the garrison of Powel's Hook being reinforced, Lieutenant-Colonel Buskirk was ordered with part of the troops to cut off some small parties who interrupted the supplies of provision; a considerable body of the rebels availed themselves of that opportunity to attempt the post. At three in the morning they advanced to the gate of the works, and being mistaken by a negligent guard for Lieutenant-Colonel Buskirk's detachment, entered without opposition. I fear they found the garrison so scandalously absorbed in consequence of their security, that they made themselves masters of the block-house and two redoubts with scarcely any difficulty. The alarm being now given, Major Sutherland, the commandant, threw himself, with forty Hessians, into a redoubt, by an incessant fire from which he forced the enemy to quit the post without their damaging any of the cannon or setting fire to the barracks. In short, their enterprise was as disastrous as their attempt was well-conducted. They carried off with them near forty invalids, prisoners. A detachment being sent over from New York, Major Sutherland pursued the enemy, and coming up with their rear made a captain and some private prisoners. Lieutenant-Colonel Buskirk, on his return, had a small skirmish with the rebels, and took four prisoners without any loss on his part."—*Ibid.*, v. 327.

† *Id.*, Journals of the Legislature.

Gentlemen, It is with Pleasure I observe, that by the Assiduity of the Courts of Justice, Robberies, and other Offences against the Public Peace, notwithstanding the insidious Acts of our Enemies to encourage them, daily become less frequent.

I am sorry, at the same Time, to inform you, that neither the Justice and Forbearance manifested in your late Resolutions, relative to the disaffected Subjects in the Northeastern Counties of this State nor the Measures which Congress have yet thought fit to adopt, have, in any Degree, tended to quiet the Disturbances in that Part of the State. The Papers which I shall leave with you, will convey every necessary Information on that Head, and evince the Necessity of your taking immediate and decisive Steps for the Restoration of Order and good Government, and the Protection of the faithful Subjects of the State in those Counties.

Gentlemen of the Senate and Assembly,

I now also submit to your Consideration a Letter from His Excellency, General Washington, dated the 22d Day of May last, and sundry Resolutions of Congress transmitted herewith.

*Circular to the States. Head Quarters, Middle Brodhead.

Sir, The situation of our affairs at this period appears to me peculiarly alarming. I flatter myself will apologise for that anxiety which impels me thus to address you on the present occasion.

The state of the army in particular is alarming on every account. The number is not among the least. Our battalions are exceedingly weakened by the natural decay incident to the best composed armies, and by the expiration of the term of service for which a large proportion of them were raised. The measures hitherto taken to replace them, so far as they have proceeded, have been attended with very partial success; and I am not sanguine in my expectation that afford a better prospect. A reinforcement of 10,000 men consisting of new levies and re-inlisted men, is necessary. The number now on foot is far short of one third of our whole force—must be kept up, and the direction of Congress and essential in itself. It is not less so, that when it is compared with the force of the British Army, and the Rhode Island, with the addition of the succors, that are daily coming from England, at the lowest computation—it will be found to be insufficient to apprehensions and to demand the zealous attention of the Legislature.

When we consider the rapid decline of our currency, the increasing dissatisfaction of a great part of the people, the numerous insurrections at rest—the increasing danger to the Southern States, and the

the Recess of the Legislature, particularly respecting the cloathing and recruiting the Continental Regiments, and for defraying the Expences of the current Year, and supporting the Credit of the Paper-Money. As the Enlistments of many of the Men will expire in the Course of the ensuing Winter, the supplying their Places will merit your early Attention. The Evils which we experience from the continued Depreciation of our Currency, the encouragement the Enemy derive from this Circumstance, and the Danger which might attend a total Loss of its Credit, render it a Subject of the first Importance, and are alone sufficient to recommend it to your most serious Deliberation. While the Sense that your Constitutents loudly express of the Necessity of applying some suitable Remedy to this growing Evil, give you the strongest Assurances of their Acquiescence in any

measures of any misfortune in this quarter; and must feel the impolicy of trusting our Security to a want of activity and enterprize in the Enemy.

An expectation of peace and an opinion of the Enemy's inability to send more troops to this country, I fear, have had too powerful an influence in our affairs. I have never heard any thing conclusive to authorise the former, and present appearances are in my opinion against it. The accounts we receive from Europe uniformly announce the King's preparations to continue the war, at least another campaign. The debates and proceedings in Parliament wear this complexion. The public papers speak confidently of large reinforcements destined for America. The Minister in his speech asserts positively that reinforcements will be sent over to Sir Henry Clinton; though he acknowledges the future plan of the war will be less extensive than the past—Let it be supposed that the intended succors will not exceed five thousand men. This will give the Enemy a superiority very dangerous to our safety, if their strength be properly exerted and our situation is not materially altered for the better. These considerations I think more than might be suggested point to the necessity of immediate and vigorous exertions to complete our battalions and to make our military force more respectable. I thought it my duty to give an idea of the true state and to urge the necessity of the States to a matter in which their safety and happiness are so deeply concerned. I hope whatever for the public good will be admitted as the motive and end of every measure.

The want of a regular and settled system in the Army, also. The want of system which has prevailed in this department has been the source of innumerable evils—deficiency of Officers, irregular and unequal issues, great waste, loss, and expence to the public, and dissatisfaction in the Army—much confusion and perplexity—an additional source of objections to the officers commanding, make but a part of them. I have endeavored to supply what is ardently desired to see a reformation. Congress by a resolve passed the 17th March, has established an order for regulating this department. A number of Officers are to be appointed by each State, and the particular Officers to be appointed have been given relative to these appointments; but, notwithstanding the requests with the particular States, I take the liberty to press their claims, and to point out the loss of time. The service suffers amazingly from the disorder in this department, and the regulations for it can not be too soon carried into effect. * * *

Journals of Congress.

*See Volume IV, page 659.

Plan, which their constitutional Representatives, on a full and impartial Review of the general Interest, as well as the relative Situation of the State, shall think proper to adopt.

Gentlemen of the Legislature,

I shall, from Time to Time, during the Session, digest and communicate to you such other Matters, as shall appear to me to require your Attention. It is, under divine Providence, by the wisdom and Unanimity of the Councils of America, at this Juncture, that her Happiness depends; and I have a Confidence that the same Zeal to promote the common Cause, for which the State hath hitherto been distinguished, will be equally conspicuous in your Deliberations.

Geo. Clinton.

Kingston, August 24, 1779.

[No. 2487.]

Colonel Beatty Requests the Governor to Supply Him with Information Concerning Ensign Leggett and Colonel Thomas.

Head Quarters West Point 25th Aug^r 1779.

Dear Sir, I was favoured a few days since with the Enclos'd letter from Ab'm Leggett, an Ensign in one of the New York Continental Regts., in answer to my publication for all who were of Parole to render themselves up, forthwith to the Enemy. There appears, a chain of circumstances in his case, probably Hazardous to him (if true) I am directed to lay his letter before your Excellency and to request what Information you have relating to this matter; & how far he was Justified by you, in the means and Business of his Escape.

Nothing further, since I had the pleasure of seeing you. Having been learn'd, with respect to Colo. Thos. Thomas &

Enemy having renewed their claims for our returning him, as a military Prisoner, I am also to desire your Excell'y to give me what circumstances have since come to your knowledge, relative to the mode of his capture, and the military Command, or authority he was invested with at that time. I am, with much respect, & Esteem Your Excellency's most obed't Hum'e Serv't

Jno. Beatty.

Please to return the Inclosed letter when done with it.

His Excell'y Gov'r Geo. Clinton.

Pokeepsie 27 Aug't 1779.

Br Sir, I am favored with yours of the 25 Inst. with Respect to Ensign Leggett, I can only say that some Time after he left Long Island, he waited on me & gave me in Substance the same Information as is contained in his Letter to you. I had Reason to believe his acc't to be true & as it appeared he was influenced by a Zeal to serve his Country, I conceived it hard to express myself fully respect'g his Conduct, tho he must be much mistaken, if from this he concluded that I esteemed it justifiable. I did not think it, however, any Part of my Duty to return him as he was an officer in the Continental, and I now wish that some mode may be adopted to exchange him, as he will probably suffer if returned to the Enemy under his present peculiar Circumstances.

Colo. Thomas has not called upon me since his Return from Captivity; neither has he assigned me the Reasons of his Conduct. He was taken as I have been informed in his own House where a small Guard was assembled, merely for their own Protection ag't Freebooters who infest that Country. I do not

recollect that he had any particular Command at that Time, other than what w^old arise from his being commissioned Colo of the Militia. I am &c.

[G. C.]

[To Col. John Beatty.]

[Nos. 2488, 2489.]

THE CASE OF COLONEL JOHN LAMB.

Governor Clinton Submits the Matter to President Jay and Requests His Influence in Colonel Lamb's Behalf.

Pokeepsie 26 Aug't 1779

Dear Sir, I received your Letter the moment I was setting out to meet the Legislature at Kingston or I should have answered it sooner. I perfectly agree with your other Friends, that you ought to appeal from the Determination of the Board of General Officers to the Justice of Congress respecting your Rank, and it is my Opinion that you cannot with Propriety resign until this shall prove ineffectual. I am sensible your Situation is a delicate one, but it might equally subject you to Censure to quit the service without first pursuing the proper Measure to obtain Redress as to continue in it after a Degradation of Rank.

I enclose you a Letter to the Presid't of Congress mentioning your Case & requesting him to interest himself in obtaining a speedy & equitable Decision; this Letter you will either forward or retain according to your final Determination on this Subject.

I shall be happy, whenever it is in my Power to serve you & am &c.

[G. C.]

[To Col. John Lamb.]

GOVERNOR CLINTON TO JOHN JAY.

Pokeepsie 26 Aug't 1779.

Sir, Colo. Lamb of the artillery conceives himself degraded in Rank by the Determination of a Board of General Officers appointed by the Commander in Chief to settle the relative Rank of the Field Officers of the artillery, who have given the Preference to Colo. Crane, said to be a Junior Officer. In Consequence of which Colo. Lamb had determined to resign, but by the advice of his Friends now means previously to appeal to the Justice of Congress on the Subject. I presume it will occasion his personal attendance in Philadelphia & sho'd [he] be detained there any Time it will be attended with an Expence very unequal to his present Income. I, therefore, take the Liberty of requesting your Influence in bringing this matter to a speedy Issue. Strict Justice, I am certain, he will obtain as far as the Delegates from New York are concerned, & the wounds he has honorably received in the Service of the Country, with his general Character as an officer, will sufficiently recommend him to the attention of Congress. I am &c.

[G. C.]

[To President Jay.]

[No. 2490.]

HARDSHIPS FOR OUR PRISONERS.

Technicalities and Red Tape Deprive them of the Society of their Families.

Long Island, August 16th 1779.

Sir: We beg leave to acquaint your Excellency that we have at last procured Permission from the Commanding officer at New York for our wives to come in and see us, provided your Excellency will permit Mrs. Colden and Miss Colden to come in and

return again; we are Sorry to Trouble your Excellency on this Score but the erdent desire of Seeing our wives after so long a separation and who have Several Times attempted to come in, urge us to beg your Excellency to grant Permission for the two women above mentioned to come in if it can be Consistantly done; nothing but the reasons above mentioned could Induce us to have Troubled your Excellency at this Time; therefore, Confiding in your Excellencies known Humanity and goodness, and that you will do all in your power in that Case, we rest Contented and beg Leave to Subscribe ourselves, your most obedient and very Humble Servents

James McClaghry,

Samuel Logan,

His Excellency George Clinton.

P. C.

Flat Bush August ye 26th 1779.

Sir, I beg leave to inform your Excellency that this letter and the inclosed passes has been stoped ten days on account of a Mrs. McDonald. But by the intrest of Coll. Colden our wives are now permitted to come in on certain conditions. I could wish that unnatural and cruel practise of stopping or not permitting the unhapey wives of the unhapey officers captured on either Sides from Comming in to see thier unfortunate partnors in Captivity, and Returning again to take care of thier famelyes and affects; where or when or on what Side the evil began I know not, but undoubtedly whoever was the first agressor is the most to blame. I could wish for the Sake of myself and others, that it was Removed and boath sides act candedly and do as they would be don by in like Curcunstances; the gentilmen in the British lines profess thier willingnes to Remove the evil, provided the Ameri

cars would do the Same. I hope the Americans may always be found as Ready and willing to Remove every cruel evil as the British, and, therefore rests in Confidence that your Excellency will grant Passes to the within named ladeys to come in and go out again, in hops of which I Remain with the Greatest Esteem, your Excellency Very Humel Savent

James McClaghry.

[To G. C.]

[No. 2491.]

Relating to the State Clothier.

Pokeepsie 27 Aug't 1779.

Sir, I am honored with the Rec't of your Letter of the 9 Inst. The Legislature is now sitting & will make provision for & ascertain the mode of appointn't of a State Cloathier as soon as this [is] done, one will be appointed and he shall have Directions immediately to furnish you with proper Returns. I am &c.

[G. C.]

Genl. Wilkinson.

[No. 2492.]

Relative to the Loan Commissionership.

Pokeepsie 27 Aug't 1779.

Sir, I am to acknowlege the Rec't of your Letter of the 2d Inst. I have the best Opinion of Mr. Dickenson's moral as well as political Character & I have no Reason to doubt his abilities. I shall, therefore, be always happy when I have it in my Power to serve him. In the present Case I think there is little Probability of Mr. Ten Broeck's resigning his Office; he above a year past intimated an Intention of this Kind founded on the Risque & Trouble attend'g it and the inadequate allowance, but as I

an informed some new Provision is made with Respect to Clerks & for extra Services it is to be presumed he will incline to continue, tho' his Professions may seem to indicate the contrary; but sh'd this not be the Case the Office from its Nature I presume to be the Gift of Congress. The Council of Appointment in which alone by my Office I have a casting voice, is not at present & I conceive will not be, authorized to interfere. I thank you for the Information your Letter contains and shall be obliged to you for a Continuance of your Favors, as from my Situation at a Distance from the Common Rout I have not the best Opportunities of receiving the earliest Intelligence. I am

[G. C.]

[To Henry Remsen.]

[No. 2493.]

Colonel Van Schaick Requested to Make Inquiry Regarding the Fate of the Prisoners Taken at Minisink.

Pokeepsie 27th Aug't 1779

Dear Sir, On the 22d Ulto. an action happened between a Detachm't of our Militia and a Party of Tories and Indians under Brandt near Minisink after their hav'g destroyed that Place: forty four of the militia are missing, among whom are Colo. Tusten & several other valuable officers. There are reasons to believe that upwards of 30 of them are Prisoners, and as their Families are exceedingly anxious to know their Fate, you will oblige me by directing the Officer commanding at Fort Schuyler to make the strictest Inquiries respecting them and how the Survivors are disposed of. This he may probably be able to discover by his Scouts and Intercourse with the friendly Indians I am &c.

[G. C.]

[To Col. Van Schaick.]

[No. 2494.]

A Similar Request Made of General Schuyler.

Pokeepsie 27 Aug't 1779.

Dear Sir, On the 22d ulto. an action happened between a Detachm't of our Militia and a Party of Tories & Indians under Brandt near Minisink after their hav'g destroyed that Place, forty four of the militia are missing among whom are Colo. Tusten & several other valuable Officers there are Reasons to believe that upwards of 30 of them are Prisoners and as their Families are exceedingly anxious to know their Fate I have taken the Liberty to write to you that having the Direction of the Indian Affairs you may possibly have it in your Power to obtain for them some satisfactory Information. Any Trouble you may take upon this Occasion will be gratefully acknowledged by the Friends of the People missing and by D'r Sir &c.

[G. C.]

[To Gen. Schuyler.]

P. S. If there was a Practicability of send'g a Flag to some of the western Posts for that Purpose I should be happy if it co'd be done.

[No. 2495.]

Commissary Wadsworth Apprehensive of a Flour Famine.

West Point Aug'st 27th 1779.

Sir, I have delayed for some days to express my fears to your Excellency that there woud be a want of flour for the army, expecting Mr. Flint's return from Philadelphia, and hoping he woud bring more favorable accounts than I have hitherto had, but he not returning, every information I have been able to obtain, confirms me in a belief that we shall be out of flour in three weeks.

I have obtained from the State of New York all the State magazine of flour; the whole of their last year's crop of wheat is exhausted, the new is not threshed, and I have no hopes of obtaining any supplies soon in this State. I am unacquainted with the state of the magazines in Philadelphia, and in Maryland the flour is not under my direction; the supply for three weeks is on this side the Delaware and with the greatest oeconomy will not last longer than that time. I am Y^r Exc^ys &c.

Jere'h Wadsworth.*

His Exc^y Genl. Washington.

(Copy)

[Nos. 2496, 2497.]

Colonel Pawling's Vouchers for Money Disbursed Among Indigent Families on the Frontiers.

Received of Levi Pawling the sum of three Hundred and Thirty pounds being part of six hundred and fifty Pounds, which last Mentioned sum was by an order from His Excellency the Governor Drawn out of the Treasury of this State, for supplying with provision such of the Inhabitants of the Frontiers of Ulster and Orange Counties, whose possessions have been laid waste and Desolated by the Enemy, and who by Reason thereof may be unable to support themselves; which first Mentioned sum I promis to Distribute for the purpose aforesaid. I say Received by me this 25th day of Aug't 1779.

£330.

Benjamin Deput.

Received of Levi Pawling the Sum of three Hundred and twenty pounds being part of Six Hundred and fifty Pounds, which last mentioned Sum was by an Order from his Excellency the governor drawn out of the Treasury of this State, for supplying

*A letter, of the 5th, [June, 1779] from J. Wadsworth, commissary-general of provisions, was read; whereupon,

Resolved unanimously, That Congress have full confidence in the integrity and abilities of the quarter-master-general and commissary-general; and although there is reason to believe that abuses have been committed by inferior officers in their respective departments, yet Congress are persuaded that many of them deserve well of their country; and that measures will speedily be taken to distinguish such of them as have been faithful from such as have been otherwise, and thereby cause justice to be done to all:

That col. Wadsworth be informed that at so critical a season as the opening of a campaign, sudden changes in the appointment of principal officers in his department would be inexpedient and dangerous, and therefore that they cannot accept of his resignation; and farther, that Congress expect his deputies and agents will not expose themselves to the resentment of their country, or embarrass the service, by quitting it at so critical a period, but, by exerting their utmost efforts in their several posts, manifest their ability and public spirit.—*Journals of Congress.*

November 29, 1779, Congress accepted the resignation of Commissary General Wadsworth, to take effect January 1st, 1780.—STATE HISTORIAN.

provision, such of the Inhabitants of the frontiers of Ulster and Orange Counties whose Possessions have been laid waste and Desolated by the Enemy, and who by reason thereof may be unable to support themselves; which first mentioned Sum I propose to Distribute for the purpose aforesaid. I say Rec'd by me this 25 day of Aug: 1779.

Johannis G. Hardenbergh.

[No. 2498.]

Governor Clinton's Reasons for not Exchanging Mrs. MacDonell.

Bethlem, Orange Co. 29th Aug't 1779.

Dear Sir, Pardon me for obtruding on you a second time, a subject, which I had reason to believe, you had answered definitively before. Its appearing in a diff't Point of light; & involving in it the Fate of two importunate Ladies (at whose particular solicitation I now write) will I hope apologise for my rudeness, in again calling your attention to this matter.

By two letters, a few days since, received from Capt. MacDonnell & Mr. Loring, I learn that if Mrs Campble (the Lady you fixed on) was taken by the savages; she either remains with them, or in some part of Canada; that in either situation, Sir H. Clinton has little opportunity & in fact no authority, to demand her, as the Party who carried her off and the country she is now detained in, are without his Jurisdiction; & subject only to the commands of Genl. Haldimand at Quebec. And were it otherwise, it would at least require the Space of Six or Eight months to negotiate her Enlargement. In the mean time, our Prisoners (whose captivity appears to have no fix'd Period) are by this means deprived of the Pleasure & Intercourse of their wives;—a satisfaction natural to the married state & from which I am sensible, they would derive mutual Happiness & Benefits. The Letters from Mrs. McClaury & Mrs. Logan, which accompany this, will probably speak more feelingly than I can, & point out to your Excell'y their wishes, on this occasion whose Hopes alone depend upon your acquiescence in the measure.

To this, give me leave to add, I am well assured of obtaining permission also, for Mrs. Mitchell, her Family & Effects, to pass the British lines, & return again to the Embrace of a fond Husband; who has meritoriously relinquish'd his Ease & Happiness at home, & risk'd his all upon the Freedom of his country. He waits on you with this Letter, to solicit your Interposition & Indulgence in this matter.

I wish I may not appear too importunate in their Behalf, but I must confess, I feel myself somewhat interested in the accomplishment of this Exchange.

I had the Honour of writing your Excellency on the 25th Inst. relative to Colo. Thomas & Ensign Legget, two Pris's of war, who had violated their Paroles. I shall thank you for an answer thereto by this opportunity. I am with much Esteem your Excellency's most obed't Hum'e Serv't

Jno. Beatty

P. S. Since writing the above, I have been favoured with your letter of the 27th & am obliged by the Information respecting Legget.

His Excellency Geo: Clinton, Esqr.

*Circular to States. Head-Quarters, 26 August, 1779. Sir, I have the honor to send to your Excellency a list of sundry officers belonging to your State, who have been taken in captivity and are reported by the commissary of prisoners as violators of their paroles. A conduct of this kind, so ignominious to the individuals themselves, so dishonourable to their country and to the service in which they have been engaged, and so prejudicial to those gentlemen, who were associated with them in misfortune, but preserved their honor, demands that every measure should be taken to deprive them of the means of their delinquency, and to compel their return. We have pleaded ourselves to the enemy to do every thing in our power for this purpose; and in consequence thereof Mr. Beatty, the commissary of prisoners, to issue the summons, which you will probably have seen in the public papers. But as it is likely to have a very partial effect, I find it necessary, in aid of it, to request the interposition of the different States to enforce a compliance. The most of these persons never having been, and some of them now being, in the Continental service, military authority will hardly be sufficient to oblige them to leave their places of residence, and return to captivity against their inclination; neither will it be difficult for them to elude a military search, and to hide themselves in concealment. I must therefore entreat, that your Excellency will be pleased to take such measures, as shall appear to you proper and effectual, to procure their immediate return. This will be rendering an essential service to our arms, by removing a general in captivity, and will tend much to remove the difficulties, which now lie in the way of exchanges, and to discourage the practice of violating paroles by the enemy. I am, &c.

Sir, I am favored with your Letter of the 29 ulto. When I had last the Pleasure of seeing you, I explained to you my Reasons for not suffering Mrs. McDonald to go in to New York as Mr. Butler who commanded the Party that destroyed Cherry Valley, made Proposals of exchanging the Gentlewomen taken at that Place now in the most cruel kind of Captivity for his Mother, Mrs. McDonald & others, in our Hands and I have'g signified to him my acquiescence in such Exchange, I cannot consistently either with my Duty or common Justice, consent to gratify Mrs. McDonald or her Friends in this Instance, and I am persuaded that Mrs. McClaughry & the other Ladies who are desirous of visiting their Husbands, will not be dissatisfied when they are acquainted with my Reasons, but on the contrary approve of my Refusal, even tho' it sh'd deprive them of the Pleasure they wish for. I am &c.

[G. C.]*

1st Sept. 1779, Kingston.

[To Col. John Beatty.]

[No. 2499.]

Draft Cartel for the Exchange of Mrs. McFarren and Others for Mrs. Mitchell and Others.

I will consent that Mrs. McFerren, Miss Nancy McArthur, Mrs. Byvanck, Mrs. Elizabeth Duncan, with their Furniture, wearing apparel & bedding, & two negro girls (servants), shall go into N. York, provided that proper assurances be given that the wife of Uriah Mitchell at Hempstead, on Long Island, her Family & Effects, the Child of Mr. Morris Hazard & his Effects, in the Hands of Ab'm Schenck, Esqr., on Long Island & a negro girl

*See page 129.

and other Effects of John Quackenboss, in the Hands of Mr. David Mollishaw, in New York & Mr. How at Bloomingsdale, near the City, be permitted to come out into the Country by the Return of the Flag. Given &c 30 Aug't 1779.

Nov'r 15th. A Copy of the above with the following addition was sent in by Mr. Cummings.

“ Or I will consent that Mrs. McFarren, Miss Nancy McArthur, their wearing apparel Furniture & bedding & negro girl Serv't, shall go in to New York on the like assurance being given that the wife of Uriah Mitchel, her family & Effects, & the Child & Effects of Mr. Morris Hazard be permitted to come out.”

[No. 2500.]

Relating to Flour for the Army.

Sir, Since my last informing your Excellency that I had purchased 325 barrels of Flour, 117 of which I had delivered to a Mr. Jno. Decker Robinson, a Dep'y of Mr. Cuyler, I have received your Order to deliver all such Flour &c., purchased or procured by virtue of my appointment from your Excellency, to Col. Jacob Cuyler or Order; in compliance with which I have delivered to Mr. Hogeboom one of his Deputies Dep'y, the remaining 208 barrels, for which Mr. Pliny Moor one of Col. Peter Van Nesses Deputy's has paid me. I am, with great Esteem, your Excellency's most Obt. Hum'le Serv't

Walter Livingston

Jeviot-dale Aug't 30 79.

His Excell'y Governor Clinton.

[No. 2501.]

SULLIVAN DEFEATS BRANT AT NEWTOWN.

*James Clinton's Modest and Comprehensive Report of the Battle—
A Well Planned and Well Fought Affair.*

New Town, 5 miles above Chemung August 30th 1779.

Dear Brother, I have just time to inform you that the army under Genl. Sullivan arrived on this Ground yesterday Evening, in perfect helth and Spirits. On Thursday last the 26th we left Tioga but being incumbered with a Train of artillery and Waggons and the roads being very bad, owing to an heavy rain the preceeding day, together with other circumstances attending the first day's movements, we did not march more than three miles and encamped. Friday we proceeded on our march about eight o'clock in the morning, but my Brigade, which formed the rear or second line of the army, had not marched from their Ground more than two miles, before the Infantry in front halted at a narrow Defile formed by the jutting out of the mountain to the river. This Defile which was near half a mile in length and woud at first sight have been judged impassible, particularly to artillery &c. detain'd the army so long, that it was near ten o'Clock at night before the rear of the main Body, consisting of Poor's & Maxwell's Brigades, had passed. As it was then dark, and as the Cattle had not yet passed it, I judged it most proper not to attempt it, that night, but march'd back about a mile, & encamped on tolerable good ground. Saturday I decamped and join'd the army at Chemung about twelve o'Clock. This town which [is] about twelve miles from Tioga, had been destroyed by Genl. Sullivan, immediately on his arrival at Tioga, together with a large Quantity of Corn Beans &c. preserving only one Field consisting of about fifty acres, for the use of the army



Jno Sullivan

on their arrival, and which they effectually consumed and destroyed.

Altho we had every reason to expect the Enemy woud have attempted to prevent our Progress and retard our march, from the amaizing advantages Nature had liberally furnished them with, yet they never gave us the least opposition, or ever made their appearance, except a small party who fired upon and killed & wounded a few of Genl. Hand's advanced Guard on the former attempt to destroy the Settlement.

Sunday the army was put in motion about nine o'clock with the greatest circumspection and Caution. Our Scouts had brought intelligence the preceeding Evening that the Enemy were discovered at about five miles distance, supposed to be at or near New Town, & from the magnitude of their Fires, appeared to be in Considerable force; that the sound of their axes were heard distinctly which induced us to believe they intended either to throw up works or obstruct the march of the army, untill they could form a Plan to attack our Flanks or rear.

This in fact appeared to be their intention, and if we had proceeded as they expected, in all probability we shoud have been very severely handled. About ten o'clock a scattering Fire commenced between some of their Scouts and a few of our Rifle men & Volunteers when the former gave way, and the latter proceeded untill they plainly discovered their Works which were very extensive, tho' not impregnable. As our design was not to drive them, but to surround or bring them to a fair open action, the Army halted, and a Council being called, it was concluded that the artillery supported by Genl. Hand with the Infantry and Rifle Corps shoud commence the action, previously allowing sufficient time for Pool's and my Brigade to

gain their right Flank, while Maxwell's and the covering party under Col. Ogden might gain their left.

About one o'Clock Col. Proctor commenced a very warm Cannonade upon their Works, which continued near two hours, in which time we attempted to compleat our march upon their Flanks, but from the very thick Swamps and rough Country thro' which we were to pass we were in some measure prevented. The Enemy finding their Situation in their Lines rather uncomfortable and finding we did not intend to storm them, abandoned them some time before the Infantry discovered it, and immediately proceeded to join the remaining half of their Force who were posted on a Hill, attack our right flank as we expected. Genl. Poor who was near a quarter of a mile on the left of my Front, had ascended a considerable mountain about half way, which was very steep, when he discovered them and received their fire accompanied by the war whoop but tho' his Troops were considerably fatigued with ascending the mountain under their heavy Packs, yet they pushed up in the face of their Fire, driving them from tree to tree untill they fled with the utmost precipitation, leaving their Paek & Blankets behind them, &c. in order to take off their dead and wounded which must be very considerable, as they left nine Indians on the field whom they could not carry off. My Brigade which had just reached the foot of the Hill when the firing commenced, pushed up with such ardor that many of them almost fainted and fell down with excessive heat and fatigue, for the Ground was so steep that no person could ride up.

During the action which lasted from the first to the last near six hours, we had three privates killed and forty wounded, among whom were three Officers, Major Titecomb, Capt. Clause & Lt.

McCauly, who is since dead of his wounds; there are few of the wounded dangerous.

The Enemy's loss must be considerable; nine of them were found dead on the field, and many of them must have been wounded, as they were tracked some three miles by the Blood, while others were seen sent off in canoes.

After the action we descended the Hill, and encamped on a most beautiful plain, where we refreshed ourselves after the fatigues of the Day which were neither few nor small.

Monday this day, eight hundred men have been employed in destroying all the Corn &c. &c. &c. about the Town, which is by far the finest I ever saw in my life; upwards of six thousand Bushells have been cut down and piled up, the more effectually to destroy it. And such is the Spirit of the Troops, that they have requested the Genl. to put them upon half allowance of Bread and Beef, as long as they can supply themselves with Corn & Beans, in order that they may lengthen out the Campaign and the more effectually to compleat the Business they were sent upon, so that we have the strongest assurances to hope, that under the smiles of Heaven we shall be able to work out a lasting Blessing to our Country.

I had almost forgot to tell you that we took two Prisoners, a Negro and a Torie, one Hoghtailer from the Helder Barrack, who inform us that the Enemy's force consisted of about two hundred and fifty white men, comanded by Col. and Capt. Butler, and about five hundred Indians commanded by Brandt; that they had eat nothing but Corn for eight days past, except a small proportion of five small Cattle; that before the Corn was fit to roast the[y] fed upon Herbs & roots which they found in the woods.

We shall send off our wounded down to Tioga in Boats brought up with Provision, but we have not five sick men in the whole army.

I beg you will receive this Scrawl, as rough as the Country thro' which we march, without reflecting on the accuracy of my Aid de Camp, who would have transcribed it, but the Express is waiting with the utmost Impatience. I am with perfect Esteem, Dear Brother, Yours sincerely

James Clinton.*

[To G. C.]

Journal of Lieutenant John L. Hardenbergh. Saturday, May ye First.—Drew out of our Winter Quarters at Wawasink and encamped in a field near Jacobus Brown's at that place.

Sunday, May 2nd.—Laid still in camp.

Monday 3d.—Drew provisions and prepared for a march.

Tuesday, 4th.—Struck our tents. Loaded our baggage in order to proceed on our march for Weyoming, but being alarmed by an express that the savages were murdering the inhabitants at Fantine Kille, about five miles in our front, Coll. Cortlandt marched to their assistance, but before we arrived at the place they were gone. At 4 in the afternoon returned to Wawasink and remained in houses.†

Wednesday, 5th.—Remained in the Quarters of yesterday.

Thursday, 6th.—At 7 in the morning loaded baggage, marched to Lurenkill² and halted at Broadhead's³ for refreshment about two hours, and marched for Mamacotting,⁴ where we arrived at 7 o'clock at night.

*Wawarsing.—An Indian word, said to signify "a black bird's nest," the name of a town and village in south-west part of Ulster County, N. Y., containing a post village of same name, located on Rondout Creek on the line of the Delaware and Hudson Canal. The surface of the town is mostly mountainous uplands, intersected by deep valleys. The Shawangunk Mountains extend along the east border, and spurs of the Catskills occupy the central and west parts, the highest peaks being from 2,000 to 3,000 feet above tide. The eastern and northwestern parts are rocky and precipitous, and unfit for cultivation. There was a stone fort in the village on the site of B. C. Hornbeck's house. On August 12, 1781, a large party of Tories and Indians under one Caldwell, appeared in the town with a design of falling upon Napanock, but being informed that the place was defended by cannon they came to Wawarsing before the inhabitants were up in the morning. Two men and a young woman discovered the enemy before they reached the fort, and the young woman succeeded in closing the door just in time to prevent it from being burst open by the savages. Finding further attack to be dangerous they dispersed and burned and plundered the out settlements, and next day withdrew laden with spoils. Several lives were lost on both sides and much property destroyed.—The Indians—or Narratives of Massacres and Depredations on the frontiers of Wawarsing and Vicinity, page 21.

†"Col. Cantine commanding a regiment of militia arrived during the day. I then pursued but could not overtake him, as he ran through a large swamp beyond the hill; and Col. Cantine being also in pursuit, I returned, not having any prospect of overtaking him."—Col. Van Cortlandt's statement, 1825.

1—"The second day after, pursued my march to Fort Penn as ordered by the commander-in-chief and there received General Sullivan's orders to make a road through the wilderness."—Col. Van Cortlandt's statement, 1825.

2—The present name of a stream flowing southeasterly two miles south of Ellenville.

3—On the Lurenkill two miles south of Ellenville.

4—Present Wurtzberg in town of Mamakating on Sauthier's map of 1779, said to have

Friday, 7th.—At 4 struck tents, marched at 5, halted at Bashusville, where we rested for about two hours, proceeded on our march. Crossed Mahackamak creek at Dewitt and arrived at Major Decker's, crossed the creek with wagons and encamped in a field near Decker's house.

Saturday, May 8th.—Drew provisions; marched at about 11 o'clock and encamped at Hauranack.⁸

Sunday, 9th.—Discharged four wagons which we had taken from Wawasink. Loaded our provisions on board the canoes, sent them down the Delaware. At 8 o'clock in the morning began our march; marched to Esquire Vancamp's; the weather very hot; we rested ourselves and marched for Decker's Ferry on Delaware, where we arrived at sundown and encamped.

Monday, 10.—Laid still for refreshment and washing.

Tuesday, 11th.—Struck tents and marched at 7 in the morning; got over the ferry, proceeded on our march; rested for refreshments, at Smithfield at or near Depew's, at 5 P. M.; marched for Fort Penn where we arrived at dusk of the evening.

May 12th and 13th.—Laid still at Fort Penn on account of rainy weather.

Friday, May 14th, 1779.—The weather clear, we received orders to march at 1 o'clock in the afternoon. Struck tents, marched for Learn's; marched about five miles and encamped in the wood.

Saturday, 15th.—About 7 in the morning struck tents and marched to Learn's; pitched camp, and proceeded with a party to mend a road to Weyoming.

Sunday, 16th.—Our camp remained, and were joined by Coll. Spencer's regiment; we continued making the road. At night seven men deserted from our regiment.

Monday, 17th.—Decamped from Learn's about 7 in the morning, and encamped at about 7 o'clock in the afternoon, just on the west side of a small creek called White Oak Run.

Tuesday, 18th.—Our camp remained; we continued working on the road; I was ordered to remain in camp with the guard.

Wednesday, 19th.—Last night about 11 o'clock, an alarm happened by the firing of one of the sentinels, but soon found it to be false alarm. The weather being wet, we remained in camp all day.

Thursday, 20th.—Rainy weather with some thunder; we remained in camp.

Friday, 21st.—Foggy, rainy weather with thunder and lightning; remained in camp. This day Ensign Swartwout arrived in camp from the State of New York, brought news that the Indians were lurking about Rochester and Wawasink; and inhabitants chiefly moved off their families.

Saturday, 22nd.—The weather continued rainy. Remained in camp. At sunset the weather cleared off.

Sunday, 23d.—The morning fair and clear. Received orders to march. At 8 o'clock the General beat; struck tents, proceeded on our march till over a creek in the Great Swamp called Tackhanack, the road very bad, the baggage could not come up; went back and mended the road and encamped where the baggage was. In the evening

being named in honor of an Indian chief, is about fourteen miles southwest of Wawasink. A block house was here occupied during the Revolution.

5—West Brookville, formerly called Bashusville, near the southern line of town of Mamakating in Sullivan county. So called from a squaw named Bashe, who lived on the bank of the creek. The first house built was of stone and used as a fort.

6—Mahackamak or Neversink river, the crossing appears to have been near Call Brookville in the town of Deer Park.

7—DeWitt, a brother of Mrs. James Clinton, the mother of DeWitt Clinton, where he is said to have been born, March 2, 1763, while Mrs. Clinton was on a visit with her brother. General James Clinton in 1763 raised and commanded a corps of two hundred men, called the Guards of the Frontier. This position called Fort DeWitt was one of the posts occupied. Other accounts say he was born at the homestead of the Clinton family at Little Britain.

8—Now Port Jervis, formerly called Mohockamak Fork, at the junction of the Neversink and Delaware Rivers. The route taken appears to have been over the "old mine road" as it was called, constructed by the early Dutch settlers of Esopus to reach a copper mine in Walpack Township, Warren Co., N. J. It follows the Mamakating Valley, the first north of the Shawangunk mountains, and continues in part of the Mahackamak branch of the Delaware river, and penetrates in part of the river. The mine was about three miles north-west from Nicholas Depew's house.

Sergeant Jonas Brown with five men, was sent off to Wyoming with letters from General Sullivan to Gen. Hand.*

Monday, 24th.—About 9 o'clock in the morning struck camp, marched across the Tackhanack and encamped on a high, about half a mile from the creek, but continued making the road which was very bad about that place.

Tuesday, 25th.—Left our camp standing, and continued making the road; built a bridge and causeway at Tobehanna of one hundred and fifteen paces in length. The creek is considerable large and abounds with trout. Some good land along the creek; the road very difficult to make.

Wednesday, 26th.—Laid still in camp on purpose to refresh the men, and washing. Sergeant Brown returned from Wyoming.

Thursday, 27th.—Went out to work.

Friday, 28th.—Finished the bridge across the Tobehannah and returned to camp.

Saturday, 29th.—John Curry and Michael Sellers were tried at the drum-head, for stealing rum from the commissary, found guilty, and sentenced to receive, Curry seventy-five lashes, and Sellers fifty, which was directly put in execution. Our camp remained; we continued work on the road. After we returned from fatigue, Gen. Sullivan and Col. Hoopes arrived in our camp.

Sunday, 30th.—In the morning Gen. Sullivan and Col. Hoopes returned to Easton. At 7 o'clock in the morning struck tents, the regiment marched to Locust Hill and encamped there; myself was ordered to remain with the Commissary stores which could not move with the baggage for want of teams.

Monday, 31st.—The Coll. sent the wagons back to fetch the stores. We loaded them on the wagons and proceeded to Camp and arrived there at 2 o'clock in the afternoon. The troops worked on the road.

Tuesday, June 1st.—Worked on the road. The Camp remained on Locust Hill.

Wednesday, June 2d.—Lt. Weissenfels of our regiment was sent to Wyoming as an escort to guard a number of pack horses. The troops continued working the road. I was ordered on court martial, of which Captain Graham was President.

Thursday, June 3d.—The troops did not work for want of provision.

Friday, June 4th.—The camp remained on Locust Hill. Captain Graham, myself, and two other officers were ordered to inspect pork which was chiefly condemned on account of its being Spoiled. On the 3d of June, John Ten Eyck, soldier in Captain French's company of light infantry was drowned in the Lehi by accident.

Saturday, 5th.—The regiment was ordered on fatigue with three days provisions, that night lay out in the woods.

Sunday, 6th.—I was relieved by Lt. Fairlie and went to Camp, this day we worked through the great Swamp.

Monday, 7th June.—At about 8 in the morning decamped from Locust Hill, crossed the Lehi and encamped on the side of a Swamp called the Shades of Death,† about six miles from Locust Hill.

Tuesday, 8th June.—About 2 o'clock in the afternoon, struck our tents, marched through the Shades of Death, and encamped at night about one mile from the Shades.

Wednesday, 9th.—The Camp remained.

Thursday 10th.—The Camp remained. The troops worked on the road.

Friday, 11th.—The regiment decamped and marched within seven miles from Wyoming. Capt. Wright and I remained behind to guard the Commissary Stores.

Saturday, 12th.—The guard and Commissary Stores came up to Camp.

*Brigadier General Edward Hand, the youngest Brigadier of the expedition. Born in Ireland the last day of 1744, was an ensign in the British army, served two years with his regiment in America, then resigned and settled in Pennsylvania. At the beginning of the Revolution he entered the continental service as Lieutenant-Colonel, was made Colonel of a rifle corps in 1776, was in the battles of Long Island and Trenton, and in the summer of 1777 was in command at Pittsburg. Washington placed great confidence in his judgment and consulted him freely as to the feasibility of this campaign. In 1780 he succeeded Scammel as Adjutant General of the army and held the position until the close of the war. He was a lover of fine horses and an excellent horseman. He died in Lancaster, Pa., Sept. 3, 1802.

†Shades of Death, supposed by many to have derived the name from the sufferings of those who escaped from the massacre of Wyoming, but this is evidently an error, as the name was attached to the locality and appeared on the maps, long previous to 1778.

Sunday, 13th.—Laid still.

Monday, 14th.—At six o'clock the General beat, struck tents and marched to Wyoming* and arrived there at about 12, and pitched Camp.

June 15th and 16th.—Laid still.

Thursday, 17th.—Moved the camp about four miles up the River, to a place called Jacob's Plains.

18th and 19th.—Laid still.

Sunday, June 20th.—I was ordered to go down the River Susquehanna with a party in boats under the command of Captain Graham. Left Wyoming about 7 o'clock in the morning and arrived with the boats at Fort Jenkins at sunset and stayed that night.

Monday, 21st.—Left Fort Jenkins in the morning, proceeded down the River and arrived at Northumberland town, dined there, and proceeded to Sunbury and arrived there at 7 o'clock at night.

Tuesday, 22d.—Laid still at Sunbury and loaded the Boats with flour and beef.

Wednesday, 23d.—At 9 o'clock in the morning left Sunbury, proceeded up the River about eight miles.

Thursday, 24th.—Proceeded up the River till night and lodged on board the boat. In the night lost my hat.

Friday, 25th.—Proceeded up the River as far as Fort Jenkins and lodged there.†

Saturday, 26th.—Left Fort Jenkins and arrived at the falls. Got half the boats up the falls, which were drawn up by ropes.

Sunday, 27th.—Got up the rest of the boats, and proceeded up the River and halted along shore over night. Coll. Ogden's regiment from Jersey was sent down as a guard to us from Wyoming.

*The Delaware name given to a valley on the Susquehanna river, of three to four miles in width, by about sixteen in length, extending from the mountain range above the Lackawana where the river wends its way through a gorge a thousand feet deep, south-westerly to where the river again finds its way through a range equally lofty and precipitous. This was the Schabentoa or Schaben-dowane of the Iroquois, signifying *great plains*, as does also the Delaware name of Wyoming. From its earliest known history, this valley has been a favorite place of Indian residence, and was the probable seat of an Iroquois tribe, called Schahentoar-ronons by Brébeuf in 1635, whom he describes as allies of the Hurons and speaking their language. In 1634, three Dutchmen in the employ of the Directors of New Netherland, accompanied a party of Mahican Indians from near Fort Orange, in a war expedition against the Carantouannais, a powerful Iroquois tribe, whose main village containing more than eight hundred warriors, was located on the so-called "Spanish Hill" near Waverly, N. Y. These Dutchmen were captured by the Carantouannais, and were the first white men these Indians had ever seen; believing them to be French, who were allies of their friends the Hurons, they treated them kindly, and conducted them down the Susquehanna to this point, and thence by way of the Lehigh river to the Delaware, where they were ransomed by Capt. Hendricksen, "giving for them kittles beads and merchandise." In the map made by the Captain from information furnished by these Dutchmen, he indicated four towns on the west side of the river, at this point, and designated the tribe as Minquas, this being the general name applied by the Dutch to all the Iroquois tribes south of the Five Nations, and west of New Netherland, several of which are known to have been in existence at that early date, but which appear to have been entirely overlooked by the scholars of the country.

†During the absence of Lieut. Hardenbergh down the river a party visited the battle-ground. "The place where the battle was fought may with propriety be called 'a place of skulls', as the bodies of the slain were not buried, their bones were scattered in every direction all around; a great number of which for a few days past having been picked up, were decently interred by our people. We passed a grave where seventy-five skeletons were buried; also a spot where fourteen wretched creatures, who, having surrendered upon being promised mercy, were nevertheless made immediately to sit down in the ring, and after the savages had worked themselves up to the extreme of fury in their usual manner, by dancing, singing, hallooing, &c. they proceeded deliberately to tomahawk the poor fellows one after another. Fifteen surrendered and composed the ring; upon the Indians beginning their work of cruelty, one of them providentially escaped, who reported the matter to Col. Butler, who upon his return to Wyoming, went to the spot and found the bones of the fourteen lying as human bodies in an exact circle."—Rev. Wm. Rogers' Journal.

Monday, 18th.—At Revelle boat proceeded up the River to the upper falls. Got all the logs up, (one of which overset in going up) and arrived at Shawny Flats about 4 miles from Wyoming.

Tuesday, 19th.—Left Shawny Flats in the morning and arrived at Wyoming* about 7 o'clock in the morning, unloaded the boats and went up to camp in the afternoon to Jacob's Plains.

Wednesday, 20th June.—The regiment was mustered in camp at Jacob's Plains. While I was out on my voyage down the river, Gen. Sullivan arrived at Wyoming with troops to be employed on the expedition.†

Thursday, July 1.—Laid still.

Friday, July 2d; Saturday, July 3d.—Remained at Jacob's Plains.

Sunday, July ye 4th.—Decamped from Jacob's Plains, crossed the river Sisquehannah and encamped on the west side of the River, near forty fort‡ on a fine plain called Abraham's Plains.

Monday, 5th July.—Went out on a scouting party in order to hunt. Went up the River as far as Laghawanny Creek and returned at sunset. Met with no success.

During our stay at Wyoming we had nothing to do but to keep guard, and disciplining our troops; only a few that were employed in boating to carry provisions up the River from Sunbury to Wyoming.

(From July 5th to July 31st no entry was made in the Journal.)

Saturday, the 31st of July.—About 3 o'clock in the afternoon we left Wyoming on our expedition. Our baggage being carried on pack horses, the provisions and artillery in boats, we marched as far as Lackawannick, ten miles from Wyoming, and encamped.

Sunday, Aug. First.—At 1 o'clock in the afternoon struck our tents and marched 7 miles to a place called Quialutimack. The road was very difficult, the baggage did not arrive till towards day.

Monday, August ye 2d.—Laid still at Quialutimack.

*"Wyoming is situated on the east side of the east branch of the Susquehanna, the town consisting of about seventy houses, chiefly log buildings; besides these buildings there are sundry larger ones which were erected by the army for the purpose of receiving stores, &c., a large bake and smoke houses. There is likewise a small fort erected in the town, with a strong abbata around it, and a small redoubt to shelter the inhabitants in case of an alarm. This fort is garrisoned by 100 men, draughted from the western army, and put under the command of Col. Zebulon Butler. I cannot omit taking notice of the poor inhabitants of the town; two thirds of them are widows and orphans, who, by the vile hands of the savages, have not only deprived them of tender husbands, some indulgent parents, and others of affectionate friends and acquaintances, besides robbed and plundered of all their furniture and clothing. In short, they are left totally dependent on the public, and are become absolute objects of charity."—Hubley's Journal.

†The army when concentrated at Wyoming was organized as follows:

New Jersey Brigade, Brig. Gen'l William Maxwell com'd.

1st N. J., Col. Matthias Ogden.

2d, " " Israel Shreve.

3d, " " Elias Dayton.

5th, " " Oliver Spencer's Independent Regiment, also fragments of Forsman's and Sheldon's regiments merged into Spencer's.

New Hampshire Brigade—Brig. Gen'l Enoch Poor, com'd.

1st N. H., Col. Joseph Cilley.

2d " " Lieut. Col. George Reid.

3d " " " Henry Dearborn.

2d N. Y., Col. Philip Van Cortlandt.

Brigade of Light Troops, Gen'l Edward Hand, com'd.

11th Pa., Lieut. Col. Adam Hubley.

German Regiment, Maj. Daniel Burkhardt.

Independent Wyoming Company, Capt. Simon Spalding.

Wyoming Militia, Capt. John Franklin.

Schools Rifle Corps, under Capt. Selin.

Fort Fort. On the right bank of the Susquehanna between Pittston and Wilkes-barre built in 1756 by the company of emigrants from Connecticut, forty in number.

Tuesday, Aug. 3d.—At 7 o'clock in the morning struck our tents, proceeded on our march and encamped at night in the wood.

Wednesday, Aug. 4th.—At 7 o'clock in the morning the General proceeded on our march and encamped at night at Vandalia. The march was very fatiguing. Our regiment was on the Rear Guard, the march being very mountainous and difficult. We had the care of all the pack horses, which was very troublesome.

Thursday, Aug. 5th.—About 10 o'clock decamped, proceeded on our march and encamped at Wyalusing and encamped there.

Friday, Aug. 6th.—Laid still Wyalusing for refreshment.

Saturday, Aug. 7th.—Laid still on account of rainy weather.

Sunday, August 8th.—At 6 o'clock in the morning struck camp, moved from Wyalusing and encamped at evening at a place called Standing Stone.

Monday, Aug. 9th.—At six o'clock in the morning struck our tents, proceeded on our march and arrived at Sheshehung flats and encamped there.

Tuesday, Aug. 10th.—Laid still at the Flats.

Wednesday, Aug. 11th.—At 6 o'clock in the morning struck tent, marched at 7 o'clock for Tyuga.* Our regiment and the 2d New Jersey regiment was ordered to cross the River at our encampment and proceed up the River on the opposite side, to take possession of the ground at Tyuga to cover the fording place for the army and horses to cross the River, arrived at Tyuga about 11 o'clock in the morning. At night Gen. Sullivan sent off a small scout to discover Shemung† (of one Captain and seven men.) which lay about twelve miles up the Tyuga branch.

Aug. 12.—The scout returned with news that the enemy seemed to be in great confusion and seemed to be moving off. The Gen'l left a guard at Tyuga sufficient to guard the camp and marched with the rest of the army under cover of the night for Shemung, marched all night, the weather very dark, and nothing but an Indian path through the wood made it difficult.‡

Friday, Aug. 13th.—About six o'clock in the morning we arrived at Shemung and

*Tioga, the name given by the Iroquois to the wedge of land lying between the Chemung river and north branch of the Susquehanna; from *Tegogon*, an interval, or anything between two other things. (Bruyas, Agniers Racines.) *Tegogon*, the forks of a river (Gallatin's vocabulary 387). This has from time immemorial been one of the most important strategical points of the country of the Five Nations. Zeisberger passed through here in 1759 and says that "at Tioga or *the gate*, Six Nations Indians were stationed for the purpose of ascertaining the character of all persons who crossed over into their country, and that whoever entered their territory by any other way than through the gate, or by way of the Mohawk, was suspected by them of evil purpose and treated as a spy or enemy." An Indian town of Tioga near the fort destroyed by Col. Hartley in 1778.

The earliest known account of the place is found in Champlain, who sent out one of his interpreters, named Stephen Brulé, in 1615, to arrange with the Carantouans, a force of five hundred warriors, to co-operate with him in an attack on the Onondago stronghold, then located in the town of Fenner, Madison county, N. Y. Brulé with a small party of Hurons passed through the country of the Five Nations, to the town of Carantouan, containing more than eight hundred warriors, then located on the so-called Spanish Hill near Waverly. Brulé returned to Carantouan after a successful expedition, and the next year, 1616, went down the Susquehanna to the sea, where he found many nations that are powerful and warlike."

†Chemung—An Indian town of fifty or sixty houses, occupied in 1779, located on the left bank of the Chemung river, three miles above the present village of Chemung, Chemung county, destroyed by Gen. Sullivan, August 13th, 1779.

Old Chemung—An Indian town partially abandoned in 1779, located on the right bank of the Chemung river, half a mile above the present village of Chemung, Chemung county. A few houses burned August 13th, 1779.

‡This night's march was very tedious. The path fell and rose, went back and forth, the Chemung passing the first narrows, near present Waverly, and then passed above the steep hillsides and precipices west of present Chemung. At this point there was scarcely room for two to walk abreast, and a single misstep would cause a fall down the rocks a hundred feet below. It was daylight when the troops reached the first narrows, but a dense fog prevailed, under the cover of which they advanced and found the town abandoned.

The enemy had left the town. On our approach we burnt the town, destroyed the corn, &c. and returned to Tiyuga. A small party of the Indians who had concealed themselves in the wood, fired on a small party of Gen'l Hand's Brigade, killed six men and wounded two without loss on their side.* A party of Gen'l Poor's Brigade was destroying corn, were fired upon by the enemy, killed one and wounded one.

Saturday, Aug. 14th.—Laid at Tiyuga waiting for the arrival of Gen'l Clinton's Brigade, who came down the Susquehanna from the Mohawk River. A large detachment from the army was ordered up to join him.† The remainder of the army were employed in building a garrison at Tiyuga. On the 22nd day of Aug't we were joined by Gen'l Clinton's Brigade.

Monday, Aug't 22.—Laid still. Capt. Kimble of Col. Cilley's Regiment, Gen'l Poor's Brigade, was killed in his tent by accident with a gun being snapped by a soldier.

Tue. Aug. 15th.—Nine Hundred chosen men under the Command of Brig. Gen'l Poor are ordered to march Tomorrow morning up the Susquehanna, to meet Gen'l Clinton, who is on his march to join Sullivan's Army with his Brigade and is in some Danger of being Attacked by the Enemy before he can form a Junction with our Main Army; This afternoon a Small Party of Indian's fired on some of our Men who were without the Guards after some Horse's, and Cattle, Killd and Sculped one man and Wounded another, a party was sent out in pursuit of them but could not come up with them—

16th General Poor March'd with his Detachment at 10 o'Clock A. M. Proceeded in two Collam's up the Susquehanna River Over very rough Ground we Incamp't Near the Ruins of an old town Call'd Macktowanuck the Land near the River is very Good—

17th We marched Early this Morning Proceed 12 Miles to Owagea an Indian Town which was Deserted last Spring, after Planting, About the town is many Fruit Trees and many Plants, and Herbs, that are Common in our part of the Country; Hear is a Large body of clear Intivale Covered with Grass, Our March to day Very Survear and Fatigueing Especially for the Left Collm (to which I belong) as we had to pass Several Steap Hills and Morasses—

18th We March'd Early this Morning proceeded 14 miles to Chocanant the Remains of a Large Indian Town which has been likewise Abandoned this Summer, here we found Plenty of Cucumbar's, Squashes, Turnips, &c. We found About twenty Houses, Which we burnt our Days March has been More Survear than Yesterday, as we had bad Hills and Swamps, one swamp of about two miles so Covered with Large Pines, Standing and lying which appeared as tho' Several Haricanes had been busy among since which a Tremendius Groath of Bushes About twenty feet high has sprung up so very thick as to Render the passing through them impracticable by any troops but such as Nothing but Death can stop—at sunset we were Very agreeably alarm'd by the Report of a Cannon up the River Which was supposed to be General Clintons Evening Gun—

19th Our Troops were put in Motion very early this Morning after Marching about one Mile Gen'l Poor Received an Express from General Clinton Informing him that the Latter expected to be hear by 10 o'Clock A. M. this day in Consiquence of which we Return'd to our Old Incampment where General Clinton, Joined us at 10 o'Clock with two Thousand Men—including Officers, Boatsman &c. he has two Hundred and Eight Beautoes with Provisions Ammunition &c. after Mutual Congratulations and Complements the whole Proceed'd down the River to Owagea and Incamp't this Evening, the town of Owagea was made a burnfire of to Grace our Meeting * * *

*Chemung Ambuscade.—On the failure to surprise the Indians in their village, General Hand pursued them up the river. About a mile above New Chemung, the trail passed obliquely over a hill known locally as the Hog Back, near the present residence of Doctor Everett, about two and a half miles below the monument on Sullivan Hill. Col. Hubley's regiment was in front, with Capt. Bush's company of forty men on the right acting as flankers, with the two Independent Companies in the rear. The head of the column appears to have been somewhat in advance of the flankers and when near the summit of the hill, received a fire from the enemy in ambush, at short range. Six were killed and nine wounded, among the latter Capt. Franklin, Capt. Carbury and Adjutant Houston, all of Col. Hubley's regiment. The enemy at once retreated to the thicket north of the hill.

†The following extract from the Journal of Major Norris, describes the march of this detachment up the north side of the Susquehanna from Tioga to Union, in the town of Union, Broome county, where they met General Clinton's brigade. For the march of Clinton down the Susquehanna see Beatty's Journal.

Tuesday, 21th Aug't.—The disposition was made and the army commenced marching. The army encamped that evening agreeable to the order of the day, being drafted on the right flank, which was commanded by Col. Proctor's brigade.

Wednesday, 25th.—Laid still not being able to get ready to march. Sent out pack horses.

Thursday, 26th.—Struck tents at 1 o'clock and marched about 3 miles to the branch and encamped.

Friday, Aug't 27.—At 8 o'clock in the morning the Gen'l. beat, and at 10 o'clock marched off and encamped that night about 3 miles below Sheshego, on a cornfield.

Saturday, Aug't 28th.—At 3 o'clock in the afternoon marched as far as the river and encamped.

Sunday, 29th Aug't.—At 8 o'clock in the morning the signal for march was given. We marched about 4 miles when our Light corps fell in with the enemy on the right side of a defile with some slight works thrown up in their front. The night was exchanged some shots with them and amused them whilst Gen'l. Clinton's and Poor's Brigades with the right flank were ordered to file off by the right and gain the enemy's rear, which to effect, we had to ascend a very steep hill which the enemy had possession of themselves of. Whilst we were gaining the rear, Col. Proctor with the artillery kept up a brisk fire on their works. On our ascending the hill they began to attack us. Our men undauntedly pushed on and gained the hill. The enemy went off in confusion, left their dead on the ground.* About sunset we encamped on the enemy's ground.† We had one major, one Capt. and one Lt. wounded. The Capt. and Lt. died of their wounds, also a few men wounded.

*Four towns were destroyed in the vicinity of the battle-field, viz.:

1st. Newtown, an Indian village of about twenty houses, occupied in 1779, located on the left bank of the Chemung river about five miles below Elmira, and about a mile above the fortified position between Baldwin's creek and the river. It gave the name to the battle fought near it August 29, 1779.

2d. A small village northeast of the battle-field on both sides of Baldwin's creek, of twenty or thirty houses which had never been occupied, and were supposed to have been built for storing the crops grown in the vicinity. This was located at the point where Gen. Poor commenced the ascent of the hill; and was destroyed by Clinton's brigade.

3d. A small village near the angle in the works of the enemy on Baldwin's creek, the timbers of which were used by them in the construction of the fortifications. A house in front of their works was occupied by the enemy as a block house during the engagement.

4th. "Monday, Aug. 30. * * * Went up the river about two miles, then took a long branch of the river (which runs near S. W.) one mile, burnt five houses, and destroyed all the corn in our way."—Beatty's Journal.

†The Battle of Newtown was fought on Sunday, August 29, 1779, near the Indian village of the same name, on the left bank of the Chemung river six miles south of Elmira. The enemy's force of British regulars, two battalions of Royal Green Jackets Tories, were led by Colonel John Butler with Captains Walter N. Butler and Donald as subordinates; the Indians by the great Mohawk Captain, Theodorick, alias Joseph Brant, Butler being chief in command. The design of the British was to have been primarily, an ambuscade. They had artfully concealed their forces, and posted their forces in positions to attack simultaneously, both Brant's and Butler's. The position naturally strong was admirably adapted to their purpose. The ridge, extending southeasterly for several miles, is a mountainous ridge, the summit of which the river, something over six hundred feet in height near the battle-field, gradually melting away to the level of the plain where it terminates, descends steeply below; on this southeastern slope was the battle of Newtown. In the center of this ridge is a similar one, which also terminates near the battle-field. From the crest of this ridge is a considerable stream, which running nearly parallel with the general course, enters the Chemung a mile and a quarter below the battle-field, winds around in a graceful curve, making a full semicircle, enclosing a tract of land of rich bottom lands, on which were the Indian cornfields, the whole being divided into two nearly equal parts. This a deep, narrow stream, which is a sharp, narrow ridge, known locally as the Hog Back. The stream extends eastward across the plain nearly to the creek, a distance of about a third of a mile. The

Aug't 30.—Remained on the ground of yesterday. The greatest part of the army were employed in destroying corn which was in great abundance.

Tuesday, 31st Aug't.—At 9 o'clock in the morning marched off; marched ten miles above Newtown and encamped on a large pine plain, forming a square with our camp to secure our pack horses and cattle.

Wednesday, Sept. 1st.—The signal gun fired at 5 o'clock in the morning. We marched at half past nine, marched about 6 miles through a flat level road at the end of which we entered a dark pine swamp, which continued four miles with almost impassable hills and valleys and arrived at 11 o'clock at night at Catharine's town.

of this ridge was occupied by the enemy in force, protected by rude log breastworks and rifle pits, which extended to the eastern extremity, and from thence turning north, connected with the steep banks of the creek above. The lines to be defended were these two sides of a triangle, their right resting on the river, their left on the mountain, the path of the army passing between the two lines, along which was also the enemy's line of retreat. From the angle in the works a thin line extended to the mountain, on which was a body of the enemy and also another small body on the mountain to the east. The results at Chemung a few days previous led the enemy to hope that a like blunder might be repeated, and that Wyoming and Minnisinks were to be re-nacted. Presuming that the army, after crossing the creek, would follow the Indian trail without discovering their works, they flattered themselves that an unexpected fire on the exposed flanks would create great confusion, which if augmented by simultaneous attacks in front and rear by the forces in that quarter, might result in a panic, and a possible stampede of the pack horses and cattle, which would be quite as disastrous as the defeat of the army. But three companies of Morgan's riflemen, the pride of Washington, were in the advance; these veterans of a hundred battles were in no way inferior to the enemy in Indian craft; the works and position of the enemy were discovered when afar off, and this ingenious device of drawing our forces into an ambuscade was frustrated. The ambuscade failing, the alternative was presented of forcing a direct attack in front, under great disadvantage, or of a flanking movement, over very difficult ground, where nearly the entire force of the enemy could be brought to bear on the attacking force at any point on interior lines possibly in time to repulse one division of the army before the other could come to its relief. The attack in front was invited by repeated sorties of a body of about four hundred of the enemy, who would deliver their fire, and immediately retreat to their works. After three hours of skirmishing, deliberation, and reconnoitering, General Sullivan determined to divide his force, turn the enemy's left, and attack simultaneously in front and flank.

The artillery was posted on a rising ground, three hundred yards from the enemy, in position to enfilade the main line of their works, and sweep the ground in the rear. Gen. Hand was to support the artillery, the left flanking division to threaten the enemy's right, and Gen. Maxwell's brigade to be held in reserve. Gen. Poor's brigade of four regiments, the right flanking division, and the three companies of riflemen, were to make a circuit of about two miles and turn the enemy's left and attack in flank and rear, to be supported by General Clinton's brigade of four regiments following as a second line. One hour was allowed for this movement, at the expiration of which, the artillery was to open, to be followed by a general assault of the two divisions. Poor almost immediately after commencing his march, found himself involved in a thicket of underbrush, almost impenetrable, but after great difficulty reached the foot of the hill on which the enemy was posted, just at the moment the artillery fire commenced. Forming his line of battle with Lieut. Col. Reid's 2d N. H. on the extreme left, next to him Lieut. Col. Dearborn's 3d N. H., then Alden's 6th Mass., and Col. Cilley's 1st N. H. on the extreme right. To the right of the brigade was the right flanking division of two hundred and fifty men under Col. Dubois, the whole preceded by three companies of riflemen under Maj. Parr. General Clinton's brigade formed line of battle with Col. Gansevoort's 3d N. Y. on the left, next Dubois' 5th N. Y., then Livingston's 4th N. Y., with Van Courtlandt's 2d N. Y. on the extreme right, following in the rear of the first line. Poor when about half way up the hill encountered the enemy, but not in sufficient force to materially check the advance of the flanking division, or the regiments on his right; on reaching the summit of the hill they rapidly pushed forward to seize the defile near the river, a short distance above Newtown, which was the only avenue of escape for the enemy. Almost at the termination of the cannonade, the main force of the enemy adroitly abandoned

Thursday, 2d.—Laid still.* Our line of march bore 2 miles from the road the day before.

Friday, Sept. 3d.—The signal gun fired at 7 o'clock, the army marched about twelve miles and encamped in the wood on the shore of Ceneea Lake. The land good and well timbered.

Saturday, ye 4th Sept.—The Gen'l beat at 9 o'clock in the morning, marched at 10 o'clock, marched 4 miles and halted.

Sunday ye 5th.—The Gen'l beat at half past 9 o'clock, the army marched and encamped in a town called Candaya, or Appletown.

Monday, Sept. 6th.—At two o'clock in the afternoon left Appletown, and marched three miles and encamped in the wood.

Tuesday ye 7th. At 8 o'clock in the morning struck tents, marched on and reached the outlet of the Ceneea Lake, where we expected to meet some opposition. The enemy had left the town. We entered it, found a white child in the town, supposed to be about 4 years old, it was supposed they had taken away from the frontier.

their works without being discovered, and precipitated themselves on the British regiment in greatly superior numbers. They swarmed about him in a semicircle, and for a few moments made the forest ring with their exultant shouts, but for a few minutes only; for Col. Dearborn having reached the summit of the hill, and placing Col. Reid on his left, on his own responsibility, faced his regiment to the rear, and moved to his assistance. At the same moment the two regiments on the left of Clinton's brigade by a left oblique movement, came up from the rear to Reid's support, and the enemy soon found themselves dangerously threatened. The conflict was short, sharp, and decisive, and the war whoop soon gave place to the retreat halloo. Fear with the remainder of his brigade, followed by the two regiments on the right of Clinton, had pushed rapidly for the defile. In the meantime Hand had advanced in front, and the left flanking division under Col. Ogden had worked its way along the river to the enemy's flank, when, the enemy admirably commanded, and wisely directed, sounded the signal for retreat just in time to escape. A British account says: "In this action Col. Butler and all his people was surrounded, and very near being taken prisoner. On the same day a few miles from this he attempted again to stop them, but it vain. The Colonel lost four rangers killed, two taken prisoners and seven wounded." Twelve Indians were found dead on the field, the number of wounded unknown. The enemy were pursued for two or three miles above Newtown by the light troops, where Samuel says they made another stand, which appears to be confirmed by the account above quoted, but no details are given, and the matter is not alluded to in Gen. Sullivan's official report. The loss in killed according to the Indian official account, found four days after, near Catharine's town is as follows: "Sept. 2d—This day found a tree marked 177, Thandagana, the English of which is Brant, 12 men, marked on it with arrows pierced through them, signifying the number they had lost in the action of the 29th ultimo. A small tree was twisted round like a rope and bent down, which signified that if we drove and distressed them, yet we would not conquer them."

The loss of our army is variously given in different accounts of the action. Major Livermore (Journal Aug. 29) says that "but four or five" were killed and three or four, and about "thirty others" were wounded. Lieut. Barton (Journal) "that two or three of ours were killed and thirty-four or five wounded." Gen. Sullivan, in a despatch written the next day after the fight, makes the entire loss *three* killed and *thirty* wounded.

*Queen Esther, notorious as the "fiend of Wyoming." She was living at Shick's spring, six miles below Tioga point in 1772 and removed about that date six miles farther and founded a new town, afterward known as Queen Esther's town, this was afterward destroyed by Col. Hartley in 1778, when she probably removed to Chenango. She had a son, who lost his life a short time previous to the massacre of Wyoming, which was probably the exciting cause of her fury at that place. She was a daughter of Philip Margaret, granddaughter of Madame Montour and a sister of Catherine Montour. She had another sister Mary who was the wife of John Cook, alias Kanagarage, a Seneca chief sometimes called White Mingo. He died at Fort Wayne in 1790. Her own husband was Eghohowin, king of the Minsi Delawares.

†This child was tenderly cared for, adopted by Capt. Mather, an officer in the artillery, and christened Thomas Machin. After the return of the army it was placed in a family near Kingston, N. Y., where it died some two years after of smallpox. No clue was ever obtained as to its parentage.

they had destroyed and burnt. The Caneca Lake is supposed to be thirty-six miles in length from south to north. The land along the east side appears to be a rich soil and well timbered. At the north end is the outlet which is a continual stream and considerable large. About three miles and a half from the outlet is the town Cannadasago or Caneca Castle.*

Wednesday, ye 5th Sept.—Laid still at Cannadasago.

Thursday ye 6th.—Marched from Cannadasago about 8 miles and encamped in the wood †

Friday 10th.—At 7 o'clock marched off about 7 miles and crossed the outlet of a small lake, a few miles from which stood a Town called Canandaigu,‡ about 15½ miles from Caneca Castle, which we entered, and encamped at 3 o'clock, about a mile north of the town in a large cornfield.

Saturday ye 11th Sept.—Struck our tents at 9 o'clock and marched about 9 miles through an open country, halted at 11 o'clock for refreshment, moved at one o'clock and arrived at a small town called Honyuga.§ At this town we left a small garrison of one Capt. one Lieut. and fifty men, exclusive of invalids, with some flour, horses and cattle.

Sunday 12th.—Left Haunyuga at 12 o'clock, marched about 11 miles and encamped in the wood.¶

Monday, 13th.—At five o'clock in the morning marched about two miles to a small town called Adjutoa, from this place the Gen'l sent out a scout of one Sub. and 19 men to reconnoitre a town that was in front. On his return he was attacked by about 100

*Kanadaseaga, the *grand village*, so called from being the residence of the chief sachem of the Senecas, located one and a half miles northwest of the present village of Geneva on both sides of Kanadasaga creek. This was the capital of the Seneca nation and contained about sixty well built houses. A stockade fort was built here in 1756 by Sir William Johnson, the remains of which were in existence in 1779. Rev. Samuel Kirkland was a missionary here in 1764-6. Was destroyed September 9.

Butler's Buildings.—A small village called Butler's Buildings was found on the shore of the lake, near present canal bridge, in the village of Geneva.

Gothseungquan also called *Shenungwa*, and many other dialectical variations, an important town was also destroyed September 8, by a detachment of riflemen under Major Parr. The name is perpetuated in Kershong creek, on which it was situated, on Seneca lake, seven miles south of Geneva. It contained twenty houses.

†From Kanadaseaga the route was first southwest for about two miles to the line of the present turnpike, and thence nearly due west along the line of the turnpike to Canandaigua lake. Beatty mentions an ancient stockade fort between Kanadaseaga and Canandaigua. This was on Flint creek on lot 92 in N. W. corner of the town of Seneca. The encampment was on Flint creek.

‡Kanandaigua, an Indian town of twenty-three large houses mostly framed, located about a mile from the lake shore, in west part of present village of Canandaigua. The corn fields, which were very extensive, were located on the ridge north of the town. The usual variety and quantity of fruit trees were found here, all of which were destroyed. From Kanandaigua the route of the army was nearly southwest, substantially on the line of the present road through Bristol to the foot of Honeoye lake, a distance of sixteen miles, to the next village of Hanneyaye.

§Hanneyaye, an Indian town occupied in 1779, located at the foot of Honeoye lake, about half a mile east of the outlet, and south of Mill creek. It contained about twenty houses, one of which was occupied as a fort under command of Capt. Cummings of the 2d N. J. regiment. Beatty gives the following description of the work which he says was occupied by three hundred men in all: "They was encamped round the house where we had left our stores and the camp was abbated in, and round the house they had made a small Fort of kegs, and bags of flour, and had three pieces of artillery in it, and the house they had made full of loop holes, so as to fight out of it in case of necessity, and upon the whole I think they was very safe."

¶Or leaving Hanneyaye the army forded the outlet near the lake, and taking a west course, nearly on the line of the present east and west road leading west from the present village of Honeoye, to the summit of the dividing ridge and thence in a south-west course, crossing the outlet of Hemlock lake at its foot, and continuing over the hill on the same course to present Foot's corners, in the town of Conesus, where the army encamped on level ground two miles north of the Indian town Adjutoa or Kanagsaws.

Indians and were all killed but 2 men who had the good fortune to escape. The army remained in town till about 12 o'clock. Some were employed in sowing corn and some in building a bridge (across a mirey swamp and rock) to enable us to pass. While we were so employed the surveyor had advanced a few rods to an advanced guard, was fired upon by the Indians and had one of his men wounded. At 12 o'clock we left the town, and arrived at a town called Cassawabong, where we found Adjutoa, which we entered at sunset.

*Groveland Ambuscade—This, one of the most important matters connected with Sullivan's campaign, has, for a hundred years, remained a stumbling block and mystery to historians. This has arisen in part from erroneous views as to the location of Gathsegwarohare and the trails, but mainly from the mistaken idea that Boyd's party was the force against which the efforts of the enemy were originally directed, rather than that it was a formidable attempt to ambuscade the main army.

From Kanaghsaws the trail led southwesterly across the low grounds following the line of the present road near the inlet, and crossing it at, or very near the site of the present bridge, about three-fourths of a mile from the head of the lake. North of the bridge, the banks of the inlet are low and marshy, in many places impassable for infantry, and at all points impassable for artillery and pack horses; while south of the bridge is a wet swamp almost impenetrable from the thick growth of underbrush. West of the lake and inlet is a steep hillside, the face of which, cut up by numerous ravines, is so steep that with considerable difficulty an army could march directly up it. The trail after leaving the bridge probably continued southwesterly up the hill obliquely, nearly on the line of the present highway to the summit of the bluff, and thence turning northwest followed along the heads of the ravines for a mile and thence directly west to Gathsegwarohare. Directly west of the bridge, between two very deep ravines, is a space nearly half a mile in width which continues up the hill on very favorable ground for the advance of the army. It appears to be the only part where it could advance in the order of march laid down, which would require a space of nearly a half a mile in width for the several columns.

After the battle of Newtown, Butler and Brant with their demoralized forces, suitably retired, powerless to prevent the advance of the devastating army. Butler had reached the last Indian village of Canawaugas, located on the west side of the Genesee, two miles north of the Great Genesee Castle. Here he received reinforcements of regulars from Niagara, and determined to make one more effort against the invaders. Gathering all his available forces of regulars, Tories and Indians, he left Canawaugas on the morning of the 12th of September, and probably reached the position on the hill west of Kanaghsaws, on the evening of the same day. Here they posted themselves north of the trail, at the heads of the ravines about three-fourths of a mile west of the bridge, and a mile and a half from Kanaghsaws. This was a most admirable position for an ambuscade, and in many essential particulars of topography and fact bore a striking resemblance to the fatal ground where Braddock so honorably sacrificed his army; and had Sullivan advanced in the same blundering manner, he, too, might have met with an equally disastrous defeat. The plan appears to have been to attack a portion of the army after it had crossed the bridge, or to ambuscade the head of the column while ascending the hill; but whatever may have been the original intention, it was completely frustrated by the fortunate movements of the unfortunate Boyd's party. It is remembered that the army went into camp on the flats near Foot, three miles north of the village of Kanaghsaws. Boyd and his party left camp on the 12th at night, passed through the abandoned Kanaghsaws, and from there struck the direct trail which led southwesterly up the hill to Gathsegwarohare. In the middle of the night, he passed Butler's right flank, neither party being aware of the presence of the other, and reached Gathsegwarohare, which the latter had abandoned early in the morning, without encountering any difficulty. On the morning of the 13th Sullivan advanced to Kanaghsaws, and finding that the rebels had destroyed the bridge over the inlet, he detailed a portion of the army to aid the Indians in its reconstruction and to repair the roadway over the low grounds leading to it. All of this was directly under the eye of Butler, who, according to a French report, was undiscovered though only a musket shot from the rebels had been with slight loss, reaching the town Boyd halted his forces at the suburbs. Knowing one of his men reconnoitered the place, then rejoined the party and concealed themselves in the woods near the town. He sent back two of his men to report to General Sullivan and awaited the light of the day whose morning was just breaking. These two men got through

Tuesday, 14th Sept.—At one o'clock left the town crossed the Chenesee flats and forded the River which was about four feet deep, and about thirty yards wide and arrived at the capital town of the Chinisees, called the Chinisee Castle.* We entered the town about 6 o'clock, found Lieut. Boyd and one soldier whom they had murdered in an inhuman manner. Said Boyd was one of the party that was sent to reconnoitre a town as is mentioned before. The Chinisee Castle consisted of about one hundred commodious dwelling houses compactly built and pleasantly situated.

Wednesday, 15th Sept.—The whole army (except the guards to which I belonged) were employed in destroying corn from 6 o'clock in the morning till two in the afternoon. In the mean time a white woman with a small child came to us who had been taken prisoner at Weyoming. At about 3 o'clock in the afternoon, we set the town on fire, marched off, re-crossed the River and encamped after sunset on the Chinisee flats.

Thursday, 16th Sept.—Decamped at 11 o'clock, marched six miles and encamped at the town of Adjutoa at half past five P. M.

Friday 17th.—Decamped at 6 o'clock, marched off and arrived at the town of Haun-yuga at one o'clock P. M.

Saturday, 18th Sept.—At 5 o'clock in the morning marched, at 7 o'clock crossed the outlet of a Lake at Cannandagui, and encamped at sunset on the east side of the outlet.

Sunday 19.—At seven o'clock in the morning struck tents, marched at 8 o'clock and arrived at sunset at Canadasago.

Monday, 20th Sept.—At two P. M. struck tents, marched off at 3 o'clock from Canadasago, crossed the outlet of Seneca Lake and encamped at sunset near the lake. Previous to our march from Canadasago Col. Butler of the 4th Pennsylvania Regiment was sent with a detachment to the Kiyuga Lake to destroy some Indian settlements that were there. Col. Gansevort sent with one hundred men to fort Stanwix in order to send down some baggage which was left on the Mohawk River by troops that had been stationed there the preceding year.

safely and reported. About daybreak four Indians were seen to enter the town by Boyd, one of whom was killed, another wounded, the rest escaped. Boyd then immediately set out to return, expecting to meet the army on the march, and when about half way, despatched two more men to inform the general of his intention to remain "on the path" and await the coming of the army. These men soon encountered five Indians, and returned; the entire party then resumed the march, following and firing on the retreating Indians, who lured them directly into the lines of the enemy. Colonel Butler hearing the firing on his right and rear imagined he was discovered, and that instead of ambuscading the rebels, he was himself to be surprised by this unexpected attack in the rear. No evidence whatever has appeared to confirm the conjecture, that Boyd's presence was either known or suspected in that quarter, by Butler, or any portion of his force, until discovered by the five retreating Indians and to them only by accident; but when discovered, with true aboriginal cunning, they allured their unsuspecting victims to the fatal embrace of the enemy, who came there to surprise an army, but were prevented by the blundering of a scout.

A few of Boyd's party who were acting as flankers escaped, five or six fell near the trail and were found when the army advanced, the remainder retreated a short distance north to a clump of trees, where their bodies were found all near together, and where all the bodies were buried on the return march of the army on the 16th. During the construction of the bridge a guard had been established west of the inlet, and Captain Lodge with his party engaged in making their surveys, had advanced some distance up the hill; the bridge was about completed when the fugitive flankers came rushing down the hill pursued by small parties of the enemy. Hand's brigade immediately advanced up the hill to the position occupied by the enemy in the morning, where he found the packs of the enemy in the position they had left a few minutes previous. He remained here in line of battle until the army had crossed, and formed for the advance up the hill.

*Genesee Castle.—This was the great village of the Senecas, the western door of the Long House, located between Cuylerville and the west bank of the Genesee river, in the town of Leicester, Livingston county. It appears on Evans' map as Chenandoanes in 1776, is mentioned as early as 1754 as Chenandanah, and is often called Little Beard's town. Sullivan's official report says: "The Castle consisted of 128 houses mostly large and elegant. The place was beautifully situated, almost encircled with a cleared flat, which extended for a number of miles, where the most extensive fields of corn were waving, and every kind of vegetable that can be conceived."

Tuesday, 23th [21st]—Struck tents at 8 o'clock, marched at 9, left Candaya or Appleton about two miles in the rear and encamped in the wood, along the east side of the Cenece Lake, about 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

Wednesday 22d.—At 6 o'clock the Gen'l beat, marched at 8, halted and at one o'clock about one hour for refreshments, and encamped at sunset along the east side Cenece Lake.

Thursday, 23d Sept.—Marched at 8 o'clock, left French Catharine, about 3 miles in the rear, and encamped at sunset.

Friday, 24th.—About six o'clock in the morning the Gen'l beat, marched at 8 o'clock and arrived at the forks of the Tiyuga or Newton. At this place there was a post established by order of General Sullivan, and provision for the army at their return.

Saturday, 25th Sept.—Laid still. An ox and 5 gallons of rum was given to the officers of each Brigade. A fu-de-joy was held in consequence of the arrival of the news of Spain declaring us Independent with 13 rounds of Cannon was discharged, followed by two round of musketry interspersed with cannon. The evening was celebrated in our camp with much joy and gladness.

Sunday 26.—Laid still.

Monday, 27th Sept.—A detachment under the command * * * was sent out and returned at night.

Tuesday 28th.—A detachment under the command of Col. Cortlandt was sent up the Tiyuga branch on purpose to destroy some corn. Col. Butler with his detachment joined us. The invalids were sent to Tiyuga in boats.

Wednesday, 29th Sept.—The Gen'l beat at 8 o'clock in the morning, marched at 9 o'clock and encamped in the afternoon three miles below Shemung.

Thursday 30th.—At nine o'clock in the morning marched off and arrived at Tiyuga at 5 o'clock in the afternoon. At our arrival we were saluted with a discharge of 13 cannon from the Garrison and an elegant dinner was prepared for the officers.

Friday, Oct. 1, 1779.—Laid still at Tiyuga.

Saturday 2d.—Laid still. Orders were given to load the boat with stores, artillery, &c., and to demolish the fort the next day.

Sunday, ye 3d Oct.—Agreeable to the orders of the preceding day the boats were loaded, the fort demolished and everything got in readiness to march the next morning.

Monday, 4th Oct.—At 7 o'clock in the morning the Gen'l beat, struck our tents, the army marched at nine from Tiyuga. The boats with the stores, artillery and sick set off at the same time, and encamped at evening at Wysaukin creek.

Tuesday, the 5th Oct.—The main part of the army embarked on board the boats, the rest were mounted on horses. left Wysaukin about 7 o'clock in the morning and arrived at Vanderlip's farm, and stayed at night.

Wednesday ye 6th Oct.—At 6 o'clock in the morning set off and arrived at sunset at Lechawauny about 10 miles from Weyoming.

Thursday, 7th Oct.—At 9 o'clock in the morning left Lechawauny and arrived at Weyoming about 1 o'clock in the afternoon.

Friday, Oct. ye 8th.—Laid still.

Saturday, ye 9th.—Remained at Weyoming, but received orders to march at 6 o'clock the next morning.

Sunday, Oct. 10th.—At 6 o'clock the next morning were ordered to march, but on account of our pack horses being strayed we did not march till 2 o'clock in the morning, when we left Weyoming and arrived at Bullock's at dark.

Monday, 11th Oct.—At 9 o'clock in the morning decamped from Bullock's and encamped about two miles through the Shades of Death.

Tuesday, 12th Oct.—At 6 in the morning proceeded on our march. The after part of the day rainy and windy weather, we arrived at White Oak Run at evening and encamped.

Wednesday 13th.—Decamped from White Oak Run at 8 o'clock in the morning and arrived at Brinker's Mills and encamped.

Thursday 14th.—Decamped from Brinker's Mills, marched from thence, and arrived within 11 miles from Easton and encamped on the side of the road in a wood.

Friday, 15th Oct.—Decamped at 7 o'clock, marched for Easton and arrived there about 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

Saturday 16th.—Laid still.

Sunday 17th.—Laid still.

Monday, 18th Oct.—Capt. Bevier and myself set out from Easton at 11 o'clock for Marbletown, traveled about twenty miles and put up at the Widow Sweezer's.

Tuesday, 19th Oct.—At half past 7 o'clock in the morning, traveled about 27 miles and put up at Cary's Tavern.

Wednesday 20th.—At 7 o'clock A. M., left Cary's, dined at Bard's in Warick, set out from thence and put up at Bruster's Tavern about 11 miles from New Windsor.

Thursday, 21st.—Left Bruster's at 8 o'clock in the morning and arrived at Newburg, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

Friday 22nd.—Set out from Newburg at 8 o'clock in the morning and arrived at the Poltz and staid that night.

Saturday, 23d Oct.—At three o'clock in the afternoon set out and arrived home the same night.

From the 23d Oct., 1779, I remained home till the 9th of Dec., when I set out to join the Reg't, which I did on the 15th, and found them employed in building huts for winter quarters, about 3 miles from Morristown.

(The Hardenbergh Journal here closes. The Nukerck Journal continues the history of the regiment for the year 1781 and until the five regiments were consolidated near the close of that year.)—*From Sullivan's Expedition.*

[No. 2502.]

Colonel Barber's Description of the Battle.

Newtown 30th August '79.

Sir, I have the pleasure to inform you that the army under General Sullivan gained a very important & complete victory over the warriors of the five nations & their allies, to wit, five companies of rangers commanded separately by Colo. Buttler, his son Capt. Buttler, Capt. McDonald, Brant &c &c. The enemy had erected an extensive work on a very advantageous ground about a mile below this town & waited eight days for our arrival. The work, though in the woods & artfully concealed, was discovered before a shot was fired. After the General had sufficiently reconnoitred their lines & gained some conception of their numbers, made the necessary disposition. Generals Clinton & Poor with their brigades were ordered to fall upon the enemy's left flank & rear. The Cayuga river secured their right. When it was supposed these two brigades had obtained their stations, orders were issued for the attack in front. The attack was announced by the playing of artillery. A few minutes gave us complete possession of their works in front, which they

abandoned after a very insignificant opposition. The attack in front was something too early, for Generals Clinton & Poor had not gained their positions before the enemy had began their precipitate retreat. General Poor was warmly engaged on their flank where they made the greatest resistance. The enemy left eleven dead on the field & no prisoners were taken. The dead are Indians, the capt'd are one a white man, the other a negro. Our loss is three killed & thirty nine wounded.

This part of their country is populous. I mean, has numerous small houses & full of fine corn fields. I suppose at this town & its vicinities there are two hundred acres of corn & beans.

I beg your Excellency's care of the enclosed letter for Mrs. Barber.

I have the honor to subscribe myself your most obedient & very humble servant

T. Barber.

Governor Clinton.

[No. 2503.]

General Heath Brings the Westchester Depredations to Washington's Notice.

Mandevilles Aug't 30th 1779.

Mr. Hogeland the Adjutant of Col. Sheldon's Regiment has just acquainted me that on his way from the Regiment hither, he was informed that a party of men had a few days since been down towards New Rochelle and East Chester and driven off from the Inhabitants near one hundred head of cattle, which they intended to sell at vendue this day at Crompond.

Mr. Hogeland says these men are refugees from Tarry Town and Sing-sing, and assert that they have been robbed of their

property and driven from their habitations by the enemy and Tories, that they have a right to make reprisals on such as they know to be disaffected. I cannot learn that they are commanded by any particular officer. Although I apprehend that this matter properly belongs to the authority of the state, as the plunderers and plundered are its inhabitants; yet as such practices are pregnant with mischiefs, and will be productive of many ill-consequences, unless under the controul and direction of authority, I have thought it my duty to make this representation to your Excellency.

I have the honor to be &c.

W. Heath.

His Excellency General Washington.

[Copy.]

[No. 2504.]

Colonel Pawling Fails to Form a Junction with General Clinton.

Pokeepsie 31 Aug't 1779.

Dear Sir, I am honored with your Excellency's Letters of the 26th & 28th Inst. I mean to set for Kingston tomorrow where the Legislature is convened and I will take the earliest Opportunity of laying before them your Excellency's Letter & Inclosures on the Subject of obtaining Supplies for the army and urge their immediate attention to this important Business.

With respect to the Officers belonging to this State who are returned, as hav'g violated their Paroles I shall immediately summon them to attend the Commissary General of Prisoners & require them to follow his Directions.

By a Letter I have this moment rec'd from Colo. Barber dated at Tioga the 30th Inst. I am surprized to find that Lt. Colo.

Pawling with the Levies of this State had not Join'd Genl. Clinton at Anaquago, tho' he had waited two Days for him at that Place. By a Letter Genl. Sullivan* had rec'd from him he was at Owego 40 miles beyond it the Evening of the 19th. As

*From Head-Quarters, West Point, 15 August, 1779, General Washington had written to the President of Congress:

In the letter which I had the honor of addressing your Excellency the 6th instant I promised a state of facts to shew that every thing in my power has been done to give success to the Western expedition. I am sorry to find in the appeal which General Sullivan has made to Congress that he has misstated several particulars of importance, and that in providing for his own justification in case of misfortune, he has left the matter upon such a footing as to place me in a delicate situation. In justice to myself I beg leave to make a few remarks on the different parts of his letter.

He says in the first place "that the plan for carrying on the expedition was not agreeable to his mind, nor were the number of Men for it sufficient in his opinion to insure success."

The plan he proposed was to have two bodies, each superior to the whole force of the enemy, to operate both on the Mohawk River, and by way of the Susquehannah—This Plan might have been desirable if the number of our troops, the state of our finances, and of supplies had permitted its execution, but it was impracticable on all these accounts. The force actually detached left the Army so weak that I am persuaded every officer of reflection in it, who knew our true circumstances was uneasy for the consequences; and if a larger force had gone, we should have been absolutely at the discretion of the enemy. This will immediately appear from a recurrence to the Returns of the Army at that time. Should we have endeavored to make up the deficiency from the Militia, our experience of the success of the applications which were made will convince us that the attempt would have been fruitless; to say nothing of the injury to agriculture which would have resulted from calling out so large a body of Militia. But if the men could have been procured we should have failed in supplies. This is evident from what has happened. If we have met with so many difficulties, disappointments, and delays in providing for the *present force*, how would it have been possible to have provided for *double the number*?

But though, if our resources had permitted, it might have been *convenient* to have had two bodies, each superior to the enemy's whole force to operate in different directions for the sake of dispatch, yet this does not appear to me, on military principles, to have been necessary to insure success: For, as the object was only the destruction of some Indian Settlements, all that could be requisite to its execution was to be able to march through them, and this purpose was assured if there was at one capital point a force sufficient to beat their collective force.

General Sullivan seemed to prefer the carrying on the principal operation by the Mohawk River. My reasons for preferring the other route are contained in the letter No. 3 to General Schuyler. General Schuyler was originally of the same opinion, as appears by his letters No. 1 and 2, but he changed it upon hearing the reasons in favor of the plan which has been adopted, as he acknowledges in his letter No. 4; where he also suggests an additional motive, the want of Provisions. General Sullivan relinquishes the former plan himself on this principle, nor did the deficiency arise from the want of previous dispositions, but from the difficulties in procuring supplies. It was my own idea at first, as will be seen by several letters herewith, to carry on the principal operation by the Mohawk, and directions were given very early to form Magazines for this purpose which it seems could not be executed. But if this obstacle had not existed, the reasons for penetrating by way of Susquehannah were then, and still are in my opinion, conclusive. The information on which the facts stated in my letter to General Schuyler, were founded is, principally contained in the summary No. 16 Packet No. 7. The experiment hitherto hath confirmed its truth.

General Sullivan says that his letters to me produced no other effect than to change the route of Clinton's detachment. There are only four points on which his letters turn. One is the having two bodies of superior force to the whole strength of the Enemy to operate different ways.—I have assigned reasons to shew that a compliance

Colo. Pawling commenced his march in Season to join Genl. Clinton on the 17th at farthest, which was the Time he computed he would be able to reach Anaquago, I cannot account for this Failure, otherways that [than] by attributing it to the Delays

with this was impracticable, and General Sullivan's own concession on the score of provisions is an admission of its impracticability.

Another is, the force necessary to compose the main body,—This he estimates at three thousand—it will be seen by my letter No. 3, Packet 1st, that my opinion long before corresponded with his idea; and the calculations made at the time, of the Corps intended for the service, including the aid solicited from Pennsylvania, induced me to believe General Sullivan's force would have amounted to about this number. The situation of our troops continually mouldering in a variety of ways—the disappointment in the expected reinforcement from Pennsylvania, and the unlooked for demands from a want of hands in the Quarter Master's department have occasioned his force to be considerably less than was intended, or could have been foreseen: That he has not been gratified in this respect was not for want of my wishes or endeavors, and is as great a disappointment to me as him. He acknowledges that more Continental troops could not be spared—the Militia applied for were not furnished.

The next point is—a change in the route of the Troops under General Clinton. This he confesses happened as he desired; yet it would have been much against my judgment had his main body been so large as it was intended to be. I fear too, as matters have turned out, the most critical part of the expedition will be the junction of these two Corps. But it appears to me now from Genl. Sullivan's representation that he could not avoid giving the order to Clinton to march with a full supply of provisions.

The last point is—a change of the Corps originally destined for the Expedition. In this also he was indulged. The precise Corps he requested are with him; though I was not satisfied of the validity of his reason for desiring a change, as I believe very few more of the troops now with him have been accustomed to the Indian mode of fighting than of those who were first intended. I had two motives for fixing on the Pennsylvania troops: one was, that I should have been happy an officer of General St. Clair's abilities had been second in command to take the direction in case of accidents to the first; General Sullivan by this change reduced his numbers four hundred men, which could not be replaced without breaking in upon other Corps. On the part of Genl. Sullivan's letter which related to the Quarter Master and Commissaries' department I shall only observe that there have no doubt been very great delays—whether these have proceeded in part from a want of exertion, or wholly from the unavoidable impediments which the unhappy state of our currency opposes at every step. I have not sufficient information to determine: but from the approved capacity, attention, and assiduity with which the operations of these departments are conducted I am inclined to make every allowance, and to impute our disappointments to the embarrassments of the times, and not to neglect. Genl. Sullivan's well known activity will not permit me to think he has not done every thing in his power to forward the preparations; but however the delays may have happened I flatter myself no part of the blame can fall upon me. The papers contained in packet No. 2 will shew that the necessary orders were given by me, and that I was encouraged to expect their timely accomplishment. Besides what is upon record, my pressing and repeated entreaties were employed with the Quarter Master and Commissary General in personal conferences. My attention was so much directed to this Expedition that I suspended at a very critical period the necessary preparations for the main Army, to give the greater vigor and efficacy to those for that object.—To this effect were my instructions to the Quarter Master General when we had the strongest inducements to put ourselves in a moving posture.

General Sullivan in the next place says, "having been taught by repeated disappointments to be cautious, I early gave orders to Genl. Clinton to supply his Troops with three months' Provisions, and wrote Governor Clinton for his assistance in April last—This has been done and they are supplied."

The idea here held up is really extraordinary. My letter to General Schuyler No. 1

he must have met with in crossing the intermediate River which by the violent Rains that have lately fallen, I am induced to believe were almost rendered impassable except by Rafts. This while it has retarded Colo. Pawling in his March has greatly

will shew that as early as the beginning of December Magazines were ordered to be formed in that Quarter for 10,000 men with a view to an expedition to Niagara—By the subsequent letters to him No. 2 & 3 these were partly discontinued and limited to the Plan of an Indian Expedition, the extent of which was to be governed by his judgment of the force necessary. This being 3000 men, the preparations were of course for that number. Schenectady was afterwards made the depository by Genl. Clinton, as appears by his letter No. 5—in answer to mine No. 4. From the whole tenor of the correspondence on the subject, Congress will clearly perceive, that the Magazines which Genl. Sullivan ascribes to his care and caution were formed in consequence of orders given several months before he was nominated to the command, which did not take place till the 6th of March, by letter; and that they would have been equal to the supply of 3000 men had not the resources of the country fallen short.

General Sullivan states his force at 2312 rank and file, which by a variety of reductions he afterwards reduced to 938 which he holds up as his combatting force.

I should be unwilling to overrate the means of any officer, or to create a greater responsibility than is just—But at the same time I think it a duty I owe to the public and myself to place a matter of this kind in a true point of light. If almost the whole of the 2,300 men are not effectually serviceable in action, it must be Genl. Sullivan's own fault—nearly all the men he speaks of, as Pack Horsemen, Bat Horsemen, &c., &c. may be to the full as useful as any others. The number he mentions is only necessary for the sake of dispatch on a march; in time of action the horses and cattle may be committed to the care of a very few, and the rest may be at liberty to act as occasion requires. Should he even be attacked on a march those animals may be made a shelter, rather than an incumbrance—If the operations he is to be concerned in were the regular ones of the field, his calculation would be better founded; but in the loose Irregular war he is to carry on, it will naturally lead to error and misconception. General Sullivan makes no account of his Drummers and Fifers, and other appendages of an army who do not compose the fighting part of it—I have too good an opinion of his judgment not to believe he would find very useful employment for them. These and the few drivers and pack horsemen whom he acknowledges to have, will be nearly if not quite sufficient with a small guard to take care of his horses and cattle in time of action. But as I before observed, his *real* force will be less than it ought to be, to put him out of the reach of contingencies; but I hope with prudent management it will still suffice. The estimate made by Genl. Schuyler of the enemy's force from every subsequent information was not too low; and it is to be hoped the want of provisions will prevent its being exerted in a vigorous and formidable opposition. My chief solicitude is for Genl. Clinton, if he effects the meditated junction there will in my opinion be nothing to fear afterwards.* Notwithstanding what may be said of the expertness of Indians in the woods, I am strongly persuaded our troops will always be an overmatch for them with equal numbers, except in case of surprise or ambuscade, which it is at our own option to avoid.

General Sullivan also makes the application to the State of Pennsylvania a *consequence of his letters*. My letter No. 1 to his Excellency the President will shew that this was a part of the plan before General Sullivan was nominated to the command; and my subsequent letters will shew that I pressed a compliance in the strongest and most pointed manner.

He mentions among other things that “one third of his Men are without a shirt to their backs.” The letters No. 1 to 5 Packet 5th will make it appear that I took every step in my power to afford a competent supply, and I have the greatest reason to believe that the Troops with him had more than a proportion to the general wants and supplies of the Army.

The Packet No. 6 contains my instructions from time to time to Genl. Sullivan, No. 7

*Clinton joined Sullivan at Tioga on August 22d.

facilitated Genl. Clinton's movements, & I suppose has enabled him to arrive at the place intended for the Junction sooner than he expected. The militia that accompanied Colo. Pawling in order to bring back the Horses he had taken with him &c are not yet returned, from whence it is to be concluded that they have proceeded to Tioga, for if they had went no farther than was first intended they must have been Home at least six Days ago.

I inclose your Excellency the last Return made by Colo. Pawling & am &c.

[G. C.]

[To Gen. Washington.]

the intelligence received from first to last, and No. 8 sundry papers relative to the expedition which do not immediately affect the subjects of the present letter, but all which may serve to shew that I have paid all the attention in my power to this important object, and made use of every precaution for its success. I hope the event may answer our wishes; but if it should not, my anxiety to stand justified in the opinion of Congress has induced me to give them the trouble of this lengthy communication—I most sincerely thank them for the opportunity they have afforded me of entering into this explanation by the transmission of General Sullivan's letter, and I shall be much obliged by a similar indulgence upon every occasion of the same sort.

I beg leave to conclude with one observation. It may possibly hereafter be said that the expedition ought not to have been undertaken unless the means were fully adequate, or that the consequences of a defeat ought not to have been hazarded when they were found to be otherwise—The motives to the undertaking, besides the real importance of rescuing the frontier from the alarms, ravages, and distresses to which it was exposed and which in all probability have redoubled this year,—were the increasing clamors of the country, and the repeated applications of the States immediately concerned, supported by frequent references and indications of the pleasure of Congress. The combined force of these motives appeared to me to leave no alternative.

The means proposed to be employed were fully sufficient; the disappointments we have met with, such as could not have been foreseen as we have no right to expect—so far as the business did not depend on me I had the strongest assurances from those who were concerned, and who were to be supposed the proper judges that my expectations would be fulfilled.

After such extensive preparations has been made—so much expence incurred,—the attention and hopes of the public,—the apprehensions of the enemy excit[ed]—[their] force augmented—their resentments infla[med]—to recede, and leave the frontier a prey [to] their depredations would be in every view impolitic, when there is still a good prospect of success. To avoid possible misfortunes we must in this case submit to many certain evils—of the most serious nature, too obvious to require enumeration.

* * * I have the honor, &c.

[No. 2505.]

Returns of Wheat and Flour, Purchased by Hendrick Wyckoff in August, 1779.

A Return of Flour and Wheat Purchased and Delivered to Jonathan G. Tompkins Esqr. Asst. Commissary of Purchase for the use of the Army of the United States by Hend'k Wyckoff, in the month of August, 1779.

Time when purchased	Of Whom Purchased	Where Deposited	Flour			Wheat		Prices of			Total Amount							
			Bbbs.	C	Qrs.	lb.	Bush's	pecks	Flour per C	Wheat per Bushel	Flour Cask Containing s'd flour	£	s	d				
1779.																		
August	Caleb Johnson	Daniel Weighe's House	2	3	1	27		62			£	6.8	3	Doll's	465	10	7 1/2	
	Gilbert Southard	Zebulon Southard's Do	11	18	2	25					£		3	Do	368	18	9 1/2	
	Henry G. Livingston	Isaac Dennis' Mill	24	42	1	8					£		3	Do	832	18	1 1/2	
	Isaac Dennis	Do	2	3	1	24					£		3	Do	68	4	4 1/2	
	Edward Churchill	Edward Churchill's House	9	15	16						£		3	Do	298	10	3 1/2	
	Francis Way	William Van Wyck's Mill	6	10	3	2					£		3	Do	211	15	9 1/2	
	Peter A. Schenk	John Elise, A. C. Issues Store	26	44	2	15					£		3	Do	879	4	9 1/2	
	Charles Duryee	Charles Duryee's House	8	14	2	3					£		3	Do	277	16	1 1/2	
	Israel Knapp Jun'r	Jacob Brinckerhoff's Mill	3	5	2	11		218		2	£	6.8	3	Do	109	19	4	
	Margaret Livingston	Do	6	10	5	7					£		3	Do	198	8	11 1/2	
	Gilbert Southard	Richard Southard Jun'r House	5	8	5	8					£		3	Do	159	3	9	
	Richard Southard	Do									£							
		Total Purchased	102	176	1	13		280		2	£			Total amount	5268	10	11 1/2	

Fishkill August 31st 1779.

Errors Excepted

Hend'k Wyckoff.

[No. 2506.]

Stephen Ward Brings Serious Charges against Grant and Menzies.

Dutchess Co'y August 31st 1779.

Sir, Sometime past James Grant (a British Officer) had your Excellency's Permission to proceed N. York, and took with him a very fine Horse, which he did not bring back; there is, therefore, a Suspicion he convey'd him to our Enemies, and since his Return he and Thomas Menzies, (who I understand are both on Parole) with the Disaffected in this Neighbourhood, have frequently had Private Meetings, which I cannot but suppose has been productive of the following Consequences, that John Kane and a Number of Others some of whom were heretofore esteem'd useful Subjects, have within a few Days past, gone off and join'd our Enemies, and I conclude were deluded away by the above two Persons. There is also great Reason to believe they are now collecting another Gang to send away, The Disaffected of West Chester County being frequently at Grant's House, and I am credibly inform'd, Grant himself has been lately seen at Bedford, which makes it highly Probable he holds a constant Correspondence with our Enemies.

Another Corroborating Circumstance will tend to convince your Excellency my Suspicions are not groundless, as a Man suppos'd to be a British Officer in Disguise was seen conceal'd in Grant's woods near his dwelling House, but a Day or two before Kane and his Company went off.

I would not wish to Dictate your Excellency, but should be exceedingly glad if you could consistently send them to where they hold themselves Subjects, as the Consequences of their remaining here must evidently tend to the Distress of the Coun-

try, and the strengthening the Hands of our Enemies. I am,
Sir, with due Respect Your Excellencies most Ob't Serv't

Stēphen Ward.

His Excellency Governor George Clinton.

[No. 2507.]

John Jay Requested to Withhold His Resignation for a Time.

Kingston, 1st September 1779.

D^r Sir, I have been favoured with your oblidging Letter of the 18th Ultimo with its enclosures. I immediately forwarded the Letters for your Brother & the Chancellor. Mr. Duane is arrived & is now at this place at the Instance of the Legislature to give them Information respecting the Situation of our Public affairs, particularly the Vermont Business. Mr. Morris has not yet appeared nor have I heard of his being on his Way hither. I have had some Conversation on the Subject of your Letter to the Chancellor; it is our Joint Opinion that it is best to defer delivering in your Resignation, at least for a Time, especially as the Legislature have continued your Seat in Congress till the 15 October & in the intermediate Time something may Turn up which perhaps might induce you to belive your Resignation woud not be so proper. Mr. Livingston will write you more fully on this Subject. The Bearer, Mr. Phelps, from Cumberland County waiting for my Dispatches only oblidges me to conclude. I am, D^r Sir, with great Regard your Sincerely

[G. C.]

[To Mr. Jay.]

I forgot to acknowledge the Rec^t of your former Letter with the German News Papers. I believe a Circulation of them in this State might be serviceable & I will endeavour to get the Legislature to provide for the Expence.

[No. 2508.]

Colonel Pawling's Reasons for His Failure to Join General Clinton.

Kingston 1st Sep'r 1779.

DEAR SIR, Since I had the Honor of writing to your Excellency on the 31st ulto. Lieut. Colo. Pawling with his Detachm't has returned, not hav'g been able to form a Junction with my Brother at the Time & Place appointed, owing to the Reasons suggested in my last Letter, and the State of his Provision and other Causes, which he will personally explain to your Excellency, rendered it imprudent to proceed with his Party farther into the Country. I am extremely mortified at this Disappointm't, as from the Precautions I had taken & the Orders given (which Colo. Pawling will shew you) I had Reason to hope that their Junction wo'd have been formed without Difficulty & with Precision as to Point of Time. However, I am fully persuaded Colo. Pawling has exerted himself to the utmost on this Occasion, & is by no means to blame, & I wo'd fain hope at the same Time, that considering the Force Genl. Sullivan has with him, the advanced Season of the year, and the arrival of a Reinforcem't at New York, that Colo. Pawling's Return will not in itself be a disagreeable Circumstance, as if necessary he will be able (leav'g some Guards to quiet the minds of the Frontier inhabitants) to join your Excellency with about 200 men includ'g Capt. Hallett's Command.

Previous to the Receipt of your Excellency's Letter of the 31st Complaints had been made of the Behavior of the Refugees at Tarry Town and I had given them Orders to return the Cattle they had taken to the owners and forbid similar Practices in future.

Your Excellency's Letter of the 22d May last respect'g the Cloathing Departm't was laid before the Legislature at the opening of their present Session, and the Business recommended to their early Consideration. Your Letter of the 26th ulto, on the same Subject this moment rec'd shall be also laid before them. I am &c.

[G. C.]

[To Gen. Washington.]

[No. 2509.]

Westchester Inhabitants Petition for Relief Against Plunderers.

To his Excellency George Clinton Governor & Commander in Chief of the Forces of the State of New York &c.

The Humble Petition of Sundry of the Inhabitants of the County of Westchester Humbly Sheweth,

Whereas your Excellency, or some one under the same authority did direct and order, that as the Inhabitants (whose Misfortune it were to be placed near the line of the Enemy) had large Stocks of Cattle and Horses, the same should be drove back in the Country to which Order your Petitioners have never Objected. It is your Petitioners unfortunate Case, to be placed and our Estates are at present between the lines where your Petitioners with our little Stock (your Excellency is pleased of your goodness to bestow us) could subsist and keep our families from starving, provided your Petitioners could be permitted to keep the Cattle and Horses that are our property. Contrary to that, and as we are informed, contrary to Orders, we your Excellencies Petitioners, are daily distressed by a set of Men that are (we judge) regardless of Law, Constitution or Humanity, by entering on our possessions, regardless of the Cries of the widow and the orphan,

and taking into their possession your petitioners Cattle and Horses, and plundering our Houses and converting the same as their own property; many of our property are carried into the State of Connecticut; your Petioners are some of us by such Methods rendered incable of putting Seed in the Ground, others robbed of their Cows our Main Subsistance. Your Petioners are without redress: Therefore your Excellencies Humble Petioners pray, that your Excellency woud grant us some redress and order, that our property may be returned, or that such distresses may not come upon us any further, as you of your wisdom shall think most proper, and your Petioners shall ever Pray,

William Purdy

Moses Purdy

————— Haviland

John Rushton, Juner.

Harisons Precinct 1st September 1779.

Westchester County.

[No. 2510.]

Colonel Hughes Supplements the Charges Against Grant and Menzies.

Fishkill, Sept. 1st 1779.

Dear Governour; Having a few Days ago attended the Tory Vendues, at Fredricksburgh, I had an opportunity of hearing several Complaints against James Grant, a British Officer, on Parole.

The first is, that he carried a very fine Horse with him, when he had a Flag to visit New York, which Horse he has not brought back, but, in all Probability left with the Enemy. Secondly, that he has since been seen at Bedford, which is suppos'd beyond his

Restrictions. Thirdly, that there are many Circumstances which strongly indicate his having harbour'd a Spy, as well as several other Charges and Suspicions which would be too tedious to trouble your Excellency with at this Time of more important Business.

I have been requested by several of the Inhabitants, & others, to acquaint your Excellency with the Foregoing, that an inquiry might be made into his Conduct whenever your Excellency shall think proper.

He appears, to me, to be an insidious and dangerous Person, and his Countryman, Mr. Menzies, much more so, as being possessed of greater abilities, and not less Dissimulation.

The inhabitants in general, even those who harbour the best opinion of them, cannot help considering them as highly dangerous to the Community at this Time.

Nor do they view Mr. Cullen, Kane's Brother-in-law in any better Light, but, in some Respects, full as dangerous as either, or more so, on one account, he being possess'd of a Commission that enables him to make his appearance, in all mix'd Companies, with some Confidence; whereby much is tho't to be communicated to the Enemy that they ought not to know. Neither is there a Tory in the Neighbourhood but what associates or visits him. I am, Dear Govenour, your Excellency's most obdt. and Humble Serv't

Hugh Hughes,

His Excellency Govenour Clinton.

Sep'r 1 [1779] Kingston.

Dr Sir, I am favored with your Letter respect'g Grant & Menzies in Consequence of w'ch & one I rec'd yesterday from

Judge Ward. I shall take the most expeditious Measures that my present Situation will admit of, for putting it out of their Power to do farther Mischief.

You will please to mention to Judge Ward the Receipt of his Letter & mention to him my Intentions. I am &c.

[G. C.]

[To Col. Hughes.]

Reply of the Senate to Governor Clinton's Speech.

*The Answer of the Senate of the State of New York, to the Speech of his Excellency George Clinton, Esquire, Governor of the said State, General and Commander in Chief of all the Militia, and Admiral of the Navy of the same:

Sir, We, the Senate of the State of New-York, acknowledging the Force of your Excellency's Reasons for calling us together at this Time, beg Leave to assure you, that, notwithstanding the Inconveniences that we may thereby individually labour under, we rejoice at the early Opportunity it affords us, to proceed in the Business left unfinished the last Sessions. and the other important Matters recommended in your Excellency's Speech.

While we sincerely lament the Sufferings of our Brethren in Westchester County, we acknowledge, with Gratitude, the Kindness of Heaven in shortning the Hand which is stretched out but to destroy; and humbly hope, that while it suffers the Heart of our modern Pharoah to be hardned, it only prepares a brighter Display of its Justice and Mercy; the first, by the final Overthrow of his impious Host. when the Measures of their Iniquity shall be full; the second, by our glorious Emancipation from the Yoke of Oppression.

*From the Senate Journal.

The Degree of Security that our Frontiers have derived from the Measures pursued by the Legislature, seconded by your Excellency's judicious Application of the Means they afforded you, give us great Pleasure; and the more so, as from the late Conduct of the Enemy, we have the highest Reason to conclude, that, wearied with unsuccessful Conflicts with a gallant Enemy in the Field, though not sated with Blood, they mean to prowl along our Frontiers, had they found them unguarded, in Order to revenge upon unarmed Husbandmen, and helpless Women and Children, the Disgraces their Arms have lately sustained.

We participate in your Excellency's Pleasure, on the Suppression of Robberies and other atrocious Offences, by the regular and assiduous Administration of Justice; in which we find additional Reasons for admiring that happy Constitution, under which we enjoy domestic Peace amidst the Horrors of War; notwithstanding the Patronage that Robbers and Assassins have so frequently received from degenerate Britons.

We learn, with extreme Sorrow, that neither the Liberality or Justice, manifested by this State to their revolted Subjects in the North-eastern Counties, nor the Steps which Congress have hitherto thought it prudent to pursue, have yet served to allay their unreasonable Discontents: And, having vainly tried every lenient Measure, we sincerely lament the Necessity which will compel us, by harsher Means, to enforce Obedience to the Laws, and to extend the Protection of Government to all the faithful Subjects of this State.

We are fully sensible, Sir, of the Claim that the present State of our Currency has to our most serious Consideration. We see, on the one Hand, the Calamities attendant on the Failure of public Credit; on the other, the extreme Delicacy of the Subject,

and the Difficulty of remedying a general Evil, by such partial Measures as a single State can apply: Yet, as the Importance of the Object is generally acknowledged, we have much Consolation in believing, that any well-grounded Plan for the Appreciation of the Currency, which the collective Wisdom of America may think it proper to adopt; or which the peculiar Situation of this State will permit it to enter into, will be ardently seconded by the Virtue of our Constituents. This Subject, together with the several Matters submitted, by your Excellency, to our Consideration, and those which, during the Course of the Sessions, you shall be pleased to lay before us, shall be examined and proceeded on with all the Attention and Dispatch, which is due to the Importance of the Objects, and to your Excellency's Recommendation.

While we acknowledge as an indisputable Truth, that the Safety and Happiness of America (under divine Providence) depends upon the Wisdom and Unanimity of her Councils, at this interesting Juncture; we cannot but express our grateful Sense of your Excellency's Belief, that we shall continue to distinguish ourselves by the same Zeal, in the common Cause, which has hitherto characterized this State; and to assure your Excellency, that Nothing shall be wanting on our Parts, to justify the Confidence you repose in our Endeavours; which the most ardent Desire to promote the general Welfare, and the true Happiness of our Constituents, can suggest.

By Order of the Senate,

Pierre Van Cortlandt, President.

Kingston, September 1, 1779.

The Governor Submits Important Communications to the Legislature.

*Gentlemen, You will receive, with this Message, Copies of two Letters from his Excellency General Washington; the one of the 26th.† the other of the 28th.‡ Ultimo; with the Copy of a Letter from Jeremiah Wadsworth, Esq; Commissary-General of Purchases. Also, the Copy of a Letter from his Excellency the President of Congress, dated the 14th Ultimo;§ and of an Act,|| of the 17th Ultimo. As the Matters, to which these Papers relate, are of the first Importance, I take the Liberty of recommending them to your earliest Attention.

Geo. Clinton.

Kingston, September 1, 1779.

*From Journals of the Legislature.

†See page 221, footnote.

‡Not found.

§The committee, consisting of Mr. Dickinson, Mr. Morris, Mr. Gerry, appointed to prepare a letter to the several states, brought in a draught, which was agreed to as follows:

"Sir, Congress have deemed it highly necessary to inform you that the enemy have exerted themselves to send out a very considerable reinforcement to their army now in America. Seven thousand were destined hither from Europe and 3000 from the West-Indies. The operations in the place last mentioned may perhaps prevent the arrival of those troops; but there is no solid reason to expect that the European reinforcement will not arrive. It is proper you should be informed that our allies were much concerned to find, that preparations were not earlier made for a vigorous campaign. The exertions of America are necessary to obtain the great objects of the alliance, her liberty, sovereignty and Independence. The barbarities already exhibited by the enemy and their avowed determinations to give a still greater scope to their ravages, are additional motives to our endeavours. Congress are fully convinced, therefore, that you will comply with their earnest wishes to prepare for the most immediate and most vigorous operations, particularly by filling up your battalions and having the militia of your state ready to march at the shortest warning. It is highly probable that circumstances may soon call them forth to operate offensively; and it is hoped and expected with such energy and effect as to free these states from their hostile invaders."—Journals of Congress.

||On the 17th of August, 1779, Congress adopted the following resolutions:

Whereas the army of the United States of America have by their patriotism, valor and perseverance, in the defence of the rights and liberties of their country, become entitled to the gratitude as well as the approbation of their fellow citizens:

Resolved, That it be, and it is hereby recommended to the several states that have not already adopted measures for that purpose, to make such further provision for the officers and for the soldiers enlisted for the war, to them respectively belonging, who shall continue in service till the establishment of peace, as shall be an adequate compensation for the many dangers, losses and hardships they have suffered and been exposed to in the course of the present contest, either by granting to their officers half-pay for life, and proper rewards to their soldiers; or in such other manner as may appear most expedient to the legislatures of the several states.

* * * * *
Resolved, That it be, and hereby is recommended to the several states to make such provision for the widows of such of their officers, and such of their soldiers enlisted for the war, as have died or may die in the service, as shall secure to them the sweets of that liberty for the attainment of which their husbands had nobly laid down their lives.—Journals of Congress.

[No. 2511.]

Major Hatfield Delicately Rebuked by the Governor for Dismissing John Tillman.

Pokeepsie 2d Sep'r 1779.

Sir, I have just received a Memorial of which the enclosed is a Copy from a large Number of Gentlemen in the City of Albany, many of whom I am personally acquainted with, and know to be the most reputable Characters in that Place. Your Services & Sufferings in the common Cause I conceived entitled you to the particular Notice of your Country; this & your Capacity induced me to appoint you Commissary of Hides, but at the same Time I knew no other Person I would have preferred to Mr. Tillman more especially as he was already in that Departm't.

I am also furnished with a Copy of your Letter to Mr. Tillman notifying his Dismission from Office. The Reasons you give for displacing him are in my opinion by no means conclusive; no Complaints have been ever received by me of any abuses in that Department and you give him not the least Intimation of his having acted improperly, on the contrary, you inform him that Major Hitechock will, if he pleases, place him in the best Employment under him which is a convincing Proof of his unexceptionable Behaviour. Mr. Tillman has continued in the Service in different Stations from the Beginning of the war and as far as I have heard, always sustained a fair Character; if he has honestly fulfilled the Duties of his Office, as from your Letter it is to be presumed he has, there can be no Reason for displacing him; if he has not, proper Inquiries shou'd be made to warrant his Dismission.

I conceive myself in some Degree interested in your Conduct and should always wish that by a particular attention to the Rules of the strictest Justice and Impartiality you may justify my good Opinion of you. This induces me to trouble you at present, being fully persuaded that upon proper Reflection you will not suffer yourself to be chargeable with an act of Injustice towards Mr. Tillman. I am &c.

[G. C.]

[To Major Hatfield.]

To his Excellency George Clinton Esqr, Governor and Commander in chief of the State of New York and Admiral of the Navy of the Same &c.

Whereas John Tillman, Sen'r, an Inhabitant of this place, has been appointed Deputy Commissary of Hides for the Northern Department, and as we have observ'd his Diligence in the Execution of his duty, it is with great concern that we see a person of his approved abilities, who was from his youth bred to the occupation of Cordwainer, and without any reason assign'd, superceeded by a Gentleman unknown to us.

And as Mr. Tillman has been considerable time in the employment, must consequently be better acquainted with the Different Branches respecting the Department, than an utter Stranger to it.

Therefore, sensible of our duty to our Country and the Army, beg your Excellency to Consider his case, and if it appears Consistant with the Public Interest, to Continue him in the Service, which is the Desire of your Excellency's most obedient & very humble Servants

Ab'm Ten Broeck, Saml. Stringer, G. V. Schaick, Leonard Gansevoort, James Gray, John N. Bleecker, Jacob Cuyler, Harme Gansevoort, John Tayler, Bastejan T. Vischer, Jer. V. Rensselaer, Jo. Young, J. Roorbach, Lucas Van Veghten, Corn's Wendell, Eph'm Van Veghten, Frans Winne, Henry Merselis, Thunis H. Visscher, Marte Mynderse, Peter Ryckman, Isaac Bogert, Robert McClallen, John Price, Edw'd Williett, Nicholas Marselis, Peter Schuyler, P. V. Rensselaer, Mat: Visscher, Leon. Gansevoort Jun'r, John M. Beekman, Isaac D. Fonda, John Lansing Jun'r, Gerret Groes Beck, John Ja. Lansing, Gerrit Ja. Lansing, William Hogen, Bernardus Evertsen, Abra'm G. Lansing, Peter S. Schuyler, Jacob H. Wendell, Jno. H: Wendell, Abr'm Verplanck, Jno. Waters, Josep Klein, Andrew Douw, Cornelius Swits, Daniel Winne, J. Henry Wendell, ———, (?) ———, (?) John Wallers Inn Holder, Levinus Winne Jun., Peter Brat, John Harberk.

Albany Aug't 27th 1779.

[No. 2512.]

John Jay Complimented by the Legislature.

Kingston 3d Sep'r 1779.

Sir, I have the Honor of transmitting your Excellency concurrent Resolutions* of the Senate & Assembly for continuing you as a Delegate from this State in Congress until the fifteenth Day of October next, & I shall with the utmost Dispatch forward you your Commission in Consequence thereof. I am &c.

[G. C.]

[To John Jay.]

Governor Clinton Expresses Reciprocal Felicitations to the Legislature.

‡Gentlemen, I receive with Pleasure your cheerful Approbation of the Reasons that induced me to convene you at a Season, which, I am sensible must be inconvenient to many of you; from this, as well as the ardent Desire you discover to proceed with the utmost Diligence, in the Business intrusted to your Care, I am led to form a happy Presage of the Advantages, which the Community will derive from your present Deliberations.

The polite Manner in which you express your Sense of the Importance of the Matters, I have particularly recommended to your Attention, demands my Acknowledgments; and will encourage me to persist in suggesting, whatever I may, in future, conceive necessary to the general Welfare; and give me Leave to assure you, Gentlemen, I shall, at all Times, heartily concur

* "In Assembly, August 25, 1779."

"Resolved, That the special occasion, for which the Honorable John Jay, Esq., Chief-Justice of this State, was elected a Delegate from this State in Congress, will, very probably, continue after thirty Days after the present Meeting of the Legislature; and, therefore, That he be further continued in Office, as Delegate as aforesaid, until the fifteenth Day of October next."

See pages 198-99 and footnote.

‡From the Senate Journal.

with you in promoting, by my faithful Endeavours to execute, such Measures as may be esteemed conducive to that End.

Geo. Clinton.

Kingston, September 3, 1779.

[No. 2513.]

Ptition from Saratoga for a Permit to Take Flour to Boston to Procure Salt.

To his Excellency George Clinton Esqr. Governor of the State of New York Capt. Genl. and Commander in Chief of the Militia and Vice Admiral of the same &c.

The petition of a Number of Inhabitants of Saratoga District in the County of Albany Humbly Sheweth:

That whereas, your petitioners By the Continuance of the war and the Navigation of the North River, being yet stopt are reduced to Great Distress for the want of Salt, which article coming to us from Boston and going thro' so many Trading mens hands, Each of which has great advance, that when it Comes to us is raised to an Extravagant price, which by our past misfortunes in being drove off and loosing our Crops we are not able to pay, Notwithstanding the great plenty of money in other parts of the State, and in order to save the profits to ourselves which we have great need of, we humbly petition your Excellency to take our Case into Consideration and grant us a permit to Carry out of this State wheat, or flower to purchase Salt, for the use of our Families to the Quantity off one Hundred and one Bushels of Salt.

And as our Views are not to make any profit to ourselves hut purely to answer the Necessities of our Families, we Humbly Conceive your Excellency will see fit in your Wisdom to Grant our request, and your petitioners as bound in Duty shall ever pray.

Increase Child, Jehoiada Millerd, Benjamin Richmond, Thomas Mansfield, Edward Kissted, — Baker, William Frisba, Solomon Cambell, Ebenezer Patrick, Cyprian Wilson, Philip Munger, Elias Palmer, Elezeaz Millerd, John Carpender, Jehoiada Boyce, Abner Quitterfield, John Neilson, Stephen Benedict, David Bidwell, George Hunter, John Andrews, Jabes Tuttle, John Buck, Gabriel Strang, Warren Carpenter, John Davis, William Robins, Jotham Bemus, Joab Cook, Henry Minord, William Masters, John Stephenson, Garret Springer, John Tombs, Joseph Palmer, Daniel Cambel, George Palmer, Joseph Row, Israel Rose, Caleb Crandel, James Tombs, Stephen Tombs, Joseph Chamberlain, Benjamin Rogers.

Saratoga District Sep'r 4th 1779.

Response of the Assembly to the Governor's Address.

*May it please your Excellency,

We, the Representatives in Assembly, beg Leave, in Answer to your Excellency's Speech, to express our Approbation of the Motives which induced you to convene the Legislature at this early Season.

Permit us to assure your Excellency, that we sincerely sympathise with our Fellow-Citizens in Westchester County, and

*From the Assembly Journal.

lament that, from their peculiar Situation, we cannot effectually protect them against the Ravages of an Enemy, who, exasperated by Disappointment, increase in Barbarity as they diminish in Strength.

It is with Pleasure, however, we learn that the Attempts of the Enemy, farther to penetrate into the State, have proved unsuccessful: That from a proper Disposition of the Forces destined for the Defence of the Frontiers, and the Exertions of the Militia, these Settlements have derived great Security: That from the Operation of our Western Armies, there is Reason to hope the Inhabitants will not only be farther secured, but that just Vengeance will be taken for the Cruelties they have suffered from a merciless Foe: And that, by an assiduous Administration of Justice, Robberies and other Enormities have become less frequent.

With extreme Regret we receive Information from your Excellency, that neither the Justice and Forbearance manifested in our Proceedings, nor any Measures which Congress have hitherto adopted, have been effectual in quieting the Disorders prevailing in the Northeastern Parts of the State, but that the Inhabitants still remain in their unjustifiable Opposition and Revolt; and we fully concur with your Excellency in the Necessity of taking immediate and decisive Steps for restoring Peace and good Order, supporting the Authority of Government, and protecting the faithful Subjects of the State in that Quarter: And while we deprecate the Evils of civil War and Dissention, especially at this Juncture, when it may endanger the general Safety of America, yet we take this Opportunity of publicly declaring our steadfast Purpose, to maintain the rightful Jurisdiction of the State.

The several other Matters recommended by your Excellency, as they merit, so they will engage our earliest Attention: The present State of our Currency is an important Object of our Deliberations, and requires our utmost Endeavours in devising Means to effect its Appreciation; and from the Anxiety of our Constituents to restore the public Credit, we flatter ourselves with their cheerful Assistance to render these Endeavours successful.

We are fully sensible of the peculiar Necessity of wise and unanimous Councils in the present Crisis; and, influenced by this Consideration, we assure your Excellency of our sedulous and united Efforts, to discover and pursue such Measures as will be most conducive to the Happiness of our Constituents; and we trust that by the Smiles of an indulgent Providence on our virtuous Struggles, we shall soon, very soon, expel the Enemy from our Borders, and enjoy the Blessings of Peace and Freedom.
 Assembly-Chamber, September 4, 1779.

The Governor Lays the Salt Proposition Before the Legislature.

*Gentlemen, The repeated Applications which are made to me for Licenses to export Flour, for the Purpose of procuring Salt, as well as my own Observation, convince me that there is a great and uncommon Scarcity of that essential Article of Life.

I, therefore, think it my Duty to recommend it to you, to devise Means for enabling the good Citizens of this State to obtain a seasonable Supply, to prevent the Distresses to which they may be otherwise exposed. A partial Supply, I am informed, is promised by the Commissary-General, in Exchange

*From Journals of the Legislature.

for Wheat but at a Price much dearer than it can be purchased if the Farmer was at Liberty to barter his Produce for it in other States; and if it should arrive in Season for the Use of the Farmer, which is much to be doubted, it is not to be expected that the Quantity, which may be procured from the Commissary, will be anywise adequate to our Wants.

Geo. Clinton.

Kingston, September 4, 1779.

[No. 2514.]

Again the Question of Supplying the Army With Flour.

New Windsor Sept'r 5th 1779.

Dear Sir, Since I had the Honor of a Conference with a Committee from your Senate & Assembly I have been examining carefully into the State of our Magazines and find they are without flour or Bread, for a Week; my hopes from Pennsylvania are small, as the Committee have been necessitated to purchase a Cargo of Prize flour lately brought in their for the use of the Citizens, and my purchasers write me they cannot obtain but very little part of it, if any, & if we do not obtain from this State an immediate supply, we must starve; under these embarrassments, I think it absolutely Necessary to promise your People a good supply of West India Goods, especially sugar, besides the Salt already promised; nothing doubting my proposal to Congress to supply them will be approved of, but holding myself bound to fulfill my promise if I am obliged to get the goods myself, believing this will be an inducement to them to give us immediate supplies of Bread and save our Army. The mode of Issuing the Goods, so as to prevent confusion of accounts, to be settled when I see you, which shall be immediately after my

return from the Eastward, where I am going to secure some prize flour and lay a foundation to obtain the Goods proposed to be delivered the inhabitants of New York State. Mr. Flint in my absence will execute any business that may arise. I am, with the greatest respect, & esteem Your Exc^y most obt. Hum. Servant

Jere Wadsworth.

His Excell^y Governor Clinton.

6 Sept. 1779.

Sir, I am this Moment favored with a Letter from Colo. Wadsworth of the 5 Inst., pressing the aid of the Legislature to enable him to obtain a speedy Supply of Flour for the army, and am informed by the Contents that he intended to set out immediately to the Eastward and requested to write to you in his absence. A Bill* passed the Legislature on Saturday afternoon, for the above Purpose, & was yesterday transmitted under Direction to Colo. Wadsworth at Head Quarters; you have doubtless already received it and I hope it may prove adequate to the present Emergency. If any further aid shall be necessary you may be assured of it. I am &c.

G. C.

Royal Flint, Esqr.

The Governor Again Addresses the Assembly.

‡Gentlemen, I thank you for this polite Address. Your Approbation of the Reasons which induced me to convene you at this early Season, gives me peculiar Pleasure, as it evinces the

*Known as chapter I, third session of the Legislature of New York "an act for procuring an immediate supply of flour and peas for the use of the army."—STATE HISTORIAN.

‡From the Assembly Journal.

just Sense you entertain of the Importance of the Business, which I have had the Honor of laying before the Legislature.

The zeal you discovered for the common Welfare, cannot fail of affording Satisfaction to your Constituents, and while with you, Gentlemen, I anticipate the pleasing Prospect of a speedy Expulsion of the Enemy, and the Enjoyment of the great Blessings of Peace and Freedom, I have the firmest Reliance on your Resolution of adopting the most vigorous and effectual Measures, so indispensably necessary at this interesting Juncture, for the Attainment of these desirable Objects.

Geo. Clinton.

Kingston, September 6, 1779.

[No. 2515.]

Indians and Tories Continue Their Depredations Along the Mohawk Valley.

Albany September 7th 1779.

Dear Governour, Your favour of the 27th ultimo I received yesterday. I shall by the first opportunity direct Colo. Van Dyck the Commanding Officer at Fort Schuyler to make the strictest inquiry respecting those unfortunate Men who fell into the hands of the Enemy at the Minisinck. If any account is received of them your Excellency may depend on having it Transmitted you soon.

The first instant three of the Inhabitants of the German Flatts were killed and three made Prisoners by a party of Indians & Tories.

On the second Inst. two men belonging to Colo. Warner's Regiment were taken Prisoner by a strong party of Indians in

sight of Fort George. I am, with Esteem & Respect, your Excellencies most Obedient Servant

G. V Schaick.

To Governour Clinton.

[No. 2516.]

A Proposition to Exchange Lieutenant Drummond for Lieutenant Dodge.

Sir, This will be handed to you by Lieut. Peter Drummond a Prisoner taken to the Northward in the year 1777; he has been long confined as a Prisoner to the State; the Commissioners at Albany now inform me they have no objection to his Exchange. I wish under his Circumstances, if it could be done with Propriety, that Lieut. Dodge (who from the manner of his Captivity I find myself particularly interested in liberating) might be exchanged for him. A Duplicate Parole is enclosed.

8 Sep. 1779, Kingston.

[G. C.]

[To Col. John Beatty.]

I Lieut. Peter Drummond of do pledge my Faith and Honor to his Excellency George Clinton, Esqr. Governor of the State of New York that I will without Delay proceed from this Place by the most direct Route to the Quarters of Colonel Beatie Commissary of Prisoners for the army of the United States of America, deliver myself up to him and abide his further orders and Directions and in the mean Time that I will not say or do anything contrary to the Interest of the United States of America or of the State of New York in particular.

Dated at Kingston 8 September 1779.

Governor Clinton Submits Several Propositions to the Legislature.

*Gentlemen, I have to recommend to your early Attention, the several Resolutions of Congress, of the 5th of May last,† relative to the Settlement of the Accounts of the late Commissary-General Trumbull; of the 23d of July last,‡ for the better Preservation of Buildings and other Property, belonging to the United States, and for preventing Encroachments on Grounds or Places occupied for the Purposes of Defence; of the 22d of June,§ recommending the adopting of Measures, to prevent the plundering of the Inhabitants of Long Island, and other Places in Possession of the Enemy; and of the 14th of April|| last: Copies of which Resolutions will be herewith delivered to you.

Geo. Clinton.

Kingston, September 8, 1779.

[No. 2517.]

Respecting the Exchange of Citizens to the Northward.

Kingston 9 Sep'r 1779.

Sir, Inclosed is a Copy of a Resolution of Congress of 22d May¶ last relative to the Exchange of Citizens in Captivity at Niag-

*From Journals of the Legislature.

†The act of May 5th, 1779, authorized Jonathan Trumbull Jr. to settle and adjust the accounts of the late Commissary General Joseph Trumbull, under the direction of the Board of Treasury.

‡The act of July 23d, 1779, recommended to the legislatures of the respective states to make effectual provision by laws, for the preservation of the buildings belonging to the United States within their respective jurisdictions, in order to prevent exorbitant claims, and the owners from seizing the property and removing the buildings.

§The act of June 22d, recommended to the legislative and executive powers in the several states "more especially those that are adjacent to Long Island and other places in the possession of the enemy, to take the most effectual measures to prevent plundering the inhabitants of such places" and directed all officers of the army to use their "utmost exertions to prevent such practices."

||The resolution of April 14th, "recommended to the executive powers of the states of Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New York, to permit the exportation of such flour and grain as has been or may be purchased within the said states respectively, under the direction of the said Board of War if authorized as aforesaid."

¶ On motion of Mr. Duane, seconded by Mr. Morris, Congress came to the following resolution:

"Whereas a proposition has been made for exchanging a number of the good citizens

ara &c. I presume that you have been furnished with a Duplicate and am particularly anxious to know whether any Steps have been taken to negotiate Exchanges in Consequence of it. I am the more induced to wish this Business perfected from a Desire of liberating from the Savages the unhappy Women & Children who fell into their Hands at the Destruction of Cherry Valley & other Frontier Settlem'ts. I am &c.

[G. C.]

[To Gen. Schuyler.]

[No. 2518.]

*Samuel Curson Asks for Restitution for Arms and Ammunition
Captured by a British Privateer.*

Baltimore 10 Sept'r 1779.

Sir, Some time in the month of January last I received a letter from Jacobus Vanzandt, Esquire, of Mofits (?) Town, dated the 6th of that month, requesting me at your desire, to give orders to my House in St. Eustatia, (Curson & Gouverneur, Agents for Congress) to receive a quantity of Powder and Arms belonging to the State of N. York, laying at St. Martins in the hands of John Bryson of that island, to pay what charges had accrued thereon, and to ship the same immediately in some good armd vessell, to the nearest Port to New York; Which request I immediately compldy with, and my house has long since been possessed of the orders, but by advice from them, understand they had not been able to carry the same into execution, as no

of these states, who are in captivity at Niagara and its vicinity, for disaffected citizens who are desirous to join the enemy;

Resolved, That the Commissioners of Indian affairs for the Northern department, or any two of them, be authorized and directed, with the concurrence of the commander in chief and the governor or executive authority of the several states, whose citizens respectively shall be the subject of the proposed exchange, to negotiate and settle such exchange in the manner and on the terms they shall judge reasonable and expedient."—*Journals of Congress.*

vessels could be procured to bring it over from St. Martins, (it being an article that would cause them much trouble, in case of being met by British Men War or Privateers) nor any be induced to stop for it in their way to America,—This being the case, my House almost despair'd of doing anything in the matter,—but of late urg'd on by my further orders, occasion'd by the repeated enquiries of Mr. Vanzandt, concerning it, they determin'd to send over a small fast sailing vessell of their own, (there being no other to be procured at any rate) at all hazards,—more specially at this time as the Continental Brig Eagle Packet, (dispatch'd to them by the Honourable the Commer'l Committee of Congress, for the express purpose of procuring a load of Gun Powder for the Use of the United States) was able to take it in,—her full cargo not being them to be bought.—The pressing solicitation of the Hon'l Committee for Powder and the very favourable opportunity, as I before mention'd, induced my House to send over a vessell of their own, which was accordingly laden with some Chests of Arms & 208 Barrels of the Powder, but on her return under the lee of St. Eustatia, she was boarded (in a Calm) by a Privateer of the Enemy's and carried to Anguilla where she was detain'd and libell'd, notwithstanding she was under Dutch Colours and regular clearances for her Cargo. My House on advice thereof, immediately apply'd to the Governor of St. Eustatia for redress who without loss of time dispatch'd the Commandant in a Flag of Truce to General Burt, commander of the Leeward Carribee Islands, demanding restitution of vessell and Cargo,—no answer was received when the last vessell came away. The Governor demand'd that all charges attending the Flag Truce, should be paid by my house, which they were oblig'd to comply with, and as is usual will come pretty high,—they had

no orders for this,—but as no time was to be lost, they acted in the affair as if it had been their own.—Hope Sir! it will meet with your approbation.

I shall be carefull to convey you General Burt's answer, with any other circumstances attending the affair as soon as they reach me and shoud be glad to hear from your Excel'y; what steps you wish to be taken, if the answer is not favourable; shoud you think proper to carry on a prosecution it may be necessary to invest us with proper powers, which wish to take charge of myself as propose embarking for St. Eustatia ere long, where shall be happy to receive your commands on this, or any other subject. I am with perfect respect, Sir, Your most hum'e ser.

Sam. Curson.

His Excellency George Clinton, Esquire.

[No. 2519.]

*Petition in Behalf of Christian Becker's Son, Rhinebeck Precinct,
September 10, 1779.**

[No. 2520.]

*Malcom Morison Makes Application That His Wife and Children
Be Forwarded to New York.*

New York, Sept'r 11th 1779.

Sir, I am informed that prior to this, my wife made application to your Excellency for Permission to come with my Children to me here, but that on account of some important matters which then called for your imediate attention, your Excellency had not leisure to determine upon the propriety of the application, and, therefore, she did not then obtain the Permission.

I have ever and do still retain too high a Sence of the Tenderness of your Excellency's feelings and the Goodness of your Heart, to suppose you did mean to deprive me or them of the natural and religious Rights to which we are intitled by Conjugal alliance. And, do rather suppose, that their not being as yet permitted to come, is owing to a neglect in my wife in not reminding your Excellency of her former application.

I have now a Prospect of a Flag from Verplanks Point, for the sole purpose of renewing an application to your Excellency on that Subject. And I do most earnestly

*Omitted.

entreat your Excellency, that your Excellency will grant a Permission for my wife and Children to come and remain with me. To press upon your Excellency the justice of this Request, or to influence you by any arguments or Reasons, w^od I conceive be superfluous and troublesome. And I flatter myself that the uner application will readily meet with your Excellency's concurrence. And I doubt not but your Excellency will afford her and my Children all that countenance and Protection through the Country to Verplanks Point (the Place to which I wish she may be sent) that her former Station in life and her present unhappy Circumstances can claim from a compassionate mind. I am, your Excellency's Most Obedient H^oble Serv^t,

Malcom Morison.*

To his Excellency, George Clinton Esqr.

[No. 2521.]

Philip Schuyler to Governor Clinton, Relative to Matters on the Frontier.

Saratoga Sept. 11 1779.

Dear Sir, Your Excellency's favor of the 27th ult. I did not receive until last night.

Exclusive of the pleasure I experience in complying with any request from you, the dutys of humanity would be a Sufficient motive to induce my best exertions to procure the Information you desire. I shall, therefore, immediately give directions for dispatching some trusty Ondias to Colo. Butler with a letter from me to that officer on the Subject in question, to which I shall add a proposal to Exchange such of our prisoners as may be in the hands of the Indians and do myself the pleasure to transmit you his answer as soon as I receive it. A Party of Tories & Indians has lately been fourteen miles below this; they took a tory whom they suffered to return next day; he confesses they came for a Major Taylor who is an active and Zealous whig. The party was victualled by some of the Tories on the frontiers. I sincerely wish measures were adopted to move those vermin either to the Interior part of the Country, or to the Enemy; they would do to Exchange such of the Inhabitants of this State which are in Canada.

*See page 279.

The bearer of this is, Major Graham, whose sister's husband is with the Enemy; he wishes she should be sent there; she and her children might do to recover Colo. Campbell's wife & Children who were taken at Cherry Valley.

I am, Dr Sir, very respectfully and affectionately your Excellency's most obedient Humble Servant

Ph: Schuyler.

His Ex. Gov. Clinton &c.

[No. 2522.]

Albanians Petition for Dr. Van Dyck's Return.

To his Excellency George Clinton Esqr. Governor of the State of New York, and Commander in chief of the Militia thereof &c. &c. &c.

The Petition of the Subscribers Inhabitants and Freeholders of the City and County of Albany in the said State Humbly sheweth,

That Henry Van Dyck, late of the said City of Albany, Practitioner of Physic, has among others been sent within the lines of the Enemy, by the Commissioners appointed to detect and defeat all Conspiracies formed against this State, by virtue of a certain act made and passed for that purpose, by the Legislature of the said State.

And, whereas, we are satisfied that the said Henry Van Dyck remains with the Enemy much against his Inclination, and that he is extremely anxious to return home. And we also have good reason to believe from the general tenor of his conduct during the present War that he was not, nor is he now a dangerous Person to the Liberties and Independence of the American States. That by an extensive practice in physic the said Doctor was very necessary to a number of respectable Citizens and other Inhabitants of this County, whose Families, (as well as our own,) have already suffered during his Banishment. We do, therefore, most earnestly beg of your Excellency that the said Doctor Van Dyck may be permitted to return to his Family & Friends.

And that no detriment or Hurt shall arise to the public by such Indulgence, We do pledge ourselves for his good Behaviour. And your Petitioners shall ever pray &c.

Thos. Hun, Harme Gansevoort, Thos. Shipboy, Gerard De Peyster, Garardus Beekman, Yoan Van Curan, Stephen Schuyler, Peter Schuyler, Stephen J. Schuyler, Abraham Douw, Elbert Willett, James Caldwell, Martin G. Van Bergen, John Roseboom, Barent H. (?) Ten Eyck, Robt. Henry, Abraham Fonda, John Ja. Lansing, Nicholas Lansingh, John H. Ten Eyck, Wouter Knicker Backer, Pyeter Quackenbos, John P. Quackenboss, Jno. R. Bleecker, John J. Bleecker, Jacob Bleecker, Gerardus Lansing, Corn's Van Schelluyne, Isaac Ver Planck, Cornelius Bogert, Henry Oothout Jun., Hendrick Bogert, Willem Winne, John Gansevoort, Jacob Van Schaick, David Schuyler, Peter Gansevoort, Jacob Roseboom, W: Mancius, Jilles de Garmo, Abraham Mind'erse, John Van Ness, Peter Ryckman, Volckert P. Douw, Volckert Van Veghten, John Witbeck, Martc Mynderse, Isaac Van Aernam, Garret Roseboom, Walter Quackenboss Jun., Cornelius Brouwer, Jacob ———, Cornelius Douw, John Jacob Zabriskie, Direck B. Van Schoonhoven, Direck Roseboom, Symon Veder, John Roorbach, Hendrick Roseboom, Eghbert Brat, Leon. Gansevoort Jun'r, Leon'd Van Buren.

Albany 13th September 1779.

[No. 2523.]

A Number of Women and Children Sent Through the Lines to the Enemy.

Permission is granted to the following Persons to go within the Enemy's Lines to wit, Abigail Parent (?) and six Children, Marian Baker and nine Children, Ruth Cook and three Children, Mary Evans and four Children, Sarah Deen, Sarah Nodine and five Children, Elizabeth Whitney and one Child, Sarah McKeel and four Children, Anne Barton, Hannah Weeks, Afilanah Weeks and four Children, Anne Anthony and two Children, Susannah Wright and one Child, Judah Maybe & three Children, Jane Demilt, Freelove Ramson & seven Children and Mary Dickenson and three Children, with their Bedding & wearing apparel, with such Provisions for their immediate Subsistence thither as shall be deemed necessary by the Justice of the Peace of the District to w'ch they respectively belong, provided this Permission shall not extend to the Children of any of the above Persons being males capable of bearing arms, & provided also previous Leave is obtained from the officer in the Continental army command'g at the Line. The above Persons not to return.
Kingston 15 Sep. 1779.

[No. 2524.]

Mrs. Tuttle Allowed to Pass to Canada.

Albany Sept'r 15th 1779.

Sir, I take the Liberty to Recommend to your Excellency Major John Graham of my Regiment, who is desirous of obtaining a Flag to get his Sister with a large Family of small Children conveyed to her Husband in Canada, who left her in the month of May last with little to support her, and must from her present Inability if not Removed shortly become a Burthen to the Community. I am, with Respect & Esteem, your Excellencies Obedient Servant

G. V. Schaick.

His Excellency George Clinton.

16 Sep. 1779, Kingston.

Sir, I am favored with your Letter of yesterday and hereby signify my Consent to the Removal of Mrs. Tuttil & Family (Males capable of bear'g arms excepted) in such manner & upon such Conditions as shall be agreed upon by yourself and General Schuyler. I am &c.

[G. C.]

[To Col. Van Schaick.]

[No. 2525.]

Governor Clinton Suggests to General Schuyler the Exchange of the Campbell Family for the Tuthill Family.

Kingston Sep'r 16, 1779.

Dear Sir, I am favored with your Letter of the 11th Inst., and thank you for taking upon you the Trouble of direct'g Inquiries into the Situation of the Citizens of this State, Prisoners with the Savages, and of pursuing the proper measures for effecting their Liberation.

I have not the least objection to the sending of Mrs. Tuthill & Family into Canada in such manner as shall be agreed upon by yourself and the commanding Officers at Albany and shall be particularly happy if by this means, the wife of Colo. Campbell & her Children, may be permitted to return into the Country in Exchange for them.

I have wrote to the Commissioners at Albany, request'g them to confine the disaffected on the Frontiers of that County in such Places as will render it difficult for them to continue in future the Practices you mention. I am &c.

[G. C.]

[To Gen. Schuyler.]

 [No. 2526.]

To Shut off Communication Between the Disaffected and Their Friends, the Enemy.

Albany 15th Sept. 1779.

Sir, Major John Graham by whom this will be delivered your Excellency is desirous that his Sister Mrs. Tuttle should be permitted to go to her Husband in Canada; we are of opinion that by gratifying his Request, the State will be no Ways injured and

could wish that the Families of all those that are gone over to the Enemy might be sent within their Lines, as they are only a Burden to the State and by their means, a Correspondence is kept up between the Enemy and Country. We are, with the greatest Respect, your Excellency's most Obed't Servant

Jer. V. Rensselaer, John M. Beeckman, Isaac D. Fonda, Commiss'rs of Conspiracies.

His Excellency, George Clinton, Esqr.

16 Sept. 1779 Kingston.

Gentlemen, I am favored with your Letter of yesterday and have granted the Permission you requested.

I am just informed from respectable authority, that there are a Number of disaffected People on the Frontiers of your County who harbour small Parties of the Enemy & Bands of Robbers that distress the well affected Inhabitants in those Quarters, and who also probably give Intelligence of the movements & Operations of our army and the general State of the Country. As the going at large of those People is dangerous to the State, they come properly under your Cognizance, & I co'd wish, therefore, that Measures might be taken for removing them into the more interior Parts of your County & confining them, so as to prevent them as much as possible from committing the like Practices in future. I am &c.

[G. C.]

[To Commissioners of Conspiracies, at Albany.]

[No. 2527.]

Lieutenant Colonel Pawling's Return of State Levies.

Return of the Levies Commanded by Lient. Colonel Albert Pawling & stationed on the Frontiers of Ulster & Orange Counties, Marletown September 19th 1779.

Officers commanding Companies & where stationed.	Commissioned Officers				Staff			Non Comm'd			Rank & File							
	Lt. Colonel	Major	Captains	Lieutenants	Adjutant	Qr. Master	Surgeon	Qr. Mr. Serjt.	Serjeants	Dr. & Fife	Present fit for Duty	Sick present	Sick absent	on Comm'd	on Furlough	Total	Deserted	
Captains Fankener at Neponagh Wood, Piepuck Hunter, Shandeken	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	1	85	1	3	1	3	90		
			1	1				1	4	2	80	1	3	10	5	99	1	
			1	1				1	4	1	82	1	1	7	5	95		
	1	1	3	3	1	1	1	1	11	4	247	1	5	18	13	284	1	
Lieut. McBride on Furlough, Sergt. Vankeuren on Comm'd Wawarsink. Sergt. Ward Command, New Borrough. Sergt. Oosterhoudt sick, Rochester. N. B. Captain Hallett with part of a Company on Comm'd in Westchester.									Walkill Dutchess County Hurley			1	3	1	1	1	1	New Borrough, Wawarsink, Marletown Guard to the alarm. Guns at Foughkeepsie.
												5	18					

A. Pawling, Lt. Colonel.

[No. 2528.]

Captain Hallett Captures Two Horse Thievs.

To His Excellency Governor Clinton. May it please your Excellency; We got Information of a Number of Hors Thievs Crossing Croten River the Night of the 21st Inst., persued them Immediately, & took two prisoners, wich was not my desire, as I believe they are both noted Theves; took three Horses hid in the wood Near the place we started those Villins; one the Name of Capenter & the other Right with a Number of others that made their Escape being in a Large mounten & thick wood. I believe their Can be Evidence sufficient to Hang Capenter, but have not time to Collect them at present; no of no further Evidence against Right; have no news; the Enemy are still at Stony & Verplancks Point. Have the Honor to be your Excellencies most
Obt. Humble Serv't

J. Hallett, Capt.

Near Crompond Sept'r 23th '79.

N. B. Are much troubled to get provision at this place.

[No. 2529.]

Governor Clinton Vclves the Request of Colouel Robinson for the Morison Family.

VerPlanks Point Sep'r 21st 1779.

S'r, Upon Mr. Malcom Morison's* aplycation to Sir Henry Clinton, I have his permission to send a Flag of Truce to you to obtain your leave for Mrs. Morison & her Children to come to him, within our lines; I have, therefore, sent Liut. Baily with this, as a flag to receive your answer I hope you will have no Objection to granting Mr. Morison's Request, & to allow her to bring in with her such wearing apparrell & household goods as may be necessary for the use of her & family.

As the Land carriage for them is near as Short to this place, as to any other Land- ing I desire she may come here or if it is thought more convenient she may go by Land down to Kingsbridge. I am, S'r, your mo. Hum. Ser't

Bev: Robinson.

P. S. The Inclosed Letters for Mrs. Bryant are from her father who is now at Providence, w'h please to forward to her; their Contents I know nothing off.
His Excell'y George Clinton Esqr.

*See page 272.

Kingston 24 Sep'r 1779.

Sir, I this Evening rec'd your Letter of the 21st. inclo'g one from Mr. Morrison desir'g Permission for his wife & Family with their Effects to remove within your Lines. I should be happy in granting this, if a Denial of similar Indulgences to the Inhabitants of this State in the Country who have their wives & Families at New York & on Long Island did not at present prevent me; none of these have, as I recollect, been suffered to come out, unless by Exchange, and whenever you will transmit me proper assurances that a suitable Family, such as I shall name, will be suffered to come into the Country for Mr. Morrison's, I will most chearfully comply as far as in my Power with your Request. I am &c.

[G. C.]

[To Col. Beverly Robinson.]

 [No. 2530.]

The Governour Denies the Request of Margaret Crooke to Visit Her Father.

New York, Sep. 15. 1779.

Sir: I have been lately informed that my Father Col. Thomas Ellison at New Winsor has been dangerously ill, & although he is somewhat better now, yet his Physician has given it as his opinion that he cannot live long. I feel the utmost anxiety to see my Father before he dies; especially as I have been seperated from him for almost three years. I Therefore request your permission to pass through the American Lines, in order to pay a Short visit to my Father, & then return to this City; as I am solely influenced by affection & a Sense of Duty to an aged & exellant parent to undertake this Journey, I flatter myself this

Request will not be denied. I have the Honour to be, Sir, your
very humble Servant

Margaret Crooke,

His Excellency G. Clinton Esq.

24 Sep'r 1779.

Madam; I have rec'd your Letter of the 15 Inst. request'g my
Liberty to visit your Father. Your sister Mrs. Colden yesterday
obtained my Permission and intends speedily to go into New
York to visit her Husband, from whence it is to be concluded
that Colo. Ellison is so far recovered in his present Indisposition
as to be out of Danger. I shall always be happy in grant'g every
Indulgence, & shall with Pleasure comply with your Request
when this is rendered consistent with my Duty by reciprocal Con-
duct on the Part of the Enemy, who have as yet refused even to
the wives of the Officers belon'g to this State in Captivity the
Liberty of visiting their Husbands.

[To Mrs. Margaret Crooke.]

[G. C.]

[No. 2531.]

Henry Wisner Requests a Guard for Minisink.

Goshen Sept. 24th 1779.

Sir, I take the liberty of informing your Excellency that the
people of Orrange Exerted themselves (I believe) Equal to any
in the state in Raising the Eight Months; indeed three were
Raised in Minisink; the people of the Frontiers think themselves
hardly dealt with in, never having a Guard of them when their
Niegbours of Peenpaght are Crowded even to distress; we heard
your Excellency had orderd Ninety men to Peenpaght & Mini-
sink, but to our great mortification on applying to Capt. Wood

at Peenpaght for a small guard, we ware told he had no orders to let any go.

Your Excellency knows the Cituation of the Country, and I flatter myself as soon as you know circumstances, you will order part of guard now at Peenpaght to Minisink, which will greatly ease the minds of the people of both places. I am, with due Regards, your Excellency's Most Hum. Serv't

Henry Wisner.

To his Excell'y Governor Clinton.

The Governor Lays Before the Legislature Additional Acts of Congress.

*Gentlemen, This Message is accompanied with three Resolutions of Congress, one of the 21st of August, on the Subject of an Embargo;† one of the 25th of August, against Restrictions on the inland Trade between the States.‡ and the third of the 10th Instant, for providing Clothing for the Troops;§ and a printed

*From Journals of the Legislature.

†The committee, consisting of Mr. Matthews, Mr. Forbes and Mr. Root, to whom was recommended their report on the resolution of the supreme executive council of Pennsylvania, relative to an embargo, brought in a report, which was read; whereupon Congress came to the following resolution:

Resolved, That it be recommended to such of the states as have embargoes existing in them, respectively to continue such embargoes until the first day of January next, and if such embargoes do not comprehend the whole of the following articles, viz., wheat, flour, rye, Indian corn, rice, bread, beef, pork, bacon and live-stock, to extend their embargoes respectively to the aforesaid articles, and also to all other kind of provisions not herein enumerated; and to such other of the states as have not embargoes in existence, to take the most effectual and immediate measures to lay on embargoes for the purposes before mentioned.—*Journals of Congress.*

‡The resolution alluded to was adopted by Congress and earnestly recommended to the several states to take off every restriction on the Inland trade between the states.

§September 10th, Congress adopted resolutions on a report of the Board of War, which provided that each state should provide clothing for its own quota of troops.

"That particular attention be paid to the articles of hats, hose, shirts, blankets and shoes, which are indispensably necessary and immediately wanted, and without which the troops must severely suffer:"

"That the executive powers of the several states be requested to correspond with the board of war, from time to time, informing them of their proceedings and prospects in the clothing business; that every assistance may be given where necessary by the said board, when the continental stock will admit thereof and continental purchasers be stopped when a sufficiency of clothing is provided:

"That it be also recommended to the governments of the respective states to take measures for preventing any competition of prices among the purchasers, whether on account of the continent or particular states."—*Journals of Congress.* See page 201.

Copy of a Circular Letter, of the 13th Instant, addressed from Congress to their Constituents.*

Geo. Clinton.

Kingston, September 24, 1779.

*The circular letter which was promulgated by Congress on the 13th of September, was the famous document on the finances of the country, that was drafted by John Jay, at that time president of Congress.

†From Philadelphia under date of September 25th, 1779, John Jay wrote to Governor Clinton:

Whether the resolutions of Congress of the 24th inst., providing for the settlement of all disputes between New York and her neighbours, as well as revolted citizens, will please my constituents as much as they do me is uncertain. Nor am I convinced of the prudence of committing to paper all the reasons which induce me to think them (all circumstances considered) perfectly right. Some of them, however, I shall communicate. My first object on coming here was to prevail upon Congress to interpose, though in the smallest degree; well knowing, that if they once interfered ever so little, they might with more ease be led to a further and more effectual interposition.

Soon after my arrival, I found the following objections to an interference with Vermont generally prevailing.

1st. That Congress, being instituted for the sole purpose of opposing the tyranny of Britain, and afterward of establishing our independence, had no authority to interfere in the particular quarrels of any State. Hence all their former resolutions on the subject were merely negative. 2d. That the confederation had not yet taken place, and that the business should be postponed until all the States had acceded: an event then daily expected. 3d. That it was an improper season to interfere, and that the attention of Congress ought not to be diverted from the general objects of the war. 4th. That harsh measures against Vermont might induce them to join the enemy and increase their force. 5th. That they possessed a strong country, were numerous, warlike, and determined; and that more force would be required to reduce them, than could be spared from the general defence.

These were some of the ostensible objections. Besides which I had reason to suspect the following private ones:

1st. That divers persons of some consequence in Congress and New England expected to advance their fortunes by lands in Vermont. 2d. That Vermont acquiring strength by time, would become actually independent, and afterward acknowledged to be so. 3d. That being settled by New England people, and raised into consequence by New England politics, it would be a fifth New England State, and become a valuable accession of strength both in and out of Congress. 4th. That ancient animosities between New York and New England naturally inclining the former to side with the middle and southern States, the less formidable she was the better, and therefore the loss or separation of that territory was rather to be wished for than opposed. These and many other considerations of the like nature induced me to postpone bringing on the matter till I could have an opportunity of preparing the way for it by acquiring a knowledge of the characters then in Congress, etc.

It is also proper to observe that the House was for the greater part of the winter so heated by divisions on points of general importance, that it would have been improper and imprudent to have called upon them to decide on this delicate business till more temper and calmness had taken place. When these began to appear the subject was introduced, and you have had a copy of the resolutions proposed by New York on that occasion. Against them all objections before mentioned operated, with this additional one, that it would be highly unjust and impolitic to determine against Vermont, without previous inquiry into the merits of their claims, and giving them an opportunity of being heard. This objection, so far as it respected their claim to independence, was absurd though plausible; but it was not to be overcome; and though we might have carried a resolution against it by a slender majority, that majority would have consisted of southern members against a violent opposition from New England and their adherents. A resolution carried under such circumstances would rather have encouraged than disheartened Vermont, and was, therefore, ineligible.

Hence I conceived it to be expedient to promote the measure of appointing a committee of inquiry; knowing that if Congress proceeded to inquire, it would be a ground

for pressing them to go further and determine, especially as I was apprised that the result of these inquiries would be in our favor.

The committee, you know, never had a formal meeting; it, nevertheless, had its use. The individual reports of the members who composed it advanced our cause; and even Mr. Witherspoon, who was and is suspected by New York, made representations in our favour.

Your last resolutions were of infinite service, by evincing the moderation, justice, and liberality, and, at the same time, the spirit of the State. On the other hand, the law of Vermont for whipping, cropping, and branding your magistrates made an impression greatly to their disadvantage. Before these emotions should have time to subside, as well in observance of our instructions, I pressed Congress from day to day to adopt such measures as the public exigencies called for, and thereby prevent the flames of civil war from raging. It would not, I believe, have been difficult to have obtained what some among you would call very spirited and pointed resolutions, but which, in my opinion, would have been very imprudent ones; because, among other reasons, they would not have been unanimous. You will find the recitals and particular resolutions numbered in the margin of the copy herewith enclosed, from 1 to 13. I shall trouble you with a few explanatory remarks on each of them, under heads numbered in like manner.

1st and 2d. These recitals were inserted to show the reason why Congress now proceed without the report of the committee, after having resolved to postpone the further consideration of the subject till their report should be made.

3d. This recital justifies the facts set forth in your representations, and in case an appeal to the public should become necessary, may be used with advantage to New York.

4th. This recital destroys the doctrine that the Union (independent of the articles of confederation) had no other object than security against foreign invasions.

5th. This recital is calculated to impress the people with an opinion of the reasonableness and policy of the requisition or recommendation which follows, and therefore will the more readily induce those States to adopt the measures recommended to them.

6th. You may inquire for what reason I consented to this recital, as it puts Massachusetts and New Hampshire on a footing with New York; whereas I well knew that New York alone had a right to claim jurisdiction over Vermont. My reasons were these: Vermont extends over Connecticut River into the acknowledged jurisdiction of New Hampshire; as to Massachusetts, the recital admits only her claims, not her title; and it is as impossible to deny the existence of claims when made, as it is to prevent them. Their delegates pointedly asserted and insisted on the claim of Massachusetts; and it appeared to me expedient to provide for a speedy determination of all claims against us, however ill-founded. You may further ask why Vermont is made a party? The reason is this: that by being allowed a hearing, the candour and moderation of Congress may be rescued from aspersions; and that these people, after having been fully heard, may have nothing to say or complain of, in case the decision of Congress be against them, of which I have no doubt.

7th. It is true that by this resolution the merits of former settlements with these States will be again the subject of inquiry, discussion and decision; and therefore it may at first sight appear improper; but these settlements will still remain strong evidence of our rights, however objectionable they may be represented to be by those States. Nor will Congress be easily prevailed upon to annul them, because in that case all their boundaries would be afloat. Besides, in my opinion, it is much better for New York to gain a permanent peace with their neighbours by submitting to these inconveniences, than by an impolitic adherence to strict rights, and a rigid observance of the dictates of dignity and pride, remain exposed to perpetual dissensions and encroachment. Peace and established boundaries, under our circumstances, are, I think, almost inestimable.

8th. The reason of this is assigned in the last sentence under the 6th head.

9th. For the same purpose of preserving the appearance of equality in claims, whatever difference there may be in titles, the three States are mentioned in this recommendation. The object of it is a settlement of all disputes respecting interfering grants, in case Vermont should be abolished, and that district in part, or in the whole, adjudged to either of the three States.

10th. I am sure you will admit my prudence in giving your choice for this resolution.

11th. As it was not absolutely certain that New Hampshire and Massachusetts would pass the laws in question, and as I was sure that New York would, it appeared to me highly expedient to provide, by this resolution, that the dispute between New York and Vermont should be determined, whether the other two States came in or no; and, lest

the former guarantee contained in the tenth resolution might be construed to be contingent, and to depend on the event of all the three States adopting the measures recommended to them, it is here repeated. You will observe that neither of the three States are to vote on the decision.

12th. On the plan of hearing Vermont, this resolution, however inconvenient, became indispensable. Care, however, has been taken in it to exempt all persons from their jurisdiction who profess allegiance to either of the three States. But you will say, Why to the three States? Why not to New York only; from whom they revolted, and under whose actual jurisdiction they last were? Because it would have clashed with the equality of claims before mentioned, and the least opposition to which would have prevented these resolutions from being unanimous; a circumstance, in my opinion, infinitely more valuable than the preservation of useless etiquette. And, further, because the district is here so described as to extend over the river and affect New Hampshire. In a word, the necessity of the resolution was so obvious that there was no avoiding it. These inconveniences will be temporary, and, if the principles laid down in it are observed, will not be very great; especially as Congress have determined a violation of it to be a breach of the peace of the confederacy, and have declared their resolution to maintain.

13th. This resolution needs no comment, the policy and justice of it being extremely evident. Anxious to avoid a moment's delay in sending you these resolutions, I have not time by this opportunity of adding anything further than that upon this occasion I have acted according to the best of my judgment, after having maturely considered and well weighed the force and tendency of every consideration and circumstance affecting the business in question. When I first received my special commission, I did not apprehend that this matter was in a more particular manner confided to me than to my colleagues, though some of them considered it in that light. The commission vested me with no further power than what any other of your delegates possessed; nor was any matter given more particularly in charge to me than to the others by the Legislature. Their late instructions, however, speak a different language. I am satisfied to be viewed in that light, that is, to be the responsible man; and, provided the measures I adopt are not thwarted I am confident that I shall be able to bring all these matters to a happy conclusion. I hope, however, that this will not be considered as a hint for my being continued in the delegation; I assure you, nothing but an adherence to the resolutions and principles of action I adopted and professed at the commencement of the war would induce me to remain here at the expense of health as well as property; for though I shall always be ready to serve my country when called upon, I shall always be happy to find it consistent with my duty to remain a private citizen. I am sir,

[No. 2532.]

THE DEPRECIATED CURRENCY.

*Massachusetts Suggests a Convention at Hartford to Consider the
Financial Complications.*

State of Massachusetts Bay.

Council Chamber, Boston, Sept'r 28th 1779.

Sir, The good People of this State greatly alarm'd at the late rapid Depreciation of our Currency,* have by a meeting of their

*In John Jay's notes of conference with Florida Blanca, who was the Spanish Secretary of State for the Indies, Jay writes:

"This did not, however, appear to convince his Excellency, who spoke much of the deranged state of our finances and credit; of the advantages taken of Congress by merchants and others, who availed themselves of that circumstance, which he called cruel extortions, frequently expressing the King's wishes and his own to render America

Delegates at Concord, agreed to regulate the prices of the most Considerable Articles of Merchandize, & the necessaries of Life, which at present appears likely to answer very good & Salutary purposes, unless destroyed by those hawkers & Sharpers, that have heretofore, so largely contributed to the inconveniences We now feel. But a regulation in this Government without similar measures are adopted by our Sister States, affords Opportunity to people of this class to execute all their refinement in Sharping & tricking greatly to the damage both of your State & ours; the mischiefs arising from their practices have already been very apparent. Such large quantities of goods being carried from hence as threaten us with so great a Scarcity, as will deprive us of the means for procuring bread & other provisions, of which we are at present in great want; Those Monopolizers having made such exertions for Transportation that the price of Cattle has almost doubled within a few Weeks. Those measures unless speedily prevented threaten the very existence of the Community. The General assembly of this State have, therefore, been under the necessity for the present, of making an Act to prohibit the exportation of sundry Articles of Merchandize & live Stock out of this State. Nothing but the most absolute necessity, could have induced us to enter into a measure which may appear to militate with that spirit of brotherly love & Friendship which

all the service in their power in this crisis of their affairs; but observed that it was impossible to obtain much money in Europe while France, England, and Spain were making use of every resource to obtain it for the enormous expenses of the war, and while the channel through which the European merchants received supplies of specie was stopped, viz., the arrival of the usual quantity from America. This induced him to mention the arrival at Cadiz of three millions of piastres, all of which was on account of the merchants, and again to dwell on what he had before said of the possibility of transmitting specie to the States from the Spanish possessions abroad, and of the effect that this would have in re-establishing the credit of our money. Mr. Jay observed, in reply, that if a supply of specie could be sent to America, and his Excellency thought that measure more convenient and advisable than bills, the Congress would, in his opinion, readily suspend drawing on receiving that information; to which the Count answered that, when the person he had sent for arrived, this matter might be further discussed."

the American States ought to bear to each other & for our Common interest is so necessary to prevail throughout the whole. In Order, therefore, that a free & general intercourse may take place upon principles Correspondent with the publick good, & effectually to cut up & destroy the practices of those people who prey both upon you & us, We take the liberty, to propose a consultation on the part of the Governments of New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, & Massachusetts Bay to be holden at Hartford on the Twentieth day of October next for the purposes aforesaid & Thomas Cushing & Nathaniel Gorham Esqrs. are deputed by this assembly with full powers to appear on the part of this State. We have wrote a similar letter to the several States above mentioned & as the business proposed appears to us of great importance, & to require dispatch, we shall take the Liberty to direct our Commissioners to appear at the time & place above proposed without further advice from you. We have only to request you, Sir, to lay this Letter before the Assembly of your State, if setting & if not before the Council that they may have opportunity to take such measures thereon, as the public good may appear to them to require. I am, In the name & behalf of the General Assembly, With due respect, Your Excellency's Most Obed't Hble. Serv't

Jer: Powell, Presid't.

His Excellency George Clinton Esqr.

[No. 2533.]*

*This document is transferred to and consolidated with Document 2538 to which it belongs.—STATE HISTORIAN.

[No. 2534.]

JOHN JAY AS MINISTER TO SPAIN.

*His Wise Suggestions Touching the Momentous Questions Under
Consideration.*

Ph'a 29 Sept. 1779.

Dear Sir, I have so many things to say, and so little Time for the Purpose, that I hardly know where to begin or conclude. The Inconveniences resulting from the Derangement of our Foreign affairs are at length removed.* Doct'r Franklin with young Col.

*From Head Quarters, 13 September, 1779, Washington wrote Count d'Estaing: Having received intelligence which made it probable that a squadron of his most Christian Majesty was approaching our coast, I thought it my duty to meet you with the earliest advice of the situation of the enemy in this quarter. Admiral Arbuthnot arrived at New York the 25th of last month, with a reinforcement under his convoy, consisting from the best accounts I have been able to obtain of about three thousand men, mostly recruits, and in bad health. This makes the land force of the enemy at New York and its dependencies near fifteen thousand men, distributed in the following manner—on the Island of New York, about 7,000; on Long Island, about 5000; on Staten Island, about 1000; at King's ferry up the North River 45 miles from New York about 2000—and a small garrison at Powles Hook, a fortified peninsula on the Jersey shore opposite the city. This distribution is agreeable to the last advices; but the enemy's disposition undergoes very frequent changes, and may have been altered. They have been for some time past drawing a line of works across New York Island, and have lately fortified Governor's Island, near the city. They have also works on Staten Island, and are said to have begun a strong fort at Brooklyn, on Long Island.

The best information of the naval force in the harbor of New York makes it one seventy four, one sixty four, two fiftys, and two or three frigates, with a few small armed vessels.

The land force at Rhode Island is estimated between three and four thousand. There may be one or two frigates there.

Sir George Collier sailed some time since on an expedition to the eastward of Boston. The force with him was composed of one vessel of the line, one forty four gun ship, and several smaller frigates and armed vessels. He has completed his object, but I have not heard of his return.

If it is your Excellency's intentions to operate against the enemy at New York, it will be infinitely interesting that you should immediately enter the harbor, and make such dispositions as will be best calculated to prevent a reunion of their force at a single point which would make their reduction a matter of no small difficulty. If your Excellency has a land force you will be able to judge in what manner it may be most usefully employed to intercept the detachments on Long and Staten Islands. From the situation of the former relatively to New York, it will not be easy to intercept the troops there, because the enemy can throw their troops from one to the other at pleasure; and your ships could not conveniently lie in the East River to cut off the communication. It is not improbable the enemy's fleet will endeavor to take shelter in this river.

It will also be of importance to run two or three frigates up the North River, into Haverstraw bay, to obstruct the retreat of the garrisons at King's ferry by water; and I should be happy these frigates may announce themselves by firing a number of guns in quick succession, which will put it in my power to push down a body of troops below the garrisons on the East side to intercept a retreat by land to King's ferry bridge. This will also answer the purpose of giving me earlier advice of your arrival than I would obtain in any other way. But some caution will be necessary for the

Laurens are to remain in France, Mr. J. Adams, with Mr. Dana for his Secretary is to negotiate a Peace with Britain, and Congress have been pleased to appoint me with Mr. Carmichael,* for my Secretary, to negotiate Treaties of alliance amity and Commerce with Spain. All this was done with most uncommon unanimity and Concord. The Importance of the object and a Conviction that my Brother would under such Circumstances readily supply my absence from the Family, induced me to accept the appointment and I shall sail for France with Mr. Gerard.

Mr. Huntington of Connecticut is now President of Congress, and I am persuaded will fill that office with Propriety. The

passage of these frigates up the river, as there have been some chevaux de frise sunk opposite fort Washington, which has given a partial obstruction to the channel. Your Excellency will probably be able to capture some seamen who will be acquainted with the navigation of the River in its present state.

To prevent the retreat of any part of the enemy through the sound, it would be useful to detach a few ships round to take a convenient station there. These may answer another object, to hinder the evacuation of Rhode Island, either to form a junction with the main body, or withdraw to a place of security and avoid falling into your hands. The detachment for this purpose need not be greater than to be a full match for Sir George Collier.

I have taken the liberty to throw out these hints for your Excellency's information, and permit me to entreat that you will favor me as soon as possible with an account of your Excellency's and the land force under your command, which will help me to judge what additional succor it may be expedient to draw from the country, and what other measures ought to be taken for a perfect co-operation. I also entreat your Excellency's sentiments on the manner of this co-operation, and you may depend upon every exertion [] in my power to promote the success of an enterprise, from which such decisive advantages may be expected to the common cause.

I sincerely congratulate you on your glorious victories in the West Indies, in which no one takes greater interest than myself as well from motives of personal attachment as a concern for the common cause. I have the honor &c.

P. S. Major Lee who will have the honor of delivering these despatches is an officer of intelligence and judgment, in whose information your Excellency may place great confidence. He will be happy to execute any orders with which you may be pleased to honor him.—Washington's Works.

September first 1779 Count D'Estaing arrived off the coast of Georgia in order to cooperate with the Americans under the command of General Lincoln, in the reduction of Savannah. On the 15th the Count summoned the British commander, General Prevost, to surrender to the arms of the King of France, in spite of General Lincoln's expostulation, as the Americans were cooperating with him. From the 1st of October until the 9th, the allied forces bombarded the town, inflicting serious loss upon property but very little upon life. At daybreak on the 9th the united forces attempted to storm the British lines with an attacking column of 4,000, but were repelled with frightful slaughter. Count Pulaski was mortally wounded by a grapeshot and in the end the French and Americans abandoned the field. The British loss was very small.—STATE HISTORIAN.

*William Carmichael of Maryland, who was a delegate to Congress from 1773 to his appointment as Secretary of Legation at Madrid.—STATE HISTORIAN.

sooner you provide for a Representation of your State here the better. God grant it may be an able one.

The Resolutions respecting Vermont if prudently managed will establish perpetual Harmony between you and your neighbours. I am confident of this. Temper & firmness will be indispensable. Let us not differ with them about Trifles, or by unnecessary Heats retard a Settlement satisfactory to all. It gives me Pleasure to assure you that the State stands high in the Esteem of the Confederacy, and a Continuation of the same means by which it was obtain'd will be necessary to perpetuate it. At this Season it is particularly expedient that your Delegates should be wise and prudent men. You will then find it easy to settle your Disputes advantageously.

I sincerely wish that the Chancellor and Mr. Hobart may be sent here, as you know their Characters; you will be at no Loss to perceive my Reasons for it. Mr. Duane will be a useful man, but in my opinion, his attention should be confined to general objects, and ought by no means to interfere respecting the Vermont & New England Business, further that as a private, out of Door Counsellor Morris will be serviceable. His abilities enable him to promote every Cause he may advocate, but if I may be permitted to advise, he should restrain himself from taking any Part or pushing any measure respecting your Disputes, without previous Concert with Livingston and Hobart. If this Plan be persued I have not the least Doubt of Success. I found it the most delicate affair to manage I ever was concerned in, and whoever it may be committed to, will soon concur with me in this Sentiment. It is of such great Importance to the State that no means however inconvenient, ought to be omitted to bring it to a happy Termination. Some members of Congress

have just come in to do Business with me. Coll. Livingston will set off directly. I must, therefore, reluctantly conclude this Letter with assuring you that I am, your obt. & affect. Serv't

John Jay.

Gov'r Clinton.

[Nos. 2535, 2536.]

Captain Wood Ordered to Guard Minisink.

Kingston 29 Sep'r 1779.

Sir, I have rec'd your Letter of the 24 ulto. [Inst.] Upon Colo. Pawling's Return from the westward I ordered a Detachment of his Levies to Minisink with Directions so to dispose of the Men to be destined for this Service, as best to cover the Frontiers in that Quarter: being myself unacquainted with the particular Stations most suitable for this Purpose by the want of an intimate Knowledge of the Country my orders were general. I have now, however, transmitted him a Letter (of which I inclose a Copy) with Directions which I doubt not will answer the Purposes of quiet'g the apprehensions of the People in that neighbourhood & am

[G. C.]

Mr. Wisner.

D'r Sir, I have just rec'd a Letter from Mr. Wisner of which the inclosed is a Copy.* When I directed the stationing of Capt. Wood at Minisink it was not my Intention that he sho'd remain at Pienpack, leav'g the Settlements to the westward of it exposed to the Enemy's Incursions; you'l, therefore, immediately order Capt. Wood to detach a Part of his Company under the

*See page 281.

Command of a proper Officer to Minisink, to guard that Settlement against the Depredations of the Enemy. I am

[G. C.]

Kingston 29 Sep'r 1779.

[To Lieut. Col. Albert Pawling.]

[No. 2537.]

Governor Clinton Promises Hearty Cooperation With Our Allies.

Poukeepsie 29th September 1779.

Dear Sir, I am this Moment favoured with your Excellency's Letter of the 27th Instant; should the Event which your Excellency has pleased to intimate take Place, you may rely on every aid in the Power of this State to afford for a vigorous Cooperation with our Allies.* In the Mean Time I woud wish to be in-

*From West Point, 4 October, 1779, Washington wrote to the Count d'Estaing:

From the advanced season of the year, every instant of time is infinitely precious, and must be even more so to your Excellency than to us. This makes it to be lamented, that it had not been possible to preconcert a plan before your arrival. The force under your command, and the time you can devote to this business, are essential points in determining what can with propriety be undertaken; and the first steps will be of great consequence to all the succeeding ones. To enable you the better to regulate your own movements, I shall expose to you our prospects, and the different plans which present themselves to me, with the obstacles attending each.

New York is the first and capital object, upon which every other is dependent. The loss of the army and fleet there would be one of the severest blows the English nation could experience. Rhode Island would fall of course; but your Excellency will be sensible, that the reduction of fourteen thousand men, concentrated upon a small Island with the assistance of fortifications, is an enterprise of no inconsiderable difficulty; and requires a vigorous exertion of our resources, in conjunction with your force, to give it a sufficient probability of success. Not less than thirty thousand men will in my opinion be adequate to the operation, and we cannot collect the numbers necessary on our part, in addition to what we already have in the field, in less than three weeks from this time. The interval between your arrival and that period must for the most part be spent in a state of inactivity on your side, unless you judge it proper to direct your attention to an attempt upon Rhode Island.

The knowledge you have of this place will enable you, better than me, to decide on the eligibility of this project. The garrison there is respectable, and, as I am informed, secured by a chain of redoubts and retrenchments from one flank of the Island to the other, which would be exceedingly formidable to an assault. The town however may be burnt, and with it the enemy's magazines, which it is probable would speedily reduce them to a surrender. Your Excellency is a better judge than I am of the time, which would be exhausted in this enterprise; but I should imagine it might require at least four weeks for its accomplishment. If you should think proper to pursue this plan, we have a body of two thousand troops now ready at Rhode Island, and can-

formed of the Number of Men your Excellency may think it necessary for this State to furnish as by this I will the better [be] able to form the proper Arrangements for this Service. I am with the most perfect Esteem & Respect your most Obed't Serv't

G. C.

His Excellency General Washington.

[No. 2538.]

LIMITATIONS OF THE FLOUR SUPPLY LAW.

Commissary Flint of the Opinion That Further Legislation Is Necessary—Present Assessment too Low.

Sir, I am too sensible of the embarrassments of your Legislature, not to feel great pain, at troubling them with any new requisition. From official reports, it is determined beyond a doubt, that the supplies of flour, to be furnished by the late law

march thither any additional number you may deem necessary for a cooperation. But in order to this, I must request you will give me previous notice of your intention.

Success in this attempt would be favorable to our ulterior operations against New York, but a failure would be attended with the reverse, as it would damp the spirits of the country and diminish its exertions. Another inconvenience would attend it, which is, that, without a division of your force to continue the blockade of New York, the fleet now there would make its escape. Indeed, in any plan, a division of your force will be indispensable. Rhode Island and the Sound must be blockaded, otherwise the garrison there will form a junction with the main body at New York, which would be so great an accession of force, as would render the success of our operations improbable; and the frigates and smaller vessels may find a passage through the Sound, and elude your Excellency in that way. But the difference is this. In the latter case, two or three fifty-gun ships, and as many frigates, will answer the purpose. In the former, some of your ships of the line must be left at New York, to have a superiority to the two that are there, aided by the frigates. In case of the attempt upon Rhode Island, the only expedient, to avoid a division of your ships of the line, will be, to remain with the whole at New York, and send your troops round under the protection of your frigates. Your Excellency is the best judge with what propriety a movement of this kind can be hazarded.

In either event, it appears to me advisable, that you should first enter the bay of New York, with a part at least, of your fleet, and as suddenly as possible, intercept the troops on Staten Island, and the garrisons up the river, as the capture of these will materially facilitate the reduction of the remaining force; and I take the liberty strongly to recommend, that a proper detachment may without loss of time block up the Sound and the port of Rhode Island. I have taken measures for furnishing you with pilots: one of them accompanies this letter; but I have directed three or four to be stationed with Major Lee at Monmouth, to put off to your Excellency on your first appearance. Among these is one, who is acquainted with the navigation of the North River, in its present state, and will be able to take up the frigates, which I had the honor to request might proceed into Haverstraw Bay.

* * * * *

of this state, will not be competent to the approaching demands. Whether the deficiency is owing to the law being in itself too limited, or to evasions used in executing it, or whether partly to both these causes, is not for me to point out; but in either case the effects are alike threatenng. As I am now so fully convinced of an incompetency from the operation of the present act, I find myself obliged to soliet the further attention of the Legislature. It may be presumed, that an extension of the same act to a demand of one fourth part of the surplusage wheat, instead of the one eighth now required, would afford such a supply, as would subsist the army until relief can be drawn by other means or through other channels. The crops of wheat in New Jersey are, as in this state, somewhat light, occasioned by destructive blasts; but in Pennsylvania & Maryland the crops are plentiful & pretty free from such a disaster. Every engine is at work to secure wheat in those states; yet, if we make a proper allowance for the common obstructions in purchasing, and for the difficulty & distance of transportation, we must conclude that several weeks will pass, before much succor will come in from that quarter. If, therefore, we place an early dependance on southern supplies, we shall put ourselves greatly in the power of accidents; and I fear not be prepared for even the probable events of the service.

I transmit your Excellency, for a perusal, extracts from two or three letters* relative to the affair under consideration.

There will be, I trust, in the run of a month, about ten thousand bushels of public salt brought into this state. Some part of

*Extract of a letter from Mr. [Jonathan G.] Tompkins a purchasing Comisary in Dutchess County dated 26th Sept. 1779.

"There is no law for seizing the wheat of the present crops purchased up & now purchasing by the monopolizers & forestallers and I never saw them so busy as they are at present and that is because there is no law to deter them. I could wish that

it will be reserved for salting meat; & the remainder distributed, in a certain proportion, among the inhabitants, in exchange for wheat.

I cannot close this application, without expressing in the strongest terms the obligations we are under to your Legislature for their frequent & extensive aid; declaring at the same time that there never was a greater call for it than in the present exigency. I am, with the highest respect, your Excellency's most ob't & hbl. Srvt.

Royal Flint, Asst. Com. Gen. Purchases.

Kingston, Sep'r 29, 1779.

His Exc'y, Gov. Clinton.

one half of the wheat had been taken instead of one eighth. The people think hard they are not allowed more than 16 dollars P Bushel as other States get more & villains running all over the country offering 20 dollars & 25, we cant buy one bushel of wheat. What I get now is by seizing old wheat and the new wheat by the present law."

Extract of a letter from Mr. V'n Ness a purchasing Comisary in Dutchess County dated Sep. 29, 1779.

"The assessments as they are laid here do fall greatly short of what the act directs. The farmers in general are highly dissatisfied at the limitation of the price; and it is not very improbable the assessors have been under that influence. Sure I am that they have assessed a quantity far short of what the one eighth would produce &c. &c."

N. B. The whole of the wheat assessed in Orange & Ulster counties by the late law will not afford a supply of flour for our army for two days. But I trust the assessments in Dutchess County at the present rates will produce us near a month's supply.—
[Numbered as document 2533 Clinton MSS.—STATE HISTORIAN.]

[No. 2539.]

Return of Flour and Wheat Purchased in September, 1779, by Hendrick Wyckoff.

A Return of Flour and Wheat Purchased and Delivered for the use of the Army of the United States, to Jonathan G. Tompkins Esqr. Assistant Commissary of Purchase, by Hendk Wyckoff in the Month of September 1779.

Time when purchased	Of whom Purchased	Where Deposited.	Flour			Wheat		Prices of			Total Amou ^t					
			Therces Bbls.	C	Qrs. lb.	lbs.	Qts.	Flour per C	Wheat per bus.	Cask Cont'g sd flour	£	s	d			
1779																
Sept 1	Samuel Brewer	Daniel Hasbrook's Mill	15	27	0	0			4					531		
2	Abraham Durfee	Samuel Verplank's Do	11	18	2	10			19					366		7
3	Zebulon Southard	Zebulon Southard's House	8	13	2	18			19					247		11 ¹ / ₂
4	Zachariah Champ	Mary Lennenton's Do	7	11	2	26			19					247		3 ¹ / ₄
5	Abraham Brucknerhoff	Abraham Brucknerhoff's Mill	1	10	20	1	3		19 ¹ / ₂					399	13	2 ¹ / ₂
7	Christian Genscheimer	Jacob Brucknerhoff's Do	34	58	3	4			19					1157	14	7
10	Christopher Shultz	Jacobus Deppeyter's Do	11	18	1	7			19					1218	13	6
11	Jacob Brucknerhoff	Jacob Brucknerhoff's Do	11	18	1	7			19					361	2	9
15	Israel Knapp	Do Do				20			19					8	2	10
21	George Young	Abraham Brucknerhoff's Do					2	4						13	12	
23	Richard Southard	Do Do							19					28	13	3 ¹ / ₄
24	Peter Dubois	Jacobus Deppeyter's Do	27	41	3	2			19					883	24	
24	William Brower	John Cook's Do	4	7	1	23			19					146	9	
25	John Huff	Cornelius Van Sicken's Do	11	18	0	26			19					359	12	9 ¹ / ₂
29	Richard Southard	Richard Southard's House	2	3	1	15			19					66	13	10 ¹ / ₂
		Total Purchased	1	179	305	3	1	2	4					45041	4	5 ¹ / ₄

Fishkill September 30th, 1779.
His Excellency Gov^r Clinton.

Errors Excepted.
Hendk Wyckoff.

[No. 2540.]

Johnstown Women Petition for Removal to the British Lines.

[S. pt. — 1779]

To his Excellency George Clinton Governor and Commander in Chief of the State of New York. The Humble Petition of Chris'n McDonald, Kate McIntosh, Ann McDonald, Else McDonald, Ann McPherson, Mary McDonald, Molly Pescod and many other Families, Sheweth; That your Petitioners are reduc'd to the greatest distress imaginable by having their Cattle and Effects sold by the Commissioners of Sequestration and no way of getting a living whereby they might support themselves untill some Exchange might be made from Canada. And your Petitioners, spoke to your Excellency's Brother, the General, when he was in Johns Town, and he told your Petitioners they would go in May, so that your Petitioners Planted nothing in hopes of being sent away, which makes their distress now the greater as winter coming on and no Provision made for it. Therefore, humbly hope your Excellency will give your Petitioners permission to go to Canada to their Husbands and if that cannot be comply'd with your Petitioners hope your Excellency will allow them some small support untill an Exchange may take place. And your Petitioners shall ever Pray.

[No. 2541.]

THE CASE OF SAMUEL HAKE.

He Claims He was Betrayed By John R. Livingston—Letters to Establish His Character.

To His Excellency George Clinton Esqr. Governor of the State of New York, General & Commander in Chief &c. &c. &c.

The humble Memorial of Saml. Hake* Most humbly sheweth,

That your Excellency's Memorialist, beg leave to lay before you, Copy's of Letters, & the Article of Atonement, between him & John R. Livingston (taken from the originals, which can be produc'd if your Excellency thinks fit) & was his motive of going into New York to Charter the Flag & to bring out Goods.

Your Ex'y's Memorialist had the honor to receive a Polite Note from His Ex'y General Washington, at Head Quarters, with a permit to go into New York; just as he was going to set off, John R. Livingston met him, & also assur'd him upon his honor, that his Brother the Chancellor, had din'd with His Ex'y General Washington, & had mentioned the plan of his going into New York, & of his bringing property out from thence, which His Ex'y approv'd of, that a permit was quite unnecessary, in Case your Ex'y's Memorialist, should send out, or could Charter & send out a Flag with Goods, His Ex'y would take Care so soon as it was on this side of the Enemy's Lines it should be permitted to go in & receive every protection.

If your Excellency's Memorialist, had not in his own mind, been fully convinc'd from such a Declaration, Thinking he had an undoubted Security, & that it would have merit your Excellency's, & the public's approbation, particularly, as he did not take with him (on his going into New York) any kind of Specie, or produce out of the State, for the purchase of those Goods seiz'd; or had he the least Idea that John R. Livingston, was so abandon to every principle of honor, to have impos'd on him, by taking such unwarrantable libertys, in writing such a Letter, & giving him the most solemn assurances, without his being fully authoriz'd; He would not have presumed to have risk'd a Shilling from the Enemy or to have given your Ex'y the least offence. He also ask'd John R. Livingston if your Excellency would be perfectly satisfy'd in bringing out Property from the Enemy, or if he had ask'd the Chancellor, he reply'd, that his Brother Robt. would make a point to wait on your Ex'y on his return home, &

*See Volume IV, pages 232-233 and 265-266.

would settle that matter with your Ex'y and he may rest assur'd that no difficulty whatever would obstruct its being perfectly secure, which was his only motive that induc'd him, the Instant the Flag was stop'd at Kings Ferry to wait on your Excellency at Poghkeepsie.

Your Excellency's Memorialist left America, the begining January 76, to settle his affairs in England, & so soon as a favorable opportunity offer'd, he was anxious of returning to this State, were his Children, & property are, In hopes with His Ex'y kind permission, to end the remainder of his days in this Country. When he left England an Embargo were laid, & a Declaration of War with France expected daily, & it was with difficulty he could procure a passage, & to be permitted to come in the packet. And from the best Information he could procure before he left London, he really flattered himself that the Commissioners had full powers to acknowledge these States Independent, or that an accommodation would take place. He has Letters in his possession from the most respectable Characters in England & true friends to the United States, to Gent'n here, & to the Hon'ble the Members of the Congress, & others have been receiv'd prior to his arrival, part of which Letters he begs he may have the liberty to lay before your Excellency, in hopes it will convince your Ex'y that his Conduct have always been friendly to the States. And since his arrival, he flatters himself, that His Ex'y will find upon the strictest enquiry that his conduct has been friendly to the States. He, therefore, hopes His Ex'y will be pleas'd to consider that he is now spending what little he has, & loosing the prime part of his life, in his present confin'd situation, doing nothing, as the Parole which your Ex'y was pleas'd to take from him, deprives him of every advantage, and request your Excellency's indulgence that he will be pleas'd to take it off.

Your Excellency's Memorialist, therefore, humbly prays that he may not long suffer, & that your Ex'y will be pleas'd by taking under your consideration, this unfortunate & most singular situation of your Memorialist, & granting him such relief, as your Excellency, in your great Wisdom shall think meet.

Samuel Hake.

Red-Hook, Sep'r 1779.

Head Quarters 19 August 1779.

Dear Sir, My Brother Robert has spoke to General Washington about what we mentioned, who inform'd him, that a Permit was quite unnecessary, as every Sloop that is stopped must be reported to the General, & that in Case you come up, or send any thing out, he would take Care it should go on &c. I am with esteem yrs. sincerely

John R. Livingston.

Samuel Hake, Esqr., (near Head Quarters) At Mr. Clapp's.
Express.

Boston Nov'r 1778.

Dear Sir, This Moment an account of your misfortune reached me, had I been with you, I immagine it would not have happen'd; had this matter not have happened I should have paid a visit in your part of the Country, but my coming now, would have render'd me a suspected person; If any prospect remains of saving them spare no expence &c. in doing it; For God Sake be very silent about the matter, if any attempt is made get them for you, do not on any account tell your mother-in-law, as it will be blaz'd abroad if you do.

I have another Scheme on foot from this place which you shall have in proper time. I am your friend &c.

From John R. Livingston.

J. R. L.

Samuel Hake.

Rhine-Beek August 12th 1778.

This agreement made between Jno. R. Livingston of the one part and Samuel Hake of the other, sheweth that the s'd Samuel of second part, does agree & engage upon his honor, that whatever Goods he may purchase in the City of N. York, & sends, or brings out by any means whatever, that s'd John of the first part, shall have an equal concern with s'd Samuel. And farther if s'd Saml. make any purchase of Goods that said John come in for an equal share with s'd Samuel, but should any such purchases be made, that said John is immediately to be inform'd thereof, if opportunity permit,

that he may get a protection for such Goods, as may remain in the City of New York, until the Americans gain possession.

This agreement farther saith, that both said Samuel, & said John, engages not to speculate beyond the Sum of Ten thousand pounds curr'y each, or Twenty thousand pounds between them. The said John promises on his part to dispose of such Goods on the best terms in his pow'r, and to give s'd Samuel Credit for his part of the Sales, & to bear one half the losses that may happen, when clearly prov'd.

John R. Living-ton
Samuel Hake.

Signed sealed in the presence of
William Marshall.

London May 5th 1778.

Dear Reed, Mr. Hake Embarks for New York in the Packet, & wishes to go from thence up the Country, & as I became acquainted with him thro' your means, & his being the Bearer of an acceptable packet from you; I have tho't proper to write you by him, very fully, & have assurance of a particular care of them, & they are of so interesting a nature that I most anxiously wait the event of his arrival. Nothing has occur'd since those Letters in public, or private affairs, & to them I refer you. God be with you & yours from all danger, remember me in the most tenderest manner to my dear mother & Sister, & believe me Sincerely, & affec. yrs.

Dennis D: Berdt.

To Joseph Reed, Esqr., Philadelphia.

London May 6 1778.

My Dear friend, I have receiv'd but two Letters from you for some time past. I am certain it is the great uncertainty of conveyance; the last was brought me by your old acquaintance Mr. Hake who sails tomorrow for New York. I've no occasion to request your favors to him as I know you'd do it readily & he will give you better Intelligence than I dare commit to paper. Yours &c. &c.

S. Stockton.

Elias Boudinot, Esqr., Eliz'b Town New Jersey.

London 3 May 1778.

Rev'd & Dear Sir, It is with much pleasure that I embrace this opportunity by my friend Mr. Saml: Hake of New York Merchant, of presenting my Complim'ts to you & your family assuring you of my best wishes &c. I beg leave to recommend Mr. Hake to your good advice & good offices, he has been a considerable sufferer by this War. He sets off for America to see his Children & if he can recover his property.

I cannot promise myself soon the pleasure of a Letter from you but the bearer having an opportunity, by this, of waiting upon you, will have it in his pow'r to inform me probably how you are. If there is any thing wherein I can be of Service to you command me. I am a lover of mankind, but your particular friend.

James Thompson.

The Rev'd Doc'r John Wetherspoon, President of the Colledge at New Jersey.

R'd & D'r Sir, Having an opportunity by the bear'r Mr. Samuel Hake of N. York Merchant & going to N. York, If you are pleas'd to favor me with a Letter, the bearer Mr. Hake who I recommend to your best advice in his affairs, will take the charge of conveying it if possible to me. Mr. Boyd & all your acquaintance are well. My best respects to Mrs. Ewing & your friend Dr. Williamson. If it is in my pow'r to serve you, you may with confidence command me. Mr. & Mrs. Anderson are well. I am Rev'd & Dear Sir yours Sincerely,

James Thompson.

The Rev'd Dr. Ewing, Minister of the Gospel, Philadelphia.

London, Chandos Street, No. 48, May 4th, 1778.

Dear Sir, This will be deliver'd you by my friend Mr. S. Hake who has promis'd to deliver it you with his own hand. I am sorry to inform you that Mrs. Deans my good

friend & yours died a few months ago which is a severe loss to me. Mr. Oswell Mr. Mrs. Maring & Mr. Elliot & all your friends are well &c. &c. Mr. Hake's conduct while in England to the best of my knowledge has been friendly to America & any favors shew'd him will be as done to Sir yis. &c.

Robt. Deans.

P. S. My Complim'ts to Mrs. John & Mrs. Rutledge.
To Henry Laurens, President of the Congress, Philadelphia.

London 6th May 1773.

Dear Son, Your last letter by Cap'n Salte gave me great pleasure. As you know Mr. Hake by whom this Letter comes, tis needless for me to say much to urge your Services to him I know you will be happy in rendering every service in your pow'r, which should you have an opportunity of doing, I shall with great pleasure hear of it, & his conduct since he left America ought to gain the affections of that Country. I've sent you some Letters by way of France. I am &c.

Jno. Williams.

Jonathan Williams, Jun., Esqr., Boston.

Dear Brother, I embrace this opportunity of Samuel Hake's, Esqr., going to America to address a few lines to you in his favor; he is oblig'd to go in the Paquet and of course to N. York, but in Case of his being taken, he may be brought into some of our American Ports. I beg you'll appear for him as a friend to America. I have desir'd he will write or apply to you & my son should he be taken & brought in. I had Letters from Paris a few days ago & that Doc'r Franklyn never was better then at present. Your son was well a few Days ago at Nantz: there is hardly [h]is equal in Europe for Business &c. I left him your son John, lately in France well; my Duty & Love to my Hon'd mother love &c. Yrs. affectionately.

J. Williams.

Jonathan Williams, Esqr., Boston.

Mr. Hake has other Letters to his friends, which he has had the honor to show His Excellency, therefore, tho't it was needless to Copy out. He is afraid in stating his Case, &c. He has intrude too much on His Ex'y. Mr. Hake presumes His Ex'y knows all these Gent'ln. (which he has Letters to) personally or by Name. Messrs. Reed, Wetherspoon, Ewing & Laurens are, he thinks, Members of Congress.

Several Messages from Governor Clinton to the Legislature.

*Gentlemen, In Addition to my Message of the fourth of September last, on the Subject of devising Means for enabling the Citizens of this State to obtain a seasonable and adequate Supply of Salt, I now refer to your Consideration, a Petition from a Number of the Inhabitants of the District of Saratoga[†] in the County of Albany, on the same Subject.

Geo. Clinton.

Kingston, October 1, 1779.

*From the Assembly Journal.

†See page 272.

*Gentlemen, Agreeable to your Request, I now transmit you a Return of the five Continental Battalions,† raised under the Direction of this State; and with it you will also receive a Copy of a Letter from the Honorable Major-General Baron Steuben, pointing out the Necessity of immediate and effectual Measures for recruiting these Regiments.

Geo. Clinton.

Kingston, October 2, 1779.

‡Gentlemen, I have the Pleasure of transmitting you, with this Message, an Act of Congress of the 24th of September last, for adjusting the Controversies and settling the Disturbances, subsisting in the North-eastern District of this State.§ If the Measures recommended by Congress meet with your Approbation, you will readily perceive the Propriety of immediately enacting the Laws necessary for carrying them into Execution.

Geo. Clinton.

Kingston, October 2, 1779.

[No. 2542.]

Congress Takes Action on the Vermont Dispute.

Philadelphia Oct'r 3d 1779.

Sir; You will receive herewith enclosed, an act of Congress of the 2d Instant, repealing a clause of an act of Congress passed the 24th of September last, relative to a district of country called Newhampshire Grants, and adopting another resolve, as more adequate to the purposes intended in the former. I have the

*From the Assembly Journal.

†See page 340.

‡From Journals of the Legislature.

§See Document 2542 and footnote accompanying it.—STATE HISTORIAN.

honor to be, with the highest esteem, Your Excellency's humble servant,

Sam. Huntington, President.

Governor Clinton.

On the 24th of September, 1779, Congress passed a number of resolutions affecting the controversy between New York and Vermont. One of these earnestly recommended to the states of New Hampshire, Massachusetts Bay and New York, "forthwith to pass laws, expressly authorizing Congress to hear and determine all differences between them relative to their respective boundaries, in the mode prescribed by the articles of confederation, so that Congress may proceed thereon by the first day of February next at the farthest: and further that the said states of New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay and New-York, do, by express laws for the purpose, refer to the decision of Congress, all differences or disputes relative to jurisdiction, which they may respectively have with the people of the district aforesaid."

Congress recommended that "it is the duty of the people of the district aforesaid, who deny the jurisdiction of all the afore-named states, to abstain in the mean time from exercising any power over any of the inhabitants of the said district who profess themselves to be citizens of, or to owe allegiance to, any or either of the said states"; that "the said three states afore-named ought, in the mean time, to suspend executing their laws over any of the inhabitants of the said district, except such of them as shall profess allegiance to, and confess the jurisdiction of, the same respectively."

Congress announced that any violences committed against the tenor, true intent and meaning of this resolution, would be regarded as a breach of the peace of the Confederacy, and recommended, "to all the inhabitants thereof, to cultivate harmony and concord among themselves, to forbear vexing each other at law or otherwise, and to give as little occasion as possible to the interposition of magistrates."

On October 2nd, Congress repealed the clause in the act of September 24th, authorizing "Congress to proceed to hear and determine all disputes subsisting between the grantees of the several states aforesaid with one another, or with either of the said states respecting title to lands lying in the said district", and in its place substituted the following:

Resolved unanimously. That it be, and hereby is recommended to the states of N. Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay and N. York, to authorize Congress to proceed to hear and determine all disputes subsisting between the grantees of the several states aforesaid, with one another, or with either of the said states, respecting title to lands lying in the said district, to be heard and determined by "commissioners or judges," to be appointed in the mode prescribed by the 9th article of the confederation aforesaid.—
STATE HISTORIAN.

[No. 2543.]

Flour and Salt Supply.

New Windsor Oct'r 3d 1779.

Sir: When the measure, of supplying public salt to the inhabitants of this State in exchange for Wheat, was first conceived, we had in view the supply of eight or ten thousand Bushells, for such a Purpose. My orders were sufficiently early for having what could be spared from the magazines forwarded; and if any deficiency happened to have it made up by new pur-

chases. But for some Weeks past, my demands for Cash have been so partially complied with, and the calls for it have encreased so fast, that I find my department immerged in immense arreages; and there is no prospect of imediate relief from the Continental Treasury. This unexpected failure of Money puts it utterly out of my power for the present, to purchase any new supplies of Salt. I cannot inform your Legislature, during their present Session, of the precise quantity that can be spared, but I am apprehensive that our present magazines are so exhausted of that article that they will not afford more than three or four thousand bushells for the Inhabitants of this State. As it may not be safe to have this matter so precarious, your Legislature have this information, that they may take measures for supplying themselves through some other Channel. It shall be my strongest endeavour to extend my supply to the quantity first proposed; but I cannot with my present certain prospects engage to do it. And as the consequence of having too much salt in the state cannot be so prejudicial as having too little, you doubtless will think adviseable to bring in a large quantity, over and above what you expect to receive through my department. I would suggest that the persons employed to procure your salt should have orders so far conditional, that if I find it in my power to furnish a sufficiency for your State, they may desist from their measures; and the flour they obtain for the purpose of the exchange be delivered over to my purchasers, at what it costs the state. As soon as I know the certain quantity I can supply I will inform your Excellency more precisely on this point. In the mean time I am with the greatest respect your Excellency's most obt. & hbl. Servant

Jere. Wadsworth.

To His Excell'y Governor Clinton.

[No. 2544.]

TRYON COUNTY'S EXPOSED CONDITION.

Governor Clinton Notifies Officers Who Petition, That They Must Rely Upon Their Own Militia.

Tryon County, Sept'r 30 1779.

May it please your Excellency, The humble Petition of the Officers and Militia of Tryon County, publicly met at the Request of the Inhabitants to represent unto your Excellency the Case and defenceless Situation of the Frontiers at this critical Juncture. We learn that the Army under General Sullivan, having, as we make no Doubt, accomplished the grand Design of the Expedition formed against our cruel Enemies, is on her Return to the interior Parts of the Country. By this Movement our Frontiers are left bare, and could, and as we apprehend will be an easy Prey, to an enraged Enemy. During the Expedition, our Frontiers, have been continually invaded from Bucks Island, and altho' we had several Posts constantly at the German Flats and Petersborough, many Lives were lost, and a Quantity of Property destroyed. To the Western Enemy, nothing is left, but Submission, or Revenge and we conceive they will fall upon the latter when they see any Opportunity, and in this Case the Fruits of the Expedition would be lost and your Petitioners inevitably destroyed. We, therefore, most humbly crave, your Recommendation to the Commander in Chief, to have some Troops, under proper Officers, posted at the several Frontier Forts, in Order to frustrate and oppose with the Assistance of the Militia all revengeful Designs of a cruel Enemy. And do most earnestly pray your Excellency to grant us such other Relief, as in your Wisdom you see meet, and our present Circumstances require. And your Petitioners forever pray.

Jacob Klock, Col., F. Fisher, Col., Peter Bellinger, Colo., Petter Wagner, Colo., Volkert Veeder, Liut. Colo., John N^ukerk, Mager, Christopher Fox, Magyr, Christ Stofel Fox, Magr., Abraham Veeder, Capt., John Hess, Capt., John Pickerd, Q. M., Henrig Herder, Capt., Jacob Matthews, Left., George Conderman, Left., Joseph House, Lt., Adam Leyp, Capt'n, Abraham Arndt, Ins.

P. S. The officers resolved to keep the third part of the Militia on duty, till further orders from your Excellency.

To his Excellency George Clinton.

Kingston 4 Oct'r 1779.

Gentlemen, I have rec'd your Letter of the 30 ulto. and am to inform you that Congress hav'g by a late Resolution called upon this State to co-operate, if necessary with the army under the Command of his Excellency, Genl. Washington; no further aid can be expected by you (at present) than what you shall derive from the Strength of your own County and the Militia of Genl. Ten Broeck's Brigade to the Northward of Albany & on the west side of Hudson's River, which I have ordered for the Frontier Service. The Continental Troops under Genl. Sullivan will also probably on their Return, join the main army, except such proportion of it as he may destine to occupy the western Posts. I am, therefore, to request you that you constantly keep out upon Duty as a Guard to the Frontiers, not only one third Part of the militia of the County, but a larger Proportion if necessary, and that the utmost Care vigilance and attention, be used by the different Officers of the County to prevent Surprizes and for Safety & Security of the different Settlements on or near your Frontiers. I have wrote to Genl. Ten Broeck, request'g him im-

mediately to furnish as many men of his Brigade as may at present be deemed sufficient. You will, therefore, confer with him on the Subject and if [it] shall hereafter become necessary to increase the Number, make occasional applications to him for that Purpose. I am

[G. C.]

[To Col. Jacob Klock and others.]

[No. 2545.]

Governor Clinton Urges the Governors of New Jersey and Connecticut to Cooperate in Suppressing Bands of Plunderers.

Kingston Oct'r 4th 1779.

Sir; It being represented that Persons belonging to this & the neighbouring States have without any proper authority formed themselves into Parties & plunder & commit other outrages upon the Inhabitants of Long Island and other Places within this State in the Power or Possession of the Enemy, the Senate and Assembly of this State on the 1st & 2d Inst. entered into concurrent Resolutions on that Subject (Copies of w^{ch} I have now the Honor of inclosing you) & I am to inform your Excellency that agreeable thereto, I have issued my Proclamation but you will readily perceive that the measures adopted by this State for prevent'g those mischievous Practices will prove ineffectual unless they are seconded by the Co-operation of the adjacent States whose Subjects are equally concerned. I am, therefore, to request your Excellency that such Measures may be taken in your State as may be deemed most effectual for preventing these abuses in future.

I have only to add that, exclusive of the Distress which unfortunate Individuals sustain by these Practices, I am informed by

the principal Officers command'g near the Lines, that their Parties are thereby often endangered and the public Service essentially injured. I am

[G. C.]

Kingston Oct'r 4 1779.

[To Governors Livingston and Trumbull.]

Governor Clinton to the Legislature.

*Gentlemen, I have the Pleasure of laying before the Legislature, a Letter from his Excellency the President of Congress, of the 26th Ultimo, covering an Act of Congress† of the same Date; together with Extracts of two Letters from his Excellency General Washington, of the 27th Ultimo and 1st Instant; and have most earnestly to recommend the Dispatch of such Laws as may be esteemed necessary, in Consequence of the Information contained in these Papers, and of the Recommendation of Congress.

Geo. Clinton.

Kingston, October 4, 1779.

[No. 2546.]

The Troublesome Question of Exchanging Women.

Head Quarters Kingsbridge October 5th 1779.

It is requested, that the determination (of His Excellency General Sir Henry Clinton, contained in the inclosed Paper, relative to the Families, of several Individuals, said to reside at present in New York,) may be forwarded by the Officer Commanding the

*From Journals of the Legislature.

†This date, September 26, is manifestly an error, for Congress was not in session on that day. Sunday, September 24 Congress adopted a series of resolutions relating to the Vermont dispute with instructions that a copy of them be sent to the States of New York, New Hampshire and Massachusetts.—See page 2542 and footnote—STATE HISTORIAN.

advanced Posts of the Enemy, to the first General Officer, that the contents may be generally made known.

Geo. Beckwith, Aid de Camp to his Excellency Lieut. General Knyphausen.

In consequence of frequent applications, made in favor of Individuals, who from Principle, Connections, or other motives, wish to obtain permission to reside in New York or upon Long Island; and particularly, in consequence of a late application, "made by the wives and Families of several Persons, who are said to live within the protection of Government," which was delivered in writing at Kingsbridge, a few days ago, by a Lieut't Colonel of Militia, who came with a Flag of Truce for that purpose from the neighbourhood of Fish-Kills:

His Excellency General Sir Henry Clinton has been pleased to direct it to be made known, that no Families in the above predicament will be admitted, unless previous permission is obtained for that purpose, for which applications are to be made by their Connections, with whom they wish to live.

His Excellency Lieutenant General Knyphausen, Commanding at Kingsbridge, takes the first opportunity of communicating the Commander in Chief's determination upon this Subject, as well for the advantage of the Individuals immediately concerned as to prevent the continual applications made by Flags of Truce for this purpose.

By order of His Excellency Lieutenant General Knyphausen.

Geo. Beckwith, Aid de Camp.

Head Quarters Kingsbridge, October 5th 1779.

[No. 2547.]

GOUVERNEUR MORRIS DEFEATED.

*Governor Clinton Extends Congratulations and Best Wishes to
John Jay.*

Ponkeepsie 5th October 1779.

Dear Sir; I received your Favour of the 29th Ultimo on my way from Kingston to this Place whither I was called by the Indisposition of my little Boy who is so extreemly low as to leave us but little Hope of his Recovery.

I most sincerely congratulate you on your late Appointment & you have my warmest Wishes that your Embassy may be attended with Success equal to your Integrity & Abilities. I am sensible it is of the utmost Importance to have a wise Representation in Congress, but tho all appear to agree in this the Election to that Office will frequently be governed more by personal prejudice than the public Good. The Members elected for the present year are, yourself, Messrs. Duane, Floyd, Scott & l'Homediou. The latter & Mr. G. Morris on casting up the Votes had an equal Number, but on the Ballot of both Houses it went in Favour of Mr. l'Homediou by one or two Votes. The Imprudence of some of Mr. Morris's friends in voting, occassiond the loss of his Election; however I am inclined to believe that he will be appointed [to] fill up the Vacancy which will [be] occasioned by your Absence, & shou'd this be the Case he must not decline serving, as his refusal woud not only Injure his own Interest but that of his best Friends.

The Resolutions of Congress for settling the Disputes respecting the New Hampshire Grants were received but two Days before I left Kingston. I have not, therefore, been able to collect the Sense of the Legislature respecting them. They appear

to be agreeable to such of the Members as I have had an Opportunity of conversing with & to those I have taken the Liberty of communicating your Letter on that Subject to.

Altho it is almost two months since the Meeting of the Legislature, a few Bills & most of these of little Importance have yet been enacted. The confiscation & Tax Bills are the great Objects of Controversy & occasions the Delay of all other Business, tho' there are some Matters which at this Juncture require the most immediate Dispatch, especially if we are to expect the Arival of the French Squadron in this Quarter.

As I expect your Brother will hand you this, I omit adding many Matters respecting the State of which he will be able to inform you. I cant expect the Pleasure of another Line from you before your Departure, as your Time must be fully employed in the necessary Preparations for so long a Voyage. But if you should find a Moment's Leisure when abroad, be assured you have not a Friend who will be more happy in hearing of your Welfare. I conclude Mrs. Jay is to company you. Mrs. Clinton joins me in offering our best Respects to her & in wishing you a prosperous Passage, Health & Happiness. I am, my D'r Sir, your most Affectionate Friend,

Geo. Clinton.

[To John Jay.]

[No. 2548.]

Orders for the Ships Montgomery and Congress in the Highlands.

Fort Montgomery, 6th October 1779.

Genl. Orders.

The Privateer and Gallies are to take their Orders from Capt. Hodge of the Ship Montgomery, who is to make such Disposition of them and of the Officers and men on board as will in his

Opinion be most conducive to the public Service; they are to be considered as Tenders to his Ship, and he will be responsible for their Conduct which the Genl. doubts not will do them Honor. The Ship Congress is immediately to proceed up to Fort Constitution, and come too there, in the Station safest for the Ship and most proper to annoy the Enemy. The Officer commanding the Ship Congress on his arrival at Fort Constitution, is to consult with the commanding Officer there, and with the Officer commanding the Artillery, as to the best measure to oppose the Enemy, if that Post should be attacked, so as that the Garrison and Ship may be able to act in concert; and if any Artillerymen or other Hands can be spared from the Garrison for the Ship they are to be sent on board. In this the Officers will be governed by the utility of putting men where they can be of most advantage in opposing the Enemy.

Copy of Genl. Orders. P, Daniel Hammill, Maj.

Copy exam'd by Robt. Benson.

[No. 2549.]

SUGGESTIONS FROM JOHN JAY.

Names Schenectady for the Capital of the State—First Proposition to Cede New York State Lands West of Niagara to the General Government.

Phil'a, 7th Oct'r 1779.

Dear Sir, You will receive this by Mr. Phelps, of whose Fidelity to New York I have a good opinion; tho I cannot approve of all his manoeuvres to serve the State on this occasion. He appears neither to want Talents or Zeal, but the latter is not always according to knowledge, and the former carry him sometimes into Forrests (?) One of the New Hampshire Delegates told me that

Phelps, in order to engage him against Vermont, endeavoured to persuade him that New Hampshire had a Right to a number of Townships in it; and he further told me, that on comparing notes with the Massachusetts Delegates, he found that Phelps had been playing the same Game with them. This Story he told me in the Presence of some of the Massachusetts Delegates who smiled and were silent. I have never said any thing of this to Phelps because it could have answered no good Purpose; and I mention it to you, as a Circumstance which marks the man. He has, however, by talking on the Subject with every body, done good. In my opinion his Expences should be paid without Hesitation, and he should be so treated as to go Home in perfect good Humour with the Legislature, for whom he now professes great Regard & Esteem, & I believe he is sincere in his attachment. Men of his Turn and Talk are always useful when properly directed. It is easily done by encouraging the good opinion he entertains of his own Importance.

The exceeding high opinion entertained here of your Constitution and the wisdom of your Counsels, has made a deep Impression on many People of wealth and Consequence in this State, who are dissatisfied with their own; and unless their opinions should previously be changed, will remove to New York the moment the Enemy leave it. Mr. Gerard, (who seems better acquainted with Republics than almost any man I have ever known) has passed many Encomiums on our Constitution & Government and I am persuaded, no Circumstance will conduce more to the Population of our Country by migrations from others, than the Reservation of its vigor and Reputation.

This unhappy City is all in Confusion; the Government wants nerves, and the public Peace has for some Days been destroyed

by mobs and Riots which seem to defy the authority of the magistrate. This is one of the Fruits of their whimsical Constitution, and of the Countenance given to Committees & let Politicians learn from this, to dread the least Deviation from the Line of Constitutional authority. *Obsta Principiis*, is a good maxim, but all have not sufficient Decision in their Conduct to observe it. Government once relaxed is not easily braced. And it is far more difficult to reassume Powers than permit them to be taken and executed by those who have no Right by the Constitution to hold them.

Morris is again with us, and I am glad of it. His Constituents must be either infatuated or wretchedly misinformed, if they omit continuing him in the Delegation. But you know my Sentiments on this Subject, and it is unnecessary to dwell on it. For Heaven's Sake, send an able Delegation and preserve the high Rank you hold among the States. I wish Hobart* may be sent; at this Season he would be particularly useful, and I am sure until your Vermont Business be over, a special occasion for his being here will clearly exist.

One of the New Hampshire Delegates seems much inclined to make the Ridge of mountains instead of Connecticut River, the Boundary between us; and that the Soil between the mountains and the River should remain the Property of those to whom it had been granted either under New York or New Hampshire. He observed, and I think with Propriety, that this Line by divid-

*John Sloss Hobart was born in Fairfield, Connecticut, in 1738, and graduated at Yale; he studied law and practised his profession in New York. He was very active at the outbreak of hostilities and served as a delegate to the Provincial Convention, as member of the New York Congress, and was on the committee to draft the first constitution of New York. In July, 1777, he was promoted to the bench, took a very prominent part during the Revolutionary War, and became one of the three judges of the Supreme Court. In January, 1798, he was elected United States Senator, but held that office for a few months, owing to his appointment as judge of the United States District Court of New York. He died February 4, 1855.—STATE HISTORIAN.

ing the disaffected between the two States, would render the Reduction of them to good order less difficult, and by interesting both States in their allegiance prevent their again acting in a Body or easily uniting their Counsell for Purposes injurious to Government. My Reply to this Gentleman was, that I had no authority to say any thing on this Subject, that I knew the State of New York to be sincerely disposed to cultivate Harmony with her neighbours, and was persuaded that no Settlement founded in Justice & mutual Convenience will be disagreeable to them. To you, however, I must confess that the Line he proposed does not appear to me to be impolitic. We have unquestionably more Territory than we can govern, and the Loss of that Strip would not in my opinion over-balance the advantages resulting from it. On the contrary, unless I am much mistaken, exclusive of other Considerations, the less our People have to with Connecticut River the better. I would rather see the Productions of our Country go to the Sea by another Rout.

The Country west of Niagara, on the present Ideas which prevail and by the articles of Confederation, belongs to New York. As it lies beyond the convenient Reach of Government, the Retention of it would rather incommode than benefit us. It would always be the object of Envy and Jealousy to the other States, and perhaps the Subject of Dispute. I would, therefore, be for ceding it to the Continent at a proper Season, or otherwise disposing of it in a way that would conduce to the Credit and Interest of the State. To this way you can be no Stranger.

There is another matter which I think deserves attention; it is the seat of Government. On this Subject I have bestowed much thought. The Result is, a perfect and full Conviction that Snectady is the only proper place in the State, and the sooner the Idea is adopted and carried into Execution the better.

Should I have Time and opportunity before my Departure I shall transmit to you my Reflections on this Subject. Many of them will naturally occur to you. I will just hint, however, that it will not be easy to remove the Seat of Governm't from any Place you may appoint for the Purpose & therefore that great Care should be taken in the Choice. My Sollicitude for the welfare and Honor of the State prompts me to say many other things interesting to both, but I have no Leisure at present.

I must, however, recommend to you to appoint Coll. Hughes to be Sheriff of the City & County of New York. I should also think it right for the Council of Appointment to provide for Cols. Lamb & Malcolm.

Believe me to be, dear Sir, your affectionate Friend & Serv't
Gov. Clinton.

John Jay.

[No. 2550.]

Dr. Vach's Modest Bill.

The State of New York

To John George Vach Surgeon Dr. Viz.

To heeling Capt. Richter's Arm which was shattered very bad in a Skirmish he had with a party of Indians being dressed twice every day from the 20th of April to the 6th August 1779	£150. 3.0
To heeling Mrs. Richter's wound she received from the said Indians being dressed twice a day from the 20th of April to the 7th Day of June 1779	85.10.4
To heeling Peter Shirter's wound he received in the said Skirmish being dress'd twice a day from the s'd 20th Ap. to the 22 day of May	54. 6.8
To heeling Jost Fols's wounds his arm being badly shattered & having a cut with a Tomhawk which were dressed once a day from the 6th Day of August to the 8th Day of Oct. 1779	100. 0.0
	£390. 0.0

N. B. I had 4 Miles to go every day to where the above mentioned Folks was.

[No. 2551.]

Congress Finance and Taxation.

Sir; I have the honor to transmit your Excellency, sundry resolutions of Congress of the 6th and 7th Instant* for supplying

*See page 323.

the Continental Treasury, and to request the earliest communication of them to the Legislative authority of your State.

The money which Congress are at liberty to emit, will probably be expended in the beginning of December next and subsequent supplies must be furnished by the States. This evinces the necessity of the punctual payment of their respective quotas, on which their public credit the existence of their army and the support of their liberties so greatly depend.

Congress are deeply concerned to find that the sums required are so great: but, since the emissions are limited, they doubt not that the operation of taxes and other salutary measures in the course of the year, will reduce the prices of Articles and enables them to lessen the quotas required, or apply part thereof to diminish the public debt,—to promote so desirable an object, Congress on their part will endeavor to observè the strictest Economy in the expenditures.

I have only to add, that Warrants will be issued on the Treasurers of the respective States for the quotas to be furnished on the first of January next, and that I remain with the greatest respect, Your Excellency's most obedient and very hum. serv't

Saml. Huntington, President.

Phila. 9th Octob'r 1779.

His Excellency The Governor of New York.

Governor Clinton Announces to the Legislature the Appointment of John Jay as Minister to Spain.

*Gentlemen, By Letter from the Honorable John Jay, Esq; I am informed he is appointed Minister from the United States of

*From Journals of the Legislature.

America, to the Court of Madrid, and that he is to sail in a few Days; which I thought proper to communicate to the Legislature, in Order, if they should conceive it necessary, that a suitable Person* may be elected to supply his Place in Congress.

Geo. Clinton.

Kingston, October 9, 1779.

[No. 2552.]

*Governor Clinton Writes to General Washington and Promises
Hearty Cooperation.*

Pokeepsie 9 Oct'r 1779.

D'r Sir, Immediately on the Rec't of your first Letter intimating that it might be necessary to reinforce your Excellency by a formidable Body of the State Militia, I recommended to the Legislature the enact'g such Laws as sho'd appear adequate to this Purpose as well as for draw'g forth new Supplies of Provision on this extraordinary occasion. Since which I have been favored with a Copy of the act of Congress of the 26 ult. on that Subject (a Duplicate of which you inclose me) & have laid it before the Legislature, and as they discover the most chearful Disposition for promoting this Service I have not the least Doubt but they will adopt the most vigorous measures. Notwithstand'g the peculiar Situation of the State, I have not to complain of the Number of Men which your Excellency has required of us, and I flatter myself with the Hope that no Failure will take Place, for want of a prompt & full Compliance on our Part & it shall be my first Business to issue the necessary Orders and my greatest Care to see them carried into effectual Execution. I think it proper

*On October 18th the legislature in joint convention elected General Philip Schuyler as John Jay's successor in Congress.—STATE HISTORIAN.

however to mention to your Excellency, that we will not be able to take the Field with Tents & Camp Kettles as what we have had of these articles has been long since expended or delivered over to the Continent and we have not had it in our Power to replace them. Exclusive of the Flour & Wheat which the Legislature have by Law enabled the Commissary to furnish the Army with it is proposed that the militia provide themselves with 40 Days Flour, as it is thought they may be able to draw this Supply from their own private Stock without interfering with such as the Commissary may be able to collect.

[G. C.]

[To Gen. Washington.]

 [No. 2553.]

*The Commissary General and the Supply of Flour for the Army—
Governor Clinton's Reply.*

Murderers Creek Oct'r 11th 1779.

Dear Sir, I have just finished a letter to you and Received further advice from Congress respecting my application; they have given me leave to draw for two hundred Hogsheads of Rum, which will be a good supply; by this same Express I have advice that little flour can be had for this Army as the demands for the French Fleet are great, and the confusion and disorder in the City of Philadelphia retards every measure. I wish Congress may not be embarrassed by this tumult; on the 6th instant, matters were not settled and those persons who had been imprisoned as Rioters were enlarged & the mob imprisoned a Mr. Lewis & others. I am really afraid we shall draw no supplies from the State of Pennsylvania, for this Army before Winter, and no hopes of flour remain but from this State for our present Use.

I am, D^r Sir, with much esteem & regard, Your Excellency's
most Obt. Humble Serv^t

Jere. Wadsworth.

His Ex^y Governor Clinton.

Kingston 15 Oct^r 1779.

D^r Sir, I am favored with your two Letters of the 11th Inst. The Legislature have lately passed a Law for farther supplying the army with one Eighth more of the last Crop and have also taken off the Limitations of Price. Thus I think, we have the highest Reasons to hope that a competent Supply for the army will be speedily obtained; if there is water sufficient for turning the mills to convert the wheat into Flour. I am &c.

[G. C.]

[To Col. Wadsworth.]

[No. 2554.]

One Ton of Powder Ordered for the Militia.

Poukeepsie Oct^r 11th 1779.

Sir, By an act of the Legislature (a Copy of which is published in the enclosed News Paper) you are required to purchase in addition to the military Stores of this State, one Ton* of Gun Powder. As the Detachment of militia now ordered out will stand in immediate need of ammunition, his Excellency the Governor, desires that you will, without a moment's Delay, purchase the above Quantity of Gun Powder & cause the same to be made

*Whereas it is necessary that the military magazine of this state should always be well supplied with ammunition, Colonel John Lasher, commissioner of the military stores of this state, shall and is hereby required without delay in addition to the said military stores, to purchase one ton of gunpowder and to apply and dispose of the same from time to time in manner as is directed by law, concerning the other military stores of this state, and to draw for the purchase money thereof on the treasurer of this state, who is hereby required to pay and discharge such draft to the person in whose favor the same shall be drawn out of any monies in the treasury—Laws of New York, Chapter 13, Third Session.

up in cartridges of different Sizes, for the use of the militia.
Yrs. &c. Robt. Benson, A. D. C.
Colo. Lasher, Commiss'r of Military Stores.

[No. 2555.]

*Privileges Refused to Tory Families Until Women and Children
Captured at Cherry Valley and on the Frontier are Returned.*

To whom it concerns.

No Permissions will be granted to the Wives and Families of
Persons who have joined the Enemy to remove from the Country
until the Women and Children taken at Cherry Valley and other
Places on the Frontiers are returned to their Husbands &
Friends.

[Oct. 13, 1779.]

[No. 2556.]

Return of Lieutenant Colonel Albert Pawling's, New Levies.

Return of the Levies commanded by Lieut. Colonel Albert Pawling & stationed on the Frontiers of Ulster & Orange Counties. Marbletown, October 13th 1779.

Officers Commanding Companies & their Stations.	Commiss'd Officers					Staff			Non Comm'd			Rank & File					
	Lt. Colonel	Major	Captains	Lieutenants	Adjutant	qr. Master	Surgeon	qr. Mr. Sergt.	Sergants	Dr. & Pife	present fit for Duty	Sick present	Sick absent	on Comm'd	on Furlough	Total	Deserted
Captains Faulkener at Lechweck Wood Pienbeck Hunter Slaudeken	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	5	1	82	2	1	3	3	91	
Total	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	4	1	81	2	5	10	6	96	1
1 Sergt. on Command Wawarsink. 1 Do. Sick Nine Partners. Capt Hallett with part of a Company on Comm'd in Westchester.			3	4	1	1	1	1	12	3	238	4	10	20	9	281	1
										Fishkill Smith's Clove Nine Partners Hurley Sugerties Rhynbeck Walkill							Alarm Gun at Poughkeepsie Fishkill Commissary Taylor Wawarsink
													10	20			

A. Pawling, Lt. Colonel.

[No. 2557.]

*Estimate of Militia Forces to Cooperate With General Washington
for the Defence of the Frontiers.*

Estimate including Non Commissioned Officers.

Dutchess	3236 1-3		1078
Ulster			
McCloughry's—457 deduct for Peinpack &c.			
57—	400 1-3	133	
Hardenbergh's	541	180	
Cantine's	390	130	575
Snyder's	398	132	
Orange			
Hathorn's	344	111	
Woodhull's	327	109	403
Allison's, 315, deduct for Loss at Minisink 65,	250	83	
Hay's, 424, deduct for Loss since 124,	300	100	
Albany			
Livingston's	479	159	
R. V'n Renselaer's	173	57	
Whiting's	425	141	
Van Alstyne's	266	88	719
Van Ness'	330	110	
Lansing's	230	76	
Quackenboss'	266	88	
			<hr/> 2785
West Chester			
Drake's		40	
Hanson's		40	
Thomas'		20	
Crane's		50	150
			<hr/> 2935
Deduct for Frontier Service in the Counties of Ulster & Orange			300
			<hr/> 2625

[Oct'r 13, 1779.]

Further Messages from Congress to the Legislature.

*Gentlemen, I take the earliest Opportunity of Laying before the Legislature, two Acts of Congress, of the 6th and 7th Instant,† for supplying the Continental Treasury by monthly Assessments; together with a Letter from his Excellency‡ the President, of the 9th Instant, accompanying the same.

Geo. Clinton.

Kingston, October 18, 1779.

*From Journals of the Legislature.

†October 6, 1779, Congress passed the following resolutions:

"*Resolved*, That, in addition to the sums required by the resolutions of Congress of the 22d November, 1777, and 2d January and 21st May, 1779, the several states be called on to raise, in such manner as they may judge expedient, sufficient sums to enable them to pay into the continental treasury or to the order of Congress, on the 1st day of February next, and on the 1st day of each succeeding month, until the 1st day of October next, inclusive, their respective proportions of 15,000,000 of dollars:

That all sums which may be so paid by any of the states during the continuance of the war, shall be passed to their respective credits, on the terms prescribed by the 1st article of a resolution of Congress of the 22d of November, 1777:

And that the several states be respectively charged with the annual interest of six per centum on all deficiencies in the payment of the several quotas which have been or may be required of them:"

October 7, Congress adopted the following resolutions:

"*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the several states to direct their treasurers to transmit to Congress, on the first day of every month, returns of the sums which they may have respectively received for supplying the continental treasury; that the money mentioned therein be credited from the respective dates of the returns, and that the same be entered on the journals of Congress.

The committee appointed to apportion the quotas of the respective states, brought in a report; whereupon,

Resolved, That the quotas of the several states to make up the monthly assessment of 15,000,000 of dollars, to be paid the first day of February next, and the first day of each succeeding month, to the first day of October next, inclusive, be as follows:

New-Hampshire	400,000 dollars.
Massachusetts-Bay,	2,200,000 do
Rhode-Island, &c.	200,000 do
Connecticut,	1,700,000 do
New-York,	750,000 do
New-Jersey,	900,000 do
Pennsylvania,	2,200,000 do
Delaware,	170,000 do
Maryland,	1,550,000 do
Virginia,	2,500,000 do
North-Carolina,	1,000,000 do
South-Carolina,	1,200,000 do
	15,000,000

Georgia being invaded, is hereafter to raise its proportion.

On motion of Mr. Houston, seconded by Mr. Morris,

Resolved, That neither the present nor any former apportionment of quotas of taxes to the several states be considered as a precedent."

†See page 315.

[No. 2558.]

Thursday, December Ninth, Selected as a Day of Thanksgiving.

Cireklar.

Philadelphia October 20th 1779.

Sir, You will receive enclosed herewith an Act of Congress* of this day, recommending to the several States, that Thursday the ninth of December next, be appointed a day of public Thanksgiving. I have the honor to be with sentiments of esteem and regard, your Excellency's humble servant

Saml. Huntington. President.

His Excellency, The Governor of New York.

*WHEREAS it becomes us humbly to approach the throne of Almighty God, with gratitude and praise for the wonders which his goodness has wrought in conducting our fore-fathers to this western world; for his protection to them and to their posterity amidst difficulties and dangers; for raising us, their children, from deep distress to be numbered among the nations of the earth; and for arming the hands of just and mighty princes in our deliverance; and especially for that he hath been pleased to grant us the enjoyment of health, and so to order the revolving seasons, that the earth hath produced her encrease in abundance, blessing the labours of the husbandman, and spreading plenty through the land; that he hath prospered our arms and those of our ally: been a shield to our troops in the hour of danger, pointed their swords to victory and led them in triumph over the bulwarks of the foe; that he hath gone with those who went out into the wilderness against the savage tribes; that he hath stayed the hand of the spoiler, and turned back his meditated destruction; that he hath prospered our commerce, and given success to those who fought the enemy on the face of the deep; and above all, that he hath diffused the glorious light of the gospel, whereby, through the merits of our gracious Redeemer, we may become the heirs of his eternal glory: therefore,

Resolved, That it be recommended to the several states, to appoint Thursday, the 9th of December next, to be a day of public and solemn thanksgiving to Almighty God for his mercies, and of prayer for the continuance of his favour and protection to these United States; to beseech him that he would be graciously pleased to influence our public councils, and bless them with wisdom from on high, with unanimity, firmness and success: that he would go forth with our hosts and crown our armies with victory; that he would grant to his church the plentiful effusions of divine grace, and pour out his holy spirit on all ministers of the gospel; that he would bless and prosper the means of education, and spread the light of Christian knowledge through the remotest corners of the earth; that he would smile upon the labours of his people and cause the earth to bring forth her fruits in abundance; that we may with gratitude and gladness enjoy them; that he would take into his holy protection our illustrious ally, give him victory over his enemies, and render him signally great, as the father of his people and the protector of the rights of mankind; that he would graciously be pleased to turn the hearts of our enemies, and to dispense the blessings of peace to contending nations; that he would in mercy look down upon us, pardon our sins and receive us into his favour, and finally, that he would establish the independence of these United States upon the basis of religion and virtue, and support and protect them in the enjoyment of peace, liberty and safety.

Done in Congress, the 20th day of October, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-nine, and in the 4th year of the independence of the United States of America.

Attest:

Samuel Huntington, *President*.
Charles Thomson, *Secretary*.

[No. 6428.]

General Knox Removes Troops Who Were Encamp'd on Governor Clinton's Farm.

*New Windsor 19th October 1779.

Dear Sir, Immediately on the receipt of your favor I directed Colonel Carrington, to order the Companies encamp'd on your farm to some other place and to have the fences and enclosures repaired—he has reported to me that the men encamp'd there are remov'd and the enclosures repaired.

I hope soon to have the pleasure of congratulating your Excellency on the arrival of Count D'Estaing. I am, with great respect your Excellency's Hble. Serv.

H. Knox.

His Excellency, Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 2559.]

Vermont Appoints Five Agents to Present Her Claims to Congress for Recognition to Statehood.

State of Vermont. In General Assembly Manchester 20th Oct'r 1779.

Resolved, Unanimously, That five persons be chosen, by ballot, Agents in behalf of the freemen of this State, to appear at the Congress of the United States of America, on the first day of Feb'y next; and that they, or any three of them, are hereby fully authorised and impowered by the representatives of the Freemen aforesaid, to vindicate their right to Independence at that Honorable Board.

And, furthermore, our said agents, or any three of them, are hereby amply impowered to agree, upon, and fully to settle arti-

*From Volume XXIV, Clinton MSS.

cles of Union and confederation in behalf of this State, with the United States, which shall be valid and binding on us, on our constituents, and our successors. And our said agents are hereby further empowered to transact all other political affairs of this State at Congress as a free & Independent State, and report their proceedings herein to this Assembly as soon as may be.

The members chosen. B. Genl. Ethan Allen, the Hon'ble Jonas Fay & Paul Spooner, Esqrs. Stephen R. Bradley, Esqr. and the hon'ble Moses Robinson, Esqr.

Extract from the Journals.

Roswell Hopkins, Clk.

Sent up for concurrence.

In Council Manchester Oct'r 22, 1779.

Read & concured.

Joseph Fay, Sec'y.

(Copy)

[No. 2560.]

The Treasury Office Takes Measures to Guard Against Counterfeit Bills.

Treasury Office Philadelphia Oct'r 22d 1779.

Sir, By a Resolution of Congress of the 14th of January last, it being provided that a sufficient Number of Proof Sheets of the New Bills then ordered to be emitted should be struck, and sent with the Signatures of each Signer to the Assemblies of the respective States to be lodged by them under proper Regulations in Public Offices, in the several Counties, Towns, and Districts, for the Benefit of the Inhabitants of the United States, the Board of Treasury have so far carried this Resolution into Effect, as to have caused a sufficient Number of Proof Sheets of the said Bills

and also of the Emission of the 26 Sep'r 1778 to be lodged with the Treasurer, in order to be sent to the several States. Part of the said Sheets are transmitted to the States without the Signatures, and the same measures will be adopted with the Residue, as it is found by Experience that each Signer so often varies his Writing, that the Signature of one Day differs materially from that of the next, and would afford very little Assistance in detecting Counterfeits; but the advantages of having the Proof Sheets dispersed in every part of the United States, being such, that each Inhabitant thereof, who may suspect a Counterfeit Bill may with little Trouble to himself, be thus enabled to compare it with the Standard, and detect the Person passing the same; the Board request your Excellency to communicate their Desire to the Assembly of your State, that the Resolution referred to may be carried into Effect as early as possible. I have the Honor to be, with great Respect Your Excellency's most Obedient Servant

(By order of the Board)

Joseph Nourse, As't. Aud'r General.

His Excellency Governor Clinton, New York.

[No. 2561.]

NEW YORK OFFICERS POORLY CLAD.

Colonel Marinus Willett Appeals to the Governor to Correct a Manifest Wrong.

Easton 23 October 1779.

Dear Sir, The officers of our Brigade have signed a Memorial to the Legislature of our State praying to be put in equivalent circumstances with the Troops of the other States with whom we

serve; I cannot help thinking the propriety of this request will appear evident, and that the old complaint of Inability will be abolished. I declare it my opinion that we stand next to Virginia in ability to provid for the Officers and Soldiers in the employ of the Continent. North Carolina Viewing the Impoverished Situation of her Officers, and not having it Immediately in her power to assist them, applyed to Congress who lent them Money for that purpose (This account I lately had from a Member of the Board of War; And we stand alone desstitute of supplys, tho none can want them more. We have officers now with our Regiment who cant do Duty meerly for the want of Clothes fit to appear upon the parade. What a pitiable Situation is this? And I am sure their pay will not procure them Clothes. But why the officers of the army should not be able to appear with respect suitable to their calling, as well as the rest of the Community is difficult to determine. To me it appears ungenerous and unjust. I heartily wish it may appear so to our Legislature and that the officers and Soldiers may be relieved from their present causes of complaint, by being put in similar circumstances with the Troops of other States. This will add vigor and Spirit to the present languishing appearance of the Troops of our State, and afford a Prosspect of keeping our Regiments respectable in numbers which must otherways diminish greatly, for Soldiers will undoubtedly enter into the service of those States who make the best provision for them.

Since I have undertaken to write upon this business, I beg leave to observe that the parshal methods formerly taken by our State in sending a person once or twice a year to procure a few articles cannot answer the purpose as well as the Methods adopted by some other States of keeping agents in diferent parts

(Virginia, tho she has all her own ports open, keeps Commercial agents and has a very large Store in Philadelphia). Such agents by entering largely in Trade, and being on the spot to make purchases when opportunity offers on account of the State might supply the Troops amply at moderate prices; Indeed it is not Impossible but that if Gentlemen of Integrity who are well acquainted with business was appointed to this office, the State might support its Troops with the profits of its trade and here I beg leave to remind you of one person proper for this business. I mean Mr. Jno. Woodward, who if I am not mistaken, you are well acquainted with; But I am sensible our State will afford several Gentlemen well Qualified for this Important office.

Your Candor with which I am well acquainted, has been a principal Inducement to me (in a great hurry) to send you my sentiments upon this subject. Need I request your attention to it? I know as far it may appear right, you will not fail to use your endeavours, that the prayers of the Memorialists may be granted. I am, your Excellencies most obedient and very Humble Servant.

M. Willett.

To Governor Clinton.

(Nos. 2562, 2563.)

ALARMING RUMORS FROM THE FRONTIER.

Colonel Van Dyck Reports to Colonel Van Schaick, That a Large Force of the Enemy had Appeared Before Oswego.

Albany October 26th 1779.

Sir, The inclosed is Copy of a Letter I Just Received from Colonel Van Dyck which I Transmit to your Excellency by Express together with a Letter from Brigadier General Ten Broeck. The Genl. is now in Tryon County to which place I shall proceed

with the utmost dispatch. I am, most respectfully your Excellency's most Obed't & Humble Serv't

G. V. Schaick.

To his Excellency, Governour Clinton.

COLONEL VAN DYCK'S LETTER.

Fort Schuyler 25th Octo'r 1779 four O'Clock A. M.

Dear Colonel, On Wednesday last I was informed by Colonel Siem & several of the Oneida Indians, that the Enemy had appeared in force at Oswego which intelligence they had obtained by the way of Cayuga. On Thursday morning I dispatched Hance Helmer in Company with two Oneida Indians, with Orders (if possible) to proceed to Oswego and make what discoveries they could. This evening two runners came in from Oneida, & informs that on Friday, Helmer with the two Indians had proceeded down the Oneida Lake almost to Fort Brewington, when they made such discoveries that they thought prudent to return; about sunset they fell in with a party of Indians near this end of the Lake who made them all three Prisoners. Helmer remains with the Enemy. The two Indians after some little time, were permitted to return to Oneida, by whome we are informed that Colonel Johnson with a thousand Indians is on his way to this place; besides a large Body of Regular Troops.

Previous to this, parties seting out a small scout had been sent from Oneida to Oswego, who discovered a large Encampment at that place; they were told by some of the Enemy Indians that a number of Heavy Cannon & Morters with them, that the Regulars were to Beseige this Fort and in the mean while the Indians would destroy the Country down as far as Schonectady.

I shall immediately dispatch a Scout to the Oneida Lake, who

will return this evening when I shall Transmit you what discoveries they make. How far the account of the Regular Troops with the Artillery may be depended on I will not take upon myself to say, but I believe it a Fact that a large number of Indians are on their way. I forgot to mention that one of the Enemy Indians, had informed one of ours, that a large party of Indians had gone on to cut off the communication between this place & the Flatts. I am, your most humble Serv't

Corn's Van Dyck.

Colo. Van Schaick.

(Copy)

[No. 2564.]

Governor Clinton Lays the Reports Before the Commander-in-Chief.

Fishkill 8 o'Clock P. M. 28th Octob'r 1779.

D'r Sir, On my Arival at this Place the Letters of which the enclosed are Copies* were delivered me. If the Accounts contain'd in them are true (& they appear too well authenticated to admit of Doubt) our Frontier Settlements especially those of Tryon & Albany Counties (if nothing farther is to be apprehended) will be greatly exposed to the Ravages of the Enemy. From Genl. Ten Broeck, your Excellency will be inform'd of the Measures he hath taken to cover the Country, but if the Enemy's Force is as formidable as is represented, it will not be in his Power to prevent the Desolation of some of the most valuable Settlements. I am informed that some Part of the Massachusetts Militia have assembled at Claverack where tis said they are to wait further Orders. They are without Provisison or a Commissary to provide for them & are very distressing to the In-

*See pages 329 et seq.

habitants on whom they are quartered who are obliged to supply them. If those Troops on the pres't Occasion were ordered to Albany, from whence they may be brought down to this Quarter, nearly as expeditiously as from their present Situation, I believe it wou'd answer a very valuable Purpose. I am, Sir, with great Respect your Excellency's &c.

Geo: Clinton.

His Excellency Genl. Washington.

[No. 2565.]

Five Regiments Ordered to Reinforce General Ten Broeck if the Indian Uprising Rumors Be True.

Head Qrs. Fishkill, Oct'r 29, 1779.

Sir, You will repair to Claverack, & Albany, immediately. If upon your arrival there, you find a Confirmation, or probable intelligence that the Enemy are advancing towards Fort Scuyler in such Force as to Invest that garrison, or to Invade the Frontiers; the Regiments commanded by Colonels Livingston, Van Alstine, Van Ness, Whiting & Reusselaer, are instantly to march and Reinforce General Tenbroeck; and for this purpose you are to communicate to the Commanding Officers Respectively a Copy of these Orders. But such parts of those Regiments as have been detach'd for Southern Service are to Join the Troops at this place.

Under present Circumstances I think it necessary to submit the Expediency of marching out those Troops to the Frontiers [to] your discretion. But as the Safety of Fort Scuyler & the Protection of the Country are objects of great Importance, I wish not that they should be too much hazarded. For your government you are at Liberty to open dispatches directed to

me from General Ten Broeck, & the Officer Commanding at Fort Scuyler.

When this Service is performed or you are convinced that it is unnecessary you will again assume your present Command if the Troops remain [in] the Field.

By the Express which is orderd to attend you, communicate to General Tenbroeck a Copy of these orders, and of such measures as you think expedient, in consequence of them, and also inform him that his Intelligence is Transmitted to General Washington.

I shall expect to hear from you on your arrival at Albany & as often as anything material occurs. Yrs. &c.

Geo: Clinton.

Colo. Robt. Van Rensselaer.

[No. 2566.]

Governor Clinton Sees no Immediate Necessity for Putting Arms into the Hands of the Militia.

Fish Kill Oct. 29 1779.

Dr Sir, I am this moment Honourd with your letter of this date, & thank you for the agreeable intelligence it contains. I wrote to General Scuyler this morning, & requested him to Communicate to your Excellency the measures I have taken in consequence of the information from Colonel Van Schaack. I am of opinion that there is no immediate necessity to put Public arms into the hands of the militia. I imagine the emergency will not be so sudden but we can have an Opportunity of equipping them in time for Service and, in the meantime, I shall give orders that they be employed agreeable to your desire, which I flatter myself will be effected without disgusting them with the Service.

Some unfinish'd bussiness in the Civil line, oblidges me to ride up to Poughkeepsie this evening, but I expect to return on Sunday. I leave Col. Malcom at this place, so that if your Excellency has any orders for the militia, be pleased to send them to his care and he will forward to me. Yrs. &c.

Geo: Clinton.

His Exc'y Genl. Washington.

[Nos. 2567, 2568.]

General Schuyler Receives his Certificate of Appointment as Delegate to Congress.

Fishkill 29th October 1779.

Dear Sir, I herewith transmit you a Certificate* of your Appointment as one of the Delegates to represent this State in State in Congress for the present year which I flatter myself will be sufficient to entitle you to take your Seat untill your Commission can be made out in due form which shall be done & forwarded to you with all possible dispatch. I take this Opportunity of transmitting you a Copy of a Law of this State passed at the late Meeting of the Legislature for appointing Commissioners to represent this State in any Treaty of Pacification that may be had with any of the Nations of Indians therein mentioned which I have to request you will be so good as to present to Congress retaining a Copy of it for the Commissioner of

*State of New York. Camp, Head Quarters, Fishkill 29th Oct'r 1779.

I do hereby certify that the Honorable Philip Schuyler, Esquire, is duly nominated and appointed one of the Delegates of this State in the Congress of the United States of America and that his being unprovided with a Commission in due form of Law is owing to my being in Camp; whereby I am incapacitated to put the Seal to it at present. But that the same will be expedited to him with all possible Dispatch.

Indian Affairs which it is not my Power at present to have made out.*

The Intelligence from Fort Schuyler which I transmitted to his Excellency this Morning has given me such anxiety for our

*AN ACT to appoint commissioners to represent this State in any treaty of pacification that may be had with any of the nations of Indians therein mentioned.

Passed the 23d of October, 1779.

WHEREAS the government and people of this State from its first becoming an English colony, as well as their predecessors the Dutch, who were the original planters thereof, have from time to time expended vast sums of money for the protection and maintenance of the six nations of Indians residing within the territories of the said State: And the said nations by repeated treaties and grants have put themselves and the country which they occupied under the protection of the government of this State, while it was administered by the crown of Great Britain; and a considerable part of the right of soil hath been actually purchased from them for valuable considerations.

AND WHEREAS Since the present war with Great Britain the said nations have by the most solemn treaties, repeatedly renewed, engaged to observe the strictest friendship towards the United States of America and all their inhabitants.

AND WHEREAS Notwithstanding all these solemn treaties engagements and obligations on their part, and the repeated acts of liberality benevolence and protection on the part of this State from its original plantation, four of the said nations, namely, The Mohawks, Onondagas, Cayugas and Senecas have, without provocation or complaint, ungratefully and perfidiously committed the most cruel hostilities against this State destroyed the lives of a great number of its inhabitants, carried others into captivity, demolished and burned down many settlements and villages and plundered the property of the inhabitants of the same; to our very great distress and impoverishment: Extending at the same time their savage barbarities to the inhabitants and territories of the neighbouring States; and have moreover concealed in their castles and villages our implacable enemies, encouraged the disaffection of many of our inhabitants by promises and menaces: and to the utmost of their force and power voluntarily aided and assisted the king of Great Britain and his adherents in their attempt to reduce this country to ignominious bondage.

Be it therefore enacted by the People of the State of New York represented in Senate and Assembly and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same That the person administering the government of this State for the time being and Anthony Van Schalk Levi Pawling and Peter Schuyler Esquires and Colonel Jacob Klock, or the major part of them of whom the person administering the government of this State for the time being shall always be one, shall be and are hereby authorized and empowered to be commissioners for this State in case of a treaty of pacification hereafter to be set on foot between the said hostile nations of Indians of the one part and the United States of America or this State on the other part to ask demand and by every way and means in their power to obtain for and in behalf of this State, such security and engagement from the said hostile nations of Indians not only for indemnifying and securing this State and the subjects and inhabitants thereof respectively against all future hostilities that might otherwise be committed by the said nations of Indians either jointly or severally or the individual members of the same respectively, but also to ask demand exact and receive such compensation and retribution for the above mentioned hostilities and injuries, whether in such treaty of pacification with the said United States or with this State as shall be proper and in every such treaty of pacification if the United States shall be parties thereto, to insist and require in behalf of this State, to be admitted to represent the same particularly as a principal and contracting party thereto by particular specification as an independent State; and in case either of such treaty between the said United States conjointly or this State separately of the one part and the said hostile nations of Indians or any or either of them on the other part, to contract and agree on the terms thereof; and that the said commissioners or the major part of them shall from time to time report to the legislature of this State all and singular the actings and doings

Frontier Settlements as to have induced me to order Colo. Renselaer immediately to Albany with Orders to march out the whole of the Militia of that County to their Protection (except the Detachments who were ordered to rendezvous at this Place) if on his Arrival there he should meet with a Confirmation of the Account from that Quarter. This I wish you to communicate to his Excellency. You will please to observe that my present Orders to Colo. Renselaer will not interfere with the Force ordered out to join the Army only as to the Service one Officer. I shall be happy to hear from you as often as you [have] Leisure to write me; wishing you a pleasant Journey Health & Happiness I am Dr Sir with great Sincerity your Friend & Most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

[To Gen. Schuyler.]

[No. 2569.]

Suspending State Land Warrants Until the War Ends.

(Circular.)

Philadelphia Oct'r 30th 1779.

Sir, You will receive herewith enclosed an Act of Congress of this date, earnestly recommending to the State of Virginia,*

of the parties to any such treaty or treaties and each of them as the same shall occur And that the person administering the government of this State for the time being shall without delay furnish the congress of the United States of America and their commissioners for Indian affairs respectively with copies of this law; And further that for all reasonable expences which shall be incurred on the part of this State in the progress and completion of the premises, adequate provision shall be made by some future act or acts of the legislature of this State.—Chapter twenty-nine, third session legislature, State of New York.

*The act alluded to reads as follows:

"Whereas it appears to Congress that the opening the land-office in the state of Virginia, for the purpose of locating lands unappropriated at the time Independence was declared, has produced much uneasiness, dispute and controversy, and greatly weakened these United States by the emigrations of their inhabitants to parts remote from defence against the common enemy: Resolved, therefore, that it be earnestly recommended to the state of Virginia to re-consider their late act of assembly for opening their land-office; and that it be recommended to the said state, and all other states similarly circumstanced, to forbear settling or issuing warrants for such unappropriated lands, or granting the same during the continuance of the present war:"

to reconsider their late act of Assembly for opening their Land Office; And to that and all other States similarly circumstanced, to forbear settling or issuing Warrants for unappropriated Lands or granting the same during the continuance of the present War. I am with Sentiments of Esteem and regard your Excellency's
Hum. Servant

Saml. Huntington, President.

The Governor of New York.

[No. 2570.]

James Duane on Congressional Matters and the Vermont Dispute.

Manour Livingston 30 October 1779.

Dear Sir, I have not been unmindful of your Excellency's Request that I should send you a Copy of the Commission to the Delegates, but Mr. Yates did not call, nor has any other opportunity offered. I now transmit it by the post. I just parted with the Chancellor who will be ready to set off for Congress on Monday week if he receives his Commission. The Gentlemen there, were very lately acting, tho' without authority, as Members, which when known, as it must be, will call into Question our Vigilance, & perhaps, altho' very undeservedly, their Candour.

I propose to set off for Duanesburgh, which to this moment I have not had it in my power to visit, on Monday. In less than a fortnight I shall return to enter on the necessary preparations for our Territorial Controversies. I wish I may be able to do our State the Justice of Placing its Rights on the true Grounds, and procuring satisfactory Evidence in its Support. The last in Times of such Confusion will I perceive be a most difficult Task;

which is the more to be lamented as it was not long since fully in our possession.

May I beg the favour of your Excellency to forward the enclosed to General Schuyler; to present my respectful Compliments & Mrs. Duane's to Mrs. Clinton; and to believe me to be, with the utmost Respect, Dear Sir your Excellency's most Obedient & very humble Servant

Jas. Duane.

His Excellency Governour Clinton.

[No. 2571.]

Petition from Phoebe Campbell.

To his Excellency George Clinton Esqr. Governor and Commander in Chief in and over the State of New York &c. &c. &c. May it please your Excellency, The Humble Petition of Phoeby Campble Sheweth, That your petitioner having the misfortune near three years ago of having my Husband taken prisoner and carried away to Canada where he still remains, and to add to my misfortune was driven from my plantation near Fort Edward by two Certain neighbours, named Isaac Doty and John Crighor, who were continually threatening your petitioner's life, Swearing to Scalp me & my Children if I continued to Stay there any longer, and while your petitioner came with her family to Saratoga to consult her friends, the said Isaac Doty & John Crighor, Seizd upon all her Corn, potatoes, & houshold furniture for there own use, but by the assistance of Capt. Chipman I have reconered my Corn which at present is all my Support for my Self & Seven young Children.

Your petitioner, therefore, most humbly begs your Excellency will be pleased to order Justice to be done against the said

offenders and restitution to be made, or to Send me and my family to my husband in Canada; as I am at present living upon the Charity of a few poor friends your speedy assistance as shall appear most proper to your excellency's wisdom, shall be gratefully & thankfully received and your commands immediately comply'd with by your Excellency's most distressed petitioner. And your petitioner as in duty bound Shall Ever pray.

[2572.]
*Return of the Five Continental Battalions Raised Under the Direction of New York.**

	Colonels	Lieut. Colonels	Major	Captains	Lieutenants	Ensigns	Surgeons	Surgeons Mates	Sergeants	Corporals	Drums & Fifes	Privates	Total
1st Regt. Col. Goose V. Schrick's	1	1	1	7	8	9	1	1	29	26	20	355	459
2d Regt. Col. Philip Cortlandt's	1	1	1	7	9	6	1	1	25	24	14	214	279
3d Regt. Col. Peter Gansevoort's	1	1	1	7	8	9	1	1	21	24	15	356	445
4th Regt. Lt. Col. Fredk. Wisenteds's	1	1	1	8	8	4	1	1	16	1	3	205	249
5th Regt. Col. Lewis Dulbois's	1	1	1	6	5	5	1	1	29	17	17	283	348
	4	4	4	35	38	33	5	4	120	51	69	1413	1780

* See Governor Clinton's message to the Legislature of date October first, 1779, page 301.

[No. 2573.]

Petition from the Inhabitants of Deer Park, Ulster County, for Protection.

May it please your Excellency, We the Inhabitants of Deer Park, and that part of New Shawngunk of, and belonging the Company, Sometime, and before, the Depredations committed in Minisinek (July 22d 1779) Commanded by Capt'n Benj'm Veal, Now by Lieut. David Currin Jun'r,

Beg leave to approach your Excellency with our Humble Petition as suppliants driven of necessity to pray your Indulgent aid, and Attention, to our Situation and Distress.

Sensible of your Excellency's knowledge, of our situation, we persume only to put in mind that we as Aborigenes of that part of the State, so often Invested by our Savage Enemies, have been from time to Times, from motives natural and humane to our families, obliged to remove from our habitations, to our manifest Injury in every Respect. That generally has been attended with Deassesses, Poverty, and almost Famine. Returned again on our Settlements, the hourly expos'd to the Ravages of the most Cruel foe; desirous of remaining thereon, and Defending the same to the last extremity that cool Reason can Dictate, Ever have been ready, and Early to the assistance of our Suffering Minisinek neighbours, Continues ready and ever willing (Tho the necessity be disagreeable) to assist and obey whatever calls, or Orders may come to us, that is in our Power, as willing, faithfull subjects, zealously attach'd to the Common Cause.

We, conceive ourselves as a Check to the enemy, when they make Inroads on any of our yet more Exterior neighbours, from our Vicinity to them, and to the more Interior from our watchfulness, and Asiduity, of all that Pass. And would at any Risk do our endeavours to be a Barrier, and Check on all occasions, and opportunities. If permitted so to do, by remaining whole. From our Location, And from our expos'd Situation, we have persumed to Lay this before your Excellency, Praying to be admitted and not Included, in the Enemy's General Grants, (Such as new Grants, Losses, and other Incidents,) we are considerably Reduct, more taken from us, with other Weaken, or Discharge, or being sent to the Ill, or perishing, or being left in our helpless families some without a Father, Contrivance, as far as possible to hold us our places. Having no other Ability, Place, or opportunity to be heard, and by our Suffering Dependants. In Times your Excellency's Consideration, for the alleviation, Cas, Situation, and Necessity. And that you will Grant our Necessitous Request, we Lay ourselves before you, Begging to assure you That our ardour for perpetual good in our Power, for the good of the whole is our Desire, & your Excellency's great Goodness our Request, will Obhdge us in Duty to Pray for, every Good towards you.

Sign'd in behalf of the whole. Recommended by David Currin Jun'r Timothy Colburn

[No. 2574.]

Return of Camp Equipage.

Return of Camp Equipage Drawn and Received out of the Q. Master General's Store by the Detachment of Militia now on the Ground Commanded by Colo. Comdt Jacobus Swartwout.

REGIMENTS.	Officers Present												Rank & File.		Camp Equipage Recd.						
	Field.			Commiss'd.			Staff.						Non-Commiss'd.		Present and on furlough.	Total.	Horse Men's Tents.	Common Tents.	Camp Kettles.	Axes.	
	Colos.	Lt. Colos.	Majrs.	Capts.	Lieuts.	Ensigns.	Adjts.	Q. Masters.	Chaplain.	Surgeon.	Mate.	Q. M. Serjts.		Serjts.							Drum & fife.
												Colos.	Q. M. Serjts.								
Colo. Platt's	1	1	1	3	4	1	1	1				1	1	8	2	106	116	2	26	13	
Colo. Graham's	1	1	1	7	12	1	1	1				1	1	22	6	368	396	1	57	38	
Colo. Hathorn's	1	1	0	0	12	3	1	1				1	1	24	9	352	385	1	63	31	
Colo. Hopkin's	1	1	6	6	11	1	1	1	1	1		1	1	25	9	391	416	1	66	60	
Lieut. Colo. Waterman's	1	1	5	7	3	1	1					1		14	3	136	153	5	31	24	
Total	3	5	5	30	46	6	5	4	2	1	1	2	3	93	20	1,353	1,466	10	245	274	129

Hend'k Wyckoff, M. B.

Fishkill, Nov'r 1st, 1779.

[No. 2575.]

Governor Clinton Makes Acknowledgment of a Number of Official Letters.

Poukeepsie, Nov'r 1st 1779.

Sir, I have to acknowledge the Rec^t of your Excellency's Letters of the 1st,* 3d† & 20th‡ of Oct'r, with their respective Enclosures, and I am particularly requested by the Legislature of this State to express the grateful Sentiments they entertain of the Attention of Congress manifested by their act§ of the 30th of Sep't last direct'g the cont'l agent at Boston to sell to this State a certain quantity of Rum & Sugar for the use of its Inhabit's & at the same Time to inform Congress that the impoverished Condition of the State reduces the Legislature to the necessity of decline'g an acceptance of this offer.

It may not be improper to inform your Excellency that my Last official Letter to your Predecessor in office, was of the 26th of July last & that I have since been honored with the Rec^t of his several Letters of the 28th July, 16th & 24th of Aug't & 14th, 17th, 25th & 26th Sept'r with the diff't acts of Congress which they inclosed. I have the Honor to be &c.

Geo: Clinton.

His Ex^{cy} Saml. Huntington, Esqr. Presid't Congress.

*Not found.

†See page 301.

‡See page 324.

§*Resolved*, That Mr. J. Bradford, continental agent at Boston, be directed to sell and deliver out of the stores of these United States there, to the state of New-York, on or before the 1st day of January next, or to such person or persons as shall be authorized by them for the purpose, any quantity of sugar and rum not exceeding 500 hogsheads of the former, and 50 hogsheads of the latter, at the current wholesale price of those articles in cash; and that it be recommended to the legislature or the executive powers of the said state, to cause the said rum and sugar to be sold and distributed among the people in such manner, as that all may partake of the benefit intended them, and at no higher price than will raise the amount of the prime cost and charges.

[No. 2576.]

Captain Hallett Commissioned as a Dragoon and Asks to be Relieved of His Present Command.

To his Excellency Governor Clinton. May it please your Excellency: I have Excepted of an appointment in the 4th Regiment of Light Dragoons. Should be glad to be Reliev'd from this Command as soon as possible or have orders to March the men to the Regt., as their is Nothing to be done hear with so few men; no officer can be of any service to the Country with so small a Number of men in this Quarter. I sum time ago took fourteen salors wich I delivered to General Howe, as it was most handy for me not knowing but that was the proper place to send them; if your Excellency should think proper will get a Receipt of Genl. Howe for them as prisoners taken by the State troops. I have the Honour to be your Excellencies most obt. Humble Serv't

J. Hallett.

Newbridge November 2nd 1779.

P. S. Should be glad to hear from your Excellency by the bearer.

[No. 2577.]

Major Hill Ordered to Report to Colonel Hay for Instructions.

Head Qrs. Fish Kill Nov. 3 1779.

Caps. Sub. Serjts. R. & file.

To Major Hill, With the detachment of 3 8 7 201

hereby put under your command you are to march to the Qr. Master General's Store, and take Instructions from Col. Hay concerning the service which you are to perform. Col. Hay will furnish you with Tents & Camp Furniture & you will draw provisions where you are to be employed.

When the Troops march from the present encampment you will be ordered to Join & arms provided for the men.

By His Excellency order.

W. Maleom.

Major Hill will take ^{Sejt. R. & file} 1 10 of armed men from his own Regiment as a Qr. Guard.

The party consists of

Graham's	2	4	6	132
Hopkins'	0	2	—	34
Waterman's	1	2	—	23
Hathorn's	—	—	1	12
	<hr/>			
	3	8	7	201

[No. 2578.]
Returns of Second Brigade.
 A Return of the second Brigade of Militia Commanded by Colo. Hathorn, Fishkill Nov'r 4d 1779.

REGIMENTS.	Officers Present													Rank & File					Total
	Field			Commissioned			Staff			Non Com'd		Present for Duty					Deserted		
	Colonel	Leut't Colo.	Major	Captain	Leutenant	Ensign	Chaplain	Adjutant	Qr. Master	Serjt. Major	Qr. Mr. Serjt.	Sergents	Drum & Fife	On Command	On Furlough	Sick			
Colo. Rensselaer	1	2	5	10	5	1	1	1	1	1	1	24	4	159	15	10	12	10	197
Lt. Colo. Hathorn	1	2	7	13	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	25	4	332	15	10	12	10	456
Total	3	4	12	23	7	1	2	2	2	2	2	49	8	491	35	20	24	20	653
Colo. Hathorn Commanding the Brigade Col. Rensselaer on Command at Albany.	1																		

Colonel Rensselaer absent by Order of his Excellency the Governour.
 Capt'n Hawley of Colo. Warnerman's Detachment, absent by Leave.

Lewis R. Morris, M. B.

[No. 2579.]

Captain Wilson Ordered on Provost Marshal's Duty.

Head Quarters Fish Kill Nov. 4 1779.

To Capt. Wilson.

Capts. Sub. Serjts. R. & file

Sir; With the party of 1 2 2 30 you are to march as far North as to include Colonel Livingston's Regiment, & use every means in your power to apprehend all the men who were drafted from that or any of the intermediate Regiments for the present service and have not Joined. You will also endeavor to apprehend Deserters from this Camp. from any of the Regiments on your Route, but without interfering with the first part of these orders which you are to consider as the principal object. All Militia Officers are hereby expressly orderd to aid & assist you in performing this Service as they will answer the Contrary at their Peril. Given

[No. 2580.]

Returns of First Brigade.

Return of a Detachment of Colo. Commandant Jacobus Swartwout's Brigade of Militia of Dutchess County now in Service Commanded by Colo. Commandant Swartwout.

REGIMENTS	Officers Present										Rank & File														
	Field			Commiss'd				Staff			Non-Commiss'd		Rank & File												
	Colos.	Lieut. Colos.	Majors	Capts.	Lieutants.	Positens	Adjts.	Chaplain	Serjt. Major	Q. M. Serjt.	Surgeon	Mate	Drum Major	File Major	Serjts.	Drum & Files.	present fit for Duty	On Command	On furlough	Sick present	Sick absent	Total	Deserted	Not Joined	
Colo. Morris Graham's	1	1		4	8		1	1	1	1	1		1			16	4	184	157	17	9		387	4	137
Colo. Roswell Hopkins'	1	1	1	6	11		1	1	1	1	1	1				27	5	305	74	17	15		443	8	85
Total	2	2	1	10	19		2	1	1	2	1	1	1			43	9	489	231	34	24		830	12	222

1 Major Andrew Hill Commanding the Detachment Cutting wood.

Caps.	Lieutants.	Q. M.	Serjt. Major	Serjts.	R & file
1	5			7	172
				1	10
2	2		1	3	39
				1	19
1	1	1		2	
4	9	1	1	14	231

on Command Cutting wood.
 on Command as a Guard to the above party.
 on Command to apprehend Delinquents.
 on Command attending the Continental Ferry.
 On furlough
 Not-joined
 Absent with Leave

Fishkill, Nov'r 5th 1779.

Hend'k Wyckoff, M. B.

Jacob's Swartwout, Colo. Comdt.

[No. 2581.]

Colonel Beatty Makes a Plea for Captain Young.

Bethlehem 8th Nov'r 1779.

Dear Sir, In justice to my own feelings and the little Character I still Sustain with the British, I am to solicit your Excellency's indulgence in the permission of Captain Youngs to return to his Family.

However amiss Captain Crane may have behaved in the first instance, of claiming a promise when none was made him, and of omitting to apply to you in Young's behalf when his Exchange was effected, Still I conceive the necessity of our going thro' with the matter, as it will otherwise appear trifling and like Children's play in the Eyes of the Enemy.

Should your Excellency think it requisite, I will pass a Receipt to the State for him and make the proper return whenever in my Power with Comp'ts to Mrs. Clinton. I remain, D^r Sir, your
Obt. Hum. Serv't

Jno. Beatty, Com. Gen. Pris's.

His Excell'y Gov. Clinton.

[No. 2582.]

Hugh Fraser Requests Permission for His Wife and Family to be Sent to New York.

New York, 8th November 1779.

Sir, Being a British half pay Lieut. settled with my family in the County of Albany Since the year 1764, and in the beginning of these troubles I was pointed at as a Servant of the Crown, which caused me in June 1775 to apply to the Provincial Congress then setting at New York, for a protection, which was not granted to me, and in Consequence of my disagreeable Situation in 1776, I was under the necessity to come for protection to the King's

Army, leaving behind me a distressed family, whom in my absence must Suffer, last Spring my family with Some others were required to come to this place, but the Flag from hence was not Suffered to proceed beyond the Highlands, which has left me in Suspence till lately I returned from Rhode Island and was informed that no family would be permitted to come within the British lines till Some others that were required might come out. I therefore, made every inquiry in my power, and cannot learn that any family that has applyed has been refused; therefore, can with propriety again beg you will be pleased to allow my wife, four Children, an aged Father in his 75th year, with my Servants, to whom I owe Considerable money to depart from Albany, and come to this place in order to proceed to Great Britain with the first vessel that Sails. Should there be any objection for leave to my Servants, which I hope cannot be the case, as one of them is lame and almost 70 years of age, the other past 50, with a wife and two Children, I hereby promise to your Excellency, that they shall return with the first Flag, or that two prisoners Shall be exchanged for them. I hope when you consider the Situation of my unhappy family they may not be denied your act of benevolence, and that the innocent may not be punished for what might have been thought a crime in me. I flatter my Self Should you please to enquire of Volkart P. Dow and Ab'm Tynbrook, Esqrs., or any other Gentlemen from that County, to whom I may be known, that they will do me the justice to declare that my Conduct has always been uniform, and consistant. I beg you will be pleased to inform me as soon as convenient, wheither my request meets with your approbation, and that I may Soon See my family under my own protection, I have taken the liberty to enclose a letter for Mrs. Fraser, I beg your Excellency will order it to be

delivered to Mr. Dow of Albany. I have the honour to be, Your
 Excellency's Most obedient and most Humble Servant,

Hugh Fraser.

His Excellency, Governor Clinton.

[No. 2583.]

Difference in Price for Flour Between This State and Other States.

Newborough, Nov'r 8, 1779.

Dear Sir, I am fav'd with your letters of the 2d & 6th Inst. The Secretary of the State (General Scott) will furnish you with an authenticated copy of the Law which you request.

It is but Justice that either the State, or the particular persons who have furnished provisions for the army should have Creditte for difference of prices between this & other States. I am not, however, authorized to give any particular directions about the matter. But as it is an Interesting affair to the State, I request that you will be kind enough to furnish me with an Estimate of the Quantity of flour supplyd & the difference of price from the average price of the neighbouring states from whom you have purchased Quantitys of that article, that I may be enabled to judge of the medium & hereafter Insist upon Justice being done to the State in this particular.

[To Jeremiah Wadsworth.]

[G. C.]

[No. 2584.]

Governor Clinton to General Robert Howe.

Fishkill 9th Nov'r 1779.

Sir, I am favoured with your Letter of the 6th Instant.* Capt. Hunter will inform you of the Measures I have ordered in Consequence of it which I trust will be agreeable. It will (unavoid-

*Not found.

ably) be some Days before Matters can be accomplished for Reasons he will explain to you. This Delay I hope will not be attended with any bad Consequences. I am very respectfully
 Sir yours &c. [G. C.]
 Genl. Howe.

[No. 2585.]

Major Wynkoop Applies for a Furlough.

Fishkill Nov'r 9th 1779.

Sir, As I have been Sick these Six or Seven days with a fever and Still growing Weaker, and While a good opportunity offers this day or tomorrow for my going home, Though I beg to be Excus'd for making the Request, I would take it a great favor if you would approve of it. I remain, Sir, your Exceelences most obed't Serv't
 A. Wynkoop.

To his Excelency George Clinton.

[No. 2586.]

A Return of Arms Wanting to Complete Colonel Platt's Exempts.
 A Return of Arms and Accountments wanting and out of repair in Colonel Zephaniah Platt's Regiment of Associated Exempts.
 Camp Fishkills 9th November 1779.

COMPANIES	Firelocks	Bayonets	Bayonet Belts	Catouch Boxes	Firelocks want'g repair
Captain Bloom	1	15	15	1	1
Captain Lee	4	8	8	4	4
Captain Broadhead		13	13	7	5
Captain Kinne	2	10	10	1	2
Captain Janson	3	20	20	12	3
Total	10	66	66	25	15

Geo. Harsin, Adj't.

[No 2587.]

Return of Colonel Platt's Exempts.

A Report of the different detachments of Associated Exempts Encamped under the Command of the Hon'ble Zeph Platt Esqr. &c. &c. Camp Fishkill Nov'r 10th 1779.

Companies	Field officers Present		on Command				Absent		Com- mands officers Present		on Com- mand		Staff Present		Absent		Sergents		Rank & file												
	Col.	Lieut. Col.	Major	B. Major	Col.	Lieut. Col.	Major	B. Major	Col.	Lieut. Col.	Major	B. Major	Captns	Subalterns	Captns	Subalterns	Captns	Subalterns	Adjt	Q. M.	Present	On Duty	Drum & fife	Present fit for Duty	on Duty	on Command	on Furlough	Sick Present	Diserted	(Confined	Total
Bloom's																								15	13	3					6
Lee's																							2	16	11	1	1	2			35
Wronthead's																								19	11	2	1	2			39
Kenny's																								9	6	2	1	2			28
Johnson's																								16	7	3	1	1			21
Vau Santvoort																								10	5	1	1				32
	1	1	1																				2	115	6	5	6	2	2		148

Adjutant doing occasional duty as Major of Brigade.

Wm. Smith, M. Brigade.

[No. 2588.]

Returns of the First Brigade.

Return of a Detachment of Colo. Commandant Swartwout's Brigade of Militia of Dutchess County now in Service, Commanded by Colo. Commandant Jacobus Swartwout.

REGIMENTS	Officers Present										Rank and File															
	Field			Commissioned			Staff				Non-Com-miss'd		Present fit for Duty	On Command	On Furlough	Sick present	Sick Absent	Total	Deserted	Not Joined						
	Colos.	Lieut. Colos.	Majors	Capitans	Lieutenants	Ensigns	Adjutants	Q. Masters	Surgeons	Mate	Chaplain	Serje. Major									Q. M. Serje.	Drum Major	Fire Major	Serjeants	Drum & Fifes	
Colo. Graham's	1	1		3	7		1	1	1	1	1	1	1			19	4	203	156	4	11			374	7	136
Colo. Hopkins'	1	1		4	8		1	1	1	1	1	1			27	7	316	42	11	13			382			
Total	2	2		10	15		2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	46	11	519	198	15	21			536		

Maj'r Hill of Colo. Graham's Regt. on Com'd Commanding the Detach'd party sent to Cut wood.
 Maj'r Pulne absent with Leave—of Colo. Hopkins' Regt.

	Capt.	Subs.	Serje. Major	Serjts.	R. & File
Of Colo. Graham's Regt.	1	4		4	131
				1	11
				1	11
Of Colo. Hopkins' Regt.	1	1			
	2	2	1	1	42
		1			
		2			
		1			
Total	4	11	1	7	198

1 party sent to Cut wood as a Guard to the above party Sick Arrested After Detachments Party Sent to Cut wood After Detachments Absent with Leave Sick

Fishkill Nov'r 10th 1779.
 Hend'k Wyckoff, M. B.

N. B. The Non Commiss'd officers are not Included in the Total.

[No. 2589.]

Lewis Morris, Jr., Makes a Request in Behalf of Mrs. Johnson and Her Daughter.

West Point Nov'r 13th '79.

Sir, Mrs. Johnson and her Daughter are desirous of visiting their relations in New York, after the close of the campaign. I promised to make the request, and it is in your Excellency's breast to grant it. If it will be attended with the least impropriety, I would not wish to be pressing upon the subject. I am, with great respect, your Excellency's hum'e Serv't

Lewis Morris, jun'r.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 2590.]

State Prisoners Delivered to the Governor.

Head Quarters 13th Nov'r 1779.

Sir, By direction of His Excellency, the Commander in Chief, I have sent under the care of Serjeant Brady, the following Prisoners vizt. Samuel Drinkwater, Henry Coleg, Edward Ryer, William Rogers and George Oglevie, who were lately taken with a Mr. Baremore, and whom the General considers as State Prisoners for your disposal.

I will be much oblig'd if you will Order a Rec't to be given to the Serjeant of the Party, for the men he delivers, and am, with the greatest Respect, Your Excellency's most obt. Hum. Serv't

Ab'm Skinner, D. Com'y Genl. of Pris's.

His Exc'y Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 2591.]

Return of the *First Brigade—Militia in Actual Service.*
 Return of a Detachment of the Brigade of Militia in Dutchess County now in Service Commanded by Colo.
 Comdt. Jac's Swartwout.

REGIMENTS	Officers Present										Rank and File														
	Field		Commissioned			Staff					Non-Commiss'd		Rank and File												
	(Colos.	Lieut. Colos.	Major	Capt.	Lieut.	Ensign	Adjts.	Surgeon	Matr.	Chaplain	Serjt. Majr	Drum Majr	Effe Majr	Serjeants	Drums & Fifes	Present fit for Duty	On Command	On Furlough	Sick Present	Sick Absent	Total	Deserted	Not joined		
Colo. Morris Graham	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	19	4	203	156	4	11			397	7	127	
Colo. Roswell Hopkhus	1	1	1	1	11									25	6	309	63	8	18			429	8	99	
Total	1	2	1	10	18									41	10	512	219	12	29			826	15	226	
Colo. Hopkhus absent with Leave	1																								
1 Capt. of Colo. Graham's Regt. on Com'd with the above party			1																						
2 Capt. of Colo. Graham's Regt. on Com'd after Delinquents				2																					
1 Capt. of Colo. Graham's Regt. under arrest				1																					
4 Lieuts. Do Do on Command with the party Cutting wood				4																					
2 Lieuts. of Colo. Hopkhus Regt. on Com'm'd with the above party				2																					
1 Lieut. of Colo. Graham's Regt. sick present				1																					
1 Lieut. of Colo. Hopkhus' Regt. absent with leave				1																					
1 Serjt. of Colo. Hopkhus' Regt. on Command after Delinquents																									
1 Serjt. of Colo. Hopkhus' Regt. on Command after Delinquents																									
6 Sergejs. of Colo. Graham's Regt. on Command with the party Cutting wood																									
1 Serjt. of Colo. Hopkhus' Regt. Commanding a guard to the above party																									
1 Serjt. of Colo. Hopkhus' Regt. on Command Cutting wood																									
10 Colo. Hopkhus' Regt. on Command as a guard to the above party																									
11 Colo. Hopkhus' Regt. on Command Cutting wood																									
35 Colo. Hopkhus' Regt. on Command a guard at the River, for the Count sy																									
6 Colo. Hopkhus' Regt. on Command after Delinquents																									
5 Do Do after Deserters																									
Total	2	2	2	14	26																				

Jacob's Swartwout, Col. Comdt.

Fishkill Nov'r 12th 1779.
 Hendrik Wyckoff, M. B.

[No. 2592.]

Return of Second Brigade.

A Return of the second Brigade of Militia Commanded by Colo. John Hathorn.

Fishkill, Nov'r 14th 1779.

REGIMENTS	Officers present											Rank & File							
	Field			Commiss'd			Staff			Non Com-missioned		present fit for Duty	On Command	On Furlough	Deserted	Sick	Total		
	Colonel	Lt. Colonel	Majors	Captains	Leutenant	Ensigns	Adjutant	Chaplain	Qr. Master	Serjt. Major	Qr. M. Serjt.							Serjants	Drum & Pife
Colo. Hathorn	1	1	1	7	12	3	1	1	1	1	1	59	2	339	11	8	4	14	376
Colo. Van Rensselaer	1	2	2	7	11	4	1	1	1	1	1	24	3	184	3	—	—	11	198
Total	2	3	3	14	23	7	2	1	2	2	2	53	5	523	14	8	4	25	574

N. B. Capt'n Minthorn absent by Leave, Major Wyncoop absent by Leave, Capt'n Hawley absent by Leave.

Lewis R. Morris, M. B.

John Hathorn, Col. Comdt.

[No. 2593.]

Return of Exempts in Actual Service

Camp Fish Kills Nov'r 14, 1779.

A Return of Coll. Zephaniah Platt's Regt. of Associated Exempts Now on the Ground.

COMPANIES	Coll.	Lieut.	Major	Capt.	1st Lieut.	2d Lieut.	Adjt.	Quarter master	Q. M. Sergt.	Sergt.	Private	Rank & file on duty	on Command	on Duty	unfit for duty	on furlough	Discharged	Total
	Capt. Isaac Bloom	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	24	4	1	4	3	1	
Capt. Thomas Lee				1	1	1				3	26	3	1	3	2			33
Capt. Roger Kinne				1	1	1				3	14	1	2	1	1			15
Capt. John Broadhead				1	1	1				2	19	1	2	1	1			23
Lieut. Hervey					1	1				2	22	4	1	1	1		1	28
Total	1	1	1	4	5	3	1	1	1	9	105	13	3	13	5	1	1	130

Sick 1 Serje.

Rufus Herrick, Left. Colo.

[Nos. 2595-2602.]

A Number of Flag Permits Issued by the English General, Pattison.

L. S. By James Pattison, Esquire, Major-General of His Majesty's Forces, and Commandant of New-York, &c. &c. &c.

Permission is given to Capt. Thomas Colden with the Sloop Return, navigated by the two hands named in the margin, [Silas Allwood, Benjamin Darby] to pass with a Flag of Truce up Hudson's River as far, (if permitted) as New Windsor for the purpose of carrying Mrs. & Miss Colden with their Servant maid, and Mrs. McLaughery & Mrs. Logan and their Baggage mentioned in their several Passports; and such other Persons and Effects as have Passes to New Windsor. And in return to bring the Families and Effects of John Fluelling, Latting Carpenter, Benjamin Darby, Stephen Wiggins, Daniel McGuin, John Morrel, Moses Gregory, Daniel Tooker and George Harding, also Hannah and Susannah Mabbit and the widow Fluelling and her Daughter to this City.

Capt. Colden's Servant goes with him and returns in this Flag.

Given under my Hand and Seal, in the City of New-York, the Sixteenth Day of November 1779. Jas. Pattison.

No. 34.

By Command of the General, John L. C. Roome, Secy. A True Copy of the Original Flag of Truce Exmd. John L. C. Roome Secy. to the Command't.

To all whom it may concern.

Permission is given to Mrs. & Miss Colden to take with them in the Flag of Truce going up Hudson's River, Two Trunks of wearing apparel and some Family necessaries, one Barrel of Brown & one of Loaf Sugar, one quarter Cask of wine, one Case of Spirits, fifty pounds of Coffee, two Dozen of Chocolate, two Dozen of Tea, one Basket, or small Cask of Earthen ware &c. Two Tierces of Salt, a Box of window Glass, two side Saddles, and Cloath and Trimmings for a great Coat for Dr. John Bard of Poughkeepsie.

Given under my Hand and Seal, in the City of New-York, the Sixteenth Day of November 1779. Jas. Pattison.

No. 284. To all whom it may Concern.

New Windsor 28 Novem'r 1779. Rec'd from on board the Sloop under the care of Lieutenant Beldin the above articles, any of which shall be reshiped on the order of his Excellency Governor Clinton. Wm. Denning.

Permission is given to Mrs. Elizabeth Bancker to pass up Hudson's River in the Flag of Truce and take with her, her wearing apparel one Bed, Bedstead & Bedding, a Basket of Kitchen Furniture, one Loaf Sugar, fourteen pounds Brown Sugar, one & half pound of Tea six pounds Coffee, four & quarter yards muslin and Three pounds chocolate.

No. 269. To all whom it may Concern.

Permission is given to Mrs. Brown to send Mrs. Way by a Flag of Truce going up Hudson's River one & half yards Cloath for a Cloak, a Hat & Feather for a Child, two yards Cambriek, one pound Tea, one pair woman's Shoes & four yards Steiff.

No. 278. To all whom it may Concern.

Permission is given to David Mathews Esqr. to send by Flag of Truce going up Hudson's River for the use of Vincent Mathews Esqr. nine yards Callico, a Black Cloak, three yards muslin, six of Edging, four of Ribbon, a Silk Gown, three pounds Tea, and two Loaves Sugar.

No. 272. To all whom it may Concern.

Permission is given to John Titus to send by a Flag of Truce (going up Hudson's River) for the use of Daniel Birdsall, half piece of Linnen, half piece of Callico, four yards cambriek, eight of callamanco, one hundred needles, one Dozen Handkerchiefs, fifty six pounds Sugar, four of Tea, four of Chocolate, one of Pepper, one of alspice, one pack of Pins and one Dozen Knives & Forks.

No. 276. To all whom it may Concern.

Permission is given to Hugh Dobbins to pass up Hudson's River in the Flag of Truce going there and take with him his wearing apparel, seven Handkerchiefs, fifteen yards Linnen and two pounds Tea.

No. 267. To all whom it may Concern.

Permission is given to Mrs. McMennomy to pass up Hudson's River in the Flag of Truce under the charge of Capt. Colden; and take with her, her wearing apparel,

one piece of Callico, nine yards Linnen, six Handkerchiefs, two pounds Cotton, six pounds coffee, six of Tea, a quarter of a Hundred Sugar, two years Gauze and a small Hatt.

No. 274. To all whom it may Concern.

[No. 2603.]

Allan MacDonell and Hugh Fraser Iterate a Request for Their Families to Join Them in New York.

Sir, The Feelings of Husbands and of Parents we hope, will appologize for the trouble of this letter. If there is any impropriety in the Request, you will the more readily pardon it, when you consider the Strength, and Force of the impulse, and how much it is incumbent upon us to use every endeavor to procure the Freedom of our much distress'd families, which, we find, can only be effected by recommending them to your Sympathy and humanity. That the Persons of Women, and Children have in all civiliz'd Nations been protected and tenderly treated (as much as Circumstances could admit) We need not represent to a Person of your extensive knowledge & erudition; it will be equally unnecessary to observe, that the British Army are averso to acts of unpoliteness and inhumanity; the Ladies, who does us the honor of being the Bearers of this letter, are proofs of this assertion, and we flatter ourselves, that the indulgence granted to them will excite compassion towards our beyond comparison distress'd Families.

We deplore, that the proceedings of Colo. Butler and the Indians under his command should be plac'd as a Bar to our most anxious wishes of meeting our unfortunate families; We are utter strangers, and totally unconnected with these proceedings; That Mrs. Campbell and one or two more women being carried off from Cherry Valley, we hope will not in any shape be imputed to or resented on our innocent Wives and Children, the actions of Savages are far from their hearts, they suffer and languish too much not to sympathize with similar misfortunes and unchristian Captivity happening to their Fellow Creatures of same sex and age.

We lament the horrors of War should affect helpless Women and Children: We invoke the justice of Heaven, and appeal to yours, Sir, that ours may not be cruelly involv'd in what they & we are perfectly innocent of;

We humbly hope, that the hard & unparrell'd condition of requiring a detention of our families for Mrs. Campbell &ca. will no longer be insisted on.

In fine, Sir, altho of opposite sentiments politically, yet we hope, that as Men, as Christians, and as Gentlemen we may have the honor to resemble you in wishing to relieve distress'd and helpless Women and Children: this humane this just and even magnanimous action is now in your power. We, therefore, most earnestly flatter ourselves, you will endeavour to put it in our power to acknowledge (as tender fond Husbands and Fathers) an obligation confer'd on us, and our unhappy Families, which will be ever gratefully avow'd by us, who have the honor to be, with every due and personal Respect, Sir, your Excellency's most Obedient, and we hope to have cause to add most oblig'd humble Servants

Allan MacDonell,
Hugh Fraser.

New York 16th Nov'r 1779.

P. S. please to observe that nothing detains us from retiring to Great Britain but the arrival of our Families.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 2604.]

Colonel Ward Directed to Detail a Muster Master for the Militia.

Head Qrs. Fish Kill [Nov. 7, 1779.]

Sir, His Excellency, the Governor, requests you to send a Deputy to muster the militia of this State now in Service, and as it is expected that they will Speedily be discharged, he requests that a muster master may be here to-morrow morning early.

To Col. Ward Muster Master General.

[No. 2605.]

Return of Exempts.

A Regimental Return of Coll. Zepheniah Platt's Regt. of Associated Exempts. Camp Fishkill, November 17, 1779.

CAPTAINS COMPANIES	Coll.	Lieut. Coll.	Major	Captains	Lieutenants	Adjutant	Quarter Mr.	Sergts.	Fife & Drum	R & file	on Command	Deserted	Total
Bloom	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2		18	13		35
Lee				1	2			1	2	15	18		39
Kinney				1	2			3		10	5		21
Broadhead				1	1			2		20	3		27
Jansen					2			2		11	16		31
Vansantvoort				1				1					2
	1	1	1	5	8	1	1	11	2	74	55		155

1 Brigade Major.

Rufus Herriek, Lt. Colo.

[No. 2606.]

Return of Second Brigade.

A Return of the second Brigade of Militia, now in service, under the Command of Colonel John Hathorn. Fishkill, Nov'r 17th 1779.

REGIMENTS	Officers present fit for Duty													Rank and File							Alterations since last													
	Field				Comms'd			Staff						Non Comsd		Present fit for Duty			Dead	Discharged	Deserted	Joined												
	Colonel	Leut't Colo.	Major	Captain	Lieut'ts	Ensigns	Adjutant	Qr. Master	Chapain	Surgeon	Surgeon Mate	Serj. Major	Qr. Serjant	Rife Major	Drum Major	Serjants	Drum & Rife Comsd	(On Command)				(On Furlough)	Sick	Total	Re-joined	Re-File								
Colo Hathorn	1	1	1	7	10	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	28	4	302	42	8	17	369													
Colo. Reusselaar	1	1	1	8	11	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	24	5	198	21		5	224													
Sick absent			1				2	1				2			52	9	500	63	8	22	593													
On Command with W. Cutters				1	1	1																												
On Furlough				1																														
On Ditto																																		
Do Do																																		
Total	2	3	4	17	24	8																												
																	W. Creek		45															
																	W. Cutters		18															
																			63															

Two Serjants at Wappengers Creek

Lewis R. Morris, M. D.

[Nos. 2607, 2608, 2609, 2612, 2614.]

General Pattison Issues a Number of Permits.

Permission is given to Mr. Hector St. John to send his Family by a Flag going up Hudson's River; One Bladder of Snuff and two Bushells of Salt.

No. 289.

Permission is given to the Family and Effects of Isaac Van Tassel to pass to New York from Philipsburgh.

No. 295.

Permission is given to Mr. James Peters to send by a Flag of Truce going up Hudson's River for the use of Mr. Wm. Treadwell Two pounds Tea, two Loaves Sugar, two yards muslin, four Silk Handkerchiefs, two yards mode, twelve of callico, two pair women's & two of children's Shoes, one piece of Linnen, a quarter pound thread, six Pocket Handkerchiefs, two Bushels Salt, two yards Cambrick, two of Lawn, one Woman's Hatt, six yards Ribbon & one Barret Oysters.

No. 302.

Permission is given to Lt. Colo. Turnbull to send one pound Tea by a Flag going up Hudson's River.

No.

Permission is given to the Family and Effects of Charles Theal to pass to New York from Dutchess County.

No. 319.

[No. 2610.]

Return of General Ten Broeck's Brigade.

Return of Militia of General Ten Broeck's Brigade with part of the Tryon County Militia now Stationed in the County of Tryon under the Immediate Command of Col. Fisher, 19th November, 1779.

REGIMENTS	Colonel	Lieut. Colonel	Majors	Captains	Lieutenants	Ensigns	Adjutant	Qr. Master	Q. Master Sergeant	Sergeants	Corporals	Drummers & fifers	Rank & File	Where Stationed and What Number							
														Fort Paris	Fort Plank	Fort Dayton	Remsnyder's Bush	Johnstown	Sacandaga Block House	Fort Herkimer	
Colonel Wemple's				1	3		1		1	4		2	56								
do do Exempts					1					1			10								
Col. Stephen J. Schayler's				1	1					2			16								
Colonel Clock's				1	1					2			31								
Col. Fisher's	1			1	3					4		2	31								
Do Do				1	2					4			43								
do do Exempts				1	3					3		2	18					42			
Col. Clyde's		1								2			24								
do do about										3			24								
Col. Van Bergen's				1						4			22								
Col. Van Schoonhoven			1		2					4		2	31								
Col. Bellinger about																					
Col. Henry Van Rensselaer's 9 Months Militia about																					
	1	1	1	7	15		1		1	28		8	100	102	96	35	70	18	82		
													385	544	99	102	96	35	70	60	82

Jerh Lansingh, Major Brigade.

[No. 2611.]

Return of Militia Stationed at Palmer Town, Fort Edward, &c.

Return of Militia of General Ten Broeck's Brigade together with part of the Militia of Charlotte County now Stationed at Palmer Town, Fort Edward, Skeensborough, Schohary and Cobus Kill, the 19th November 1779.

REGIMENTS	Where Stationed & what Number																			
	Colonel	Lieut. Colonel	Major	Captains	Lieutenants	Ensigns	Adjutant	Qr. Master	Serjants	Corporals	Drummers	Officers	Rank & File	Total	Schohary	Cobus Kill	Palmer Town	Fort Edward	Skeensborough	
Colonel Peter Vrooman	1			1	4	1	1	5			1	1	61	74	Upper Fort 56)					
Col. Killian Van Rensselaer				2	4	2		8			1	1	62	80	Middle Fort 66)					
Col. Philip P. Schuyler				2	2	2		5			1	1	32	44	Lower Fort 24)					
Col. Peter Yates				2	3	2	1	9			1	1	75	95						
Col. Webster's			1	1	4	1		5					47	59						
Col. Lewis Van Woert's				2	3	1		5					56	60						59
Col. John McCrea's				2	3	2		3					64	71			60			
Schaticoke, Saratoga & Cambridge Exempt Companies				2	1			3					21	27			71			
Colonel Henry Van Rensselaer's 9 Months Men				1	1			1					19	21						
Colonel Henry Van Rensselaer 9 Months Men about				1	1			1					70	70						
Total	1	1	1	13	24	11	2	36			3	2	507	601	146	73	131	122		129

Jer'h Lansingh, Major Brigade.

[No. 2613.]

Receipts for the Moneys on the Sale of Hake's Goods.

Monies arising from the Sales of Hake's Goods to be divided amongst the non Commissioned Officers and Privates of the following Regiments vizt.

	non commiss'd			
	Officers &			
	privates			
Van Schaick's	430	each £5. 17. 9 amounts to	£2531.	8. 6
Cortland's	253	Do	1489.	11. 2
Gansevoort's	416	Do	2449.	6. 3
Wiesenfels'	225	Do	1324.	15. 6
DuBois's	329	Do	1937.	2. 1
	<hr/>		<hr/>	
Total	1653	whole amount	£9732.	3. 6

Received this 6th November 1779 of his Excellency Gov'r Clinton, One thousand nine hundred & thirty seven Pounds two Shillings & 1d., being the Proportion of Money in full due to my Regiment on the Sale of Hake's Goods agreeable to the Act of the Legislature for that Purpose according to the above Estimate which I promise to pay to the Non Commissioned Officers & Privates accordingly. Witness my Hand.

Lewis Duboys, Colo.

Test. Robt. Benson.

To Van Schaick's regiment £2531, 8 shillings & six pence. Received for by Abr. Ten Eyck, Lt. & P. M. 1 N. York Regt.

To Van Cortland's Regiment £1489, 11 shillings and 2 pence. Received for by Robt. Provoost, Lt. P. Mast'r.

For Lieut. Colo. Wiesenfels Regt., £1324, 15 shillings and 6 pence. Received for by Israel Smith, Capt. & P. M., 4th N. Y. Regt.

Camp at Pompton 12th Nov'r 1779.

Sir, Please to Pay Capt. Israel Smith the proportion of the money due to the third N. York Regt. from the Sale of Sam'l Hake's Effects; his Receipt shall be sufficient for sir your Humb. ser.

Jer. V. Rensselaer, P. Mas. 3 N. Y. Regt.

To His Excellency Gov. Clinton.

For Colo. Gansevoort's Regt. £2449, 6 shillings and 3 pence. Received for by Israel Smith, Capt. & P. M. 4th N. Y. Regt.

[No. 2615.]

Dr. Lawrence Vouched for by William Worthington.

Saybrook Nov'r 22th 1779.

May it please your Excellency. This comes by Doct'r Lawrence a Refugée from Long Island; he hath Resided about 3 years at Southampton; he has been very Servicable in Procur- ing Intelligence from the enemy and that of Importance while he Lived there which has been Regularly Conveyed to his Ex- cellency Gov'r Trumbull or Some General Officer by me; he is Surely a fixed friend to the American Cause and Deserves favour; tis but last week he left the Island finding there was an Information Lodged against him and the talk of Troops Coming down he dare Stay no Longer; he fled to this place and naturally came to me as I command the guards in the

adjasant towns and had Intercourse as before mentioned. I Sent him to Gov'r Trumbull; he gave him the Permitt which he will Shew your Excellency; in a popular Government Like this, so good a man as his Excellency Gov'r Trumbull did not Chuse to mention Articles of Merchandize, but you will Readily see his Design by the permitt, as the Doct'r told him every Article he had on the Island which he Desird to bring off; he hath brought off some of his most Valuable Articles of household Furnature already, more is left behind; he brought a trunk of Common size principally filled with Merch'ts goods, many of which are Remnants, as he used formerly to Trade; some of the guards in this place have Challenged S'd Trunk of goods, as they say they are not Covered by the Permitt, I have Suffered the guards to take an Invoice of Said goods (as I am bound on a Long Journey). I could Earnestly wish so good a man as Doct'r Lawrence might find that favour with your Excellency which I beg Leave to say I think him Worthy of, and which will make the matter easily disided. I have always had the Greatest abhorance of the traffick by Commissioned boats and the abominable practice of plundering the Inhabitants on S'd Island, but have felt very Benevolent towards the friendly Inhabitants there; beg your Excellency to Excuse the freedom which Humanity obliges me to take. I am Well acquainted with Sundry Principal Gentelman of your state, tho I have not the Honour of one with your Excellency; tis Long Since I had the honour of Commanding a Regt. in Actual Service, and at present of militia at home. I am, With the Greatest Esteem and Regard your Excellency's Most Devoted and most Obedient Humble ser't

Wm. Worthington.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 2616.]

*Lieutenant Belding Notifies Captain Mitchell of the Arrival of His
Wife With a Flag.*

Pecks Kill Nov'r 23d 1779.

Sir, This may inform you that your wife is board of a flag. I left her Last Night at Tallaws Point in Company with Miss Ludlun, Miss Rachel Smith, Sister to Miss Ludlun, Miss Elisabeth Banker, Mathew Bithell and Hugh Dibbons. Gen. Washington will not allow any person to Come ashore, But such as have Gov'r Clinton primishon.

Maj'r Skidmore will deliver this; suppose you will know how to Conduct in the affair. In the mean time shall do all in my power to make Miss Mitchel Comfortable. I am, Sir, with respect your Most Obt Se't

S. Belding.

Capt. Mitchel.

 [No. 2617.]*

[No. 2618.]

Captain Youngs Obtains His Parole.

I, Israel Youngs, a Prisoner to the State of New York do hereby engage on my Parol of Honor to his Excellency Governor Clinton, that I will without Delay repair by the most direct Route to Colo. Beatty, Commissary General of Prisoners, at his Office at Major DuBois's in Orange County, or such other Place as the same shall be held at, and put myself under his Direction; and that I will not do, or say, any Thing prejudicial to the Interest of the United States of America. Witness my Hand this 24th Nov'r 1779 at Poughkeepsie.

Israel Youngs.

Witness. Robt. Benson.

 [No. 2619.]

Dr. Treat Desires to Transport Two Mischievous Tory Women.

Sir, Your Excellency will please to indulge me, while I petition for two tory women, who are desirous of going into New

York to Join their Husbands; their Names are Juda Holliday & Sarah Phillips, both in this City now; they are married to Brittish Soldiers, disaffected to the cause and have a Disposition to do as much mischief as they can, tho' this is not much.

I do not ask your Excellency this Favour, out of any Regard I have for them or their Principles, but to get clear of their Importunity, and rid the State of two inimical women; they only ask, that your Excellency would grant them a Permitt. to pass our Lines, after this, they will shift for themselves. I Submitt the matter with great Deference to your Excellency's Determination and am your Excellency most Obedient humble Serv.

M. Treat.

Albany 26th Nov'r 1779.

His Excellency Govenor Clinton.

[No. 2620.]

John Morin Scott Requests Courtesies for Mr. Callow's Daughter and Her Children.

Fish Kill, November 26th 1779.

Sir, Mr. Callow, an Inhabitant of this County, has applied to Me in behalf of his Daughter, who is extreamly desirous to go with her two Children to her Husband at New York. As it can be of no advantage to the State to detain the wives and Children of those who have joined the Enemy, I have encouraged him to hope for your Excellency's permission in favor of his Daughter & Grandchildren. The Method he proposes for conveying them down is by Land. And he would wish to go with them in person as far down as he may be permitted to go, under such assurances as you may think proper to take from

him. If, Sir, you see no Objections to granting your permission, you will oblige me in granting it. I am, Sir, with great respect
Your Excellency's most obedient Servant

Jno. Morin Scott.

His Excellency the Governor.

[No. 2621.]

A Petition Favoring Samuel Hake.

Sir, Permit me the indulgence of sending you the Inclosed Certificate, which I hope your Ex'y will be pleas'd to take into Consideration, & my distress situation; I know a connection which ought in justice to serve me has endeavor'd to injure me in your Ex'y good Opinion. And one of the greatest pleasures my being here, is, I have the pleasure of seeing my Children. I have the honor to be, your Ex'ys most Obt. & very Humbl. Ser't

Saml. Hake.

Red Hook 28th Nov. 1779.

His Ex'y Geo. Clinton Esqr.

To His Ex'y Geo. Clinton Esqr. Gov'r & Commander in Chief &c. &c. &c.

We the Subscribers, Do hereby Certify that Mr. Samuel Hake late Merchant of New York, since his arrival here, being put on his Parole, has, from the general tenor of his behaviour conducted himself in every respect as a Gentleman, & very friendly to the United States. We conceive he may with propriety be permitted to have his Parole taken off, or at least, to have the liberty of going to any part of this State, without the Enemy's Lines. We wish he may continue with us; or if more agreeable to him, to be at his own Choice to fix on any particular place that is most convenient to him, & his Children.

John Clum Capt'n, Zach. Hoffman Jur., Martin Hoffman, John Friderick Ries Min'r, Daniel Wilson Commissary, James Wilson Sen'r, John Wilson Lieut., Jacob Schermerhorn, Cornelius Schermerhorn, Cornelius Elmendorph Lieut., Stephen Winans, Seymour Winans, Martin Vosburgh, Geo. Harsin, John Sickels, Evert Vosburg, Samuel

— Surgion, Levi Jones, John Gilbert, Martin Millham, Henry Whiteman, Philip Jacobs, Conrad Lescher Lieut., Heinrich —, Philip —, Nicholas Bonesteal, Carel
his
Ner (?), William Leonard Cap'n, Philip X Bouansteal, Wilhelmus —, Jacob Maul,
mark

Garardus Hardenbrook Lieut., Gotlob Martin, Oliver Mildeburger, Henrich Martin, Ebenezer Addams, Cornelus Hosderhaud, Friderick Cremer, Simon P. Cole, Peter Mians,
his

Matthias Smith, Bhaleb Stast, Nicholas Heermance, William W Woldorf, John Heer-
mark

mans Lieut., Christoffel Waldorf, Hendrick Benner, Hendrick Benner Juner, John Bender, Jacob Moul Juner, Benjamin Van Steenbergh Jr., John Van Keuren, Cornelius Van Keuren, Daniel Wibner, Wilhelmus Smith, Zacharias Smith, Lodwik Elsever, Cornelius Miller, George Tater, John V. Steenbergh Cap'n, John Teater, John F. Shaver, Fritrich Pister, John Fulton, Gerret Holsabbel, Henrich Titter, Abraham Teetter, John Yost Steel, Reyer Heermans Left., George Sharp, Peter Heermans, Andries Heermans, Gosc Heermans, Samuel Elmndorph, Jacob Elmendorph, Hugh S. McClelan.

Rhinebeck Precinct Nov'r 1779.

[No. 2622.]

Hugh Dobbin Attempts to Establish a Character for Himself.

Honoured S'r, I am here in great distres. I was a freeholder in the County of Orange for the space of forty years before I Left this Contrie, which was Just at the begining of these unhappy troubles; the Cause of my going home was my father & three brothers, which I Left att home when I Came to this Contrie; all died; the Last of them died abot a year & half before I Left this Contrie; I was sent for to go home to enjoy a property which belonged to me. I was obliged to enter a suite in the Law which detained me upwards of four years before I Could make an end of it; as soon as I possibly Could I Came from Irland for my wife & family, where I arived att New York; I would have had no Deficuly in getting a pass, having a Letter to Lord Rodons [Rawdon] from his mother to him; he readily gave me a note to the Comadant to Lett me hav a permitt, but David Mathis put a stop to my expectations, by representing me as one of the most dangerous men that Could be admitted to go; that he knew me very well; that I was a great rebel; that I was sent home by the Congress to make friends in Ireland for the Congress & endeavour to raise a rebellion in Ireland; that I had Letters to the Congress; that I had Letters to the rebell officer; that Judge Jackson was a ringleader of the rebellion; that I was a near reletion of Jackson's & he knew Jackson would Creditt whatever I told him. D'r s'r, I was well acquainted with your honoured father, & your brother James, & a Litle with yourself; he also aded that I had two sons in the rebel army. I hope, s'r, you will Consider my situation being detained here nine weeks att great Expences from s'r your honour humble servant

Hugh Dobbin.

To the honourable George Clinton,

pray s'r Excuse my writing being much hurried s'r your

[Nos. 2623, 2624.]

Lieutenant Belding Unable to Obey Governour Clinton's Orders Without Breaking Those He Received from General Heath.

New Windsor Novmr. 26th 1779.

Sir, Inclosed I send you Maj'r Gen. Heath's orders* to me respecting a flag of Truce from New York. His Excellency Gen. Washington gave Gen. Heath his Direction. I have Complied with the orders so far as to receive the pasagers and effects. Capt. Uriah Mitchel produced your Excellency orders for his wife, Capt. Ludlum wife, and her sister Miss Rachel Smith with their effects to be deliverd. I waited on his Excellency Gen. Washington and produced the passports and when he see them,

*Peekskill November 24, 1779.

Dear Sir, You will please to receive from on board the flag lately from New York such persons & effects as may be delivered you & in one of our vessels convey them to his Execllency Governour Clinton with there pasports from New York.

by comm'd of M. Gen. Heath. Th. Cartwright Aid de Camp.

Mr. Belding. a Copy S. Belding.

gave the Direction for the orders I receivd. I think it is not in my power to Comply with your orders, unless I brake those from Genl. Heath. The weather not permitting my Coming up the River this Day is the occasion of my Troubling you with this. Mrs. Mitchel is willing to Comply with the orders from Gen. Heath Considering the Number of passports* and Effects set out of New York. Shall bring them on to you unless I receive new orders. Sir, have sent you all the passports and a Copy of the Flagg. Shall wait your further orders. I am, Sir, with your Excellency's Most Obed't Servant

Sim'n Belding, Lieut.

Govenor Clinton.

[No. 2625.]

*Governor Clinton Gives Further Instructions to Lieutenant Belding
in Regard to Flag Privileges.*

Sir, This acknowledges the Receipt of your Letter of yesterday covering a Copy of the Flag Permits &c. which I now return you.

*State of New York. Permission is hereby granted to Jane Flewelling, Widow of Morris Flewelling & her Daughter & the Children of John Flewelling, to wit, Elizabeth, Hannah, Anna Marg't Sarah and Thomas aged Eight years & John 4 years Lois Darby Wife of Benjamin Darby and her Daughters Elizabeth & Mary & Son Daniel of the age of two years Densey Morrel Wife of John Morrel & her Daughter Rachel the Wife of Stephen Wiggins & her Daughters & the Wife of Daniel McGuin & her Children not being Males capable of bearing arms with their Bedding & Wearing Apparel & Provision sufficient for their Passage to go to the City of New York by the Return of the Flagg under the Direction of Capt. Colden or otherwise they obtaining a Pass for this Purpose from the Commanding Officer at West Point. Given at Pokeepsie this 27th Nov'r 1779.

State of New York ss. Permission is hereby granted to Elizabeth Harding (the wife of George Harding now with the Enemy) with her children, viz. Volentine, Jonathan, John, and Elizabeth Harding, (the eldest of which is not more than eight years) with their bedding and wearing apparel, and provision sufficient for their passage, to go to the city of New York by the return of the flagg under the direction of Capt. Colden, or otherwise, they obtaining a pass for the purpose from the Commanding Officer at West Point.

Given at Poughkeepsie this 27th of Nov'r 1779.

Mary Carpenter Wife of Laban Carpenter & her son Joseph of 12 y's old & her Daughter Sarah; James Gregory Son of Moses 3 y's old; Daniel Tooker 9 years old; Elizabeth Polhemus & her Son of two y's old; the above with Bedding Wearing Apparel & Provision for Passage had a pass dated the 3d Dec'r 1779.

Mrs. McFarren her Daughter w'th their Effects consist'g of wear'g apparel Bedd'g & Honsh'd furniture & a negro Girl with Provisions for their Passage, pass dated 3d Dec'r 1779.

As Mrs. Logan, Mrs. McClaghry, Mrs. Sarah Mitchel, Rachael Smith & Child & Mrs. Judith Ludlow and her two Children & Mrs. Elizabeth Bancker had my previous Permission for the purpose, you will please to receive them, and permit them to land with articles mentioned in their respective Permits. Mrs. & Miss Colden are also to be received, together with the Family Necessaries but not the other articles mentioned in their Permit. Those articles, together with the articles mentioned in the other Permits and the other Persons (except Hugh Dobbins), mentioned in the Flagg, as they have been sent out without a previous application and my Permission obtained for the purpose are to be detained on board the Flag Vessel and returned with her to the City of New York.

It is my Opinion that Capt. Colden ought not to be suffered to proceed farther up the River.

You will permit Hugh Dobbins to land with his Effects and take his Parol to appear forthwith before the Commissioners for Conspiracies &c. at this Place.

You will please to mention to Capt. Colden, that whenever I shall be applied to in behalf of the Families of John Fluelling, and the other Persons mentioned in the Flagg, for Leave to go to the City of New York, I will take their application into Consideration and shall consider them as having Genl. Pattison's Permission to come in. I am &c.

G. C.

To Lent. Belding.

I dare venture to assure you that Genl. Heath will approve of your Complying with these Directions if you have any Doubts on the subject. I think the Flagg ought to be immediately ordered down below the Forts.

G. C.

[No. 2626.]

William Denning Presumes on the Governor's Friendship to Take an Official Liberty.

New Windsor, 28 Nov'r 1779.

Dr S^r. A few articles in a handbox directed to our mutual friend Doc^r Jones, I have prevailed upon Lieut. Beldin to leave with me, and I would bear him harmless as I knew your Excellency would not object. The articles of Mrs. Colden's and Mrs. McClaugheries (among which were a very few articles for Doc^r Jones & myself) I have prevailed on him to deliver, on condition of reconciling your Excellency, thereto. I remain with the Greatest Respect S^r your most Humble Serv.

Wm. Denning.

P. S. Mr. Belding desires me to mention that he thought the articles safer to be landed than left on board.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 2627.]

Articles from New York by Flag.

An Inventory of goods &c. brought up by a flagg.

1 Barrel of Salt, to Wm. Tredwell; 1 barrel of oysters, directed to Wm. Tredwell; 1 barr^l of goods headed up, directed to Charles Moore; 1 bundle of goods directed to Elizabeth Martin, Smith's Clove; 1 small do and a pipe box of goods directed to Mrs. De Groat or Sarah Bussing; 1 small box of goods directed to Daniel Birdsall at Peekskill; 1 small kegg of molasses, for Francis Currey; 1 do of do, directed to Charles Moore; 1 check'd bag with loaf Sugar &c. in the same, to Hanah Sackett; 1 Canvass bag of goods, directed to Wm. Ludlow; 1 small do of do, to William Ludlow; 1 ban box of Women's Caps, hats &c., to Wm. Ludlow; 1 small bundle of Cloaths, to Charles Moore; 1 pillow Case of goods, to Wm. Tredwell; 1 paper box Women's Caps, hats &c., to Verdine Elsworth, Goshen; 6 loafs of Sugar; 1 Tierce of goods, to Francis Curry; 1 bundle of Callico &c., do of tea, a silk gown to Colo Mathews; 1 small bundle, directed to Saml. Verplanck; 1 small do to Dennis Kennedy.

29th Novem'r 1779. Rec'd the goods contained in the above Inventory into my custody, which I engage to deliver to the order of the Governor or of the Legislature.

Pr., Rich'd Davis.

[No. 2628.]

*The Governour Mildly Rebukes William Denning for His Presumption
in the Flag Matter.*

Pokeepsie 29th Nov'r 1779.

Sir, I would willingly oblige you and Dr. Jones, but I have long since determined, and I find it absolutely necessary to persevere in my Determination, not to suffer any Persons or Articles to be received from on board a Flag unless my previous Permission was obtained that they should be sent out. You doubtless have perceived the Uneasiness and Clamour occasioned in consequence of the Introduction of Goods into the Country thro' Flaggs, and there is no other Mode of preventing it, than by a total Prohibition unless in particular Cases where I shall be previously applied to for Permission.

With respect to Mrs. Colden as I intimated that she might bring out a few Necessaries for the Use of her Family, I have no Objection, to her having the Articles specified in her Permit as "some Family Necessaries," but the others being from their Quantity evidently designed for the purpose of Traffick, I shall direct to be detained. These articles as you have passed your Receipt for them you will please to keep in your Possession til you receive further Direction.

Mrs. McClaghry had my Permission to bring out a few Necessaries for the Use of her Family and Lieut. Belding has my Orders to deliver to her the articles mentioned in her Permit.

[G. C.]

[To William Denning.]

[No. 2629.]

Vincent Mathews Asks for Privileges, Under a Flag.

May it Pleas your Excellency; Yisterday I Received a Letter from my Son David, by the Late flag that Cam from New York; it

is an open Letter in which he Informs me, that he has Sent me Three pounds of Tea & two Loves of Shuger and Some artikels of Cloathing for his Sister, some of which she Left at New York five years past, and is now in want of them all, which is Cum up in the fllag, of all which my Son James the Barror hereof, has a List, and the Letter I Recived from my Son; the Tea being what I Cheifly Live on, haveing No teeth Left to Chaw other ffood; & the Things that Eare Cume for my Daughter Eare for her owne youse. I Beg the favour of your Excellency to give Orders that they may be Delivered to my Son, who has a Coppy of the Same, as they Eare Entered in the permitt, in which your Excell'y will greatly Oblidge, S'r, yo'r old ffriend & Hum. Sar't

Vin't Mathews.

Matthewsfeild Orange County Nov'r the 29th 1779.

His Excellency George Clinton Esqr.

[No. 2630.]

More Rigid Restrictions Placed Upon Flags to Prevent Abuses.

Poughkeepsie Nov'r 29 1779.

Sir; I am very unhappy that the Persons & Effects which came from the Enemy in the late Flagg without my previous Permission were taken from on board the vessel and She permitted to return immediately again to New York, and I should esteem it a particular Favor if you would direct that in future no Persons or Effects should be received from a Flagg coming into this State, unless my previous Permission is produced that they should be sent out.

You must be fully sensible of the Clamour and Uneasiness both in the Country and the Army in consequence of the Introduction of Goods from the Enemy thro' Flaaggs, and nothing will pre-

vent it, but a total Prohibition except in special Cases where, upon a previous application it may be thought proper to grant Permission.

The affair of this Flagg embarrasses me exceedingly, and for want of the means of conveying the Goods to the City of New York again, I have been reduced to the Necessity of directing them to be landed and deposited with Persons in whom I can confide, til I have an Opportunity of determining how farther to dispose of them.

Mr. Sands, who was banished from the Enemy, has my Permission to bring out his Family and Effects in Exchange for the Family and Effects of Mr. Cummings, an Exile from this State, who has also my Permission to carry his Family & Effects to the City of New York.

These Persons may possibly not have their Permits with them. I must, therefore, request that they may be an Exception to the Rule and that you will give the necessary Orders for the purpose.

[G. C.]

[To Gen. Heath.]

[No. 2631.]

Francis Filkin Vouches for Martha Bethel.

I do hereby stipulate on my word and Honour in behalf of Martha Bethel to His Excellency Governor Clinton, that if the said Martha Bethel is permitted to land from on board the vessel where she now is, that she shall return to the City of New York by the first Flagg. Witness my hand this 29th Nov'r 1779.

Fra's Filkin.

[No. 2632.]

Copy of a Letter Signed in Cypher, Touching Existing British Ideas of the War Between England and America.

New York, 30th Nov'r, 1779.

Sir, From the best information I can get and I am in a pretty good Channel to receive the best—The British have not the least

Intention to abandon their Possessions at New York and its Dependencies. They have a very well grounded Expectation that the Majority of the Americans are for a Reconciliation with the Mother, upon the liberal and generous Terms offered in the King's Commissioners' Manifesto, that as America (by Great Britain's relinquishing therein the Principle of Taxation &c.) is now freed from Apprehensions of oppressions, the object of the Warr is done away, and, therefore, it is believed among them, that the obstinacy of those who have the Power at Present in their Hands by rejecting all Terms of Conciliation less than Independancy will produce unanimity in England, and must disunite America. There being no Object for the Americans so obvious as to get out of this ruinous Warr, upon a reunion of the Empire. They say those who have raised themselves from small Beginnings to offices of Power, trust and Profit will not relish such Doctrine. Those men have too rapidly run up to the Top of a pinnacle without, they say, considering how they should get down again. And they farther say that Time and Force must bring them to their original Standard. As their arbitrary and oppressive Conduct under the specious Pretence of promoting Liberty cannot be much longer endured by the considerate part of America, who can estimate the Blessings of this Life by their Reason, and not by the blind impulse of their Passions.*

*From West Point, October 20, 1779 Washington wrote to the Marquis de Lafayette:

* * * * *

We have been in hourly expectation, for the last 15 days, of seeing Count d'Estaing off Sandy-hook. We have not heard a syllable from Charles Town in So. Carolina since the 8th of September. The acct. then mentioned, that the Count intended to make his attack the next day. Under such circumstances, you may easily form an idea of our impatience and anxiety. We are making every preparation in our power for an extensive and perfect co-operation with the fleet, (if it comes;) while the enemy, whose expectation of it keeps pace with ours, are equally vigorous in preparing for defence. They are throwing up strong works at the Narrows, both on long Island and Staten Island. They are fortifying the point at Sandy-hook, (on which the light-Ho. stands,) and every other spot, which can contribute to the defence either

* * * * *

The Reflections in this Letter seem to be the General Ideas of the King's Friends; how far they agree with those of his Enemies, you, who have a part in their Measures, must be the best Judge.

Copy taken from the original by Alex'r McDougall.
(Copy of Copy)

[No. 2633.]

In Relation to Captain Close, Captured by the British.

State of Connecticut.

Greenwich Nov'br 30 1779.

Sir, Capt. Elnathan Close a worthy, faithfull Citizen of this town, Commanded a Whale Boat from this Place, and in attempting to take a vessel of the Enemies in the sound near Long Island, which was said to be loaded with warlike stores & goods, was unfortunately overpowered by numbers & taken, and is still a prisoner; for further particulars in the affair, I beg leave to Recommend Mr. Ebenez'r Mead, the bearer, who your Exelency may rely upon, who comes to indeavour an Exchange of s'd Close for Capt. Jervis Coles who was Captured by Daniel ——— and said Close. I am your Exelency's most obed't Humbl. Ser't

John Mead, Col. of the 9th Regt. of militia
in the State of Connecticut.

His Exel'cy Gov'r Clinton.

of the harbor or the City. Besides which, they have already sunk eight and have 12 more large ships to sink in the channel within the light-house; and Transports are gone to Rhode Island, with the view, it is said, to take off the garrison. In a word, if they are not horribly frightened, they certainly are in horrid confusion. They work incessantly, and will, it is to be feared, render the entrance into the harbor extremely difficult, if not impracticable, if the operations to the southward should delay the Count much if any longer.

General Sullivan has completed the entire destruction of the country of the Six Nations; driven all the Inhabitants, men, women, and children, out of it; and is at Easton on his return to join this army, with the Troops under his command. He has performed this service without losing 40 men, either by the enemy or by sickness. While the Six Nations were under this rod of correction, the Mingo and Muncy tribes, living on the Aligany, French Creek, and other waters of the Ohio above Fort Pitt, met with similar chastisem't from Colo Brodhead, who with 600 men advanced upon them at the same Inst't and laid waste their Country. These unexpected and severe strokes has disconcerted, humbled, and distressed the Indians exceedingly; and will, I am persuaded, be productive of great good; as they are undeniable proofs to them, that Great Britain cannot protect them, and that it is in our power to chastise them, whenever their hostile conduct deserves it.

The embarkation, mentioned in my letter of the 30th of Sept'r, did actually take place, and consisted of near 6,000 men, (the flower of the British army,) under the command of Lord Cornwallis, who with these Troops sailed the 25th of that month; and two days afterwards returned, having received some Intelligence of the Count d'Estaing being on the coast of Georgia, whither, it is said, this armament was destined. They are relanded and now at N. York. The first detachment from the place, supposed to have sailed for Halifax, but in reality designed for Canada, (consisting, as I mentioned to you in my last, of the 44th complicated British, and two Hessian regiments,) met with a storm at Sea, which dispersed the transports, two of which, containing near 400 Hessians, fell into our hands, and are now in Phila.; two others returned to New York dismasted. Of the others, no acct. is yet obtained.

* * * * *

[No. 2634.]

DISASTROUS DEPRECIATION OF CURRENCY.

Chancellor Livingston Suggests a Plan Regarding the Disposal of Our Western Lands by Which the State Will Secure Niagara and the Navigation of Lake Ontario.

Philadelphia 30th Nov'r 1779.

Dear Sir, I did myself the honor to write to you last week, but missing the post you will receive that letter by this conveyance, since which nothing material has hapned here, except that I find a violent inclination in most of the States to appropriate all the western Lands to the use of the United States, & in proportion, as they feel the weight of taxes, that inclination will increase, till I fear it will at last overpower us, unless we contrive to make a sacrifice of part to secure the remainder. This I think we may do to advantage now, while they treat our title with some respect. I would, therefore, submit it to your Excellency whether it would not be prudent for our Legislature to empower us to agree to make a north line, extended from the northwest corner of Pensilvania to the lake Ontario our western boundary, & from thence along the northwest shore of lake Ontario & the river St. Lawrence to the bounds of Canada, & from thence along those boundaries to the State of New Hampshire. This will secure Niagara to us, and the navigation of Lake Ontario. It will put our claim out of dispute, enable Congress & us to apply our Lands to counter secure our money. In every view this matter appears important to me. I wish our Legislature may see it in the same light. We have already had one attack which we very fortunately warded, tho Virginia is unrepresented. The attempt convinces me of the risk we run by being too insatiable in our demands.

We have not a word of foreign news except vague reports from the West Indies of a battle in the Channel, but nothing

that can be depended upon. You may believe that we are very impatient for the Issue of so important a conflict.

I am sorry to tell you that money has fallen below any thing that you can suppose. I need give you no other proof of it than by telling you that I this day paid £537 this money for a plain suit of cloaths, £21 for plain buttons to a servant's coat & putting them on, & 26 dollars for sawing a cord of wood; grain & country produce have even risen beyond foreign articles. But still I do not despair of retrieving it if my plan sh'd be adopted & be well seconded by the Legislatures. I shall do myself the honor to transmit it to you when it is properly digested. I am, Sir, with great respect y'r Excellency's most obt. Hum. Serv't

Robt. R. Livingston.

His Excellency George Clinton Esqr.

[No. 2635.]

Captain Price's Muster-Roll and Exemptions Given by General Ten Broeck.

A Muster Roll of Captain John Price's Company, Colo. Robt. Van Rensseler's Regt., of Militia in the service of the United States for the months of Octob'r & Nov'r 1779.

Names	Rank	Names of men exempted by Brigadeer Genl. Tenbrook.
John Price,	Captain	John Bogart,
Garret Grooseboek,	1st Lieutenant	Fraus Hansen,
John Scot,	2nd Lieutenant	Wm. Van Woe,
Garret Vanschaick,	Ensign	Rinefr Van Hoesen.
William Corlett,	Sergent	John Pruyn,
Jacobus Funda,	Do	John E. Pruyn,
Peter Dox,	Do	Antony B. Pradt,
Isaac Friar,	Corporal	Wm. Shepherd,
Danl. Huston, Sen.,	Rank & File	John Van Biechuyssen,
Danl. Huston, Jun.,	Do	Barrent Vostburgh,
Andrew Baker,	Do	Jacob's Van Sante,
Garret Wandel,	Do	Garret F. Visscher,
Bastlan Vlsgar,	Do	Joseph Taylor,
John Brower,	Do	William Carr,
Jacob Hilton,	Do	Gregory Grant,
Benjamin Curbret,	Do	Richard Troun,
Phillip Young,	Do	John Wendel,
John McGurgy,	Do	Isaac Tenax,
Jacob Henry,	Do	Benjamin Ezberts,
John Fruh,	Do	William Hyer,
Barrent Ten Eyck,	Do	David Funda,
Barrent Roseboom,	Do	Jonathan Hilton,
		Robert Sator,
		Robert Hilton,

David Fonda, Clerk

Jonathan Hilton, Cooper

Robert Slator, Ditto

Robert Hilton, Ditto

The above persons being employed in my Department, their service at this Juncture is of such importance that I beg your Honour will be pleased to grant them Exemptions from Military Duty. I am, sir, your most Obed't

Jacob Cuyler, D. C. G. Purchases.

To the Hon'ble Genl. Ten Broeck.

The above named persons are hereby excused from present tour of Duty, and only so long as they shall Respectively be actually and Necessarily employed in the public service and no longer. Given at Albany the 16th Oct'r 1779.

Ab'm Ten Broeck, B. G'l.

20th Octo'r 1779.

Sir, Frans Harsin, William Van Wie, Rineir Van Hoesen, and John Pruyn, Carpenters under Mr. Braat are ordered with the Militia to join the main army. As they are much wanted here in the Public Works shall be obliged to you to grant them Permission to remain here for that Purpose. I am, Sir, your hum. Serv't
Mor'n Lewis.

The within named Persons for the Reasons within mentioned are Excused from the Tour of Duty they are ordered upon Provided they Continue so long actually Employed in the Service of the Public.

20th Oct'r 1779.

Ab'm Ten Broeck B. G'l.

21st Oct'r 1779.

Sir, The Bearer William Hyer is orderd with the Militia to the Highlands and as he is the only good Sadler we have employed in public Service and consequently much wanted I am to request you will grant him Permission to remain here. I am Sir your hum'e Serv.
Mor'n Lewis.

Brig'r Ten Broeck.

For the Reasons within mentioned the within named William Hyer is Excused from going this Present Tour of Duty Provided he Continues in the within Public Service. Albany 21st Oct'r 1779.

A'bm Ten Broeck, B. G.

These are to Certify that the Bearer Richard Tillman is Employed as Superintendant in the Continental Shoe Factory at this Place, and on Acc't of the Present Demand for Carring on the Buissness Can not be spared from the Factory as the Public must of Consequence Suffer.
John Tillman, Jun'r, A. C. Hides N. Department.

Albany Octo'r 19th 1779.

The within named Richard Tillman for the Reasons within mentioned is Excused from going his Present Tour of Duty Provided he is actually & Constantly Employed in the Public Service within mentioned.

Albany 21st October 1779.

Ab'm Ten Broeck, B. G'l.

John F. Pruyn, Anthony B. Bradt, William Shepherd, John Van Benthuysen, Barent Vosburgh, Jacob's Van Sante, Gerret T. Visscher, Joseph Taylor, William Carr, Gregory Grant. The above persons being employed in my Department, the Publ. Service at this Juncture is of such Importance that I beg your honour will be pleased to grant them Exemptions from Military Duty. I am, Sir, your most hum: Servant P. V. Rensse laer, public Store Keeper.

To the Hon'ble Genl. Ten Broeck.

The above named persons are hereby excused from present Tour of Duty and only so long as they shall Respectively be actually and necessarily employed in the public Service and no longer. Given at Albany this 23d Octo'r 1779.

Ab'm Ten Broeck B. Genl.

These may Certify that Isaac Truax is Employed as Clerk in my Office and thro my Indisposition has the chief part of the Business committed to his care, for which reason I judge it necessary he should be Exempted from Militia duty at this Juncture.

Dirck Ten Broeck, C. L. O.

Albany 22 Oct'r 1779.

For the Reasons above mentioned I do Excuse Isaac Truax from his Present Tour of Duty.

Ab'm Ten Broeck B. Ge l.

Albany 22d Oct'r 1779.

Whom it Concerns.

21st Octo'r 1779.

Sir, Mr. John Wendell is ordered down with the Militia to West Point. As he is already in public Employ as Keeper of the Stables I conceive an Impropriety in his being ordered down. Request you will give the necessary Instructions to his Capt. on that Head. I am, Sir, your very hum'le Serv't

Mor'n Lewis.

Brig'r Genl. Ten Broeck.

As Mr. John Wendell is Employed in the Service of the Public I do hereby Excuse him from the Present Tour of Duty on which he is ordered.

Ab'm Ten Broeck, B. Genl.

Albany 21st Oct'r 1779.

21st Oct'r 1779.

Sir, Mr. John Bogart is ordered down with the Militia to the High Lands as he has the Command of a Sloop in the public Service I shall be obliged to you to permit not to go on this Tour of Duty. I am, Sir, your hum. Serv.

Mor'n Lewis.

Br'r Genl. Ten Broeck.

As the within named Mr. John Bogart is already Employed in the Public Service I do hereby Excuse him from the Present Tour of militia Duty Provided he Continues so long in the Service in which he is now Employed.

Ab'm Ten Broeck, B. G.

Albany 21st October 1779.

I do hereby certify that Benjamin Egberts is now and has been better than two years Clerk of the General Hospital in Albany.

M. Treat, Phy'n Genl., N. D.

Albany Nov'r 1st 1779.

To Whom it may Concern.

[No. 2636.]

Instructions for Philip Pell, Esqr., Commissary of State Prisoners.

Sir, You will on Rec't of these Instructions take into your Charge the Prisoners of war belong'g to this state as well those on Parole as those in close Confinement, a List of whom as far as the same have come to my hands, is herewith delivered to you, together with such Parols as have been taken and memorandums & Papers respecting the Situation & Circumstances of the several Prisoners.

It is probable & I have been informed that there are other Prisoners taken by the militia in diff't parts of the State who have not been regularly reported to me. You will, therefore, make the necessary enquiry & make such Disposition of them by Confinem't or taking their Parols as to you may appear most proper.

The Enemy have endeavor'd to establish a Principle, that militia Officers taken at their own Houses & when not in actual Service shall be considered as Prisoners taken in actual Service & subject to be exchanged only for their Officers of equal Rank, and in order to introduce this practice they have in some instances proposed to give in exchange for their Militia Officers taken by us under those Circumstances Officers of ours, taken by them in actual Service. You will, therefore, carefully avoid any Thing in the Execution of your Office which may tend to establish this Principle equally Injurious to the Interests of the United States as it is unjust. In mak'g Exchanges, therefore, of our Citizens who may be captivated when not in actual service you will pay no other regard to their Rank than it may respect their Importance in Private Life as Citizens.

It may be necessary for you to endeavor to obtain a perfect Knowledge of the Citizens of this State who are now Prisoners with the Enemy; from the memorandums which you will find among the Papers now delivered & by making the proper Enquiries from such Prisoners as have been lately exchanged & from the Militia Officers of the lower parts of the State you will be most likely to obtain a com't List of them from John Pintard D. C.

Among the Papers delivered to you are the diff't Proposals which have been made for exchanges of Prisoners with the Enemy & the Objections thereto. In order to obviate these Objections & to accomplish so desirable a Purpose as the exchange of our good Subjects, you are authorized to agree to perfect the exchange of an equal number of the Citizens of this State who are out on Parole, for the like number, of our Prisoners, who have been permitted to go within the Enemy's Lines on Parole & have not returned. A List of their names & their respective Parols are also herewith delivered to you.

You will observe by a Paper from Com'y Loring, in answer to one from Major Lush, that he objects to an Exchange of Van Schaack, Matthews & others, who adhere to the King of Great Britain, on Pretence that they have not applied to be exchanged. These persons were all in actual Confinem't last Summer & Mr. Van Schaack was permitted to go into New York for the Purpose of obtain'g their Exchange; on his Return he pretended that he had not influence with the Enemy even to effect his own Exchange, but that he had procured the enlargement of our Citizens who were in close confinement in the provost on Parole in consideration of which he & his fellow Prisoners have experienced the like Indulgence. But it appears from the Testimony of several of our respectable Citizens who have been since released as well as from the above Paper of Commiss'y Loring, that Mr. Van Schaack never applied for the Exchange of himself or any of his fellow Prisoners, nor that any of our Citizens were released from their close & cruel Confinement. You will, therefore, cause Mr. Van Schaack & all the other Prisoners in like Circumstances now on their parols in the County of Albany, to be confined in the Goal of the County of Orange and Fletcher Matthews, & John Bull now confined in the Goal of Orange County & Wm. Frame now on parole in Ulster County, to be removed & confined in the Goal of the County of Albany. And you will see to it that they, as well as all other Prisoners which you may have in Charge, receive as near as may be similar Treatm't in every Respect, with that shewn to our Citizens who are or may be Prisoners w'th the Enemy & from Experience it is found that every Indulgence on our Part has only tended to increase the cruelty on the Part of the Enemy.

Saml. Hake a Prisoner on Parole at Red Hook is to be removed to some other good neighborhood & the limits of his Parole contracted to Two miles Square.

Prisoners taken by the militia when in the immediate Service of the State are by the pres't regulations at the disposal of the State; but care must be taken that they be exchanged only for our militia taken in arms & it will be safest on these Occasions to confer with the Commiss'y Genl. of Prisoners, lest partial Exchanges of this kind might interfere with those made thro' his Department or afford Opportunities for Imposition on the part of the Enemy.

Zadock Wright, a major in Col. Peters's Corps, & Capt. Peter Ten Broeck & Lieut. Wm. Bowen of Butler's Rangers taken by the militia are now Prisoners under the Direction of the Commiss'rs of Conspiracies at Albany. These I would have you to report to Colo. Beatty Commiss'y Genl. of Prisoners with my Consent to their being exchanged, the first for Major Logan, the second for Capt. Baldwin (if he has not already been exchanged for Capt. Montgomerie or some other Person) who was taken to the northw'd in 1777, for Capt. Humphrey taken at Fort Montgomerie, & the last for Lieuts. Brewster or Hunter of the militia taken at Fort Montgomerie. By the Papers

delivered you, you will observe that there are several Prisoners out on Parole. If you should have Reason to believe that the close confining of any of them would tend to facilitate the Exchange of Prisoners, you are to do it without waiting my further orders.

The Exchange of Jno. Cummings for Peter Van Tassel is to be perfected agreeable to my Instructions given to you for that Purpose. And it may be proper to notify Commiss'y Loring (by Capt. Hunter who is to conduct this Business) of your appointm't & to authorize Capt. Hunter to request Permission to visit our Citizens who are Prisoners w'h the Enemy, to obtain a List of them & enquire into their Circumstances, that you may in some measure be enabled to relieve their wants & also to receive any proposals from the enemy respect'g their Exchange. I am &c.

[G. C.]

Nov'r 1779.

[No. 2637.]

Other Permits Requested.

[Nov. 1779.]

S'r, Please to get Promition of his Exclency Govenor Clinton for Agnes Commons & two Children, the famely of Patriek Commons, Sarah Frost & two Children the famely of Jacob Frost, they having obtaind Promition from the Commanding officer at New York to Com in with ther affects. I am, S'r, your Most Obed't

John Hyatt.

To Major Joseph Strang.

[No. 2638.]

Petition from Mary Bobbit and Lois Lester for Permission to Join Their Husbands on Long Island.

[Nov. 1779.]

May it Please your Exclency. We the Subscribers, Beg Leave to acquaint you, that we are Left by our husbands with Families of small children and almost without the Necessaries of Life; having Consumed the provisions that was Left us and without money to Purchase any against the Ensuing winter, without fire wood, and scant of Clothing, Beg your Exclency's Permission to go to Long Island and carry with us our families, with the Little Provisions and clothing we are possess of, where our Husbands my assist us in Supporting their helpless Children or Be witnesses of their Distress. Placing the gratest Confidence in your Exclencies generosity in giving us Permission as above we are with Every Sentement of Respect your Exclency's obedient & Humb. Servents

Mary Bobbit, Lois Lester.

His Exclency Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 2639.]

A Proposition That General Silliman Be Exchanged for the Tory Judge, Jones.

(Copy)

It is proposed and consented to by Captain Isaac Bonnel in behalf of himself and the other refugees (being the King's Militia Volunteers) That if William Peck, Darling Whelpley, and Solomon Ferris (said to be under sentence of death in Litchfield Goal) and Captain Elias Glover, also said to be in irons in the same Goal, are released and agreed to be exchanged, and permitted to return within the British Lines, Ephraim Palmer, Nathaniel Palmer, and Bethel Ferris (now prisoners in the sugar house) and Abraham Wright, Captain of a Whale-Boat, shall in like manner be released, exchanged, and permitted to return to Connecticut.

And it is further consented and agreed, that in case the above proposed exchange takes place, that then General Silliman shall be allowed to be exchanged, or go out

upon parole, for Judge Jones, and that the same allowance be given to General Silliman's son (being a Brigade Major) on condition that Mr. Willet, lately captured on Long-Island with Mr. Jones, and John Picket, a loyal refugee now in Hartford Goal, be allowed to be exchanged or come in upon parole, for the said Brigade Major, Silliman.

Isaac Bunnell.

New York Novem'r 25th 1779.

I do hereby certify that it is the request of the loyal Refugees concerned, that the Commandant would give orders for carrying the above proposed exchange into immediate execution.

Wm. Franklin, Governor of New Jersey.

The foregoing proposals have been shewn to me, and I fully approve of them, and wish they may be approved of by his Excellency Governor Trumbull.

G. Sellick Silliman.

Flat-Bush December 1st 1779.

Head Quarters 25th Novem'r 1779.

Sir, The Commander in Chief approves of the exchanges of Refugees which are proposed in the enclosed paper, and allows them to be carried into execution by the first flag of truce, or by a special one, if the Commandant chooses it. I have the Honor to be, Sir, your most Obedient and most Humble Servant.

John Andre, D. Adjt. General.

A True Copy Step. S. Adye, Aid de Camp,
Gov'r Franklin.

[No. 2640.]

The Governor Declines to Grant a Favor to Charles Moore and Assigns Reasons.

Peeks Kill, Dec. 1st 1779.

Sir, Mr. Belding has just now inform'd Mr. Birdsall and myself, that the things brought up lately by a flag, were lodged at Poughkeepsey, by your Excellencies direction, and that those who had any goods among them, must apply to your Excellency. By a letter handed me by General Huntington, I find my friends have sent me several necessaries, for my distressed family, directed to the care of the Gene'l. I shall here subjoin the paragraf of my brother's letter, as also a list of the things sent, that your Excellency may see, they are nearly for my family's use, and without which I fear we must suffer. I have been a long time, and still am, much indisposed in my health, or wou'd have waited upon your Excellency myself, but as I am unable to do it, Mr. Daniel Birdsall will act for me:

"Dear Brother, Mr. Colden having procured a flag, to convey his Lady to New Windsor, gives me an opportunity to send you a few articles for your Winter Store, and as I have had permission to direct the things to the care of Gene'l Hunsington, or in his absence to ye Commanding Officer at Pecks Kill, I doubt not ~~but~~ they will get safe to your hands. There are also several two bundles of half worn Cloathing, that may do to make up for the Children, and something from my Wife for your Son Charles, which she desires his acceptance of, its probable they will fit him without any alteration.

Your Excellency undoubtedly is not altogether a stranger to my situation; deprived of my farm which has been taken for the use of the publick, and myself thrown entirely out of all business for almost two years past, without the least compensation made me, tho I have repeatedly made application, to have my grevancies redres'd: I, therefore, hope your Excellency will consider my case, and permitt me to have the things, my friends from a knowledge they have of my necessatus situation, have sent me, in some measure to aleviate my misfortunes. I am your Excellencies Most Humble Servent

Charles Moore.

His Excellency George Clinton Esq. &ca.

Pokeepsie Dec'r 3d 1779.

Sir, I am directed by his Excellency the Gov'r to acknowledge the Rec't of your Letter & to inform you that in Order to put a Stop to the abuses of flags by introducing an undue trafic w'th the Enemy, he has ordered the several Parcels of Goods sent out by the last Flag without his consent hav'g been previously obtained, to be deposited in Mr. Davis's Store who has pass'd his Rec't for them, & as his Excell'cy is not yet come to a Determination in what manner to dispose of these Effects, he cannot order those directed to you to be deliv'd. He directs me further to inform you, that he wishes to relieve your Distresses in any way consistent with his Duty; altho' he cannot admit that the Distresses of your Situation & the Goods being for your own

immediate use, will justify such an intercourse with the Enemy, Because it is Evident that if every individual should be indulg'd (& one has as good Right as another) in supplying his Necessities in this way, a dangerous unlimited Trade with the Enemy will be immediately established. I am &c.

R. Benson.

Mr. Chas. Moore.

[No. 2641.]

ABUSES OF THE FLAG.

Washington Leaves the Determination of the Business to Governor Clinton.

Peekskill Dec'r 2d 1779.

Sir, I was the last evening honored with yours of the 29th ultimo pr. Mr. Belding. I am very sorry that your Excellency should be embarrass'd with the persons and Effects which lately came from New York in the Flag without your previous permission, but I assure you we were exceedingly so here. Upon the first arrival of the flag below Verplank's Point, I order'd her to a station near Tallers Point, from which the movements at Kings Ferry could not be observed (and this I have established as a standing rule for all flags coming up by water). Upon examination of the papers, it appear'd that part of the families and effects only had your permission to be sent out. My determination was to take out these, and retain the others on board the flag, but matters appear'd so intricate that it was impossible to make a proper discrimination of the Effects. Upon representing a State of facts to his Excellency, Colonel Tilghman wrote an answer as follows:

“There seems to be so much difficulty in ascertaining what is and what is not proper to be allowed as Baggage and Effects,

that we have come to a resolution to have the whole sent up to Governor Clinton and let him determine."

The whole was accordingly sent up, and the flag ordered back.

Since the foregoing, one Gabriel Briggs came up with a flag for his family, and the family of one Joshua Curry. Upon enquiry I found that neither of them had obtained your permission to go in. I, therefore, informed Mr. Briggs that the families could not depart until your permission was obtain'd, when every thing in my power should be done to forward them, but as it would take up five or Six days to have the matter settled (and being suspicious that he came up to make observations) I informed him that it was inexpedient for the flag to wait.

I am happy to find that your Excellency's opinion respecting articles being brought out from the Enemy so fully corresponds with my own. I have lately admonish'd the officers of the army here to avoid such practices, and have informed them that the first I find culpable shall be arrested & brought to trial. I pray you be assured that my sole aim respecting these matters is strictly to further and execute your intentions as far as I know them. The cases of Messrs. B. Sands and Cummings' familys shall be duly attended to; having wrote your Excellency the 30th ultimo partly on the same Subject, I will not add more than that with every sentiment of respect and esteem, I have the honor to be your Excellency's Most obed. Serv't

W. Heath

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 2642.]

PROMISES TO COOPERATE WITH HEATH.

Governor Clinton Writes of Beacons, Signals and the "Pernicious Practice" of Abusing Flag Privileges.

Pokeepsie 2d Dec'r 1779.

Sir, I am favoured with your Letter of the 30th Ultimo. As I have the fullest Confidence in your Exertions to promote the Common Interest & in your best Endeavours to promote the Peace & Welfare of this State in particular. I am peculiarly happy in your Appointment to the Command of this Department, & you may rest assured that Influenced by principles of personal Esteem & Friendship as well as by a Regard to the public Service, nothing shall be wanting on my Part to render your Situation agreeable & your Command Honorable.

If the Plan for Conventional Signals as agreed to last Summer has been fully carried into Execution, it will in my Opinion answer the Purpose of alarming the Country, & expedite the calling in of the Militia on a sudden Emergency as well as any other which can be fixed on. On this Side of the River a Beacon is erected on the Fish Kill Mountain & an Alarm Gun is fixt at this Place, from whence the Beacon is vissible. Another Gun was to have been placed about 16 Miles west of this, but for want of a Guard it has not been done. On the East Side of the River it was agreed that a Beacon was to have been erected on the high Point of Butter Hill, & an Alarm Gun placed on a Hill in Little Britain called Mullender's Hill; whether these have ever been effected I am not able to inform you as I was not charged with them. You will readily perceive, Sir, that as the Alarm is to commence from the Beacons, it will

be of the first Consequence to have attentive & regular Guards at those Places, as all will depend on them & indeed it would be adviseable to have a carefull Officer with a small party of Men at each of the Alarm Guns & this may be the Case without weakening the Posts, as these Parties will not be so remote but they may with ease be drawn in on the most sudden immergency. It is necessary that I shud be early informed with respect to the present Situation of the Beacons, & on both Sides of the River, & of the Alarm Gun on the West Side particularly, whether they are under the Charge of proper Guards that I may renew my Orders to the Militia on this Subject.

I had the Honor of addressing a Letter to you a few Days since in which I have fully expressed my Sentiments on the Subject of trafficking with the Enemy through the Medium of Flaggs, & I now begg leave to repeat that I wish how far this pernicious Practice may be prevented. It is not my Intention that any of the Familles or Persons who are permitted to go into New York shoud be allowed to take with them any greater Quantity of Provisson than may be sufficient for their Passage thither, & whenever they exceed this in Future, I begg you will order the Surpluss to be taken from them & put with the public Stores to be accounted for. I think in my last, I mentioned that I was about negotiating an Exchange of the Family of Mr. Sands of Long Island for that of Mr. John Cummings, who is gone into New York for the Purpose & is hourly expected up with a Flagg. These Familles may be perhaps reciprocally permitted to carry with them their Winter's Stores. Mr. Cummings brings some Cloathing for his Family.

With respect to Familles living between the Lines, it might be thought not only unreasonable but Cruel, considering the

peculiar Situation of that part of the Country to prohibit them from carrying down Proviision for their immediate Subsistance. I mean such Famillies as can produce indisputable Evidence of their attachm't to our Cause & who on the Approach of the Enemy last Summer fled from their Habitations & are now returned, but I am clearly of Oppinion that none other ought to be permitted to take down the least Article & the greatest Care ought to be taken to prevent Supplies of any kind going through this Channel to the Enemy.

I have only to add that I shall always be happy to hear from you & particularly obliged to you for the earliest intelligence which you so kindly promise to communicate, & to repeat my Assurances of every Aid which it shall be in my Power to afford you during your Command. I have the Honor to be, D'r Sir, &c.

[G. C.]

[To Gen. Heath.]

[No. 2643.]

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE VERMONT DISPUTE.

Importance of the Controversy to the Former Which Would Have Preferred to Defer the Matter Until the Restoration of Peace.

State of Massachusetts Bay. Council Chamber Dec'r 2d 1779.

Sir, I have had the honor of receiving two letters from the President of Congress in a late recess of the Gen. Assembly of this State dated the 3d of October & the 24 of Sep'r & enclosing certain acts of Congress* relative to a district of country called the New Hampshire Grants. The Assembly is now sitting & the said letters & papers have been laid before them. The settlement of the controversies which have arisen with

*See page 302.

regard to the district above mentioned is of very great importance to this State, as it is conceived their right to the soil & jurisdiction can be made abundantly manifest from ancient authentic writings & records. The general Assembly have been by no means inattentive to this Claim. They have ever been dissatisfied with a decision of the King of Great Britain in the year 1739 upon a controversy which had subsisted between the provinces of New Hampshire & the Massachusetts Bay, respecting the said claim; conceiving that decision to have been grounded upon misrepresentation & injustice, but it was not thought expedient or safe for them to move for a revision of this matter, while the British Administration evidently discovered a determination & did actually attempt to abridge the people of the Massachusetts, not only of their territorial rights & jurisdiction, but the most valuable liberties of British subjects; this was notoriously the case for many years before the breaking out of hostilities in 1775; and since that period the Assembly have been obliged to suspend all consideration of matters of this kind, by reason of the multiplicity of business which necessarily employed their attention in a time of war. Indeed, considering that litigations concerning the boundaries of particular States have a tendency to excite jealousies among them &, therefore, should if possible be avoided, especially at a juncture when perhaps it is more necessary than ever that harmony and good humour should be cultivated & preserved, the Assembly could have wished to have remained silent on a subject of such a nature until the establishment of peace. But being called upon by Congress though unexpectedly to them, they have resolved to proceed to the Business in the manner recommended to them, with as much dispatch as the hurry of

their affairs will admit of; being solicitous to take every step which may be necessary on their part for the promoting of justice among the parties in this controversy as well as the peace and welfare of the United States in General. I am &c.

Jer. Powell, President.

(Copy)

[No. 2644.]

Escape of All Prisoners from Gaol, Renders the Holding of Court Unnecessary.

Poughkeepsie, Dec'r 2d 1779.

Sir, A few Evenings ago Six of the Prisoners, including all those against whom was substantial Evidence capital Crimes, escaped from the Goal in this Place, in consequence of which I conceived, that it would [be] unnecessary to hold a Court in this County at this Time, and as I was unacquainted with the usual mode of countermanding the Precept, I have with the Opinion of Judge Platt & the Atty. Genl., directed the Sherif by Letter to withhold summoning his Jurors until your further Direction. If he receives no further Directions from you the Precept will of course die in his Hands. I am &c.

G. C.

The hon. Rich'd Morris, Esqr.

[No. 2645.]

TROOPS EIGHT DAYS WITHOUT BREAD.

General Heath Fears Mutiny—The Governor Charges the Famine to Drought. He Promises His Assistance to Improve the Situation.

Headquarters Peeks Kill Dec'r 3d 1779.

Sir, I was this morning honored with yours of yesterday. I beg your Excellency to accept my most hearty thanks for your

expressions of friendship, and assurances of assistance in case of need. I shall pay particular attention to every matter mentioned in your letter, shall make immediate enquiry respecting the present situation of the Bacons & acquaint you with the state of them.

I shall be fully satisfied with the person you may think proper to appoint to go to New York with the Flagg, and have wrote to the officer at Kings Ferry not to detain the vessel when she comes down. The Troops in this quarter are in a most distress'd condition on account of their want of Flour or Bread. Some of them have been Six or Eight days without. A universal uneasiness prevails, and most disagreeable consequences are to be feared unless the most speedy relief can be obtain'd. The reasons given by the commissaries are that the Scarcity is occasion'd by the want of water for the mills. Whether this be the real cause of the scarcity or not, I cannot say, but, if it be in your power to afford the army relief at this time, by any measure you may think expedient, it will not only greatly promote the public service, but exceedingly oblige me for I assure you I am much distress'd, and the Troops, unless Bread is soon obtain'd, will, I fear mutiny; at any rate the recruiting service will receive a most fatal wound. Excuse my troubling you on this head. With the most perfect regard, I have the honor to be your Excellency's most obed. Ser. W. Heath.

P. S. I am informed that large quantities of wheat are collected at some mills which have not a sufficiency of water, whilst others that have constant streams are not employed. Whether this report is true or not, I cannot say.

Since writing the foregoing, new complaints have been made.

If in any way you can afford immediate relief, let me repeat my earnest entreaty for it.

W. H.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

Pokeepsie 4th Dec'r 1779.

Sir, I am this Moment Honored with your Letter of yesterday. It gives me great concern to hear of the Distresses you experience for the Want of Flour especially as from the Accounts I have been able to obtain of our Resources in that Article, there is but too little Reason to hope for a Relief as sudden as the present Exigency seems to require. I am well informed that the Commissarys have a considerable Quantity of Wheat on Hand, indeed I know this must be the Case, as the Legislature authorized the Impress of one Eighth of all the wheat the Farmers throughout the State had to spare, after leaving a Competent supply for their respective Familles, which has been Carried into Execution, since which a new Law passed authorizing a Second Impress of a like Proportion. But the extraordinary & uncommon Drought which has prevailed these two or three Months past, has I believe put it out of the Power of the Commissaries to have any considerable Part of it made into Flour. If I am rightly informed, in most parts of the Country the Mills can do little more than grind for the ordinary consumption of the Inhabitants. I shoud hold myself Justifiable to couvene the Legislature immediately on so pressing an Occassion, if there was the most distant prospect of their being able to relieve your present Necessities, but this is not the Case. The only Thing which remains [to] be done is to press the different Commissaries to exert themselves in having the Wheat on Hand, (which I [am] sensible will give a consider-

able Supply) made into Flour & brought to the Army & I will cheerfully employ all the Influence & authority to have it effected by writing to the Commissaries on the Subject; will grant to the Quarter Masters warrants for a Genl. Impress of Teams to expedite the bring' in the Flour. I am &c.

[G. C.]

[To Gen. Heath.]

[No. 2646.]

Mrs. Van Buren Asks Permission to Join Her Husband in New York.

To His Excellency George Clinton Esquire Governor of the State of New York General and Commander in chief of all the Militia and Admiral of the Navy of the same. The Petition of Annatie Van Beuren, of Schodack in the County of Albany, Most humbly Sheweth, That Marte Van Beuren, your Petitioner's husband, was in August 1778 under sanction of an act of the Honorable the Legislature of this State removed from Schodack to New York by the Commissioners for Conspiracies &c., and where he has ever since been.

That, however, long and painful this seperation has been to your Petitioner, she has not been without flattering hopes that something would have been done to mitigate the severity of the act under which her said husband is so severely Punished and has, therefore, hitherto, forborne to trouble your Excellency for permission to go down to New York still hoping his return; but as that much wished for period seems now at a great distauce, and as the means of supporting herself and child is become difficult to an extreme she is impelled by every motive of self preservation, however irksome and disagreeable in other respects, to fall upou means to get herself under the protection of her husband. She, therefore, resorts to your Excellency.

Praying that your Excellency will be pleased, in your goodness, to grant her, by the return of the bearer hereof, a pass to go down to New York with her infant and such necessaries as will load two or three Slays or such other comfort or relief as in your wisdom shall seem adequate to the necessities of the Petitioner.

And your Petitioner will ever pray &c.
Schodack December the 4th, 1779.

Annatie Van Buren.

[No. 2647.]

Governor Clinton Urges Promptness in Supplying the Troops With Flour.

*Poughkeepsie, 4 Decem'r 1779.

Sir; I am just now informed, by Express from General Heath, that the army has been in want of flour for several days past. For some time, the scanty supply, of water to the mills, must have prevented the getting of such quantities, as were requisite

*The identity of the officer to whom Governor Clinton addressed this communication, is not disclosed.—STATE HISTORIAN.

to answer the purpose of a proper supply, but, this cause of scarcity being now in some measure removed, I hope a sufficiency is, nearly, if not already got ready for the army. The condition of the troops at present, will render it unnecessary for me to press you to every exertion in your power to procure them immediate relief. I thought it my duty to give you this earliest information of their disagreeable situation, at the same time, I mean not to ascribe such a want of flour to any inattention on your part, but to the unavoidable impediment above which you will now endeavour to prevent in its disagreeable effects. The supply of the posts in the Highlands must alone appear to you in so important a light as to admit of no loss of time. And that it may appear we are doing every thing in our power to relieve the present distress, it is my request that as you collect the flour, you may forward it in the smallest quantities.

As I have not time to write to Mr. Read and Mr. Van Ness, you will be pleased to send them a copy of this.

[No. 2648.]

Mrs. Huyck's Petition to Obtain Important Papers Left in New York by Her Deceased Husband.

To His Excellency George Clinton, Esquire, Governor of the State of New York, General and Commander in chief of all the Militia and Admiral of the Navy of the same. The Petition of Gerrittie Huyck, Widow of the late Andries Huyck, Deceased, Humbly Sheweth, That her late husband was, with a number of other persons, in the Month of August 1778, sent to New York by the Commissioners for Detecting Conspiracies, upon a charge of neutrality in the present troubles; that the pain and trouble your Petitioner suffered in parting with her husband has been assimilated (?) in an insupportable manner by his Death, which happened in the Month of August last; that under the anxiety and trouble your Petitioner's husband was in, when it was determined that he was to be separated from his family, he took the resolution of carrying with him several papers, at present of consequence to the Survivors of his family, and other effects.

Your Petitioner anxious to have those articles (comprised in one Chest and a Bundle of Bedding) here entreats of your Excellency to grant her leave to write to New York for permission to suffer the Chest and Bedding, before mentioned, to come out and also your Excellency's permission for them here or any other relief that may appear adequate and necessary in the premisses.

And your Petitioner will ever Pray.

Gerrittie Huyck.

Schodack 4th December 1779.

[No. 2649.]

On the Lookout for Huddleston, a Dangerous Character.

Poughkeepsie, Dec'r 4th 1779.

Sir, A certain Isaac Huddleston, of the Nine Partners in this County was ab't 18 months ago indicted for murder & other atrocious offences & there is no Doubt of his Guilt. He left the Country & went over to the Enemy; all his Connections as well as himself are notoriously disaffected. I have lately had Intimation, in such manner as to induce me to credit it, that he is returned from the Enemy & enlisted in our Army, it is generally believed in Sheldon's or Armangs* Corps. The bearer Mr. Mott (who is personally acquainted with him) is now privately sent down by the Commiss'rs for detect'g Conspiracies to endeavor to detect & have him apprehended. I have, therefore, to request of you to give him every necessary assistance. It is submitted to you, Sir, to determine the most eligible Plan for effecting a Discovery. The Commiss'rs have had some Conversation with Mr. Mott on the subject which he will disclose to you. If Huddleston should be discovered, it will be necessary, as he is a desperate villain that he be immediately apprehended & safely secured. I am &c.

Geo. Clinton.

The hon'ble Major Genl. Heath.

*Charles Trefin, Marquis de la Rouaire, who was known as Charles Armand, Colonel of the Third Cavalry Legion.—STATE HISTORIAN.

Last night [November 8th 1779] Colonel Armand, with one hundred infantry and about thirty horse, marched down as far as William's, within four miles of King's Bridge, near New York, where he posted his infantry to cover his retreat, and with twenty dragoons pushed for Major Bearmore's quarters, at Alderman Leggett's, three miles below William's Bridge; where he arrived about nine o'clock, took Major Bearmore and five other prisoners, a number of horses and saddles, and returned without the loss of a single man; although Colonel Wurm, with a body of eight hundred Germans, lay on the north side of King's Bridge, and might have interrupted his retreat at William's by marching less than two miles. This enterprise not only reflects great honor on Colonel Armand, but renders the State most essential service by suppressing the exertions of one of their most active partisan officers, whose uniform endeavor has been to distress and injure the inhabitants of this country.—*New York Journal*, November 15.

[No. 2650.]

*Uriah Mitchell Asks to Have the Wife of One of His Clerks Brought
from New York.*

Newburgh Dec'br 4th 1779.

Sir, The bearer Joseph Bowne & 2 Children & Effects one of my Clerks, a Refugee from Long Island being desirous to have his Wife and two Children out of New York where they now reside. I shou'd esteem it a Particular favour if you wou'd be pleas'd to afford him your assistance. I am, Sir, your Most Obed't Humb'le Serv't

Uriah Mitchell.

[No. 2651.]

*The Town Officers of Frdericksburgh Make a Request in Behalf of
Charles Theall's Wife.*

The Subscribers being acquainted with the State of the Family of Charles Theall Late of Dutchess and now with the Enemy Truly Certify that as the Woman by reason of Bodily Infirmity is Capable of Contributing very Little to the Support of Her Family of Children, Which are young and Numerous, and being nearly Destitute of the necessaries of Life, she must with Her Family soon Become Chargeable to the Public unless Removed to Her Husband.

Witness

Thomas Baldwin, Justice of ye Peace, Joseph Chessman. John Field. Mathew Paterson, J. P. Theod's Van Wyck, C. S.

Frdricksburgh Decem'r 6th 1779.

To all Whom it may Concern.

[No. 2652.]

Mrs. Lockwood Wishes to Join Her Husband in New York.

The wife of Solomon Lockwood, late of Dutchess county and now with the enemy, being urgent to obtain Permission to Remove with her famely from the place of her present Residence, to New York,

We the subscribers do hereby certifie that as the wife of the said Lockwood has already five small children and * * * * destitute of the Means of their subsistance for any considerable space of time we are of opinion that her Removal to New York will be very generally approved of by the people.

Thomas Baldwin, Justice of ye Peace, Wil'm Mott. John Field, Mathew Paterson, Justice of ye peace, Theod's Van Wyck C. S.

Fredericksburgh December 6th 1779.

To whom it may concern.

[No. 2653.]

Peter R. Ludlow's Parole.

State of New York ss. I Peter R. Ludlow having Permission from his Excellency Governor Clinton to proceed to New York on my way to the Island of Jamaica in the West Indies do pledge my Word of Honor that I will not do or say any Thing contrary to the Interest of the United States of America unless I shall be duely exchanged for a Citizen of equal Rank. Given under my Hand this 6th Day of Dec'r 1779.

Peter Robert Ludlow.

Attest. Robt. Benson.

[No. 2654.]

Judge Morris to Governor Clinton in Regard to the Escaped Prisoners.

Dec'r 6th 1779.

D'r Sir, I was favoured with yours of 2d Inst. yesterday and am Sorry to hear that such a parcell of Villains have Escaped the Hand of Justice for the present. I make no Doubt, if they pursue their former way of Life, we may Soon meet them again; if they Change their profes'n and the Country thereby Relieved I shall be pleased the Trouble is Saved. I am much Obliged by your Orders to the Sheriff. I think it is the properest countermand that Could be sent him; perhaps I may see you before you go for Albany. I am not Certain and, therefore, beg you'd do us the favour to make our house one of your stages in your way to Albany; if Mrs. Clinton and the children are of the party it must be Home for a few Days. Our best Respects to Mrs. Clinton &c. &c. I am with great Respect and Real Esteem, D'r Gov'r, your Obliged Hum. Serv't

Ri'd Morris.

Gov. Clinton.

[No. 2655.]

MACDONELL AND FRASER'S REQUEST DENIED.

Governor Clinton Uses Plain and forcible Language in Declaring His Attitude Toward Them.

Poughkeepsie Dec'r 6th 1779.

Gents, I directed by his Excellency, Gov'r Clinton, to acknowledge the Rec't of your Letter of the 16th Ultó. and to repeat to you his determination not to suffer your Ladies & the wife of Colo. Butler to leave the Country until the Proposals made by Mr. Butler, & acceded to on the Part of the Governor, for exchanging Mrs. Campbell & the other unfortunate Women who fell

into his Hands at Cherry Valley & are now his Prisoners, are accomplished; and his Excellency is persuaded that when you compare the diff't Situations of those women who when made Prisoners were treated with more than savage barbarity & for upwards of a year passt have experienced the most disagreeable Captivity, w'th that of your Ladies who continue to live unmolested at their usual Habitations, & that the Detention of the Latter is to release the former, you will be convinced that in the Denial of your present Request, he is influenced not only by common Justice & and the Duty he owes to the Public, but by the Principles of Humanity. And I am authorized to assure you, that as soon as Mrs. Campbell & the other women are liberated, & proper assurances given that this barbarous & unmanly System of warfare will be no longer practised, not only your Ladies but such others as may have Husbands within the British Lines will most readily be permitted to go in to them. I am &c

Robt. Benson.

Allen McDonell, Hugh Fraser, Esqrs., at New York.

[No. 2656.]

Major John Small Writes to the Governor in the Interest of Mrs. MacDonell and Mrs. Fraser.

Sir, I would hope, the Circumstance, of our having been formerly known to each other; may apologize for the Liberty I take, of addressing a Letter to you: Especially as that Leave is taken, from a motive, I cannot allow myself to Suppose will offend you.

Relieving unfortunates, and affording protection to helpless women & Children, has (in all ages, & Circumstances, in every

Civiliz'd, & polish'd State,) been the glory of human Nature, & the pride of great & good men; with the humblest ambition, of imitating exalted worth; I presume applying to you, Sir, with earnest hopes, I shall soon have to acknowledge an obligation; and of Congratulating myself in hazarding to become the Importunate, & (I hope) the Successfull advocate, for the Relief, or exchange, of two Ladies (Mrs. Macdonell at Skenectady, & Mrs. Fraser, at Houssack, County of Albany,) with their Children, their female Servants, and Baggage.

An opportune Conveyance for these Ladies; offers itself, in accompanying Mr. Cuming; whom you have had the goodness, to Indulge with a permission to Return hither with his Family.

The distressful Situation, of the unfortunate persons I interest myself for (By a Long and painful Separation from their husbands, & benefit of the tenderness flowing from their nearest Conections,) being unconnected with, (altho' caus'd by) the present unhappy war, appears to me, a call, (I fondly flatter myself) your humane Feelings will not be deaf to; And in anxious expectation, of a favorable answer I have the honor to be, with all due respect, Sir, your most obed't & most humble Servant

John Small

New York Dec'r 7th 1779.

[To G. C.]

[No. 2657.]

Colonel Van Schaick Assists Thomas Bently, Who Reports Having Escaped from the Enemy in Canada.

Albany, December 7th 1779.

Sir; The bearer Thomas Bently came to this Town a few days ago, and Informs me that he has lately made his Escape from the Enemy in Canada.

As he is desirous of going to Virginia I have given him a pass to wait on your Excellency for further Directions. I am with respect & Esteem your Excellency's obed't Servant

G. V. Schaick.

His Excellency, Governor Clinton.

[No. 2658.]

Joshua Barnes Described as a Dangerous Person and Charged With Treason.

*Poughkeepsie, 8th Dec'r 1778.

Dear Sir, I am informed that a Certain Joshua Barnes is among the Prisoners mentioned in your Letter of the 5th Instant to have been lately taken by a Party of your Troops in West Chester County and least you may not have been apprized of his Character, I take this opportunity of apprizing you that he stands charged with Treason ag't this State & the Commission of sundry other Crimes which will make it the Duty of the Civil Authority of this state to demand him as their Prisoner that he may take his Trial according to the Laws of the State. Barns is a most dangerous Person & has been our Prisoner on his Parole which he broke & escaped. I must, therefore, request that you will direct him to be so securely confined now.

[No. 2659.]

The Misses Fargie Petition for Their Inheritance.

To His Excellency George Clinton Esqr. Governor of the State of New York General and Commander in Chief of all the Militia and Admiral of the Navy of the Same. The Petition of Alida Fargie, Ann Fargie, and Elizabeth Fargie Sheweth, That your Petitioners under the benevolent care of their late Grandfather Henry Holland, Esqr., Deceased removed out of New York into the Country to avoid the troubles the City was then Threatned with.

That by the Death of their said Grandfather and by reason of the length of time they have been out of the City they are reduced to extreme want of Clothes money and other Necessaries.

*This document is indorsed, "Letter of Dec'r 8" 1779."

That your Petitioners are credibly informed, that Messrs. Robert Watts and John Oothout, two of the Executors in the last Will and Testament of their said late Grandfather, are possessed of Considerable sums of Money belonging to the Estate, and that there is a probability of getting monies and other Necessaries from them if permission can be obtained here to have them come up.

That your Petitioners would absolutely be in want of the Necessarie of life, if it was not for the present Supply they owe to the Friendship of some of their relations and the prospect of relief from the Executors above Mentioned.

For these Cogent reasons your Petitioners flatter themselves your Excellency will be induced to grant a Permit for the money and other articles Set down in a memorandum that will be shewn herewith so that they may be relieved, as Speedily as possible, from their Multiplied distresses and impending ruin they are Threatned with and your Petitioners will as in duty bound ever Pray.

Alida Fargie, Ann Fargie, Elizabeth Fargie.*

Kinderhook 9th December, 1779.

[No. 2660.]

*William Floyd Indicates the Disinclination of Congress to
Compensate New York.*

Philadelphia 24 (?) December 1779.

S'r, Inclosed is a bond for the Delivery of Peter Fraer to the Commissioners at Poughkeepsie and also a Resolve of Congress which will Lay a foundation for the Doing of Justice to Such States as may by their attention to the publick Good, furnish the army with necessaries at Reasonable Rates.†

Congress are very Sensible of the Exertions, I may Say the Extraordinary Exertions of our State, and they will and the members do Say, many Clever things of our State; But When we talk of Compensation for the Sacrifices that has been made by the [state] already, then they Incline to be Silent, So that tho' it is Just a Compensation Should be made, yet I am fearful whether

*See Volume IV, page 441.

†December 14, 1779; Congress adopted the following resolution, which had been submitted by the committee on supplies:

"Whereas the aid of the several states is necessary in furnishing provisions for the army, and other supplies for carrying on the war; and justice requires that they be called upon to furnish their respective quotas at equitable prices:

Resolved, That all the states shall be called upon to furnish their quotas of such supplies as may, from time to time, be wanted for carrying on the war; and in making the requisitions, due care shall be taken to suit the convenience of the several states; and the articles by them respectively furnished shall be credited towards their quotas of the monies which they are called upon to raise for the United States, at equal prices for articles of the same kind and quality, and for others in due proportion; and the accounts shall be finally compared and adjusted so as to do equity to all the states."

we shall be ever able to obtain it. From the present temper and disposition of the members in general towards New York, I think it will be a very favourable time to bring on the Business of Vermont: from what I can discover they will be Inclined to do us Justice.

I must Refer you to the papers herein Enclosed for the news, which I believe Contain all of any Consequence that is passing here. From, S^r, your most obed^t humble Serv^t

Wm. Floyd.

P. S. By the postscript to one of the newspapers, you will See that Paul Jones* is fighting them on the Coast of England as by their own papers.

[To G. C.]

*We continue to insult the coasts of these *lords of the ocean* with our little cruisers. A small cutter, which was fitted out as a privateer at Dunkirk, called the *Black Prince*, has taken, ransomed, burnt, and destroyed about thirty sail of their vessels within these three months. The owners are about to give her a consort, called the *Black Princess*, for which they ask a commission. The prisoners brought in serve to exchange our countrymen, which makes me more willing to encourage such armaments, though they occasion a great deal of trouble. Captain, now Commodore, Jones put to sea this summer with a little squadron consisting of a ship of forty guns, the *Alliance*, another frigate of twenty, with some armed cutters, all under American colors, with Congress commissions. He has sent in several prizes, has greatly alarmed the coast of Ireland and Scotland, and we just now hear that, going north about, he fell in with a number of ships from the Baltic, convoyed by a fifty-gun ship and a twenty-four-gun frigate, both of which he took, after an obstinate engagement, and forced several of the others ashore. This news is believed, but we wait the confirmation and the particulars.—*Franklin to John Jay, under date Passy, October 4, 1779.*

From Passy, October 17, 1779, Franklin wrote to the Honorable the Commissioners of the Navy for the Eastern Department, Boston:

The cruise of our little American squadron, under command of Commodore Jones, intended partly to intercept the Baltic trade, has had some success, though not all that was hoped for. The coasts of Britain and Ireland have been greatly alarmed, apprehending descents, it being supposed that he had land forces with him. This has put the enemy to much expense in marching troops from place to place. Several valuable prizes have been made of merchant-ships, particularly two: one from London, three hundred tons and eighty-four men, with twenty-two guns, laden with naval stores for Québec; the other from Liverpool bound to New York and Jamaica, of twenty-two guns and eighty-seven men, laden with provisions and bale goods. These two are safely arrived at Bergen, in Norway; two smaller prizes are arrived in France, and a number of colliers have been burnt or ransomed. The Baltic fleet was met with, and the two men-of-war who convoyed them, viz., the *Syraxis*, a new ship of forty-four guns, and the *Countess of Scarborough*, of twenty guns, are taken, after a long and bloody engagement, and are brought into the Texel. But the merchant-ships escaped during the conflict, for which the *Alliance* and one of the other ships are blamed, whether justly or not may be inquired into. Our Commodore's ship was so shattered that she could not be kept afloat, and the people being all taken out of her, she sank the second day after the engagement. The rest of the squadron are refitting in the Texel, from which

[No. 2661.]

Major Robinson Advises That the Pears Families be Permitted to Go to New York.

To His Excellency the Governor of the State of New York.

Sir. The wife of Samuel Pears and the wife of Caleb Pears in my Neighbourhood are desirous of going over the Lines to their Husbands with their Families. Samuel Pears' wife has four Children, all Daughters, the oldest 11 years the youngest 5 months old, and Caleb Pears' wife has 2 Children, 1 Son & 1 Daughter, the Daughter 5 years old the Son 6 weeks old.

The Curcumstancies of these Families are both such, that it is thought by the Neighbors that they must soon be a Charge to the Precinct if they are not allowed to go away; therefore, I think it would be best for your Excellency to give them a pass to New York. Your Humb. Serv't

Ebenezer Robinson, Major.

Fredricksburgh Decembr 10 1779.

[No. 2662.]

Permit to Calop Green to Bring His Wife and Family to Morrisania.

Head Quarters.

Permission is hereby granted to Calop Green to bring within the Lines his Wife & three Children & to reside in Morisania.

Given at Morris House this 10 Dec. 1779.

C. Nesbitt, A. D. C.

neutral place they will be obliged soon to depart with their prizes and prisoners, near four hundred. I wish they may arrive safe in France, for I suppose the English will endeavor to intercept them. Jones' bravery and conduct in the action has gained him great honor.

[No. 2663.]

Permission Granted to William Right's Family to Go Within the British Lines.

Purmission is giving to William Right Famaly to be Purmitted to Come within our Lins.

[Isaac] Hatfield, Lt. Col.*

Morrisinea, Benj'n Archer Hous, Dec'r 10th 1779.

[No. 2664.]

John Cruger Asks Permission to Send to New York for Necessaries for His Family.

Kinderhook Dec. 11 1777. [?]

S'r, As I am almost destitute of all manner of Necessaries for the use of my famely, as well as of Cloathing for our Selves and Servants to bring us trough the winter, Shall, therefore, take it as a very particular favor if your Excell'y will be So kind, as to Indulge me with your Lieve, to Send down to New York for a Small Supply, together with Some trifeling things of about fifty or Sixty pounds Value, In order to Supply my famely with provisions, which are very dificul to be had without, Even for Money which I have not. Your Excellency's Compliance with this Request (which I hope will not be tought Unreasonable) Shall be acknowleged as a very particular favor. I have the honor to be with great Regard y'r Ex'y Most Obed. & Very humb. Sar.

John Cruger.

His Exc'y Gov. Clinton.

*Isaac Hatfield, Lieutenant-Colonel and Commandant of the Loyal Westchester Volunteers. At the peace he went to St. John, New Brunswick, and was a grantee of that city. He subsequently settled in Digby, Nova Scotia, and lived there thirty-six years, until his decease in 1822. He was seventy-four years of age.—STATE HISTORIAN.

[No. 2665.]

John Tillman of the Hide Department Complains to Governor Clinton of Major Hetfield's Misusage.

Albany Dec'm ye 11th 1779.

May it please your Excellency; Indepted to your Interposition for my Remaining in my office after major Hetfield's order for my Leaving it, I Conceived myself Secure from further Truble, But I had Scarcely returned to Albany when I Recived a letter from Col'n Scamell, Adjutant genl. ordering me under an arrest & I immediately Set out for West Point and waited upon him,— he referred me to Maj'r Stagg Deputy Judge advocate, who informed me they had no witness to Support the Charges against me, and that I might go home till further orders. Soon after my return home, major Hetfield acquainted by letter, that he had Displaced me & appointed maj'r Hitchcock (a Connecticut man, by Trade a taylor) in my Stead—a fue Days after a mr. Stanburrrough, belonging to the Hide Department arrived here with Hitchcock, and major Hetfield's orders Superceeding me, & Directing Hitchcock to take the office. Harrased & fatigued by their Repeated applications, & Ignorant how to act, I have (as I was appointed by major Hetfield) given over a part of the Department to mr. Hitchcock, retaining Some things in my hand till a Settlement Shall be made, or I reinstated.

Mr. Stanburrrough informs me, that the Prosecution on the arrest is stopped, which Clearly Shews that this Step was meant merely as a Device to force me out of the office, or to take the Superintendency of the Department from me without the most Distant intention of bringing me to Trial—for Crimes which I hope Exists nowhere but in the Depraved Imagination of my Accusers.

I Trust to the wonted Clemency & Justice of your Excellency for a Second Interference with Maj'r Hetfield—unhappily at the Same Time for the Trouble I give—beg with the utmost Deference, Gratitude & Respect your Excellency's most obedient Humble Serv't

John Tillman, Sen'r.

Late D. C. Hides northern Department.
His Excellency George Clinton.

P. S. I am ready & willing to have an Inquiry into my Conduct. But as I have always acted in the northern Department, I Conceive my Tryal Sho'd be here, where the Fullest proof Can be obtained, & where I Shall have it most in my power to Support my Innocence.

N. B. The reason of my Keeping the ready Tann'd & Curried Leather in my possession, is not only to have some security of my settlement, But am sure it is saved for the public, But had I send it according to mr. Stanborroughs' request, as maj'r Hetfield ordered to New Windsor, I do not know weither the public would be Benifited by it. I Trust as I acted in the northern Department my acc'ts may be ajusted here by the three gentlemen appointed by Congress. I am requested to Come to New Windsor, where they (Hetfield & Stanburrough) would use me as they have don the rest of their assist's, keep their Book & settle with them as they please & Let them go. I, therefore, Trust your Excellency will order it so, according to the resolve of Congress some time in Aprill Last, as I am inform'd by the Commissioners that all acc'ts Contracted or to be Contracted, Should Come before them (that is in the north Depa't).

[No. 2666.]

INJUSTICE TO CAPTAIN BALLARD.

Accused of Felony for Arresting Tories and Confiscating Their Property—Washington Submits the Matter to Clinton.

Head Quarters Morris Town Decem'r 13th 1774.

Sir, I have the honor to inclose your Excellency sundry papers received from Major Ballard respecting the effects of certain disaffected persons taken and sold on the frontier. You will perceive he is in danger of being prosecuted for felony. There appears not from the face of the papers to have been anything blameable in Major Ballard's conduct, as he only acted in obedience to his orders on which must be charged whatever irregularity there may have been in the affair. As the good of the service sometimes requires things to be done in the military line, which cannot be supported by the civil law, prosecutions of this kind may discourage officers from the discharge of their duty. It were, therefore, to be wished they could be prevented; except where there are appearances of oppression or fraud. Nothing of this offers itself in Major Ballard's representation; though it is difficult to judge without hearing the other parties. I take the liberty, however, of troubling your Excellency with the affair, that unless you have reason to believe there has been a spirit of plunder in the transaction, you may have the goodness to interpose your influence for preventing the intended prosecutions.

To make this the more practicable I have directed the money which arose on the sales said to be deposited with Lieut. Col. Whiting to be paid to your Excellency's order. But if on inquiry any of the officers seem to have been actuated by improper views, I wish them to suffer the penalty of the law, and shall be ready to promote every measure for doing justice to those who have been injured. With every sentiment of respect & regard, I have the honor to be your Excellency's most obed't servant

Go. Washington.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

JOHN STARK'S ORDERS TO BALLARD.

Albany 23d June 1775.

Sir, You are to proceed with the party under your Command to Cohnewagga there (or as near that place as you shall with the Advice of your and the other Officers) in that Quarter Shall Judge most Convenient to Defend & Stop the progress of Brant (the Indian Commidant). Nevertheless you are not to begin an Engagement but to Suffer the Militia from this Quarter to make the first Attack and you to support them as you may think most Proper.

If you Should find that Brant has Crossed the Mohawk River on his way to Crown Point you will then Return with the Detachment.

Wishing you a Happy and Successful Voyage I am

John Starks, B. G.

To Capt. Will'm H. Ballard.

[Copy]

STARK ORDERS RADICAL MEASURES.

Albany 4th July 1775.

Dear Sir, I Received yours of the first Inst., and Concerning thoes Disaffected persons, if they will not come within the Lines and Swallow the oaths of Alligence with a good Stomach, you must take the Trouble to Bring them in & on your Utmost Endeavours (by Usage becoming Such Villains) to make them after Season Valuable Subjects.

I send you the Quire of Paper by the Bearer; the Ammunition you write for, shall be sent by the first Safe Opportunity. I shall make Inquiry about the Salt Provisions & Rum; if to be spared they Shall be Sent to you. The Militia from Berkshire County must be sent down but you are to Stay till further Orders. I am, Sir, your Humble Servant

John Starks.

[To Capt. Ballard.]

[Copy]

COLONEL ALDEN'S ORDERS TO BALLARD.

Head Quarters Cherry Valley Aug't 7, 1778.

Sir, You will proceed with the Party under your Command, Taking Direction for your rout of those Persons that are with you as Pilits; you will Indeaour to make Discoveries and Git all the Intillegence Possable of Brant & his Party; if you Discover any Party of the Enemy and Judge them to Strong for you to Ingage, you will Return & Report to me.

You will Take all the Percaution on your march To prevent the Enemy from Taking advantage by Ambushing your rout; if you find any of the Effects of Tories or Persons gon to the Enemy, you will sacure the Same by Bringing them into this Garison; also Tories or any of the People which you have good Evidence have or are Disposd to assist and Saport the Euemy; Likewise Such Persons with their Effects as you Think are Greatly Esposd to the Enemy.

To Capt. Will'm H. Ballard.

Ichabod Alden, Col.

the above a True Copy of the original.

STARKE SANGUINARY IDEAS REGARDING "PAINTED SCOUNDRELLS."

Albany 15th of August 1778.

Sir, I Received yours of the 12th Inst. and am Glad to hear of the Success of your Scout; a few Such strokes will make the enemy watch their frontiers and give us Peace; those Tories you sent I Shall take Care that they shall be Properly treated; and as for the Plunder that Capt. Ballard's scout has taken that did Belong to the Enemy, you will Order to Be Divided amongst the People that took it; If any has fallen into their hands Belonging to the honest Inhabitants you will Pleased to Deliver it up to Proper Owners.

That Capt. Ballard and his Party Chuse Such Persons to Divide the Plunder as they think will do the most Justice to the Party; that you Order a Court of inquiry to Examine into the matter and see what Part ought to Be Condemned and what ought to be Returned to the Owners; and make Report of your Proceedings to me; you write you have ben obliged to Employ some of the Inhabitents to assist you in Building your fort; the Accounts must be Sent down Properly attested to and I make no Doubt But they will be allowed of.

But I Cannot Send you any money til I have Orders for So Doing; if your Scouts Should be fortunate enough to fall in with any more of these Painted Scoundrells, I think it would not be worth their while to trouble them Selves to send them to me; your wisdom and that of your Scouts may Direct you in that matter. I am, Sir, your most obedent hum. Serv't

John Starks.

[To Col. Alden.]

[Copy]

TESTIMONY OF TORIES CAPTURED BY CAPTAIN BALLARD TAKEN BEFORE COLONEL ALDEN.

Cherry Valley Aug't 12th 1778.

The Examination & Declaration of Several Tories Bor't in this Day by ye Scout.

1st. Ephrum Marsh Being Examin'd Confess'd that he was with Brant in the Distroying Springfield. That their was 106 Indians; their party near one half tories, & that Brant Left him at the Butternuts & was to Join him again; that Brant went to Yunadilla with a Number of Cattle he took at Springfield, and like wise, says that John Shelden in Indian Dress was one of Brant party at the Distruction of Springfield & that Shelden returned with Brant to Yunadella and Return'd baek with him to the Butternuts where Brant left him in Quest of Cattle.

He further saith that he Heard Buttler was Coming up to Join Brant; he further Saith young Scuyler one of the Prisoners was one of Brant's party at Springfield.

2d. John Shelden, Being Examin'd Confesses he was a New England man, & that he went, to live with his Unele, Thomas Shelden Last Spring; the Indians Scalpt some Familys in that Neighbourhood which Induc'd him to return to New England again to Share the fury of the Indians, & Traveled 60 miles, and was Taken by the Indians and Bro't to Aquago; Capt. Brant told him if he would prove true to him he Should live,

otherwise he should die; he was bro't to the 2d Lake & Brant Ask'd him if he would prove true & Drive Cattle for him to Yunadilla; he according set out about 20 days ago and Drove them as far as the Butternuts where he stay'd until he was taken by Capt. Ballard; he Denys that he was with Brant at Springfield but says that young Scuyler was their.

3d. Yong Scuyler, Being Examin'd acknowledge he was at Springfield & says that Brant forced him to go with him; and says that Brant had 120 men with him & says he Heard Wm. Tunaclif say that Brant took him & let him go again on his Saying he wanted to go to his Father; says he saw them talking together & that Brant Immediatly Dismiss't Him.

4th. Joseph Lull, being Examin'd says that he Lived at the Butternuts, and heard of Capt. Ballard's Scout some time before he got their, & Brant told him that Ballard would plunder him as he had Set the Example, and says he was sworn to be true to King George, a Twelve month ago By Esqr. Brooks, who told him if he Did not sware he would Deliver him to the saviges, and Says that he Heard that Brant & Butler was to Come soon against Cherry Valley; he thinks they have no Cannon, and Says that Will'm Tunaclif was at the Butternuts lately.

5th. Ebenezer Knap, being Examin'd says he was obliged to sware alligiance to King George about a year ago, & says he Never saw Brant; that the Enemy was frequently at Elisha Marshes (one of the prisoners) says he heard some of the Continentals where Coming and that they hid part of their Effects for fear the whigs would take them; says he Heard Mr. Wells one of the Inhabitants of Cherry Valley was a great friend to the king & that he saw William Tunaclif at the Butternuts, who Reported that 20 Thousand of the British forces was Coming up the North River, & that Car, John Camell & Esqr. Brooks (one of the Prisoners) were the Persons that Oblidged him to sware allegiance to the king.

6th. Narthan Lull, Being Examin'd says, he was Sworn to be True to king George & that Car & Camell & Esqr. Brooks was the Parsons that Oblidged him to Sware & that they Disarm'd James Mar & made him Prisoner because he would not Swear, & that Elisha Marsh was with the party that swear him; he further saith that Ephraim Marsh & John Shelden were of Brant party to Springfield & that the Enemy was frequently at Elisha Marsh.

7th. John Brook, Being Examin'd says he Never swore alligiance to the King and says that Wm. Tunaclif was lately at the Butternuts.

8th. Mrs. Mar, wife of James Mar, Being Examin'd Saith Her husband was taken prisoner, and Carry'd to one Car's & kept a prisoner 9 weeks, she further saith she saw William Tunaclif at the Butternuts lately with the Two Painted Tories, viz. Marsh & Shelden, & that he was arm'd.

9th. Elisha Marsh, Being Examin'd saith he assisted in Taking James Mar prisoner, Took his arms from him and Likewise acknowledges the Enemy frequented his own house. Note; their were 4 of the Cows that Brant took at Springfield found in said Marshes pasture.

10th. John Bullock, Being Examin'd Says he Never took the Oath of alligiance to the King tho he acknowledges he assisted in Compelling his Neighbours to do it; he says that when Brant's party Came to the Butternuts on their way to Springfield he was much Surprized Supposing them to be of the Onida Tribe.

11th. Benj. Lull, Being Examin'd Saith that Car, Bullock, Brook & others Compell'd him to take the Oath of alligiance to ye King, by telling him if he did not they would deliver him to the Savages; further Saith that Ephraim Marsh was one of Brant's party to Springfield; that he heard that Capt. Ballard with a Scout, was Coming to the Butternuts, which Caused him to hide part of his Effects For fear of having them Plundered.

12th. William Tunaclif, being Examin'd Saith that he was made Prisoner by Brant, who kept him half a hour & then Dismiss'd him on his telling him he wanted to go to his Father's; Says he was at the Butternuts & Confesses he was armed & was in Company with Ephraim Marsh & one more at the Salt Lake, & Saith that Brant with his party was at his Father's when going & when he Return'd from Springfield.

13th. Richard Brook was brot on Examination But Denyes all the charge against him & would Confess Nothing.

14th. John Tunaclif, Being Examin'd says he could not move in on account of his Intrest. He saw Brant Last week at his House with some prisoners he had taken; he says Brant was at his house on his way to Springfield when that place was Disstroy'd & when he Return'd and he Supply'd him with provision.

Capt. Ballerd. Saith on his Coming to Tunaclif's House, he Demanded his arms; he not only Deny'd he had any, but hid them Under his bed which afterwards was found Loaded with Ball & Buck Shott which Tunaclif acknowledges to be True.
Examination of Prisoners before Col. Alden.

COLONEL ALDEN'S REPORT TO GENERAL STARK.

Head Quarters, Cherey Valley Aug'st 12th 1778.

Dear General; I have the honour to Informe you that this Morning a Scout of mine Came in who have been Peace Down the Suscohanna taking their rout round by the Butternuts and Returnd by the way of one Tunaclifts who they have, with fourteen or fifteen other Torrys, Brought in Likewise two of Brant's party, who ware Collecting Cattel at the Butternuts for Brant. Ware Clothed and painted Like Indians; with them they have Brought about one hundred head of horn'd Cattel, and horses besides thirty or Forty Sheep then of Brant's Party ware a Scout up to the Butternuts from the Unidiles and ware there Collecting Cattle, Expecting in two or three Days a Party from Brant's to assist in Careing them Down, but as good Luck would have it we have ben two quick for them, I have Exeamin'd them and verily think all of them to be Enemy's to this Country, Should much Rather fall into the hands of Brant then either of them. I send you inclosed what they Confesed to me, and I hope you will take good Care that they Dont have it in their Power to assist Brant any more; they all agree that Brant is determin'd to attact this Place, But how Sone they Say they Dont know; however, he may Come as Soon as he thinks Proper; if they Dont Bring Cannon as Some of these Torrys Say that he hath four field Peaces and if he Should bring them, our fort is very Badly Situated; am ablig'd to Cawl on the People of this Place for help; in many Cases they Look to me for their Pay which am not able to Do unless you Send me Some money, therefore, hope you will Send me about one thousand Dollars, that I may be able to Fulfill my ingagements for the Publick. Capt. McKeen who Bringeth you this Letter would be glad of orders to raise a Comp'y Rangers. I think him to be a very good man and if he Can git Some Such Bussiness it may Serve him.

[To Gen. Stark.]

[Alden].

[Copy.]

COLONEL ALDEN THREATENS TO TAKE THE TORIES PRISONERS AGAIN IF THE ALBANY COMMITTEE LIBERATES THEM.

Cherrey Valley, August 26th 1778.

Dear General, By Persons from Albany I am lead to Belive that many of those Torrys who ware Brought by my Scouts into this garrison and Sent Prisneors to Albany, will By the Commetee Be Sent Back to their Plantations again; I have obtained Such Evidence in Regard to their Disposition towards Brants that they have actually Supply'd him many times with Provisions that Tunnercliffs house was and is now a place for head Quarters for Brant and Torrys; theirfore, if you Please, you may Informe the Committe that if they Send them Back. I will again take them Prisneors; that as Long as I have the Command here those People Shall Not Be Suffered to Live out at the Butternuts and theirabouts, who theirby will have it in their Power greatly to Injui're this garrison. Not long Since one of my Small Scouts fel in with a Scout of the Enemy Indians. My Scout happen'd to See them First at this very Instantly one of my men fir'd and Shot one of the Indians thrue the Head; Both partys being Very much Surpris'd, Run Each one his way; Some of there women who are Still Living out at the oaks Inform'd this Scout of mine, that theirs was a Larg Scout of Indians and Torrys; then out of about 130 my Scout Returning and informing me I Sent Col. Stacey with 150 men in Sarch of this Scout above mention'd; they have Return'd without Making any Discoverys. Two or three times have Sent to one Yates, who I am Inform'd is to Supply this garrison with Flower; have Not ben able to obtain any; am Very Short; hope your honour will order Some Proper Parson to See that this garrison is Properly Supply'd. I am, Sir, with great Respect, your honour's hum. Serv't

Ichabod Alden.

[To Gen. Stark.]

[Copy.]

ACTION OF THE COURT OF INQUIRY CALLED BY ORDER OF COLONEL ALDEN.

At a Court of Enquiry held in the Garrison at Cherry Valley, Sept. 10th 1778, By Order of Ich'd Alden, Esqr., Colo. Comm't to Inquire into the State of the Effects of Parsons Supposed to be Inimical to the United States of America and Bro't into this Garrison by the Several Scouts.

Present. Members.

Lieut. Colo. Will'm Stacy,
Lieut. Colo. Barent Staats,

Maj. Daniel Whiting,
Will'm Hickling Clark.

We, the subscribers, being appointed a Court of Inquiry by the Colo. Comma't, for the Purposes above Mentioned, Did attend and Examine the Evidences whose affectavits are hear annexed, and are of opinion that the Horses, Cattle, Sheep, and other Effects Brought in by Capt. Will'm Ballard and his Party, Supposed to be the Property of Persons who are inimical to the United States, be Exposed Public auction, after Notice given of time and Place, and that the Sums that arise By the States be Deposited in the hands of the Commadant, untill he Shall obtain Instructions from authority or to his Best Judgment Disspose of the Same.

Will'm Stacy, Lieut. Colo., Barent Staats, Lt. Colo., Daniel Whiting, Maj'r, Will'm Hinckling Clark.

TESTIMONY ADDUCED BEFORE THE COURT.

Sept. 10th 1778 Charry Valley.

Aaron Thompson, sworn Deposeth, that the Sheep where Brought from Tunneclifts with some Cattle but Cannot ascertain the Number; likewise that Cattle and horses where taken from Several Parsons living at the Butternuts; also Some Cattle, number unknown, with one horse, was Taken from a place Called the Oaks; all the above mention'd Sheep, Cattle, and horses were Exposed to be Taken by the Enemy at any time lying on or near the Rout the Indians taken in Passing from their Country to the Susquehanna River, Wheir the Enemy are Collecting.

Lieut. Penbody Sworn, Deposeth that he went on a Scout with Capt. Ballard, and took some Cattle from Mr. Marsh at the Butternuts, also a Number of Cattle from Several other Persons in that Settlement; then proceeded on our Returns and Took one Cow from Mr. Brooks; then Proceeded to Mr. Johnson's and took Some horses and Cattle; then Went to Mr. Tunneclift's & took some horses with Neat Cattle & 42 sheep; then went to the Oaks and Brought off a fue Cattle from which last Place we return'd to the garrison.

Lieut. Lunt, sworn Deposeth, that he went with Capt. Ballard on a Scout, that they went to the Butternuts and there he was ordered to Receive the Cattle &c. Collected at the house of one Mr. Clough; then Proceeded to Mr. Brooke's from thence to Mr. Johnson's, where he Collected some Cattle; then went to Mr. Tunneclift's and took a number of horses, Cattle, and 42 sheep; then Returned to garrison; Further Saith that the Butternuts are Distant about 40 mlls and that Mr. Tunnerclift's is 25 miles; Both Places being the Rout the Enemy frenquented, and from whence they could Drive stock of at any time; further saith that some of the Cattle belonged to the Enemy and was in Charge of the two men Painted Like Indians, Which they Brought in Prisoners.

Ensign Bagnol, sworn Deposeth, that he went with Capt. Ballard on a Scout; that at the Butternuts 40 miles Distant, that he went to Mr. Sam. Knop's and Collected some Cattle and then went to Knap's Brothers; he there got some more; (Likewise at one Lull's he got some then went to one Johnson's and Collected a Number) from thence came on his Return to Tunneclift's, & Collected the last Parcel and Returned to garrison; that the Cattle Lay Exposed to be Brove off by the Enemy at any time.

This day Personally appeared Christopher Pearson, Late Inhabitant of the Butternuts, who being duly sworn Deposeth & Saith that John Bullock, Persupher Carr, Robert Gamett belonging to the Settlement aforesaid, did in the summer of 1777 freely & Voluntary Supply Capt. Brant with a Quantity of Cheese for the use of the king's troops, wich Cheese they Said Bullock, Carr & Gamett Carried to Yunedellia the deponent further saith that about three weeks after that a Party of tories Consisting of twenty men Commanded by one McDonald's, Came to the Butternuts, & the said McDonald's came to the Deponant's house & asked him where he Could get Provision for his party; the Deponant told him he that he might at Benj. Lull's.

McDonald accordingly sent & got a Quantity of Cheese wich McDonald was at the Deponent's house, one Richard Brooks one of his majesty's Justices apeaice, belonging to the Butternuts did Come to the deponent's house & addressd himself to Said McDonald, telling him that the deponent was a Damd wigg & that if he wanted supplys of Provision for his troops, he, Brooks, had it in his power & was Ready to supply him; the deponent further Said, that he, the Said Brooks, Did supply him and his men with as Much Provision as they wanted; the Deponant further said the Begining of Last May, one Capt. Young with a Party of Tories Came to the Butternuts in Order to Purchase Provision for the use of the king's troops, & that on his, the S'd Young making application to the Inhabitants, that one Johnson, Richard Brooks, Jno. Bullock, Benj. Lull & Robert Gamett & Wm. Hornie, all Belonging to the afore S'd Butternuts, did Immeditly provide a No. of horn Cattel. & Provision wich they Volleritarily Deliverd to the S'd Young for the use of aforesaid; that John Johnson & Benjamin Lull had frequently Sent Supply to Turnedella for the use of the King's Troops; the Deponent further Saith that John Johnson, one Bullock, Richard Brooks & Benjamin Lull has Continually Kept up a Correspondance with Brant, & that the Whole of them was down to Turnedella Last summer; the deponent further Saith that a No. of the Inhabitants Desired Capt. Brant who was at the Butternuts Last August & Burnt James Marr & Effects who they said was a rebel.

Wm. Johnson, Justice Peace.

Swore before me at Cherry Valley, this day of Nov'r 1778.

A True Copy.

Palenton March 26th 1779.

George Canotts declareth upon oath, that when he was Prisnor with Brant Last summer at Old Mr. Turneclift's, that the Said Turneclift Suplied all Brant's Party with Provision Freely, and that Brant Made a Bargiu with Turneclift for three Oxen, for thirty Six Pound, and gave Said Turneclift a wrighting under his hands for them, and that a Servant Lad of Turneclift's told Said Canotts that his Master had Let Brant have five Hundred weight of Cheese, and ten or twelve Cows, but a Littel before that time, and tlat the Said Turneclift's Son was at his Liberty when he saw him there, & wore the Same Tocken on his Hat that Brant's own Men wore, wich was a Peaice of yellow Lace and farther Sayth not.

his
George X Cannotts
mark

Swore before me the day above Mentioned.

Peter S. Deggert Justice.

CAPTAIN BALLARD APPEALS TO THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

West Point 26th Nov. 1779.

Honoured Sir, I would beg Leave to Lay before you the Orders I Received, and sundry papers Belonging to a scout I Commanded, be a Party of the Late Col. Alden's Regt., on the Frontiers of the State of N. York, where I Brought in Sundry Prisoners, together with there Effects, which agreeable to my Orders the Effects was sold at Vendue and the money is now deposited in the hands of Colo. Whiting untill your Excellency's Pleasure be known. The Prisoners I Brought was deliverd to the Commissioners to detect traitirous Conspirators against the States at Albany, and by them Sat at Liberty, and now Prosecuting me on a Charge of felony for Removing them and there Effects by which means, I Cannot go to Albany with Safety. Therefore, would beg your Excellency would Take the matter into Consideration and Judge as you think Proper. Enclosed are my Orders and the Papers. I am with the most Sensible Veneration your most Obediant & most Humble ser't .

Wm. Hudson Ballard, Capt. 7th Mass. Regt.

His Excellency Genl. Washington.

[No. 2667.]

Mrs. Van Alstyne Anxious to Join Her Husband in New York.

To His Excellency George Clinton Esquire Governor of the State of New York, Genral & Commander In Chief of all the Militia, & Admlral of the Navey of the same. The Petition of Alida Van Alstyne, Wife of Peter Van Alstyne Esquire Humbly Sheweth,

That your Petitioner's husband before he quitted this State absconded in the woods for a Considerable time for personal Safety.

That finding no prospect of a reconciliation with his prejudiced Neighbors he was constrained by the very disagreeable situation he was in to seek refuge & protection elsewhere. That under his embarrassments he was included in the Convention of Saraghtoga & from thence in pursuit of a livelehood he proceeded to Canada his expectations not being answered he removed to New York, where he was November and where your Petitioner Conceives he now is. That your Petitioner's husband having lately wrote her & advising her to make application for leave for her & her Children to go down to him—This invitation together with her inability of supporting herself & Family owing to the sequestration of her Husband's Estate has induced her to determine to go down as soon as possible to New York. Your Petitioner, therefore, humbly prays that your Excellency will be pleased, by the return of Mr. John E. Van Alen, to grant her the necessary Pasports for her removal with her three Children, Bedding Clothes &c. in three Slays. Alladay Vanalstine.
Kinderhook 13th December 1779.

Alida Van Alstyne, with three Children, Bedding, 2 Chests, 1 Trunk, 2 bbls. flour, wearing apparel and some household furniture, 1 negro Boy Eleven years old.

Annatie Van Beuren & her Child, 2 Chests, one Trunk, Bedding, wearing apparel, 2 bbls. flour, some household furniture, Bedding, half a bbl. of pork and $\frac{1}{2}$ bbl. of Beef.

[No. 2668.]

The Governor Can Make No Exception in the Case of John Cruger.

Pokeepsie 14th Dec'r 1779.

Sir, I have received your Letter of the 11th Instant. It would give me peculiar Pleasure to enable you to relieve your present Distresses by a Compliance with your Request; but the same Reasons which have constrained me to reject every Application of this kind prevents it. Besides as the last Flagg to pass between us & the Enemy this Winter is already gone down to New York, so that my Permission for want of an Opportunity to make use of it would be of no Service. I am, Sir, with great Respect & Esteem your most Obed. Ser.

[G. C.]

John Cruger Esqr.

[No. 2669.]

The Case of Pilot Bise.

Fish Kill, 14 Dec'm 1779.

Sir, About Ten months ago was Made Prisoner, a certain Gideon Bise, an Inhabitant of Dutchess County, who at that

Time Serv'd the Enemy in Character of a North River Pilote. Some Time Since he was Return'd to me as a Prisoner of war, & as by a Resolution of Congress of ye 30 Dec'm '77, all Persons Inhabitants of these States, who Shall Inlist or Join the Enemy, & Shall be taken in arms, Shall be kept in Close Confinement, Subject to be Deliver'd to the Respective State to which they Belong, & be Dealt with agreeable to the laws thereof, I'm led to Request the Favour of your Excellency, to Inform me by a line whether the State lays any Claim to S'd Bise, as a State Criminal, he perpetually urging me for an Exchange. I am, Sir, Your Excellency's Most Obedient & Most Hum. Serv't

G. H. Van Wageningen, D. Commiss. Prisoners.

His Excellency Governour Clinton.

[No. 2670.]

Congress Lays an Embargo and Urges Punctual Compliance on the Part of the States.

Philadelphia 15th Decem'r 1779.

Sir, Your Excellency will receive herewith enclos'd an act of Congress* of this day recommending to the several States to continue embargoes where already laid, & where not, to lay embargoes: to prohibit untill the first day of April next the exportation of the several articles mentioned and described in the resolution of Congress of the 21st of August last.†

The necessity of this measure is so obvious, it is the desire

* *Resolved*, That it be recommended to the legislative, or, where vested with competent authority, to the executive powers of such of the states where embargoes are in force, to continue the same; and where embargoes are not in force, to lay them, to prohibit until the 1st day of April next, the exportation of the several articles mentioned and described in the resolution of Congress of the 21st of August last."

†For the act of August 21st, see page 282.

& full expectation of Congress that every State in the Union yield a ready & punctual compliance with the recommendation without loss of time. I have the honour to be with the highest respect your Excy's hble. Serv't

Sam. Huntington, President.

His Ex'cy Governor Clinton.

[No. 2671.]

COLONEL PAWLING'S COMMAND IN MUTINY.

General Heath in Doubt as to the Extent of Punishment Because of the Provocation Due to Scarcity of Food.

Head Quarters Robinson's House Dec'r 16th 1779.

Sir, The late great scarcity of flour, (during which time, part of the Troops were Seven days without bread, and one of the Brigades on the verge of a mutiny,) has had such an effect on the Corps commanded by Lt. Colo. Pawling, that by the report of the Major, just now made, two thirds of the Corps have deserted within a few Days past. This Corps having behaved well, and prosecuted the works at Stony Point since they were posted there with great assiduity, until the late unhappy scarcity of bread commenced; and being of opinion that if they were longer continued, at that post their numbers would daily diminish, at the request of Major Bensecoten, I have directed him to march them to Poughkepsy, and take your further orders. I do not fully know on what condition this Corps was raised, or how they have been armed or accoutered; but I think those who have remained, as soon as they have returned their arms, accouterments, ammunition, cooking utensils &c had better be discharged, as their time of Service is nearly expired. With respect to those who have deserted, I scarcely know what to say; the tryal which they experienced was great, yet the crime is

of a nature, which if passed over unnoticed may have a baneful influence on the future discipline of the Army.

Our anxiety on account of the scarcity of flour still continues; with every exertion that can be made a daily supply can scarcely be obtained. This morning there was but one day's bread on hand at West Point; the probability of the river's being soon frozen makes the prospect still more alarming. I am pushing Quartermasters, and Commissaries to improve every moment, both by land and water, hope they will be able to effect a supply. If they should not; I know not what will be the consequence. I have the honor to be with the greatest respect your Excellency's most Obedient Servant

W. Heath.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

P. S. I was informed the last evening, that Mr. Cummins was arrived below Kings Ferry in a Flag with Mr. Sands Family; I immediately sent off an Express to Mr. Pell, who, by the papers I find has principally negotiated the matter, under your direction.

P. S. By various late accounts from New York, the Enemy are preparing to make a very large embarkation of troops said to be under the immediate direction of Sir H. Clinton, their destination said to be to the Southward. They are also said to be very inquisitive about our situation.

W. H.

[No. 2672.]

Arrival of the Flag With Mr. Cummings and the Sands Family.

Head Quarters Robinson's House, Dec'r 19th 1779.

Dear Sir, I immediately upon the arrival of the Flag with Mr. Cummins, and Mrs. Sands & Family, I sent off an express to Mr.

Pell, who, I was informed lived at Fredericksburgh, that he might attend. Whether he has been down or not, I have not heard. The Day before yesterday, I gave permission for the vessel to come up to Peeks Kill Bay, and Mr. Cummins and Mrs. Sands and Family to land at that place, and procede to Fish Kill; or if they chose it the Vessel might procede up the river to Poughkeepsie, the hands keeping below whilst passing the Fort; as I was informed it was uncertain, whether the Vessel would return this Winter. There are two Mariners on Board. If Mr. Pell has not arrived, I do not know which way Mr. Cummins will procede; if up the river, I have directed that an Officer remain on Board, untill your further directions are given.

I have the honor to be very respectfully your Excellency's
 Obedient Servant
 Governor Clinton.

W. Heath.

General Heath Suggests the Abandonment of the Beacons on the Mountain Tops During Severe Winter Months.

Head Quarters Robinson's House Dec'r 20th 1779

Sir,

I have the honor to enclose and forward your Excellency a Letter received this morning by Express from his Excellency Gen'l Washington.

I have not been able to give you a state of the several Beacons agreeable to your request of the 2d instant untill now. upon Enquiry I found that the Guard at the one on Butter Hill had been taken off for some time; I could not find by whose orders it was done, untill application was made to General McDougall from whom I learn that the Guard before mentioned was taken off with the approbation of the Commander in chief. As this Beacon must give the Signal to the others above, the other Guards

are rendered of no service. I have, therefore, thought, as it will be extremely difficult and uncomfortable to continue Guards on the Tops of those Mountains, where the Beacons are erected, through the severe season, and as there is but little probability of the Enemies making any considerable movements during that time; that the Guards in general had best be taken off; if you coincide in opinion with me and that as soon as the season advances, when the Enemy may be apprehended to be in motion, that the Guards should be again mounted; or if any intelligence before that time should indicate the Enemy to have intentions this way, immediate attention should be paid to the Beacons. I cannot find from any intelligence yet obtained, that a Beacon was ever fixed at one of the places you mention (viz) on Challenders [Mullenders]* Hill in little Britain.

The Enemy undoubtedly are making a large Embarkation of Troops, if they have not already sailed, it is said at least 10,000.

Forage and Fuel are exceedingly scarce with them. I have the honor to be with great respect your Excellency's most obed serv't

W. Heath.†

(Addressed)

Public Service. His Excellency Governor Clinton. Poughkeepsie.

[No. 2673.]

CONGRESS TO LEAVE PHILADELPHIA.

*Ruinous Cost of Living—Critical Condition of Our Finances—
Dismal Outlook for the Future.*

Philadelphia, December 21st 1779

Sir, I have this Day Rec'd your favour of the 24th of last month and am very Sorry to hear that your Excellency's procla-

*See page 392.

† From the Collection at Washington's Headquarters, Newburgh, N. Y.

mation Intending to prevent the wicked practice of plundering, is not like to have the Desired Effect; yet I cannot but hope that your Second application to Governor Trumbull may answer Some valuable purpos.

Several applications has been made to us as Delegates by persons from our State, to assist them in getting their friends out of prison here, that they might Remove them to the State of New York, which by their Extraordinary Solicitations we have been Induced to do; tho with great Reluctance, as we did not know whether it would be agreeable to you or not. They have given Bonds for the Delivery of those Prisoners to the Commissioners at Poughkeepsie, or Albany. I hope they will fulfill their obligations. As we are at a loss to know whether it is proper to have them Removed from this State or not, we would beg if Such a Step is improper you would be pleased to Signifie it by a line; lest there Should be Some other application of a Similar Nature, and we be Induced to assist them without knowing whether it would be agreeable to the State or not.

One obligation I enclosed to you a few Days Since by one Shearer it is against (Frear & Baker) the other is herewith Inclosed which I hope will Come Safe to hand.

Congress have Resolved to Remove from this place the 1st of May next But have not yet Determined on the place where they will Remove to.

You will not be surprized at their wish to Quit this City, when you are informed of the amazing Expense of Living here: Beef in the market Current at 3 Doll's pr. lb; pork four; wood 100lb pr. Cord; flour 100lb pr. hundred w't, and other things in proportion; it Seems as if the Devil was with all his Emmisaries let loose in this State to Ruin our money, and they, the authorities of this

State are so Slow in the Collecting their taxes, that it will have but little Effect towards preventing it.

However Critical and Difficult our Situation may be, yet it Cannot be improper you Should know it. Long Since Congress Resolved to Stop the farther Emission of money; Relying on the Taxes to be Raised in the Several States for Money to Carry on the war, with the Small Sums which they Expected to get by loaning.

But alas what is our Situation! Our Treasury nearly Exhausted, Every Department out of Cash, no Magazines of provision laid up, our army Starving for want of Bread, on the Brink of a General Mutiny, and the prospect of a Spedy Supply is very Small. This is a meloncholly Situation and would give our Enemies great pleasure if they knew it.

Under these Circumstances the grand Difficulty is to know what can be done for Relief, And it appears to me that if the Several States does not take on themselves to draw forth the Supplies for the use of the army, by a tax on the necessary articles, or Some other mode that may be in their power, God only knows what will become of us next Campaign; our army Cannot be kept together. But I'll Conclude the disagreeable tale & Subscribe my Self your most Obed't & humble Serv't

[To G. C.]

Wm. Floyd.

[No. 2674.]

Governor Clinton Summons the Commissaries to an Immediate Conference on the Flour Supply.

Pokeepsie Dec'r 21st 1779.

Sir, The very alarming acct. I have this moment rec'd from his Excell'cy Genl. Washington with respect to supplies of Pro-

visions for the army, has induced me to call a meet'g of the purchasing Commissaries in this Quarter, in order that I may be particularly informed of the Quantities of Provisions they have in Store & what Prospects they have of obtain'g more, as well as to consult with them whether any further exertions which it may be in the Power of this State to make on this extraordinary Emergency will enable them to provide competent Supplies. I have, therefore, to request that you will meet me at this Place without one moment's delay. I am &c.

[G. C.]

[To Purchasing Commissaries.]

[No. 2675.]

General Washington Issues Emergency Orders to General Heath.

Head Qrs. Morris Town, Dec'r 21st 1779

Dear Sir, Notwithstanding the long preparations at New York, and the strong appearance of a large detachment being made from thence, it seems certain from very recent advices, that no Troops have sailed as yet, and that the Enemy hold themselves in collected Force. What their designs really are I have not been able to learn; altho I have taken all pains in my power to effect it. The Southern States & the West Indies present themselves as the most probable Objects of their attention, and this seems to be the general prevailing opinion; but as their delay cannot be satisfactorily accounted for, we should guard in the best manner we can against every possible contingency. I would, therefore, suppose it possible, that the preparations of Transports, &c. may be a feint, and that the Enemy may soon have it in contemplation, to aim a sudden stroke either against the

Highland Posts, or against this Army. The latter event appears by far the more probable of the two. My former instructions of the 27th of November, and the Conventional signals, which have been established, and to which they referred, were only calculated to produce succour from the Militia in case of a serious movement of the Enemy in the first instance. But it would be equally necessary if they should direct their operations against this Army. In this event it may be absolutely essential, for you and the Troops under your command, to march & give me support. And in order to this, I wish the signals by a previous and immediate arrangement, between you and his Excellency Governor Clinton may be made to answer the purpose, of calling out the Militia to Garrison the Posts during the absence of the Continental Troops. They should not be drawn out for less than ten or twelve Days, and, if practicable, on account of our supplies of Flour, it will be advisable for each man to bring with him flour for that time. You will communicate with the Governor on those several points, who I am confident will do all in his power to promote them. On your hearing of the Enemies being in motion towards this Army, in such a way as you can depend upon it, you will make the signals for calling in the Militia and hold the Troops of the garrison in readiness to march at the shortest warning. I am, D'r Sir, with great regard & esteem your most Obed't Serv't

Go. Washington.

(Copy)

Major General Heath.

[No. 2676.]

Governor Clinton Gravelly Concerned Over the Prospects of Securing Flour—The Legislature Soon to Meet.

Poughkeepsie Dec'r 23d 1779.

Dr Sir, I have been favored with your several Letters of the 14th, 16th, 19th & 20th Inst. Wright & Bud are safely lodged in gaol & their names will be handed to the State Commissary of Prisoners.

I perfectly agree with you in Sentiment wth respect to the Beacons; as it is not probable any movem^t of the Enemy tow^{ds} the High^l'ds in the course of the Winter will be so sudden but that timely notice may be given to assemble the militia—in the Spring we must reassume our former Conduct on this Subject with such further Regulations as may be judged necessary.

I am greatly obliged to you, Sir, in the trouble you have taken with the Flag and thank you for the Directions you have given on the occasion. I fear it will be too late for Mr. Cummings to return to New York. I shall in that Case be under the Necessity of indulg^g him to remain in the Count^y wth his family until the breaking up of the winter.

I am exceedingly alarmed at the Information I continue to receive respect^g the scarcity of Provision for the Army. I hoped that the late soft weather had enabled the Commiss[']ys to have furnished competent supplies for your Division, that wou^d have lasted some time; but as they have not and the severe Frost will prevent many of the mills from grind^g I dread the consequences; besides from the failure of the Crops last year I fear without the greatest Economy we will be reduced to great Difficulties to bring the year about.

I must set out the first of next month to meet the Legislature

at Albany. If, therefore, there is any Thing in which my aid may be necessary to promote the public Service either before my Departure or while there I shall be happy in being informed of it and be assured, Sir, of every Exertion in my Power. I have the Honor to be &c.

G. Clinton.

The hon'ble Major Genl. Heath.

[No. 2677.]

OBSTACLES IN THE WAY OF THE FOOD SUPPLY.

Farmers Obtaining Higher Prices in the Southern States—Object to Time Payments Because of Depreciation of Currency—A Substitute Proposed for Wheat Bread.

Poughkeepsie Dec'r 26th 1779.

Dear Sir, Immediately on the Rec't of your Excellency's Letter of the 16th Inst. contain'g the alarm'g acc't of the Situation of the Army w'th respect to provisions (which did not come to hand 'till the Even'g of the 22d) I convened the purchasing Commiss'ys in this Q'r, that I might know what Supplies they were able to furnish & whether any Exertions of mine would tend to forward the Business of their Department on this press'g occasion.

On the minutest Enquiry I have been able to make as to the Resources of this State under its present Circumstances, I am sorry to inform you that we shall not have it in our Power to do more than supply the pres't Garrison of Fort Schuyler & the Posts in the Highlands & the Troops in that vicinity computing their daily Issues at 40 bar'ls of flour.

Your Excell'cy will remember that the Legislature at their last meeting authorized an assessment on the Farmers of two eighths

of all their wheat after leaving a bare competency for the use of their Families. The one eighth hath been collected & is now nearly expended without doing more than furnishing to the Troops a daily supply. I have now ordered the other eighth to be immediately collected & manufactured & forwarded to Fish-kill; but I fear (from the want of water at the mills) the Troops in this Quarter will suffer before it can be effected. It is from the amount of these assessments & other Information rec'd from the Commiss'ys I form this Judgm't of what Flour may be expected from us. The Business of the Commiss'ys in this State has hitherto been confined to the purchas'g of Flour. I believe if they had orders & were supplied with Cash for the Purpose some Cattle & a small quantity of Pork might be procured.

The present State of our Currency and the want of Cash in the hands of the Persons employ'd to purchase, will absolutely prevent them from doing any Thing effectual as the Farmer considers the difference of the Value of the Money between the Time of Sale & Payment, a diminution of the Price, whereas if he was paid immediately, he could dispose of his Money at the Value he received it at; Besides the exorbitant Prices which our Farmers here are given in some of the Southern States, occasions so great an unwillingness in them to dispose of their Produce at any Rate, that I apprehend very little (other than what is forced from them by the authority of Law) will be procured. If these Difficulties were removed, & a Proportion of Indian Corn & Rice was manufactured with the wheat into Flour for immediate use, it wou'd so lengthen out the supplies which may be procured in this state as to enable us to Feed the army. The Bread will certainly be equally wholesome & nourishing to the Troops. But without this, & if the last Crops in the other States have been equally injured

a real Scarcity with the fatal consequences which would attend it may be apprehended.

I must set out the first of next month to meet the Legislature at Albany & your Excellency may rely on it that I will faithfully represent to them the present Difficulties of the Army & recommend every measure which will tend to remove them, and in the mean time that I will continue my best Endeavours to promote the public Service by relieving your —— from the Distresses. ——? I am &c.

G. Clinton.

His Excellency Genl. Washington.

[No. 2678.]

Commissary Reed Rectifies an Error in His Estimate of the Amount of Wheat on Hand.

Amenia 27th Dec'r 1779.

Sir, Since Returning home, find we Omitted giving you an acc't of wheat collected by Salt, which is more than I thought, when with you, nor is so much of s'd Wheat ground as I expected; so have thought to give your Excellency this timely notice of the mistake as you may have a right Idea of the Quantity on hand; I find on a strict Examination that I have wheat Collected by salt sufficient to make 300 Bar'ls, add to that the 100 Barrels of the sess'd wheat, which will make in all 400 Bar'ls, which I find can be ground and Ready for Delivery at the Rate of 40 Bbls. p weak, untill the whole be Deliverd, if the Water should continue the same as it now is through the Winter.

I make no Doubt the other Gentl'mn have forgot their Salt Wheat. I am, sir, your Humb'c Serv't

James Reed.

Governor Clinton.

[No. 2679.]

Christopher Korts Gives a £2,000 Bond for John Korts.

Know all men by these presents that I, Christopher Korts of the Camp in the Mannor of Livingston, in the County of Albany, Cordwainer, am held and firmly bound unto Philip Pell, Esqr. Commissary of Prisoners for the state of New York, in the Just and full sum of two thousand pounds, Current money of the said state, to be paid to the said Philip Pell, his Executors, administrators or assigns. The which payment well and truly to be made and done, I bind myself, my Heirs Executors and administrators by these presents, sealed with my seal this twenty seventh day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy nine.

The Condition of this Obligation is such, that if John Korts of the Camp in the Mannor of Livingston aforesaid, a prisoner of the said state now confined in the Goal of Dutchess County by Order of his Excellency the Governor, will remain peaceably and quietly within the limits of the East Camp afd, and do nothing to prejudice the Independence of the United States, until he is removed from the said East Camp by Lawful authority, then this Obligation to be Void or else to remain in full force and Vrtue.

Christopher Korts.

Sealed and delivered in the presence of

Elizabeth Stewart.

Gilbert Livingston.

[No. 2680.]

THE ENEMY'S SUSPICIOUS MOVEMENTS.

In Compliance With Orders from Washington, General Heath Restores the Beacons—The Flour and Flag Problems.

Robinson's House Dec'r 27th 1779.

Sir, I was this evening honored with yours of the 23d instant, and a few minutes since with one from his Excellency General Washington; I have the honor to transmit you a copy of the latter.* From the tenor of his Excellency's letter, it is my duty to pay an immediate attention to the reestablishment of the Beacons, and posting guards at them, which will be severe duty at this season; this I shall order to those in this vicinity to morrow, and submit to your Excellency the holding the Militia in readiness in such way and manner as you may judge

*See page 127.

proper. His Excellency's letter is dated the 21st instant, which was Tuesday last. There is a report this day that the Enemies Fleet sailed from New York, on Wednesday last. If a considerable Detachment have sailed, the object of these extraordinary preparations I think ceases: but untill I receive the most authentic intelligence of it, or directions from his Excellency to the Contrary I must pursue the injunctions of his letter.

Your being exceedingly alarmed, at the information you continue to receive respecting the scarcity of provisions for the Army, affects me most sensibly: and since you are so exceedingly obliging, as to offer me your aid for the public service, both before your departure, and while with the Legislature at Albany I thankfully embrace it, and earnestly request, that if any measures can be devised, that will tend to insure an increase of provisions (especially of flour) for the use of the Army, without injury to the good people of the State, they may be adopted.

Your readiness on all occasions to afford me aid, for the public service, and the particular marks of friendship so often repeated, lay me under particular obligation. Happy shall I think myself if I can ever render you that return, either, in your public or private character that gratitude dictates and Friendship inspires. I have the honor to be with the greatest respect your Excellency's most Obedient Servant

W. Heath.

His Excellency Governor Clinton

P. S. One barrell of Pork 150 lb. of Flour, some butter &c. was taken from some persons going into New York some days since, which they had over and above the quantity allowed.

It was agreeable to your desire some time since express'd put into the public stores and the Commissary is directed to account with the State for it. I am determin'd if possible to break up a scandalous traffic which has for some time been practis'd between the Lines. I have taken the liberty to forward a number of letters brought out by Mr. Cummins & sent up to my Quarters. I intended to have given them to the Commissary of Prisoners, but have not seen him. I am glad that my conduct with the Flag has your approbation.

W. H.

Poughkeepsie Dec'r 30th 1779.

Dr Sir, I have rec'd your favor of the 27th covering a Copy of his Excell'cy Genl. Washington's Letter respecting the manœuvres of the Enemy.

I have issued my Orders to the militia of Dutchess, Ulster Orange & Westchester to hold themselves in perfect readiness to move at a moment's warning. Copies for the command'g Officers of the Westchester Regiments are enclosed for your perusal which you will please to seal & forward to them.

I have only to add that I am with the greatest Respect & Esteem Dear Sir, your most Obedt. serv't

Geo: Clinton.

The hon'ble Major Genl. Heath.

[No. 2681.]

CHARLES PHELPS AND THE VERMONT DISPUTE.

He Writes Lengthy Communications to Governour Clinton and to the President of Congress.

Sir, I being at Boston this fall, Eathan Allen was Sent by the pretended Governour & Council of Vermont with an address or Letters to the General Court of that State, setting forth that the people of Vermont having withstood all the powers of New York and maintained their opposition to the Government, and by a long series of sufferings from thence and subduing that part of the wilderness & since have displayd their fortitude & prowess in arms with the United States of America as they represented against the British troops &c. &c. by which they suggested they ought to be a separate State, and were Intituled to it by all the principles that any of the United States were when they set up for Independancy, & doubted not but that America were in general wishing they should be an Independant State in the sisterhood of the other States; from all which presumeing the Massachusetts Court would not oppose it; &c. &c. wherefore, desired that they would surrender or give up that part of their claim to those Lands in Vermont State as they called it to them &c.; but if not i. e. If that Court was not willing but intended to claim them Lands they desired they would transmit a discription of the Quantity of Land they pretended to claim before Congress (meaning the first of February next) unto them of Vermont, meaning thereby to ascertain what part of that district would be consequently left for New York, for them to debate with that state at Congress, & other advantages of grate Importance they Imagined to have gained if the Bay Court could have been prevailed with to have made to Vermont a surrender to them of the Massachusetts Claim, which contains I sopose nine tenths of the Inhabitants of Vermont's whole state as they call it, to Induce Congress to persuade New York to in like generous & glorious a manner to surrender to Vermont, for a State, their tract of Country for so beneficial a purpose &c. and if not to have Congress make New York State an Equivalent in Land elsewhere. I say, I being at Boston, & knowing all this, & the pernicious Consequences thereof, to us and the whole State of New York also, &c. and being obliged by my Previous Negotiations in behalfe of a grate number of my Constituents in matters of grate Consequence &c. was Impelled from hence as well as my own Intrest & the Intrest of Government to oppose that address of Vermont, by Petitions to the contrary, and obtaind my prayers in opposition thereto &c.; to the grievous resentment of s'd Allen to that degree he threatens to kill me as I have been credibly Informed at Boston since I saw him.

I also Inform your Excellency, I am grately surprized to find my account in going to Congress for my days spent there in about 3 months, and my horse Hire for 800 miles, both denyd by the Legislature of New York State, on hearing & considering my accompt so fully & Justly stated, now lying in them files, which I humbly pray your Excellency's application thereto in my behalfe, that my accompt may be reconsidered and granted, that I may have payd me a reasonable reward for my time & horse hire, as I had your Excellency's consent, the Leut. Governour, and a number of the Leading gentlemen of the Vermont assembly that my accompt was reasonably charged and but Just to be allowed. Those from your Excellency's most Humble Servant at command &c.

Charles Phelps.

December 28th 1779.

To His Excellency, George Clinton, Esqr., Governour of the State of New York.

Sir, I herewith Inclose your Excellency a Letter to Congress submitting it to your consideration & praying your Excellency, if you see cause to enclose it in a wrapper and subscribe it to Congress & send it there as coming under your direction if you think best or coming as from me without it &c.

C. Phelps.

Sir, I beg Leave to Inform the Honorable, Continental Congress that those parts of their Resolutions of the 24 of September Last, respecting Vermont &c., hath been

copied from the original as delivered me by the Honorable Secretary, Charles Thomson, Esqr., and dispersed through a number of the towns whose Inhabitants are of the State of New York by profession, and those people have Industriously Endeavored to spread the Resolutions to those of Vermont partie who dont own (as I am Informed by numbers of them) that the common people know any thing of them; we certainly know the Resolutions have been read in what they call the General assembly; but I have all the Reason necessary to Induce me to believe the Prohibitory part of them Resolutions are kept among themselves and a few others their Confidants; but remain under an artfull suppression or false suggestions from or to all others.

And they say, if they are not to be a state they are undone, they have used so much of the public estate they have confiscated & sold and other expences and the consequences of their evil conduct they foresee will inevitably prove their overthrow & Ruin, if they be not an Independant & Sovereign State. And if they are left..... to their own voluntary Subjects and may not Exercise any powers over those of other States, they know so narrow and contracted a domination must necessarily ruin them; therefore, they are Resolved to be a State at all Hazards & their chiefs, as Allen I mean Eathen, and others declare openly, that they will be a state let Congress do what they will, for they know their Estates Honors & what they call High Titles & dignity, they must loose; therefore, they well say, if they are denyd being a state they are undone; tho multitudes among us believe & know if they are suffered to be a state, this part of the country is all undone and the pernicious example they have set has almost ruined the most part of the Massachusetts Bay by their example of faction & rebellion; & numbers of the most sensible sober & moral part of the county of Cumberland where we dwell, who petitioned Congress & chose me their agent for that purpose &c., & the best & greatest Landholders among us, must leave the country if Vermont is continued to Exist; this I certainly know, that we are bound by the laws of self preservation, to Humbly pray in the most pungent (?) & earnest manner that that ungrateful unprovoked most wicked & the worst of all treasonable Insurrections & the most daring Insolent of all Rebellions as we view it that ever was perpetrated in America may be Immediately crushed & totally exterperated from off the earth and whilst I thus express my own sentiments I know I express the sentiments of vast numbers who am sir with the greatest esteem your Excellency's much obliged & most Humble & dutiful Servant at comand

Charles Phelps.

New Marlborough December 28th 1779.

To His Excellency Samuel Huntington, president of the Honorable Continental Congress at Philadelphia.

N. B. I Humbly think it best by all means to have them resolves published through all the states concerned by those Resolutions of the 24 of Sept'r and also in Connecticut State, for we are abundantly satisfied vast numbers of Connecticut Gentl'n are petitioners to Vermont for grants of the most valuable part of all the unappropriated Lands in New York State and that state of Connecticut & its members for self ends, self Intrest, are deeply Intrested & engaged to have Vermont established as a state and the prevailing opinion & hearty selfish desire of their leading men in Connecticut I am assured of it are warmly engaged to have it a state; therefore, I Humbly think it Improper & Infinitely dangerous to us as things may turn, to allow Connecticut delegates to have any voice or vote in Congress in & upon that subject whether Vermont shall be created a state. Vermont's pretended Secretary cant deny giving copys of all their proceedings of them & Vermont grants of Lands as above mentioned, wherefore, it is most Humbly prayd that Congress make strict serch thereinto before adjudication in the premisses &c. Yours &c.

C. Phelps.

Please to pardon Indecency for want of paper &c. to such a Respectable Body of gent'n.

P. S. it is well known among us that the better sort of Vermont people the Intend to submit to Congress Resolutions if Congress should deny them the being of a state.

C. P.

I Humbly think my selfe bound in duty to my country & my selfe & all my friends to sugest what is above written.

C. Phelps.

December 28th 1779.

[No. 2682.]

Provisions for the Army Diverted to the Enemy.

Head Quarters, Robinson's House Dec'r 31 1779.

Sir, The day before yesterday, three German Deserters came to this place; they left Fort Washington the last Sunday evening. They inform me that nearly the whole of the fresh provisions they obtain are drove in by the Refugees and that this is done almost daily, particularly by the sound road. The enclosed is just handed me by Mr. Strang the Deputy Judge Advocate at this Post. It seems absolutely necessary that some effectual measures should be immediately adopted, or the very provisions which are expected and wanted for our army, will find their way to the Enemy. I submit to your Excellency, whether any further regulations are necessary with respect to the mode of granting leave to the Inhabitants to carry down provisions; you may depend on my utmost endeavors to render any regulation that may be adopted effectual, being determined as far as is in my power, to put a stop to the Enemies obtaining supplies, in a way so dishonorable & injurious to ourselves. The deserters bring out no great matter of news; report that the British Granadiers & Light Infantry, at least a very considerable part of them, are at Fort Washington, with two Hessian regiments & part of Colonel Worms Yaugers. All the Hessian Granadiers, part of the Yaugers, & ten men from each Hessian Regiment as Chassieurs gone with General Clinton—said destined for Georgia & that they had fallen down to the Hook.

In the course of the winter I may have occasion to procure three or four barrells of Flour for the particular use of my own

Family at Boston, I would request your permission, to pass it out of the State, agreeable to the Laws in that case made and provided. I have the honor to be with the greatest respect your Excellency's most Obedient Servant

W. Heath.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 2683.]

Account of the Expenditure of £3,000 Granted by the Legislature to the Indigent Families on the Frontiers.

[] 1779.

Account of the Expenditure of £3000 granted by the Legislature at their last session for the Relief & Support of such Persons as had their Property destroyed by the Enemy & were incapable of gaining a Livelihood.

*Paid John Fonda for the use of the Persons within the above Description in Tryon County	£1800
Paid Johannis Ball & Garret Groesbeck for the use of the Persons within the above Description in Albany County	150
Paid Levi Pawling for the use of the Persons within the above Description in Ulster & Orange County	650

[No. 2684.]

Petition of Long Island Refugees to Export Flour and Grain.

To his Excellency Governor Clinton &c. &c.

S'r, The Subscribers, your Excellency's humble Petitioners, Being all Refugees from Long Island, who have from principle emigrated & with inflexible Spirit & Invariable

*See Volume IV, page 809.

resolution was and now are the most Cordial Friends to the Independence of the United States, having long hardly subsisted our selves in the State of Connecticut & have made many hard Struggles with Insuperable difficulties, are now reduced to a want of Bread, the people among whom we dwell either cannot or will not furnish us with Supplies. Now, S'r, permitt your humble Petitioners to look up to your Excellency's Paternal goodness, for a Permitt to purchase in the State of New-York (to which we humbly claim a Union) that Bread or Species of bread which to Suport & only to Support our families is absolutely necessary. In the fullest asurance of your Excellency's Candour & in the highest hopes that you[r] Compassion for persevering Friends will Excite you to Grant our petition to purchase a full Supplie for our Nomerous families & thereby Lay us the Subscribers under Indispesible Obligations ever to pray &c.

Obadiah Johnes, Nat'l King, Zebulun Cooper, Elias Howell, Silas Hallsey, Jun'r, Samuel Sherril, Isaac Schellinger, Jeremiah Jaggar, William Havens, Jesse Wood, Thomas Harley, David Conkling, Richard Seman, Jonathan Conklin, Jeremiah Rogers, David Howell, Silvanus Howell, Obediah Wright, Willi. Wels.

MANUSCRIPT VOL. IX.

[No. 2685.]*

[No. 2686.]

Colonel John Lamb Brings to Governor Clinton's Attention a Resolution of Congress Respecting Wood Cut on the Moore Farm.

Fishkills, 4th Jan'y, 1780.

Dear Sir, As I have been just now informed, that Mr. Stephen Moore, has obtained a Resolution of Congress, respecting the wood which has been Cut, at West-Point, for Publick use; and being in doubt, whether part of the same, did not belong to his Brothers, Thomas, & Charles, I thought it proper, to transmit you a Copy of the Resolution; and of a Letter from Mr. Livingston, to General Greene, on the Subject. Genl. Green has directed Colo. Hay, to appoint Persons, to appraise the damage, immediately; in order that Mr. Moore may be paid. Please to present the Compliments of the Season, to Mrs. Clinton, & Mrs. Tappan, and accept the same, from, Dear Sir, your obedient Servant

John Lamb,

P. S. I shall esteem it a singular favour, if you will please to leave me a Permit to transport 6 Barrels of Flour, to my Family.
His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

*This document will be found under document 2714, page 183.

[No. 2687.]

Respecting the Cases of Snedeker and Teller.

Rockland January 6th 1780.

I receivd your Excellency's favour of the 4th this moment; in answer, thereto, must acquaint you that Mr. Taller & Snedeker were taken near Dobbs Ferry in a small Boat, laden with necessaries, by Capt. Wells of the Infantry, going to the Enemy; as to Snedeker's Character, I am entirely unacquainted with the Man, tho the Generality of our friends here look on him as a dangerous Man, and thro whose means most of the People about the Pond are become disaffected; being at Clarks Town the day after he was Captured, I had an opportunity to hear the Peoples Sentiments respecting him; they much feared his being let out on Security, which they in general said, would but answer a bad purpose; all I can say in regard to Mr. Teller is, that from the best accounts I can collect, instead of going to New York on Parole is, that he deserted his Parole. I would not wish in the least to dictate, tho as your Excellency requests my opinion, I should think it best not to Suffer Snedeker on parole, as his life will certainly be in danger. I have had in my power to do something with the Refuges on the other side, but as it is Impossible to keep the Volunteers from intirely ruining the Inhabitants when they get over the river, I was perswaded not to go, untill I could acquaint your Excellency with the Consequences likely to attend. I Remain, with Sincere Respect, Your Excellency's Most Obed't Servant,

J. Lawrence, Jun'r.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 2688.]

THE SITUATION VERY DISTRESSING.

Three Feet of Snow on the Ground, Mills Frozen Up, Troops Suffering for Food, with Supplies Low and Prices High.

Pokeepsie 6th Jan'y 1780.

Sir, I am favoured with your two Letters of last Month. As the Commissioners of Conspiracies have not formed a Board at this Place since the Receipt of these Letters, I have not been able to deliver them the Bonds they enclosed, or obtain their Sentiments with respect to the Propriety of having the Subjects of this State, who had joined the Enemy & have since been made Prisoners liberated & sent into the State. I have reason, however, to believe that, except in some particular Instances where Persons have been previously captured by the Enemy & constrained to enter into their Service, it will be most agreeable that they Continue under the Direction of the Comm'y Genl. of Prisoners, for Exchange & treated in every Respect as the other Prisoners of War. From Experience, we find that those who have joined the Enemy & have deserted from them, & returned to the Country, are by no means profitable Members of the Community & we have no Reason to expect that those who we have made Prisoners will prove better. Besides, it is an Indulgence they are by no means entitled to & may serve as an Encouragement to others to be guilty of the like Treasonable Practices.

Our present situation is more distressing than any Thing we have experienced since the commencement of the War. It has been with the utmost Difficulty notwithstanding the great Exertions of the State that we have been hitherto able to Feed the

Troops Stationed at the different Posts in the Highlands by a precarious Supply brought in daily. We have now near three Feet Snow on the Ground, & most of the Mills in the Country either Froze up or without Water, & I am informed that the Troops under the immediate Command of his Excellency Genl. Washington is in equally as disagreeable a Situation with respect to supplies of Provisison, so that unless some spirited Exertions are made in the Southern States to Feed the army at this Critical Period the Consequences may be fatal. The Exorbitant Prices given in Philadelphia for the Necessaries of Life will, in the End, totally destroy the Credit of our Money. Our Farmers who have hitherto parted with their Flour to the Army at £20 pr feel themselves much injured by the Disparity of the Prices, & will be constrained by Necessity to pursue the Example of their Neighbours or be ruined. I am happy to learn that Congress are determined to move from Philadelphia. I am not without hopes it may be attended with some good Consequences & I wish an earlier Period had been fixed on.

The Gentlemen appointed by the Legislature to collect Evidence of the Extention of this State over the New Hampshire Grants, are now employed in that Business & by the Day assigned by Congress I hope will be properly prepared to support our Rights before them.

The Legislature was to have mett at Albany the 4th Instant. I intended to have set out for that Place on Monday last but the Roads are impassible & as the Snow drifts, I doubt much whether they will be sufficiently broke before the middle of next Week. I have not a Word of News worth communicating. We have no certainty that the Embarkation of the Enemy at New York (for which Preparations have been long making) have as

yet sailed; our best accounts about 10 Days since were that they had fallen down to the Hook. If they lay there in the last Snow Storm we shall have a good account of them. Please accept of the Compliments of the Season & off the same with best Regards to Mr. La Thomedien & believe me to be with great

G. Clinton.

The hon'ble Wm. Floyd, Esqr.

[No. 2689.]

Governor Clinton Writes to Chancellor Livingston on Several Important Subjects.

Pokeepsie, 7th Jan'y 1780.

Dear Sir, I have delayed acknowledging the Rec^t of your Favours of the 24th & 30th Nov'r in Hopes of having it in my Power to comply with your Request by forwarding an attested Copy of the Resolution authorizing one Delegate to vote in Congress, but the Clerk & Members of the Assembly being in Albany I have not been able to procure it. I now inclose you the one delivered me by the senate with the message of the Assembly's concurrence thereto signed by the Presid^t & attested by the Clerk, which I presume will be sufficient, for if we may Judge from your Journals, Congress do not pay the strictest attention to Form in Matters of this kind.

I have long suspected from Hints which have fallen from Individuals an Intention in some of the States to claim not only our Western Lands but the Forfeited Estates also as a Common Interest; and as from Experience, we find Public Bodies more frequently influenced in their Decissions by motives of Policy & a Desire of pleasing their immediate Constitutents than by

a Regard to Equity, I agree with you, that it may be our Interest to give up a Part of our Western Lands, if by this we shall be able to Injoy the Remainder free from every Claim. On this Condition, I woud for my own Part, be contented with the Boundary described in your Letter, as it would leave us Territory nearly as Extensive as the Influence of Government could reach, and beyond this I do not for many Reasons conceive it to be our Interest to hold Lands.

The Legislature were to have mett at Albany the 4th Inst. but we have such an amazing Body of Snow,* & much drifted, as to render the Roads impassible; as soon as they are convened, I will communicate to them your Sentiments & endeavour to procure the necessary Instructions to the Delegates on this Subject. I despair of our passing a Law for opening a Land Office; you are sensible many Members were opposed to it from different Motives at their last Meeting. The late Resolution of Congress recommending it to the different States who have

*The sound, between Long Island and Connecticut, is almost frozen over in the widest parts; and some persons have passed over from Long Island to Norwalk and other parts in Connecticut on the ice. Wood is brought from Long Island to New York on sleighs. It is almost passable from Powle's Hook to New York. Rivington's Gazette, February 16.

Extract of a letter from Bourdeaux, dated March 30, 1780, to William Carmichael, Esq.:

"I arrived here the 28th inst. in the *Buckskins*, Johns. from Baltimore, which place I left the latter end of December, but the ship having been frozen up in the Patuxent for near two months we did not leave that river till the latter end of February, and finally got to sea the 2d inst. The winter proved the severest known in America, far exceeding that of the year 1740. At Philadelphia the cold was two degrees greater than ever remembered. The snows were so great and the cold so intense as to prevent travelling in almost any manner. This calamity added to the circumstance of a Commissary General's being either displaced or having resigned, and leaving the magazines very poorly furnished, reduced our army to very hard straights. They were ten days without bread, and in a letter which I saw from a member of Congress were these words: 'Our army was four days on half a herring and a gill of rice a man per day.' Our Assembly, viz, that of Maryland was sitting. The President received a letter from his Excellency, General Washington, informing him of the State of the army, and urging a speedy supply of provisions. They immediately made an Act authorizing the Executive power to seize on all stores and provisions they could find any where in the State, which was accordingly put in execution, and large supplies of all sorts were quickly collected and forwarded to camp, where as great plenty reigned before we came away as could be wished for."



Robert H. Lowmeyer

passed such Laws to repeal them &c. will confirm those Gentlemen in their opposition tho perhaps it affords the most conclusive Arguments in favour of the Measure.

I have not felt equal Distress at the Situation of our Affairs at any Period since the Commencement of the War. Notwithstanding the great Exertions made by this State it is with the utmost Difficulty we Feed the Troops stationed at & in the Vicinity of the Posts in the Highlands. They have been frequently Days together, without Bread & now subsist on a precarious Supply daily brought into them & I am informed the Army at Morris Town are in the same disagreeable Situation. Our public Magazines are intirely exhausted and owing to an extraordinary Drought, it is with difficulty that the Commissaries can have the Wheat that has been collected from the Farmers in Consequence of our Laws manufactured, & which with the greatest Oeconemy will not be more than sufficient to subsist the Troops till the first of March; and by the Exorbitant Prices which is exacted for the Necessaries of Life in the Neighbouring States, our Money is so reduced, that I fear it will not purchase a further Supply. Indeed, if the last Crops have been equally bad in the Neighbouring States as in this, I apprehend a Real Scarcity, to prevent which I submit it to you whether the Commissaries ought not to be directed to purchase a Proportion of Rye & Indian Corn & grind it up with the Wheat for the Troops. The Bread will be equally wholesome & Sweet & it will answer. If this is necessary, it ought to be done immediately as the Meal will not keep so well in Warm Weather & because the Country will soon be drained of those Articles for Forrage. As I have a good Oppinion of your Plan for restoring the Credit of our Money, I am anxious

to see it carried into Execution; I wish to have it before the rising of the Legislature.

My Accounts from New York are so uncertain as not to be worth communicating; by 3 Hessian Deserters who came from Fort Washington & arrived at Genl. Heath's Quarters the 31st Ultimo, the Embarkation for which the Enemy have long been preparing had fallen down to the Hook where I hope they have mett the late Snow Storm, where the old Sailors tell me they will have a most dangerous Berth.

My best Respects to Mr. Morris. I believe I owe him a Letter or two but I have nothing worth writing him at present. Mrs. Clinton joins with Compliments of the Season to yourself & Mrs. Livingston. I am, D^r (Sir) with great Regard your Most Obed't Serv't

G: Clinton.

The hon'ble Robt. R. Livingston, Esqr. Chancellor &c. in Congress.

From New York 21st Febry. 1780, General James Pattison wrote to Sir Henry Clinton:

Sir, Your Excellency had no sooner taken your Departure from the Hook than the Frost redoubled its Efforts to shut up the Navigation of this Port from the Sea, which was by the Assistance of a heavy fall of Snow, effected in three Days Time —The Severity of the Weather increased to that Degree that by the Middle of January all Communications with this City, by Water, were intirely cut off, and as many New Ones opened, by the Ice. The Passage of the North River to Paulus Hook was about the 19th practicable for the heaviest Cannon; Provisions were Transported from hence to Staten Island upon Sleighs, and a Detachment of Cavalry from thence marched to

New York, over the ice.—The East River to Brooklyn was likewise for many Days block'd up.

Thus circumstanced, Sir, this City was laid open on many Sides to an Attack from an enterprizing Enemy, and notwithstanding the unsuccessful Attempt they made upon Staten Island, on the 14th Jan'y, it was nevertheless strongly reported that Genl. Washington was meditating a great Stroke upon New York, with his whole Force, by different Attacks, and although the Undertaking wou'd have been perhaps too daring & unwarrantable, yet the repeated Intelligence we received of the many Preparations they were making for that Purpose, forbid the absolute Disbelief of such a Plan being under Contemplation, I therefore thought it a favorable Occasion to put to the Test the Sincerity of the Professions contained in the Citizens Address to me of the 17th Nov'r—Requesting to be put in Military Array, as I might thereby further add to the Defence & Security of this City and Garrison—I submitted the Propriety & Expediency of the Measure to Genl. Tryon, and as it met with his entire Approbation and Concurrence, I did not hesitate, having taken the Sense too of some of the Principal Inhabitants to issue a Proclamation, of which I beg Leave to enclose a Copy, calling forth the Citizens to embody and to enroll themselves, under such Officers, as shou'd be appointed to Command them. The Cheerfulness and Alacrity, with which it was universally comply'd with, exceeded all Expectation, and in the short Space of Seven Day's after the Proclamation, we had the Pleasure to see 40 Companies from the Wards of the City enrolled, Officer'd and under Arms, to the Number of 2660, many of the most respectable Inhabitants serving in the Ranks of each Company, —Above Nine hundred are arm'd at their own Expense, and the

whole were desirous of the same, if there had been a sufficient Number of Firelocks in Town for Sale, but that not being the Case, it became necessary to supply the Deficiency from the King's Stores.—They were delivered however as a Loan, upon the Condition of each Captain making himself, under his Hand, responsible for returning to Government, when called upon, the Number he received, or paying a half Joe for each, if required. The Officers appointed to these Companies are all Persons of known & approved Principles, and I am well assured that the Number of doubtful Characters amongst the whole Militia is but very trifling, and as those few are blended in the Ranks with the many, who may be rely'd on, I hope it may be presumed that they can do less Mischief under Arms, than if left to lurk in their own Dwellings. The laudable Spirit of Zeal & Loyalty, being happily raised, quickly diffused itself amongst all Orders of them.—The several public Departments vied with each other, who should be most forward in offering their Services, to embody as Volunteers—I readily accepted their offers, and formed them into Companies accordingly.—The Old Volunteer City Companies likewise augmented their Numbers, and in a very few Days they appeared all together under Arms, most of them Cloathed in Uniform, at their own Expence.

* * * * *

[No. 2690.]

Commissary of Prisoners Skinner Embarrassed.

Dr Sir, The inclosed contains a pass for Drummond and the two other Officers on Parole at Albany to pass to Fish Kill on the way to New York.

I find myself embarrassed in this Business, as I have no person

to write to in Albany, and as these fellows should pay their several Debts before they set out.

Shall I ask the favor of you to forward this Letter in such way as you think best? I shall be much obliged by it, and am, with great respect, your mo. Ob. Hum. serv't

Ab'm Skinner, Com. Genl. Pris.

H. Q. 7th Jan'y 1780.

[No. 2691.]

The Troops Suffering for Clothing.

Camp near Morristown Jan'y 9th 1780.

Sir, I wrote you on the twenty first of Decem'r last informing you that the cloathing received from you and the Cloathier General, would not near supply the Troops of the State, desiring you to collect as soon as possible the several articles you expected. I hope by this time you have them ready, as the Troops are really suffering. On receipt of this, write me what you have on hand and what you expect; in a short time Shirts Stockings and shoes are most wanted.

I will be up to receive them soon; I wish they could be packed in Boxes or Hogsheads as they are liable to be stolen from small casks. I am, Sir, your very Hum'e Servant

Jas. Black, C'y N. Y.

P. S. No news worth transmitting.

Peter Curtenius, Esqr.

[No. 2692.]

Return of Colonel Cantline's Regiment of Militia, Ulster County.

A Return of my Regim't Exclusive of those who have men in the Continantual Battalions Raised under the Directions of this State During the War.

COMPANYS	Capts.	1 Lieuts.	2 Lieuts.	Ensign	Sergt.	Corporal	Privates
Capt. Fradrick Schoonmaker	1	1	1	1	4	4	46
Capt. Charles Brodhead	1	1	1	1	4	4	32
Capt. Andries Bevier	1	1	1	1	4	4	30
Capt. Ransom	1	1	1	1	4	4	24
Capt. Johannus Hardenbergh	1	1	1	1	4	4	28
Capt. Abraham Dejos	1	1	1	1	4	4	28
Capt. John Hasbrouck	1	1	1	1	4	4	26
Capt. Benjamin Kortrecht	1	1	1	1	4	4	31
Lieut. John Depue		1	1	1	4		20
	8	9	8	9	36	36	265
						Tottle	371

John Cantine, Colo.

January ye 10th 1780.

[No. 2693.]

Josiah Throop Files a Memorial with the Governor and the Legislature.

To his Excellency The Governor, And the Honourable The Senate and Assembly of the State of New York.

The Memorial of Josiah Throop Most Humbly Sheweth,

That your Memorialist had resided in Nova Scotia for Several years and was in Compe- tent circumstances & in good Bussiness when the present troubles began, that as he received his birth and Education in America he felt a Prejudice for his Native Country: But on viewing the Nature of the Contest and Seeing the Arbitrary exertions of the Civil Authority there, he was more impell'd by the Principles of Justice Humanity & Benevolence than National Prejudice, to take the first Opportunity to declare him Self on the Side of America. Accordingly on the first of November 1776, with a Spirited party of Brave men, Chiefly his Neighbours, he made an attack on Fort Cumberland which was garrisoned with about three Hundred British Soldiers, But finding it Impracticable to take it without Canon or the risk of many lives, a Committee was Chosen, and your Memorialist Sent to Boston for Assistance; And Brought off with him, their Chief Enginier, their Head Doctor, their Chapplain, one Capt. Several under officers, and forty two privates, prissoners, and thirteen deserters & a vessel Captured from them, and got Safe to Boston; where the General Court, on your Memorialist's Application took us under Protection and granted the Assistance desired, but before it could be forwarded a letter Sent to your Memorialist through the woods by two Indians, Advised that the Albany, Man of War, had arived at Cum- berland landed a number of Marines and field pieces and broke up our party; that your Memorialist's House and other Buildings were burnt, his Stock and other Effects Plundered, his family distrest to wretchedness, And him Self being Immediatly Adver- sited there, and an Hundred pound Sterling offered for his head, he thought it not prudent to return; that he has ever Since resided in these States, absent from his family; that he has with Zeal and Assiduity laboured with the Great and General Congress, with his Excellency General Washington and with the Court of Boston to procure an Expedition to Nova Scotia; that he obtained a Brigade to be raised for that purpose, but it was disbanded on the approach of General Burgoyne's Army; that he has Since received repeated encouragement, but has not been able to effect what he now dispires of Seeing accomplished, without the assistance of a Respectable fleet; that as he has entertained hopes of returning with an army, he has neglected engag- ing in any lucrative bussiness though he has not wanted Opportunity, had he have been as eager in pursuit of gain as for the relief of the distrest Sufferers in Nova

Scotia, and for the Glorious Cause of Liberty in general; his three years Banishment from his family having been employed in Soliciting for them; in attending on several Expeditions as a Volunteer, and at intervals at teaching School; that by late News from his family he hears that the present Governor of Nova Scotia will let such families as are so minded, remove from there, and that your Memorialist's family have built an House and are allowed to possess and occupy his lands; and being desirous to remove his wife and part of his family to this State and to let his Sons that are of age, tarry and keep his remaining interest till the present affairs are settled.

He, therefore, Prays that your Excellency and your Honours would Please to take his Case into your Wise Consideration, and according to your wonted Clemency to your Suppliants; your known Benevolence to mankind; and your Benificence to the distressed, bestow upon him Some forfeited farm or Consider him in the purchase of one or in the manner or time of payment or Grant him Such other Encouragement or assistance in removing his family to this State as to your Excellency Shall Seem fit. And for your Excellency and your Honours your Memorialist as in Duty bound Shall Ever Pray.

Jo-iah Throop.

Albany, Jan'y 10th 1780.

[No. 2691.]

CRITICAL CONDITION OF THE ARMY.

Congress Appeals to the Northern States at the Suggestion of Washington on Information Supplied by Subordinates Relative to the Scarcity of Food.

Philadelphia January 12th 1780.

Sir, You will receive herewith enclos'd an act of Congress of this day together with Extracts of three Letters to which the act refers. These I am directed to lay before the Legislature of New York or in their recess, before your Excellency in Council; as also the other States therein mentioned, and to urge in the most pressing manner that immediate supplies of provision be by those several States sent to the army.

After the facts stated in the papers enclos'd, perswasion & importunity seems unnecessary. The army must soon disband unless supplied with provisions. That cannot be obtained at the present conjuncture of affairs without the aid of the several States now called upon. The Country abounds with the necessary resources but private gain seems the only object of too many Individuals without any concern for the public safety.

Congress have taken proper Measures to have Justice done those States that shall afford present supplies: The Exertions of New Jersey are already called forth on this occasion. Must it be said that our army disbanded for want of provision in the midst of plenty?

Since the resignation of Commissary Wadsworth the aid of the States is absolutely necessary to afford Supplies, until such time as matters are put in a proper train which I trust will not be long. I have the honour to be with the greatest respect your Exc^ys h^{ble} Serv^t

Sam. Huntington, President

His Exc^y Gov^r Clinton.

In Congress, Jan'y 12th 1780.

The Com^{ee} to whom was referred the Letter of 5th instant from Gen. Washington inclosing a letter of the 3d from Royal Flint, Asst. Commissary, and one of the 4th from Brig^r Genl. Irwine brought in a report whereupon

Ordered, That a copy of the said letters as far as they respect the distress of the army from the want of provisions be sent with all possible dispatch to the Legislatures, or in their recess to the Supreme Executive Councils of the States of Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania and Delaware, and that they be respectively urged in the most pressing manner to send immediate supplies of provisions to the army.

Extracts from the minutes.

Chas. Thomson, sec^y.

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER OF WASHINGTON.

Extract from a Letter from Genl. Washington dated Head Qrs. Morris Town Jan'y 5th 1780.

“It gives me extreme pain that I should still be holding up to Congress our wants, on the Score of Provision, when I am convinced they are doing all they can for our relief; duty and necessity however constrain me to do it.

“The inclosed copies of Letters from Mr. Flint, the Assistant Commissary and from Genl. Irvine, who commands at present our advanced Troops, contain a just Representation of our Situation. To add to our Difficulties, I very much fear that the late violent Snow Storm has so blocked up the Roads, that it will be some days before the scanty Supplies in this Quarter can be brought to camp. The Troops, both Officers & men have borne their distress, with a patience scarcely to be conceived. Many of the latter have been four or five Days without meat entirely, and short of Bread and none but on very scanty Supplies. Some for their preservation, have been compelled to maraud and rob from the Inhabitants and I have it not in my Power to punish or to repress the practice. If our condition should not undergo a very speedy & considerable change for the better, it will be difficult to point out all the consequences that may ensue. About forty of the cattle mentioned by Mr. Flint got in last Night.”

COLONEL FLINT TO WASHINGTON ON THE SUPPLY OF FOOD.

Sir, I have frequently within these few days acquainted Col. Hamilton with my prospects of supplies, and thought I had good authority for all I communicated yet I now find the event does not precisely agree with what I foretold.

As soon as I was informed that there would be a failure of Beef cattle from the Eastward, I used the most probable methods of procuring a supply from this State, and I had reason

to suppose a sufficiency could be collected to serve the army several weeks; proper persons were employed to explore every part of this State; they reported at first rather Indefinitely but as soon as it was known they could expect no immediate sums of money, their resources drew to a point, and they informed me with exactness what they were able to afford.

Upon a calculation it appeared their succours would carry us nearly to the middle of the present month. They gave me assurances of sending on the supplies they had, immediately, and from the distance I had reason to expect considerable before this time, but it does not yet come and the army are almost perishing for want.

It distresses me exceedingly that I am obliged to make this report, but I must mention facts, my expectations are as follows:

	Bbls.
From Mr. Hooper, Sussex County, Salt meat	400
From Pittstown	50
From ye Counties Middlesex & Somerset	250
	<hr/>
Total	700
	<hr/> <hr/>
At the North river are cattle	200
In the County of Orange	150
In Sussex at least	20
In care of Mr. Dunham say	50
	<hr/>
Total	420

Our distresses are known to the several persons who have charge of the foregoing provisions, and I am persuaded they will leave nothing undone to forward them. I have no absolute dependence on any further supplies of meat than are mentioned

above; the purchasers here say they could buy cattle if they had money, of which I can neither give nor promise them any, as there is not the least prospect that any adequate sums of money will be furnished the Department and our credit is totally exhausted.

With respect to bread I can only say that there is grain in great number of mills in this State which is getting ready as fast as possible and will not be detained unnecessarily. I have no more bread at present in Camp than will serve the troops tomorrow. I fear the storm will keep the waggons from moving as well as the cattle from travelling. I am &c.

Royal Flint, A. Con'y Purchases.

Morristown Jan'y 3d 1780.

Genl. Washington.

(Copy)

GENERAL WILLIAM IRVINE TO WASHINGTON.

Crane's Mills Jan'y 4th 1780.

Sir, When I wrote your Excellency the 1st Inst. I had hope that I should not be under the necessity of troubling about provision, but I was mistaken, for, notwithstanding, repeated promisses from the Commissary here, I have not been able to get more than one day's bread since I came here, except some buckwheat and a little corn; this I borrowed from the Inhabitants, and was obliged to promise to pay them in kind; they have been very hospitable but seeing little prospect of being paid, my credit begins to run low, and they make a thousand apologies particularly scarcity for their families.

My outguards crowd Expresses on me, complaining of want,

and in short, expressing fears that will not be able to keep their men long together without relief.

The spirit of desertion still prevails; six have left the outposts at different times, The detached state they are in facilitates their escape, indeed is a temptation. I assure your Excellency it distresses me exceedingly to harrass you with complaints and have forborn as long as I think consistent with my duty. Shall be happy when in my power to give you a more favorable account. I am &c.

William Irvine.

Genl. Washington.*

(Copy)

[No. 2695.]

Colonels Allison and McClaghry, Prisoners of War, on Long Island, Recommend James Ludlow for the Army.

Graves End 15th Jan'y 1780.

Sir, The Bairer Mr. James Ludlow, Son of Mr. William Ludlow, Late of New York, at present a Liver (?) at Crumb Elbow on Hudson's River, having made known to me

*January 1. [1780]—An American gentleman, now in London, who is well acquainted with General Washington, gives the following account of him:—"That, though advanced in years, he is remarkably healthy, takes a great deal of exercise, and is very fond of riding on a favorite white horse. He is very reserved, and loves retirement; when out of camp, he has only a single servant attending him, and when he returns within the lines, a few of the light horse escort him to his tent. When he has any great object in view, he sends for a few of those officers of whose abilities he has a high opinion, and states his present plan among half a dozen others, to all which they give their separate judgments; by these means he gets all their opinions, without divulging his intentions. He has no tincture of pride, and will often converse with a sentinel with more freedom than he will with a general officer. He is very shy and reserved to foreigners, although they have letters of recommendation from the Congress. He punishes neglect of duty with great severity, but is very tender and indulgent to recruits until they learn the articles of war and their exercise perfectly. He has a great antipathy to spies, although he employs them himself, and has an utter aversion to all Indians. He regularly attends divine service in his tent every morning and evening, and seems very fervent in his prayers. He is so tenderhearted that no soldier can be flogged nigh his tent; or, if he is walking in his camp and sees a man tied to the halberds, he will either order him to be taken down, or walk another way to avoid the sight. He has made the art of war his particular study; his plans are in general good and well digested; he is particularly careful always of securing a retreat, but his chief qualifications are courage, steadiness, perseverance, and secrecy. Any act of bravery he is sure to reward, and make a short eulogium on the occasion to the person and his fellow-soldier (if it be a soldier) in the ranks. He is humane to the prisoners who fall into his hands, and orders every thing necessary for their relief. He is very temperate in his diet, and the only luxury he indulges himself in, is a few glasses of punch after supper."—*Moore's Diary of the American Revolution.*

his desire of going into the Continantal Lines in []* with his aged Father, and of his obtaining Permission of the Commandant of the City of New York for that purpose. And in order to Remove (in Some measure) any Suspitions that may arise on his coming out, ask'd the favour of me, certify such matters Respecting his general conduct within these Lines, as I must naturally be possess'd of from my Long confinement on this Island, and being quartered most of the time near his brother Cary Ludlow, Esqr. with whome he Lodg'd. I can, therefore, Informe your Excellency, that I have Lived near two years within a mile and a half of said Ludlow's Lodgings, and am well assur'd that he has taken no active part; on the contrary has been Living a Retir'd Life; that he has made Repeated applicacions to go out, but never accomplish'd his wishes untill now, I, therefore, beg Leave to Recommend the said James Ludlow to your Excellency's notice and protection. I am, with due Respect, your Excellency's most obed't
 Humble Ser't
 Wm. Allson.
 His Excellency G. Clinton.

January ye 15th 1780. During my confinement here I have had an oportunity of seeing Mr. Lodlow and hearing his charector, by which it appears to me he is a faithfull friend to American liberty, and prays that your Excellency woold treat him as such. I beg leave to subscribe my self your Excellencies, Very obediand humble Sary't
 James McClaghry.
 His Exceleency Governor Clinton.

[No. 2696.]

Military and Legislative Affairs.

Fishkill 21 Jan. 1780.

Dear Sir, Before this will reach you, I am to suppose from the various accounts we have had here, that at Albany, Staten Island, with all its dependencies, are now in our possession and the Troops thereon Prisoners.

General Green in a letter dated 16th, acquaints me that Lord Stirling was on Staten Island with about 3000 men, but that he had not then learnd the success of his enterprize. I have heard no other news relative to that matter that can be positively depended on. I am w'ch the greatest respect, Dear Sir, your most obed't Se't

Udny Hay.

Governour Clinton.

Be so good as lett me know at what time it is probable there will be a sufficient number of members for each of the Houses to begin business.

*MSS. torn.

Jan'y 24 1780 Albany.

Dr Sir, I am favored with yours of the 21st Inst. and after deliberately considering the Contents of it, have concluded that you are certainly endued with the Spirit of Prophecy, an account of the Reduction of Staten [Island] hav'g arrived previous to my Rec't of your Letter.

A Legislature is not yet convened; the Assembly yesterday wanted two Members, the Senate one; but if you bring Sir James Jay* with you the latter Body will be complete.

[G. C.]

[To Col. Udny Hay.]

[No. 2697.]

Clothing for the Troops—Captain Black's Pay Inadequate.

Camp near Morri-town, Jan'y 23d 1780.

Sir, Inclosed I send your Excellency a return of the cloathing delivered to, and wanting to complet the non commission'd Officers and privates now belonging to the York Brigade. I expect to receive more in a few days, but not a full supply. Breeches, Shirts, and Stockings, are most wanted. It is probable that by depending altogether on the Continental purchasers, for cloathing the Troops will not be well supplied. I wrote to the Cloathier General to know, if I could receive cloathing for the Officers, agreeable to a Resolve of Congress, of the Twenty-fifth of November last, but has not received an answer. The Jersey Officers have received theirs already from the State, and I believe none of the states will be backward in purchasing, as it is a Continental Expence. The York Officers should be as speedily supply'd as any others.

Colonel Cortlandt informd me that he has transmitted to your Excellency an account of what the Troops of several states receive above the Continental allowance. I am with respect Sir your Excellency's most Obed't Hum'e Serv't

Jas. Black.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

P. S. The State Cloathiers being mostly absent from camp I cannot obtain an account of the pay they receive—mine is such that I cannot well leave camp when business calls, as one month's pay is not equal to the expence of five days' traveling.

*Sir James Jay, John Jay's elder brother, was born in New York City, October 27, 1732, studied medicine and was knighted while on a visit to London in 1763. He returned to New York before the outbreak of the Revolution, was instrumental in the adoption of the New York Act of Attainder and was confined in the New York prison but was released by Sir Guy Carlton in 1782. He was the author of several pamphlets. He died in Springfield, New Jersey, October 26, 1815.—STATE HISTORIAN.

[No. 2698.]

CAPTURE OF COLONEL HATFIELD.

His Conquerors Cut to Pieces by a Detachment of British Light Horse—The Case of Mr. Tobias.

Headquarters Highlands, Jan. 24 1780.

Sir, The last evening one Joseph Tobias a prisoner of war was sent to my quarters by the commanding officer on the lines. Tobias was coming from New York, where, it seems, he had been on parole by permission of Mr. Philip Pell, Jur., State commissary of Prisoners to procure an Exchange for one Gabriel Raquaw. He (Tobias) was bringing out the articles Specified on the enclosed memorandum, which were Siezed & are at present in the hands of Mr. Justice Raquaw. Such infamous practices can only be broken by great vigilance, and confiscation of the articles taken. Two or three of the articles are claimed by Tobias as his own property. He has also on a Scarlet coat with green Lapels and two Silver Epaulets, and in his pockets a sum of hard money. I have order'd him on to Poughkeepsie.

The beginning of last week about 80 militia, one half from Colo. Mead's Regt. at Horseneck, under command of Capt. Keefer & forty volunteers from Greenwich, under the command of Capt. Lockwood, march'd in the afternoon for Morrisania with a design to surprize & take Colo. Hatfield;* they arrived

*January 18. [1780]—Early this morning, a detachment of rebel militia, collected from the neighborhood of Horseneck, under the command of a Captain Lockwood, attacked a house between King's Bridge and De Lancey's Mills, in which Lieutenant-Colonel Hatfield, Major Huggerford, Captain Knap, a quarter-master and ten private refugees of the lieutenant-colonel's corps, were quartered; the house being bravely defended for fifteen minutes, the rebels were enabled to set fire to it, from their having gained possession of the ground floor; in consequence of which, this small party were reduced to the necessity of abandoning their post, and laying down their arms; they were, of course, taken prisoners, and the enemy immediately began their retreat.

Major Huggerford soon after effected his escape, and returning, formed a small body of refugees, consisting of thirty-five dragoons and twenty-eight infantry, under the command of Captain Purdy, instantly pursuing the rebels with this detachment. The infantry took post upon the heights beyond Eastchester, and the mounted, consisting of Cornet Hilat, Adjutant Pugsley, two sergeants, and twenty-nine privates, under the

at the place a little after one the next morning, attacked the picket, killed 3 and drove the others in, march'd to the House where Hatfield was, who, with his men took to the chambers and kept up a fire down stairs and out at the windows; the militia behaved with great Bravery, call'd to Hatfield to Surrender or they would set fire to the House, which they did, Hatfield & his men jumping out at the windows. The militia brought off prisoners Lt. Colo. Hatfield, 1 Capt'n, 1 Lieut., 1 Quarter Master & 11 privates which are in safe custody. The militia after conducting this enterprize with much address and gallantry imprudently loitered in their retreat, were pursued & overtaken by a party of light Horse, a number of them shockingly cut, and, from the best intelligence I have received, between 30 & 40 taken prisoners.

The detachment that lately made a descent on Staten Island were not so fortunate as to possess themselves of the works. I have not learnt the particulars. I believe a few prisoners were taken on both sides. I have the honor to be with the greatest respect your Excellency's most obed't Serv't

W. Heath.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

An Inventory of a number of goods taken with the Prisoners:
 2 Pieces of Chintz 17 yd. each; 1 Do Callico; 1 Do Ben Danno; 1 Do Gauz; 1 Dozen Cotten handkerchiefs; 3 yards of Lace;
 Sent to Messrs. Neucum;

command of Lieutenant Kipp, continued the pursuit, and came up with their rear between New Rochelle and Mamaroneck, and resolutely closing with them, killed twenty-three, and took forty prisoners, some of whom are wounded.

Too much praise cannot be given to this handful of brave men, who have set so bright an example to their injured countrymen, and their behavior upon this occasion has gained just and universal applause. The only weapon used by Major Huggerford and his determined band of refugees in their attack and defeat of Captain Lockwood's party, was the sabre, and had not their horses been jaded to a stand still, every one of the enemy would have fallen into their hands.—Rivington's Gazette, January 22.

1 Handkerchief, 4 Skains of fine thread, 2 pieces of Tape, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. of Tea, $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. Silk, 1 yard of gauze, 3 Do Silk, 3 Ribbons $1\frac{1}{2}$ yd. each, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Pins; Major Polding.

$\frac{1}{4}$ lb. of thread, $\frac{1}{2}$ Coard, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. pins, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Tea, 1 yd gauze, 3 Do silk, 3 Ribbons $1\frac{1}{2}$ yd. each, 2 yds. Lace, 3 Handkerchiefs; Major John Graham;

1 Handkerchief, 2 Dozen Wash springs, 6 Doz'n Keys, 1 yd. black silk, 1 Do Ribbon; Mr. Billings;

7 yds. Lining, 5 Do Casseme, 2 Do Cambrick; Mr. Tobias.

[No. 2699.]

The Case of the Morison Lad.

Sir, At the request of Mrs. Morrison I am to inform you that her Situation is very bad and that she has Obtained a Lad for an Exchange for her Son; upon which subject the Lad's father and Mrs. Morrison has wrote to Mr. Pell to negotiate an Exchange: If your Excellency should agree to her going into New York upon her Exchanging her Son; she requests your Excellency would be pleased to signify your assent by a few Lines to her which she may Convey to Col. Robinson that the Lad may the more easily come out.

I believe if your Excellency could convey your assent to her it will greatly alleviate her Distress, as her Family's in almost suffering circumstances. I am, with the greatest Respect, your Excellency's, most obed't Servant

Jno. Strang.

Robinson House, January 25th 1780.

[No. 2700.]

Mrs. Morison Appeals for Her Son and Mr. Sackett Indorses Her Request.

Sir, A gentleman of the Name of Duzenbery has a son of the age of mne, or rather older, a prisoner in New York; he is very desirous to exchange him for mine, I waited on General Heath, & let him know, that you was willing I should go to New York if an exchange could be obtained for my son; he refus'd to grant a flag for me though he acknowledged that he did not doubt Miss Delancey's veracity, nor Mr. Travesis evidence, this consequence, melancholy to me, flows from the omission Mr. Travesis was guilty of, in not obtaining the terms your Excellency is willing to admit, in writing. I now beseech your Excellency, immediately, to give from under your own hand, a permission for me to remove to New York; if this young man can be obtained in exchange for my son and that you will, in writing, declare, upon what terms, I may be allow'd to go, that I may send to the commander in chief at New York; if he accepts those, I shall soon obtain my desire. I shall send to New York the terms you will accept, and doubt not, I shall soon have an answer, which if your Excellency will please to write, provided your terms are admitted at New York, to General Heath, to grant me a flag upon my application for one, will greatly facilitate my affairs; permit me to press your Excellency, for a speedy answer, for my affairs are such as require my removal, being greatly embarrass'd for the means of subsistence. I am willing to leave my son in the care of any person, you will please to appoint, (if I can go with my family) till an exchange takes place, or give your Excellency any security you may demand, that he shall not go, till one is obtained for him. Dear sir, put the affair on such a footing, as may prevent me the trouble, and expence of sending again to you, I am, sir, your obedient servant,
 Mary Morison.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

Worthy and much Honoured Sir, As Mrs. Morrison is axious to get to her Husband with her family, and altho she has not succeeded in all the methods she has taken to bring it about; this Day she waited on General Heath, who informs her that nothing Could be Done, till she obtained your Instructions. I hope your Excellency, will promote her getting, where she and the family might be provided for; her circumstances Loudly Calls for Benevolence and friendly aid. I saw a Letter she Received from Colonel Roberson in which he informs her, that if any Person might be proposed as an exchange for her son, the business might be accomplished; now, good Sir, as one is proposed, I hope there Remains no Difficulty in the way; from, Sir, yr. most obed't and Humble Ser't
 Saml. Sackett.

Near General Heath's Quarters, Janu'ry the 25th 1780.

[No. 2701.]

General Heath Calls The Attention of the Governor to the Distress of the Army for Want of Food.

Headquarters Highlands, Jan. 25, 1780.

Sir, It is with reluctance that I interrupt your Excellency in those important deliberations in which you are engaged, but, at a time when the very continuance of the army at these important posts becomes a question I know you will excuse me. The situ-

ation of this army at this instant is truly alarming and without speedy relief, most serious and disagreeable consequences may be expected. The garrison of West Point have during the winter been at a scanty allowance of Bread, and often without any at all. This has been the case for these four or five days past. The garrison have been and still are, obliged to be on almost constant fatigue, dragging materials for their Barracks, and all their fuel on hand Sleds more than a mile. Some of the troops are yet in Tents, and during the winter hitherto have been obliged to encounter hunger and cold, performing by hand that business which ought to be done by Teams. These, they have endured and performed with a patience scarcely to be conceived. But, your Excellency well knows the disposition of Soldiers as well as of mankind in general, and that altho' means may be devised or exercised to keep them patient or quiet for a time, yet a crisis may come, if a remedy to their real wants is not afforded, and in such cases it is impossible to exercise those coercive measures proper on other occasions. We have been long flattering the troops that relief would soon come, and during the winter the ration of Flour has been reduced to $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. p day. With every exertion in my power, and the removal of part of the wheat from those mills, that had not a Supply of water, to some which had, a scanty daily supply has not been obtain'd, altho' the transportation with sleighs has of late been very advantageous, and, if such straits and difficulties subsist now, what is to be expected should a thaw of the Snow suddenly take place, which will render the roads impassible for some days at least. Instead of raising magazines at this post, to enable the garrison to sustain a siege, which is indispensibly necessary, we can scarcely obtain our daily Bread.

I am informed by the Deputy quarter master General, that

Forage cannot be obtain'd for the teams absolutely necessary to be employ'd for the transportation of provisions &c. Whether this proceeds from a real scarcity of forage, or some other cause, I do not pretend to say. Such, however, is our situation. Should the Troops be reduced to such necessities as to disperse them, the most important posts in the United States, and the only barrier for the security of this State, will be left open to the Enemy. Unless the Troops are cantoned among the Inhabitants nearest the posts, or parties under the command of officers, sent out to take Provision with some shew of regularity to prevent the soldiers, (driven by the necessities of hunger, which are irresistible) taking wherever they can find it, to sustain life. All these in every view, are to me disagreeable in the extreme. My mind recoils at them, even in Idea—but what else without relief can be expected?

After having made this representation, to which duty constrains me, & it is not exaggerated, I entreat of your Excellency and of the Honorable Legislature, immediate relief, if it be in your power, and without which, from some quarter, I cannot be answerable for the consequences that may happen.

Whether there is a real scarcity, or whether the inhabitants have it in their power to spare and yet withhold, or whether there be want of exertion in the purchasers, or some other impediment, is not within my knowledge. Some enquiry seems absolutely necessary. The gentlemen who compose the Honorable the Legislature, as they are from every part of the State, are the most competent judges, & under their inspection the Honorable the Congress have been pleased to place it.

My principal hope & dependance under these embarrassments rests on the confidence I have in the humanity & patriotism of

your Excellency, & the Honorable the Legislature, which, on every occasion, have been most conspicuous. I have the honor to be, with the greatest respect, your Excellency's most obedient Servant

W. Heath.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 2702.]

Samuel Hake Requests to Be Released from His Parole.

Red Hook 27th Jan'y 1789.

Sir, I take the liberty of sending your Excellency the enclosed Certificate, with the names of One hundred & ten respectable Inhabitants, (known to be good Wigs) relative to my conduct since your Ex'y was pleas'd to put me on my parole. The extrem ill conduct which I've received since my return from Fishkills, have as yet put it out of my power of going to Amenia Precinct; I shall not intrude on your Excell'y by giving the particulars of the affair, I propose leaving it to the Decision of the Law. I flatter'd myself with the hopes from what Col'l Lush told me at Kingston, that my parole would soon have been taken off; as he said, that your Ex'y was pleas'd to condescend to peruse the Letters, &c. which I beged him to show your Excell'y and he said that your Ex'y was pleas'd to order me on my return to Red Hook, to state my case, & send it to your Ex'y which I had the honor to do, & sent it by Doc'r Le Rue, who inform'd me that he del'd it into your Ex'y's own hand, the original Letters address'd to Hon'ble the Members of Congress, & to other Gent'l'n of the first Characters showing my friendly intentions, & of coming into the Country, are now in my possession, & others of the same nature has been receiv'd, prior to my arrival. I hope your Ex'y will be pleas'd to grant me the indulgence of staying here, & to order my Parole to be taken off, that I may be able to do something in trade for a Subsistance, as I can assure your Ex'y that I've almost spent the little I had, since my return from N. York; neither am I in a way of making or collecting a Shilling. I now rest solely on your Ex'y's goodness & trust from that known benevolent disposition, your Excell'y possess's of granting my request (and agreeable to the recommendation of the Gent'l'n who have sign'd the Certificate, & address'd it to your Ex'y) w'h will alleviate the disresss of one who will always think himself under every obligation, & who is with all gratitude & respect,

Samuel Hake.

His Ex'y Geo. Clinton Esqr. Gov'r of the State of New York &c. &c. &c.

[No. 2703.]

Albany Makes an Address of Welcome to Governor Clinton—The Governor's Reply.

To his Excellency George Clinton Esqr. Governor of the State of New York, General and Commander in Chief of all the Militia and Admiral of the Navy of the same.

May it please your Excellency; The Mayor Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of Albany, congratulate your Excellency on your arrival in this City.

The Calamities of our Country, occasioned by a cruel and destructive war call loudly for the prudent Interposition of the respective Legislatures of the United States; we are, therefore, extremely happy that your Excellency has for these salutary purposes convened the Legislature of this State, from whose Councils we hope the most happy effects.

The deep Distresses which are ever attendant on war have been felt in this City, but more so, in some other parts of the State. But we trust and have reason to hope that, that kind providence which has hitherto smiled on the arms of America will lead us to Peace happiness and Security.

During your Excellency's residence in this City we shall be happy to make your situation as agreeable, as the Distresses of our Country will admit of.

GOVERNOR CLINTON'S RESPONSE.

Gentlemen; I entertain a just Sense of your Polite Congratulations upon my arrival in this City.

It gives me great Pleasure to find this antient & respectable Corporation concurring in Sentiment in the Call of the Legislature at this Period & with you, I am lead to hope, that by a steady perseverance in our Exertions under the Smiles of Divine Providence, we shall soon be delivered from the Miseries of War & restored to the Blessings of Peace with a perfect Establishment of that Freedom for which we are contending.

The Desire which you are pleased to Express of rendering my

Situation agreeable during my Residence in this City to which the Peace & good Order maintained in it, can't fail to contribute, I receive as a mark of your Esteem for which Gentlemen you will please to accept my Thanks.

Jan'y 1780.

[No. 2701.]

Colonel Wadsworth on the Necessity of Supplying the Army With Necessaries.

Sir, The regulateing act takeing place on the 20th March will occasion a withholding of every article necessary for the army and will prevent the feeding Cattle for Beef, and before the Grass, fed Beef will be fit to drive to the army, a Scarcity already too great, in the southern army will be increased, and I am afraid, will produce greater Evils than we have Experienced; the price of transportation by Land will not buy the Forrage for the Teams and their will be no Possibility of furnishing the army with necessarys without violateing the act; (before the grass grows) the impressing Teams is impossible except for a little time, no great movements can be made with impressed teams, this I know by experience; the Innkeepers are to charge 75 P C't more than in the year 1774, but are to pay for wheat 120 P C't & more for many articles than at that Period; the act amounts to a Prohibition on Trade. And, I presume, we shall not Prosecute Forreigners for violation of the act, and shall we deny the trading People of these States the advantages we allow Strangers. I do not mean the Caterpillars of Trade but the adventuring merchant who imports. The State of Connecticut have made a Law to restrain the too great use of oxen to haul with; no team is allowed more than one pair of oxen

to haul private Property (except the Produce of the Country); most of the Persons who have made great advantage by unfair dealing & extortion have now sold their goods & are Possessed of large sums of money which being suddenly appreciated in their hands, will give them another opportunity to advance their interest at the expence of their Honest neighbours; will it be Possible to make a regulateing act that will do tollerable justice; will it be Possible to carry such an act into Execution; did this act originate in the Continental Congress or was it advised too by the Assembly of Connecticut; is not the Connecticut Law adopting the act repleat with mischief and injustice to Individuals. I am your Exeel'y most obed't H S

J. Wadsworth.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 2705.]

Haverstraw Files a Petition That Her Local Troops be Used for Local Duties.

To His Excellency George Clinton Esqr. Governor of the State of New York General and Commander in Chief of all the militia and Admiral of the Navy of the same.

The Petition of the Subscribers, Freeholders & Inhabitants of the District of Haverstraw, in the County of Orange, most Humbly Sheweth,

That since the Retreat of the Continental army from the White Plains in the year of our Lord 1776, the Inhabitants of this District have been Constantly called upon to perform various services for the Public, and have from time to time Chearfully complied with every Requisition and contributed all in their Power to support the Cause of the United States of America.

Your Petitioners further beg leave to Represent to your Excellency, that the Public Ferry at the mouth of the Highlands has been wholly carried on and the wharfs on both sides of the River built, by the said Inhabitants, that from the time the said Ferry was first established, they have been called upon with their Horses and Carriages to transport the Stores, Provisions and Baggage, belonging to the Continent. That since the Commencement of the Present war, this Precinct hath not only furnished a very large Proportion of men for the Continental army, but also a Considerable Number in the Different Departments of Quartermaster and Commissary. That their Exposed situation has obliged them from time to time to keep up strong guards near the shore for their Protection, and that at a season of the year when they could not without great Injury to themselves, be spared from their Farms. That many of your Petitioners have suffered greatly, not only from the Ravages of the Enemy, but also from the armies of the United States, their Farms have been Desolated, their Fences Burnt and their Grain and Effects Destroyed and taken away, for which no Compensation hath been made.

Your Petitioners further beg leave to Represent to your Excellency, that in the year

1776 this Precinct was called upon by the Convention of this State to raise men for the Express purpose of Defending the shores, with which Request they Chearfully complied, but the Company was no sooner formed, than it was ordered over to Peek-kill and there continued during the whole time, for which the men were Indisted, and the Inhabitants left to Guard the shore on the west side of the River. And, altho, your Petitioners Contributed last Fall to Raise a Bounty for the men to be Raised by Capt. Johnson who was to Guard the shores, yet not a man was employed in that Business.

That this Exposed part of the Country is at Present greatly weakened by the numbers that have already gone into the Public Service, and most of those that Remain are either Exempts by Reason of their age or Heads of Families, whose only support in this Day of Distress must depend on their Daily Labour. That many were prevented by the Coming upon of the Enemy last Fall, from putting into the Ground any winter Grain, and their only Dependance for the support of their Families through the Present year is on what they can Raise by their summer Crops. That since the Enemy have appeared on the River they have been under the necessity of keeping a Constant Guard. In this situation your Petitioners are again called upon to furnish a Proportion of the men to Compleat Colonel Graham's Regiment, and altho this Regt. is intended for the Protection of the Frontiers of Orange County, yet your Petitioners cannot suppress their apprehensions that little support will be given by them to this Part of the Country. That your Petitioners altho Reduced to the Greatest Distress, are still willing to Exert themselves in support of the Common Cause and to maintain a Guard on the shore Equal in number to the Proportion of men ordered to be Raised out of Capt. Gardner's Company to which they belong.

In Tender Consideration of the Exposed situation of your Petitioners, the services they have already Performed and the Distresses to which they are Reduced, they humbly Pray that the men to be Raised from the Company to which they belong may be stationed for the Protection of the shore at Haverstraw, and that your Excellency may Issue Express orders for that Purpose, or that they may be Exempted from the said Drafts and Permitted to Guard their own shores as they have heretofore Done.

And your Petitioners shall ever Pray &c.

John Gardner, Capt., John Waldrum, Lut., John Persell, Jacob Thiell, Benjamin Benson, William ———, John Allison, Peter Allison, Benjamin Allison, Ritchard Auak, Joseph Allison, Edward Waldron, William Allison, Joseph Conkling, John Coper, John Allison, Josaph Declark, James Canniff, Gibert Hunt, Will Conkling, Joseph Butler, Thomas Teit, John ———, Henderk Yoernick, David Burns, Charles Mott, Mordaca Mott, Paul V. D. Voort, William Coley, Barent V. d. Voort, Henry Halsted, Isaac Parker, Faelix Hoers, Jacob Parker, Petter Parker, Vaness Mott, Jacob Mott, Henry Osborn, Peter Mchortor, Alixeandr Bulson, Hanty Bulson, John Bulson.

[No. 2706.]

Scales of Depreciation adopted by the Eastern States, from January 1, 1777 to December 31, 1779. Certified September 1, 1780.*

[No. 2707.]

Journals of Congress to be Printed Hereafter in Monthly Pamphlets.

Secretary's Office 1st Feby 1780.

Sir, I now enclose you the journals of Congress which will compleat the set for your State to the first of Jan'y 1780. Here-

*Omitted.

after they will be printed in monthly pamphlets which shall be regularly sent.

I take the liberty of reminding you of the request in my letter of 20th Nov'r last* to which I have not been honored with an answer. The request therein contained is not suggested by idle curiosity but a desire of promoting public utility and the cause of America. I am, Sir, with due respect your hum'e Serv't

Chas. Thomson.

His Excellency Gov'r of New York.

[No. 2708.]

A Futile Court Martial.

Proceedings of a General Court Martial held at Colonel James Van Der Burgh's on the first of February 1780 in Pursuance of General Orders of the 4th of Jan'y Issued by Order of his Excellency George Clinton, Esqr., Governor of the State Captain General of the Militia &c. &c. &c.

Members present.

Col. Abraham Brinckerhoff, President,	Regiments
Lieut. Col. Benjamin Birdsall,	of Van der Burgh's Regt.,
ditto William Barker,	Hopkins',
David Hecock,	Field's,
Capt'ns Isaac Van Wyck,	Brinckerhoff's,
Francis West,	Van der Burgh's,
Delanast Bentley,	ditto,
Lieut'ns John Boyd,	Hopkins',
Caled Haynes,	Field's,
Rufas Herrick,	Hopkins',

There not being a Sufficient Number of Members to make a Court they Postponed their proceedings till Nine O'Clock on the Insueing Day.

Wednesday the 2d of February 1780.

The Members above Named attend'd puntially but no more appearing, after mature deliberation, the Persons above named Unanimously adjourn till his Excellency's pleases to Issue further Orders.

Abr'm Brinckerhoff, Pres.

Wm. Smith, Judge Adv'te.

[No. 2709.]

Governor Clinton's Views on the Question of Trafficking With the Enemy — Willing to Exchange the Morison Boy Under Conditions.

Pokeepsie 2d Feb'y 1780.

Dear Sir, Your Letters of the 24th & 25th Ultimo are this Moment received. Unfortunately I was on my way Home, when

*Not found.



I am yours &c.

D. V. Costantini

Major Weeks the Bearer of them was gone to Albany & we missed each other. I had, however, laid the distressed Situation of the army very fully before the Legislature before I left Albany & in the strongest Terms urged the Necessity of their immediate Interposition for your Relief. The Moment I return to Albany & I mean to set out Tomorrow, or the next Day at furthest, your Letter on that Subject shall be communicated to them & I have the fullest Reliance on their Exertions.

I am sensible the wicked Practice of Trafficking with the Enemy cannot be effectually prevented but by the greatest Vigilance & the Seizure & Confiscation of the Effects brought out; as the Practice is against the Law of Nations, you may rest assured that any Proper Measure to prevent it, will meet my Countenance and Approbation. There may be some Instances in which any General Rule that may be adopted might appear hard to Individuals particularly circumstanced; in these Cases I shall take the Liberty of writing you, but believe me, I will trouble you on this subject as seldom as possible, & shall never suffer much anxiety for the Event, should my Requests not be complied with, as I am more Subject to Deception than you are, who is on the Spot & in the Way of receiving better Information.

Mrs. Morrisson now at Crumpond has often applied to me for Leave to remove with her Family to her husband in New York. My principal Objection against granting her this Indulgence will be removed if her Eldest Son, who is capable of bearing arms can be exchanged, which she informs me, she can have effected for the Son of Mr. Dusenbury now Prisoner with the Enemy. This being accomplished she has my Consent to remove to New York with her Bedding & Wearing Apparel. It gives me pain to trouble you so often with Business of this kind, but as it is un-

avoidable, I know you will excuse it. I am with great Respect
yours very sincerely [G. C.]

[To Gen. Heath.]

[No. 2710.]

The Case of Captain Hyatt and His Bundle of Goods.

Head Quarters Highlands, Feb. 2d 1780.

Sir, I have been honor'd with your favor of 24th ultimo & 1st Instant, the later P Capt. Hyatt. In all matters in which the persons or property of the good people of the State of New York are concerned, I shall be wholly dictated by your Excellency, being only an executive officer, but, as your Excellency in the close of your Letter P Capt. Hyatt, is pleased to submit, the delivery of his bundle of articles detained on the Lines to my own judgment, I feel myself embarrassed, and must beg to be excused from determining the matter. Whatever your Excellency may think proper to signify as your pleasure shall be instantly obeyed. I have the honor to be, With the greatest respect, your Excellency's most obed't Servant

W. Heath.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

Pokeepsie 3d Feb'y 1780.

Sir, I am favoured with yours of yesterday. When Capt. Hyatt applied to me respecting his Bundle I understood that they were seized by the Commanding Officer at the Lines & that the Delivery of them to him depended barely on my Consent. It was on this Representation & that the Articles were trifling Presents from his Wife's Relations that I was induced [to] trouble you on the Subject. Tho I feel unhappy that you shoud experience the

least Embarrassment on the Occasion, I do not conceive myself authorized to give any positive Order respecting the Matter. If the Seizure had been made by the Civil Magistrate I certainly could not, & I think with less Propriety as matters stand, besides even if otherwise at this Distance & in my situation, I should be subject to Deception & might be led to encourage a Practice, which I wish to prevent whenever it interferes with the good of the Public. [G. C.]

[To Gen. Heath.]

[No. 2711.]

Colonel Hay Again Appeals to Governor Clinton for Assistance to Increase the Supply of Flour.

Fishkill 5th Feb'y 1780.

Sir, I had the honour of writing to your Excellency on 28th Ult., respecting the present distresses of the army in the article of flour, and a probable prospect of still further embarrassments without the immediate and friendly interposition of the Legislature, I find daily this interposition more and more necessary, and from the present appearance, am again incited to request your friendly and wanted Aid.

We have in this Vicinity, about Twenty four hundred bushels of wheat, by the enclosed letter from Mr. Trimble, sent to know the Quantity of Wheat in the Nine Partners; you will see little dependance can be plac'd on that Quarter, till New purchases are made, which I imagine must be by assessment. I need not mention to your Excellency again, that this must be immediate, or the situation of the Roads in all Human probability will render every exertion in that way ineffectual, at least will prevent its being of that immediate Service for which it is so much wanted.

I have by this Express wrote Mr. Van Ness at Red Hook and beg'd he will inform you what Quantity of Wheat he has at present, on hand and what more he thinks he will be able to procure, soon, I hope you will receive his Letter by this Conveyance.

I am in expectation of a further Order from Congress on the Treasurer of this State, for a considerable sum of Money, which will by no means be adequate to the intended Relief they wish to give me thereby, unless a Law can be passed empowering the Treasurer, to receive from the Collectors in payment of Taxes, such Notes as either I or any of my Assistants appointed by me for the purpose, shall give to persons employed in the Public Service, not exceeding the Sums, which I may from time to time have Orders on the Treasurer for, and shall first lodge in his hands. Shou'd not this Order of Congress arrive before the breaking up of the Legislature, wou'd it be possible to obtain a Credit on the Treasurer for some stipulated Sum, on finding proper Security for the same.

If the Legislature can point out any expedient, I have not thought of for getting this Wheat Transported, after being purchased, however troublesome it may be, I will with pleasure endeavor to execute it, unless inconsistant with the Rules of the Department. I must just beg leave to mention that, from the uncommon quantity of Snow on the Ground, it is not improbable that some accidents will happen to some of the Mills, and that, therefore, the Wheat Shou'd be lodged in some Barn, or other good Store near the Mill, rather than in the Mill itself. On this Subject, however, I shall write Genl. Heath, who will give the Necessary Directions to the Commissaries thereon.

It is scarce necessary to mention the Necessity of having it put near Mills on the Verge of the River.

I hope the Act passed last sessions for Teaming* &c. will be renewed as without a Renewal it expires of itself. I have the Honour to be with great Esteem your Excellencies mo: Obed't Serv't

Udny Hay.

Governour Clinton.

[No. 2712.]

GRIEVANCES OF NEW YORK LINE OFFICERS.

Threaten to Resign to Washington for the Failure of the Legislature to Recognize and Better Their Wants and Those of Their Families—Governor Clinton's Reply.

Head Quarters Morris Town Feb'y 5 1780.

D Sir, I think it my duty to transmit your Excellency the inclosed Representation and Request from sundry Officers in your line, which I received Two days ago. The Objects are of a delicate and interesting nature and such I am persuaded as will have, if they not already had it, the attention they deserve. From the conversation and expostulations I had with the Gentlemen who presented the paper and the information I have otherwise derived, I fear there is reason to apprehend that the line will receive a severe shock by Resignations, if something is not done to relieve the Officers.† They profess the greatest disinclination to injure the service and proposed continuing as Volunteers till other Officers could be appointed; but I told them, this was inadmissible and they seem for the present, to have suspended the execution of their plan, and which they had unadvisedly fixed to a day. I should be happy if the State have it in their power to make them more comfortable & contented

*Chapter 32 of the laws of 1779, known as "An act for regulating impresses of forage and carriages and for billeting troops within this State." STATE HISTORIAN.

with their situation. I have the Honor to be, with the most perfect respect & esteem your Excellency's most Obed. Servant
His Excellency Gov. Clinton. G. Washington.

To His Excellency George Washington Esqr. General & Commander in Chief of all the Forces of the United States of America.

With the most Painful Sensations, we approach your Excellency, with a request, which nothing but our Necessities (arising from what we Conceive to be Ill Treatment) Could have ever prevailed on us to make.

With the rest of our Brethren in America, we early embarked in defence of Our Oppressed & Injured Country, and in its service most of us have Constantly been Employed, since the Commencement of the present War, and would with the Utmost Cheerfulness Continue, in a Service we so much approve and in Defence of a Cause the most just, that ever Called forth men in arms.

But the alarming Depreciation of the Currency in Which we are paid, renders us, not only incapable of supporting ourselves with any degree of Decency, but makes it altogether Impossible for such of us who have Families, to afford them the smallest Assistance.

The Honourable Congress, Sensible that their Troops in the Field, Ought not to be intirely Excluded those Comforts of life, Injoyed by Citizens, Have Recommended to the Legislatures of the Several States, to make such ample Provision for their Officers & Soldiers, as their Necessities should require, & the Ability of the States Permit; and we have the Satisfaction to

find that several of the states, have made such provision for their Officers & Soldiers as renders their Situation Comfortable.

At the same time, we are Unhappy in the thought, that We, who belong to a state, not inferior in Ability, and whose services, we presume have not been less Laborious or Sincere than our Brethren of other States; should be Intirely Disregarded, Notwithstanding our repeated Applications to our Legislatures.

Our own Wants, and the sufferings of our Distressed Families, Loudly Call on us to Quit a service, which although of the utmost Necessity, promises Nothing better, than an Increase of Misery Already scarce supportable; and we hope that our Legislature have provided such gentlemen, our successors who from an Equal Zeal for the Cause, & Love to the service; and from being possess'd of Independant Fortunes, may be able to render their Country more Eminent Services, We having given that Body timely Notice, that, under present Circumstances, our services Could not Extend Beyond this Day.

We, therefore, beg your Excellency to accept our Resignations, and grant us leave to retire from Service.

Camp February 1st 1780.

Leon'd Bleeker, Capt. 3d N. Y. Regt; H. Woodruff, Surgeon 3d N. Y. Regt; Henry Tiebout, Capt. 3 N. Y. Regt; William Colbrath, Lt. 3d New York; Prentice Bowen, Lt. & Qr. 3 N. York Regt; Aaron Aorson, Capt. 3d Regt, George Sytez, Capt. Lieut. 3d Regt; John Spoor, Ens. 3 N. Y; Jer. V. Rensselear, Ensign & P. Mas. 3 N. Y; Daniel Deniston, Ens'n 4 York; Benj'n Herring, Ensign 3d N. Y; Samuel Lewis, Ens'n 3d N. York; Mich'l Connolly, Lent. 5th N'w York; Barth'w V. D. Burgh, Ens'n 5 New York; Silas Gray, Lieut. 4th N. Y. Regt; Peter V. Bunschoten, Lieut. 4 N. York Regt; Thomas Hunt, Lt. 4th New

York Reg; Joseph Morrell, En'n 4th N. Y. Reg; John Daviss, Captain 4th N. York Regiment; Jonathan Titus, Captain 4th N. York Regiment; Peter Elsworth, Lieut. Adjutant Do; C. F. Weissenfels, Lieut. 2nd N. Batt; James Stewart, Capt. 5th N. York Regt; Fran's Hammer, Ens'n 5th N. York Regt; J. F. Hamtramck, Capt. 5th New York Regt; Christopher Hutton, Lieut. & Adj. 3d New York; James Johnston, Ens'n 5th N. York Regt; Barnard Swartwout, Ens'n 2nd New York Regim't; Jos. Bagley, Ens'n 3d N. Y; Jno. Brown, Ens'n 2d N. Y; Rudolphus V'n Hoevenbargh, Lt. 4th N. Y; Eph'm Woodruff, Ens. 4th N. Y; Wm. Glenney, Lt. 2 Regt; A White, Lt. 2 Regt; Abner French, Capt. 2 Regt; Theod's Fowler, Capt. 4th N. York Regt; Sam. Dodge, Ensign 4 N. York Regiment; Jas. Fairlie, Lieut. 2d New York Regiment; Joseph Frilick, Lieut. 4th New York Reg; S. F. Vacher, Surg'n 4th N. Y. Regt; Ph. Conine, Lieut. 3d New York Regt; John Elliot, Jun'r, Surg's Mate 3rd New York Reg; Benjamin Bogardus, Lieut. 3d N. Y. Regiment; Geo. I. Denniston, Ensign 3 New York Regt; Peter Magee, Lieut. 3d New Y. Regiment; Tunis Van Wagenen, Lt. 2d N. York; Charles Neukerck, Capt. Lt. 2d Regt; Tjerick Beekman, Lt. Do; Samuel English, Lieut. 5 Regt; Abr'm Hyatt, Lieut. 4th N. York Regt; Azariah Turthill, Ensign 4th N. Y. Regt; John Barr, Ensign 4th N. Y. Regt; Thos. DeWitt, Capt. 3d New York Regt; Israel Smith, Capt. 4 N. Y. Rgt; Nth'l Norton, Capt. 4 N. Y. Regt; H'ry Dodge, Lieut. 5th New York Regt; Saml. Tallmadge, Ensign 4th N. York Regt; Gerrit G. Lansing, Ensign in the 3d N. Y. Regt; Douw J. Fonda, Ensign in the 3rd N. York Regt; Charles Graham, Capt. 2d New York Regt; Gilbert J. Livingston, Lt. 2d New York Regt; H. V. D. Burgh, Lt. 5 New York Regt; James Bells, 1 Lieut. 5 New York; Stephen Griffing, Ensign 4th New York Regt.

GOVERNOR CLINTON'S REPLY.

Albany March 10 1780

Dr Sir, I have to acknowledge the Rec^t of your Excellency's Letters of the 5th & 20th ulto. The Legislature had under Consideration last Fall a more suitable Provision for the Officers & Privates forming the Quota of this State in the Cont. Army: they were interrupted in this Business by their rising sooner than was intended, occasioned by the Expectation of the arrival of the French Fleet. Early in their present Meeting they reassumed the Consid'n of this subject, and I wo'd fain hope that such Measures will be taken as will leave the Troops without any just Cause of future Complaint. I am sensible their meritorious Services have not been hitherto properly noticed & their present distressed situation apologizes in some Measure for their hasty Determination to quit the Service, but I co'd wish that in communicating this Resolution, they had observed a greater Degree of Delicacy in those Expressions which respect the Legislature of the State, to w^{ch} they belong, especially while their Memorial on this subject was depend'g before them. The officers may rely, however, on my best Intentions to serve them.

I have re'd from Colo. V. Schaack the Return of his Regt., and I am happy in acquaint'g your Excellency that exclusive of Cavalry, Regimental artificers &c., the Quota of Troops fixed for this State for the ensuing Campaign is fully complete. I am &c.

[G. C.]

[To Gen. Washington.]

[No. 2713.]

Colonel Bostwick Wishes His Notes for Commissary Supplies be Legalized.

Fish Kill, 6th Feb'y 1780.

D'r Gov'r, As every Effort in me to procure a Sufficient Supply of Cash to Settle the demands of the Inhabitants against me for Forage, we have Received within my district has hitherto proved Ineffectual, & in Lieu of Cash have obtained orders on the Treasury & Loan Offices of this State, which offices I am Informed are destitute of money & as great part of the Inhabitants are distressed for & have made dependance on the money that's due them from the Public to pay their Taxes, I earnestly wish that, by a Law of the Legislature of this State, my notes to them may be made negotiable in an official way, so far as to the amount of the Sum I may obtain orders on the Treasury or Loan Offices for.

This mode would have a Tendency to appease the minds of the Inhabitants and remove many obstacles that might hereafter accrue in procureing future Supplies for the army.

As Colo. Hay D. Q. M. G., has wrote your Excellency on this Subject in favour of his Department, I only wish to have a Similar mode adopted relative to mine.

Your Excellency's Laying this requisition before the Legislature of the State will, I humbly Conceive, be Exceedingly beneficial to the Public, & greatly oblige him who is, with the Highest Esteem & regards, your Excellency's most obt. h'ble Serv't

And. Bostwick, D. C. G. F.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 2711.]

VERMONT AFFAIRS.

*Her Commissioners Present Her Claims to Congress and Pledge Her
Loyalty to the Cause of America.*

In Congress, Feb'y 1st 1780.

A letter of this day from Jonas Fay, Moses Robinson & Stephen R. Bradley was read, enclosing a paper endorsed "Appointment of Agents for Vermont."

Feb'y 7th 1780.

A letter of the fifth from Jonas Fay, Moses Robinson & Stephen R. Bradley was read.

A representation from Peter Oleott and Bezaleel Woodward stiling themselves "Agents for the greater part of the Towns in the northern district of the New Hampshire grants on both sides of Connecticut river and between the heights of land on the two sides" accompanied with a paper signed "Joseph Marsh, chairman of said convention" purporting to be powers granted them by a convention of members from the Towns aforesaid, were read.

Extract from the minutes.

Geo. Bond, Dep'y Sec'y.

THE COMMUNICATION OF MESSRS. FAY, ROBINSON & BRADLEY.

Philadelphia Feb'y 1st 1780.

Sir, Enclosed your Excellency will receive a copy of an Act of the Legislature of the State of Vermont, appointing and empowering Agents to appear & transact their political affairs at the Congress of the United States, as a free and Independent State: herewith, likewise will be communicated to you "a vindic-

cation of the opposition of the Inhabitants of Vermont, to the Government of New York," and Vermont's appeal to the candid and impartial world "published by order of the Supreme Executive authority thereof," the last of which contains some of the principal reasons upon which the inhabitants of Vermont acted, and their right in assuming government, with an address to the honorable American Congress in answer to their act, of the 24th day of September last, together with a book containing a constitution and code of laws as established by the freemen of said State; and have only to add that, we are now in this Town, and are ready with full powers on the part of the State of Vermont to close an equitable Union with the other Independent States of America, and to pledge the faith of our constituents to pay a just proportion of the expence of the present war with G. Britain whenever a constitutional requisition therefor shall be made.

Nevertheless, we are not authorised, neither does the State whom we have the Honor to represent, view themselves holden to close with the terms of the resolutions of the 24th of September aforesaid, for the reasons published in the appeal before referred to. But could the Honorable Congress pass over those reasons and determine that, they have an uncontrollable right and power to compel Vermont to abide their determinations in the premises yet they cannot conceive it to be just and equitable that, such an important cause, in which, not only property, but even liberty for which we have been so long contending ought to be tried, and a final decision so hastily had therein, on a footing so unequal as it must inevitably be, on the part of Vermont, if done at this time.

All the evidence that can possibly be exhibited, as the cause

is now unfortunately placed, must be exparte, and that evidence which must finally prove the claim of New York and all others groundless, upon their own stating, is at present out of our power; for, if we are allowed proper time to prove that, in consequence of our remonstrating and petitioning the Court of G. Britain, that power had made a distinct Government of the tract now comprehending the State of Vermont, and appointed Governor Skeene to preside over the same, previous to America's denying its supremacy, it would silence all our Enemies, and oblige every man, even those interested, to acknowledge that, the State of Vermont had an equal right with the other American States, to assume an Independent Government.

And until we are allowed sufficient time to collect & publish our evidence, the freemen of Vermont, can never voluntarily surrender those liberties which God & Nature have vested them with, by reason of any partial adjudication, for, if the claims on the one side are founded on arbitrary adjudications of the Crown, of course, a subsequent adjudication of the same power, respecting the premises, must render the former adjudication null and void. If they are built on a right of purchase, they must fail, for we possess that in seclusion of all others, being of a prior date, and for a valuable consideration, which no other party can pretend to. If on a right of conquest they fail. If on a right of settlement and occupancy, in this likewise, as well as on every principle of the law of Nature & Nations, they certainly fail.

We sincerely lament that neighbouring States from local prejudices, or other views, should raise internal animosities during the severe contest with G. Britain, and thereby give fresh resources to our common Enemy to procrastinate the war, and un-

necessarily continue the effusion of human blood. And are, Sir, your Excellency's most Obedt. hum'e Serv'ts

Jonas Fay,

Moses Robinson,

Stephen R. Bradley.

His Excellency Samuel Huntington, Esqr., President of the Congress.

(Copy)

ARGUMENT OF MESSRS. OLCOTT AND WOODWARD.

To his Excellency the President and the honorable the members of the Congress of the United States of North America.

Peter Olcott and Bezaleel Woodward, Agents* for the greater part of the Towns in the northern district of the New Hampshire Grants on both sides of Connecticut river, and between the heights of land on the two sides.

Humbly beg leave to represent.

That our constituents by their Agent in the month of August

*To Peter Olcott and Bezaleel Woodward Esquires;†

Gentlemen, Pursuant to a vote of a Convention of Members from the towns in the northern parts of the New Hampshire Grants on both sides of Connecticut river, being part of the district known by the name of the State of Vermont, on the seventh day of December last, you are authorized and empowered jointly or individually to appear as agents for the people in this part of the Grants at the hearing proposed by certain resolutions of the honorable Continental Congress of the 24th of Sept'r last to be had before them on the first day of Feb'y next, respecting the disputes and differences relative to jurisdiction betwixt the States of New Hampshire, Massachusetts Bay and New York on the one part, and the people on the said New Hampshire Grants who claim to be a separate jurisdiction on the other part.

You are to act for the people in this part in all matters relative to said grants which shall come under the consideration of Congress or any court to be appointed agreeable to said resolves, and therein to pursue the objects which have heretofore been pointed out to Congress by said Convention and by the people in this part of the Grants so far as the State of matters at the trial shall in your Opinion admit.

Per Order.

Joseph Marsh, Chairman of said Convention.

New Hampshire Grants Jan'y 1st A. D. 1780.

(Copy)

†Numbered in the original MSS. as Document 2685. Transferred to and consolidated with Document 2714, to which it belongs, by the present editor.

last laid before a Committee of Congress sundry papers relative to their political situation, to which we beg leave to refer in the hearing relative to the said Grants, the great object of which is to communicate the earnest desire of the inhabitants in the northern district from Connecticut river to the Highlands on each side that they may not be subjected to separate jurisdictions, and that in case Congress shall see fit to approve an establishment of a new State on the Grants, that the whole so far as the Highlands east of the river may be included in it otherwise that the whole of the Grants be annexed to New Hampshire as they conceive a divisional line at the river will be injurious not only to the interest of the inhabitants but also to the public weal.

For the following reasons—

1. The inhabitants on both sides of the river received grants of their lands and charters of incorporation from New Hampshire, which they apprehended gave them good reason to expect to be continued subjects of one and the same State, as they were by their incorporations entitled to the same privileges, which could not (after being granted) be justly taken from them without their consent. The decree in the year one thousand seven hundred and sixty four, by which the inhabitants on the two sides of the river were subjected to separate jurisdictions, viz one part to New York while the other was continued subject to New Hampshire, was passed without any previous notice to the inhabitants who were most immediately interested in the matter, to whom it was both greivous and injurious, and who never acquiesced therein; and as it was rendered efficacious only by that arbitrary power which has in vain attempted to enslave the United States, the inhabitants conceive that the operation

of it cannot be fairly construed to continue since the declaration of independence.

2. The situation of the country in respect to means of communication is such as renders a division at the river greatly injurious to the inhabitants. The range of mountains on the west side and Highlands on the east side at the distance of about twenty miles extend through the Grants from north to south near one hundred and fifty miles, the valley betwixt which heights is at the river, which will ever occasion the principal communication and traffic of that part of the country to center at the river; therefore a line at the river will bring the center of that business to the extreme parts of two States; which must ever be inconvenient in a country situated as that is.

3. To have a line at the river will throw each part into a very incommodious situation in respect to Government. In that case the State must be about one hundred and fifty miles in length from north to south and not more than from forty to fifty miles in width east and west through the longest extent of which from north to south is a range of mountains which will bring the body of inhabitants on the two extreme parts, render a management of their political affairs very inconvenient and ever have a tendency to create divisions with parties among them. Again if a State be formed west of the river only, county business in that and New Hampshire must center either at the extremities of the States, or on the heights of land remote from the principal part of inhabitants.

4. The coincident sentiments of the people on the Grants on both sides of the river in respect to government and their desires to be united point out the inexpediency of a division at the river.

We think ourselves warranted to assure Congress that for the foregoing and other reasons a large majority of inhabitants on either side of the river are desirous of an establishment of an union of the whole, and that no division be made at the river.

Our constituents rejoice at the interposition of Congress in the affair, and their assurance of a speedy issue of the contest, by the continuance of which they have been involved in innumerable difficulties; and mean to govern themselves according to the resolutions of Congress on the premises.

We entreat a decision on the subject as soon as Congress in their wisdom can judge expedient as every delay is productive of new confusions and animosities among the people.

And as in duty bound shall ever pray.

Peter Olcott

Beza. Woodward.

Philad'ia Feb'y 1st 1780.

(Copy)

MESSRS. FAY, ROBINSON AND BRADLEY PLEDGE THE LOYALTY OF
VERMONT TO CONGRESS.

Philadelphia Feb'y 5th 1780.

Sir, In pursuance of our appointment from the State of Vermont, we have in discharge of our betrustment, waited on the Grand Council of the United States of America; have delivered to them a copy of our credentials, empowering us to close a union and confederation with the other States &c. And are now about to take our leave of this City, to meet the Assembly of the State we represent, which are shortly to convene, to adopt measures for protecting our infant frontiers, and vigorously prosecuting the War against the common Enemy.

We are assured that nothing on our part shall deter us, from spiritedly opposing the Savages of the Wilderness, or the power of Great Britain. And have full confidence that neither States, or individuals, that are attached to the American cause, can wish to divert us from our fixed purpose. And shall ever stand ready to acquiesce in any requisition made by Congress, not incompatible with our own internal police. And are, with the highest sentiments of esteem, your Excellency's most humble Servants

Jonas Fay,
Moses Robinson,
Stephen R. Bradley.

His Excellency Saml. Huntington, Esqr. President Congress.

(Copy)

[No. 2715.]

*Council of Massachusetts Bay to the President of Congress
Respecting the New Hampshire Grants.*

State of Mass'tts Bay. Council Chamber Boston Feb'y 7th
1780.

Sir. The General Assembly of this State, agreeable to their letter of the 2d of Decemb'r last, proceeded upon the Business recommended to them by Congress relative to a district of Country called the New Hampshire Grants and appointed a committee accordingly to ascertain their rights. The committee after making some progress in this matter, represented to the Assembly, that they should not be able to report at the then sessions and requested the favor of further time, which was granted to them, and they were desired to make report at the next sitting of the Court, which will be on the eighth of March next, when this matter will be again taken up & proceeded upon, with as

much dispatch as the multiplicity of Business which necessary employ their attention in a time of war will admit of.

In the name & behalf of the Council, I am, with every sentiment of Esteem your most obed^t serv^t

Jer: Powell, Pres^{dt}.

The Hon^{ble} Saml. Huntington, Esqr.

[No. 2716.]

Colonel Magaw to General Heath. This document will be found as a footnote to Document 2718, below.—STATE HISTORIAN.

[No. 2717.]

Petition from Rochester. This document will be found under Document 2760, to which it belongs.—STATE HISTORIAN.

[No. 2718.]

General Heath Proposes to Retire from the Service to Recover His Health.

Head Quarters Highlands Feb. 15, 1780.

Sir, Yesterday I was honor'd with yours of the 8th Instant. Am happy to hear that the prospect of relief for the army from the honorable the Legislature is in a train so promising.

Yesterday a Mr. James Ludlow* came out of New York. I was on the point of ordering him immediately back, he not having had your Excellency's previous permission to come out,

*Long Island, 10th Feb'y 1780.

Sir, The Bearer, Mr. James Ludlow, whose parents live up the North River has obtained permission to go out & reside with his friends in our Lines.

I have had the pleasure of his acquaintance ever since my Captivity, during all which time he has conducted himself with decency propriety & moderation.

Any favours Sir you may be pleased to shew him will, I am sure, be unattended with any bad consequences & confer a perticular favour on, sir, your most Obdt. H^{ble} Servant

Robt. Magaw.

Hon^{ble} Gen. Heath.

but from some letters brought out by him, which I do myself the honor to enclose, and for some other reasons, I have sent him to the Commissioners of conspiracies at Poughkeepsie untill your pleasure is known.

The indisposition with which I was visited the former part of the winter, and which is not yet fully eradicated, and an almost incessant application to business ever since, and much of it of a nature truly perplexing, have made it indispensibly necessary, that I should have a short relaxation and change of air; I shall in a few days set out for New England. I shall leave the army with much regret, and cannot leave the State without certifying my acknowledgements of the polite attention and support I have received from your Excellency on every occasion.

I pray you, be pleased to accept my most hearty thanks. Major General Howe* will command here during my absence. I have the honor to be With the greatest respect your Excellency's most obed. Serv't
 W. Heath.
 His Excellency Governor Clinton.

P. S. I am informed that the bundle designed for Mrs. McDougal, and several others stopt at the Lines, were either taken or burnt by the Enemy.

[No. 2719.]

MATERIAL FOR A HISTORY OF THE WAR.

Du Similière's Ambition—A Remarkably Cold Winter—Philadelphia's Philosophical Society Appoints a Committee to Inquire into the Effects of the Cold.

[Private.]

Sir, I must confess that I have been and am yet exceedingly dishartened at not having been favoured with a line from your

*Robert Howe.

Excellency notwithstanding the many letters I did myself the honour to write you last year, and which I have little doubt have come to hand, as I always took great care of forwarding them by the best opportunities. I am quite at a loss to account for the long Silence of your Excellency as I had flattering hopes from the letter you honoured me with in April last, that, when leisure would permit it, I would be favoured with the honour of a correspondence with a gentleman for whom I entertain the highest Sentiments of Esteem and respect. I omitted no opportunity of conveying to your Excellency Such publications as occasionally appeared here, and all my letters contained Something or other of that kind; in one of the 26th of April last I inclosed a picture in black lead of a gentleman for whose memory I make no doubt you entertain the greatest veneration, and I flattered myself that that little present would meet with a favourable reception from your Excellency. My last was dated October ye 5th and was favoured by Mr. Jay's brother; it contained two pamphlets and a proclamation.

In my letter of August 23d I requested the assistance of your Excellency for my collection of American papers and memoirs, of the last of which I intended to have given you a further account; this would have been done before now, had I been more Successfull in my application to Congress; the inclosed copy of a letter to the president of Congress, in date of the 24th December last, will inform you of the whole affair and have only to add, that, on the 27th my letter was read and after Some debates postponed to the ensuing Fryday, at which time it did not come on the carpet at all, Congress being that day wholly taken up on business of greater importance, and it has lain dormant ever Since. Altho I have lost by absence and death

Since the time I presented my memorial, many of my best friends in Congress, yet I have several left that are well acquainted with the value of my collection and are willing to patronize my undertaking. They were opposed by some gentlemen whom I have no kind of acquaintance with, nor have they ever been at my house, (altho it was recommended to them in Congress by my friends to go thither that they might be better informed of the grounds of my pretensions) their objections were rather unfair, for one was, that, I could not speak a word of English! that if a history or memoirs of America were to be wrote, it should be by an American, and not by a foreigner; they proposed that several should write a history, and he that wrote the best should receive a premium, with many more notions of the like kind, with which I shall not trouble your Excellency, but only add, that, the principal opponents were a delegate of North Carolina, and one of Rhode Island, forsooth! It happened oddly enough that the evening of the debate I chanced to dine at the Chevalier, and I sat between two delegates, one of which I have reason to believe favours me, the other to whom I was a stranger had (as I was afterwards informed) been rather against me, but after some conversation I left him I think in better disposition. I have given myself very little concern about the matter since. I must not omit to say that Mr. Chancellor Livingston patronize me and has given me hopes that I should have the vote of your State. The only gentleman of the committee on my affair remaining in Congress is, Mr. Wm. Churchill Houston of New Jersey, who befriends me very much; he has presented me with the Laws and votes of the council and assembly of his State, since the revolution, and has added to it a curious folio volume of State papers from the origin of that colony down to many years afterwards.

The Western Expedition under Gen. Sullivan has raised my curiosity on the Subject of the Indian war in which the American army especially in that campaign, has penetrated farther and Seen more of the Iroquois country than ever had been done before, at least to my knowledge. I have, therefore, been at Some pains to collect and write down Short notes from the public papers of all the transactions of the war with the Savages for the two last years. A journal* of a Soldier of the 4th Pennsylv'a Regt. (a man of Some learning) has lately come to my hands; he begins at Middle Fort, Schoharie, August 1778 & continues it down to his return to Easton, after Gen. Sullivan's campaign: it is Short but curious enough and among other things there is the distance and bearings of all the places thro which he marched. All the printed maps I have ever Seen (and I possess most of them) give hardly any Idea and Some of them none at all of the numerous towns & Settlements which the army destroyed; but in a large manuscript map comprehending the upper part of Hudson river, all the Mohawks river to Oswego, and all the country of the five nations with the lakes and rivers, on the South Shore of lake Ontario, I find placed in it, four or five of the principal towns thro' which the army passed, with the number of houses and the distance from each other; the farthest Town is Chenessee, mark'd in my map 50 houses, whereas Gen. Sullivan Says 128; but this can be easily accounted for by encrease Since this map was made about 22 years ago; it was drawn by a foreign engineer, I Suppose in the royal Americans, and was given me Some years after in New York by Col. now Gen. A. Prevost. The above are all the materials I have as yet to work up my account, which I intended to have

*See Volume III, pages 630-632, and Volume IV, pages 222-232.

embellished with the best Sketch of the map of the country I could have made (for an accurate one can not be expected). I would have inserted a plan of the order of march and of the order of battle of the army (I have it) and also traced the rout thro' the country, with a Sketch of the plan of the Indian entrenchments at New Town, (could I procure it); to this I would have added descriptions and drawings of the natural and artificial curiosities brought from thence, a very few of which have as yet come to my possession. I have also made inquiries among the officers of my acquaintance that have been on that expedition; they promised to assist me but are now at camp. I am very confident that it would be greatly in your Excellency's power to Supply me with materials by interesting your brother, the General, in my behalf, and you can not doubt of my gratefull thanks & remembrance; but before I quit this Subject, I can not omit taking notice of Col. Van Schaick's Successfull expedition against the Onondagaes last Spring, which I am informed by one who was in both affairs, was more compleat and effectual than that of Gen. Sullivan's; of that affair I have no other memoir than the printed letter of Col. V. S. to Gen. Schuyler. I am credibly informed that the quantity of plunder of all kinds, particularly of articles in use among the Indians, (and with me Scarce and valuable curiosities) was immense; perhaps from that quarter, your Excellency might procure Some things for my collection.

This winter has been the Severest I ever felt and has of course been very dull for many besides myself. Since last November, at which time I receiv'd Some fossils & Indian antiquities from Virginia, and a council pipe a manetto face and Some other things from the Indian country, I have made no additions to my

museum; indeed every body and every thing were almost frozen up, one had enough to do to keep one Self warm, not without great expence, for hickory was once at 400 dollars p cord, but there was plenty of it. Yesterday it began to rain and thaw, and it came on So fast, that all the Streets were Soon laid under water from the great quantity of Snow and ice that had laid on them for upwards of Six weeks; in Short, what with the cold, the Storms of Snow, the alarms of fire, the repeated robberies both in the Streets and in the houses, it has been the most disagreeable time that I ever Saw or heard of, but diversions have and Still continue to go on as if every thing was in the most comfortable time of profound peace and Security. The money depreciate Still and where it will end or when it will Stop, I believe God only knows.

The Philosophical Society has lately appointed a committee (of which I am one) to inquire into the effects of the cold with respect to the air, water, Soil & the vegetable, animal and mineral Kingdoms; if any gentlemen in your parts have made Some observations on that Subject and would be pleased to communicate them to the Society they would be gratefully received, and proper notice taken of them.

Last Saturday evening a large parcel of English letters that had come in the last regular packet that Sail'd from England for America in October 1775, were Sent to the coffee house here by a gentleman of Trenton, who found them in a house he lately purchas'd at that place. In looking over them I found Several printed papers directed to members of Congress at that time, the inclosed is one of them directed to your Excellency, the others I gave to Mr. Thomson. It is a ministerial paper that comes rather too late in the day. I had inclosed in my letter

of the 23d of last August "an assay on free trade and finance," and I now send the two other tracts on the Same Subject, the last is in Dunlap's Packet for Jan'y 8th; to this I add "the Strictures on the Mischianza" a pamphlet just republished from the English Edition.

I hope and wish that all these little matters may be agreeable to your Excellency, and beg your indulgence for having trespassed so long on your time and patience with this long letter, and conclude with assuring you that nothing will give me a greater Satisfaction than to be certain by a few lines from you that I am not quite forgot. In that hope I have the honour to Subscribe myself, with the greatest respect, your Excellency's most obedient and most humble Servant

Du Simitiere.

in Arch Street Six doors above Fourth Street.

Philadelphia, February 16th 1780.

His Excellency Governour Clinton.

[No. 2720.]

*Captain John Wood, of Orange County, a Prisoner at Chambly,
Asks to be Exchanged.*

Chambly, February 16th 1780.

May it please your Excellency,

I take the Liberty of this Opportunity to inform you that I am at this place and to request your Interest to have me exchanged as soon as possible you will oblige me much by informing my wife that I am here and well. I am your Excellency's Most Obedient Humble Servant

John Wood, Capt. of Orange County.

[To G. C.]

[No. 2721.]

New York Surrenders Jurisdiction Over Her Western Territory to the National Confederation.

Instructions from the Legislature of the State of New York to their Delegates in the Honorable Congress of the United States of America. Given at Albany the eighteenth day of February Anno Domini 1780.

Whereas by an Act passed at this present Meeting of the Legislature held at the City of Albany entitled "An Act to facilitate the Completion of the Articles of Confederation and perpetual Union among the United States of America" you, the said Delegates, are authorized to limit and restrict the Boundaries of this State in the western Parts thereof, by such Line or Lines and in such Manner and Form as you for the Purposes mentioned in the said Act shall judge Expedient.

And whereas, it is conceived necessary in a Business of such high Moment to the State that you should be instructed by the Legislature in the discharge of the Trust reposed in you by the said Act, you are, therefore, directed in limiting the said Boundaries to insist on the following Propositions in the order in which they stand vizt:

1st. On a Line from the north East Corner of Pennsylvania along the north Bounds thereof to its northwest Corner; and continued from thence until it intersects a meridian Line drawn from the forty fifth Degree of north Latitude thro' a Point Ten Miles due west from the most westerly Bent or Inclination of the Strait between Lake Erie and Lake St. Clair, Thence by the said meridian Line to the forty fifth Degree of north Latitude & Thence by the said forty fifth Degree of north Latitude.

2dly. On a Line from the north East Corner of Pennsylvania

along the north Bounds thereof, to its northwest Corner and continued from thence until it intersects a Meridian Line drawn from the forty fourth Degree of north Latitude thro' a Point Ten Miles due west from the most westerly Bent or Inclination of the Strait between Lake Erie and Lake St. Clair, thence by the said Meridian Line to the forty fourth Degree of north Latitude; Thence by the said forty fourth Degree of north Latitude to Lake Ontario or the River St. Lawrence; Thence down the north Banks of the said Lake and the said River to the forty fifth Degree of north Latitude, & thence by the said forty fifth Degree of north Latitude.

3dly. On the Bounds mentioned in the first Proposition for the Jurisdiction of this State, yielding up to the United States the Right of or Preemption of Soil of the Tract of Country lying west of a meridian Line drawn from the forty fifth Degree of north Latitude thro' a Point twenty miles due west of the most westerly Bent or Inclination of the River or Strait of Niagara as far South and north and west of the said meridian Line, as this State extends.

4thly. On the Bounds mentioned in the second Proposition for the Jurisdiction of this State yielding up to the United States the Right or Preemption of Soil of the Tract of Country described in the third Proposition.

5thly. On a Line from the north East Corner of Pennsylvania along the north Bounds thereof to its north west Corner; thence southerly along the west Bounds thereof until the Head of the Cayahoga bears due west; Thence due west to the Head of the Cayahoga; Thence down the Cayahoga to the mouth thereof; Thence due north to the forty fourth Degree of north Latitude; Thence by the forty fourth Degree of north Latitude to Lake

Ontario or the River St. Lawrence; Thence by the north Banks of the said Lake and of the said River to the forty fifth Degree of north Latitude and thence by the said forty fifth Degree of north Latitude.

6thly. On the Bounds described in the fifth Proposition, for the Jurisdiction of this State yielding up to the United States the Right or Preemption of Soil of the Tract of Country described in the third Proposition, and also the Right or Preemption of Soil of the Tract of Country lying west of Pennsylvania and on the South side of Lake Erie.

7thly. You are at liberty to agree upon any other Line or Lines which you may judge from Circumstances to be consistent with your Trust, and equally advantageous for the State with either of the Propositions abovementioned; but if neither of the said Propositions or such others as you shall state shall take Place, you shall in no Case restrict or limit the Bounds of the State so as to exclude or relinquish any Part of the Territory comprized within the following Description which you are to consider and maintain as the Ultimatum of this State both with Respect of the Right of Soil or Preemption from the natives and of Jurisdiction, subject to the Provisoe herein after mentioned, vizt.

A Line from the north East Corner of Pennsylvania along the north Bounds thereof to its northwest Corner continued due west until it shall be intersected by a meridian Line to be drawn from the forty fifth Degree of north Latitude thro' a Point twenty Miles due west from the most westerly Bent or Inclination of the River or Strait of Niagara; Thence by the said Meridian Line to the forty fifth Degree of north Latitude, and thence by the said forty fifth Degree of north Latitude.

Provided, nevertheless that if the great object of the said Act cannot otherwise be accomplished, you shall be at Liberty to cede for the Benefit of the United States the Right or Preemption of Soil reserving the Jurisdiction, or even both the Right or Preemption of Soil and of Jurisdiction to that Tract of Land, part of the Territory described in the Ultimatum, which lies East of the meridian Line mentioned in this Ultimatum and north of the forty fourth Degree of north Latitude and of the Lake Ontario and of the River St. Lawrence.

Signed by Order and on behalf of the Senate,

Pierre Van Cortlandt, Pres'dt.

Signed by Order and on behalf of the House of Assembly,

Evert Bancker, Speaker.

[No. 2722.]

Jacob Dulwich Requests Permission to Go to New York.

To his Excellency George Clinton Esqr. Governor of the State of New York General and Commander in Chief of all the Militia and Admiral of the Navy of the Same, in Senate. The humble Petition of Jacob Dulwich Sheweth That, your Petitioner was formerly an Inhabitant in the City of New York, where he lived many years, and followed his Trade as a Shoe-maker with Application and Industry, by which he brought up a numerous Family with Credit & Reputation but your Petitioner growing old and his Eyes failing him, he & his Wife removed from thence into the Country where they thought they could live more easy and quiet, which they have done till of late, Your Petitioner is now upwards of Seventy years of age and his Wife near as Old; he nor she are able to do anything to support themselves, nor has been for some Time past. Your Petitioner's Daughter has Maintained them for upwards of a year, but her Circumstances are so low that she cannot do it any longer, so your Petitioner has nothing to subsist on but the Benefaction of a few good Neighbours. Therefore, your Petitioner is in a most deplorable and Distressed Situation, and must if not relieved by your goodness become a Charge to the District wherein he now lives; your Petitioner has Children in New York who are in good Circumstances, and who are solicitous to have their Parents with them. Therefore, your Petitioner humbly prays that you will be pleased to give him and his Wife Permission to go to New York and if he should be so happy to obtain your Permission, to permit him to go in the Flag which is to go down with Mr. Cumming. And your Petitioner As in Duty bound will forever Pray
Great Inbought, District 18th Feb'y 1780.

[No. 2723.]

Returns of Colonel Klock's Regiment of Tryon County.

February 19th 1780. A Return of Colo. Klock's Regiment of militia it being the first Regiment in the County of Tryon.

	Colo.	Lt. Colo.	Major	Adjutant	Quarter Master	Captains	Lieutenants	Ensigns	Sergants	Corporals	privats	Total
Colo.	1											1
Lt. Colo.		1										1
Major			1									1
Adjutant				1								1
Quarter master					1							1
Captains						7						7
Lieutenants							14					14
Ensigns								7				7
Sergants									28			28
Corporals										28		28
privats											110	110
Total	1	1	1	1	1	7	14	7	28	28	110	199

Jacob Klock, Col.

To his Excellency the Governour.

[No. 2724.]

General Washington to Governor Clinton Concerning New York's Quota for the Coming Campaign.

Head Qrs. Morris Town, Feb'y 20th 1780.

Sir, Your Excellency will have received, I make no doubt, a copy of an act of Congress of the 9th Instant,* ascertaining the Quotas of non commissioned officers and privates to be furnished by the Respective States for the ensuing campaign, and directing all the men in the additional corps—the Guards, Artillery & Horse, and the Regimented artificers in the depart-

**Resolved*, That the reasonable expense any state hath incurred, or may incur, by raising and having in the continental army more than what shall hereafter appear to have been their just proportion of the troops actually serving in the said army from time to time, shall be allowed to such states, and equitably adjusted in a final settlement of their accounts with the United States.

Resolved, That for the ensuing campaign the states be respectively required to furnish, by draughts or otherwise, on or before the first day of April next, their respective

ments of the Quarter Master General & Commissary General of Military Stores, as well as those of the Battallions in the State lines, whose times of service do not expire before the last of September next, to be counted as part of the Quotas of the States to which they respectively belong. The Quota of the State of New York is fixed at 1620, and I have now the honor to inclose your Excellency a Special Return of the non commissioned officers and privates in her Battallions (except Van Schaick's of which I have not got a particular state) and of the men belonging to her in Lamb's Regiment of Artillery & Webb's, Spencer's, Livingston's & Hazen's Regiments, and Major Gibbs's Corps of Guards; designating in a particular manner the proportion engaged for the war, and by monthly columns the periods when & in what proportion the services of the Rest will expire.

deficiencies of the number of 35,211 men, exclusive of commissioned officers, which Congress deem necessary for the service of the present year;

That the quotas of the several states be as follows:

New-Hampshire,	1215
Massachusetts-Bay,	6070
Rhode-Island,	819
Connecticut,	3238
New-York,	1620
New-Jersey,	1620
Pennsylvania,	4855
Delaware,	405
Maryland,	3238
Virginia,	6070
North-Carolina,	3640
South-Carolina,	2439 exclusive of blacks

That all the men whose times of service do not expire before the last day of September next, be counted towards the quotas of the states to which they respectively belong, whether they compose the battallions in the line of the several states, those of the additional corps, including the guards, the artillery and horse, or the regimented artificers in the departments of the quarter master-general and commissary-general of military stores, who being credited to the states respectively, should be provided for, deemed and treated in the same manner with the men in the several state lines; and it is recommended to the several states to make like provision for the officers and men of the artillery, horse, additional corps, including the guards and regimented artificers, as may be made in pursuance of any resolution of Congress, for the officers and men of their respective battallions; with such exceptions, respecting the regimented artificers, as have been made by Congress in their acts concerning them:

That the commander in chief be forthwith directed to transmit to the several states accurate returns of the troops now in service, belonging or credited to their respective quotas; to the intent that immediate measures be taken by the governments of the states, to bring the men to be raised into the field, with certainty and expedition.—
Journals of Congress.

Your Excellency will observe by the act, that the men whose engagements expire before the last of September, as I have already taken the liberty to mention, are not to be counted as part of the 1620, and, therefore, according to the Return inclosed, the deficiency to be levied would be 321; but the men of Van Schaick's Regiment who are to serve after the last of September being to be added to the Return, will make a very material difference if not the State's complete quota. I consider it as an unlucky circumstance that I have not got this Return to ascertain the point; and request that your Excellency will call upon the Colonel to furnish it. There are one or two Corps besides, of which I have not such Returns as I could wish, and in which possibly there may be a few men belonging to the State. If I find this to be the case when I receive them, I shall take the earliest occasion to communicate it and their number. I write to Colo. Van Schaick by this conveyance to give your Excellency a particular State of his Regiment, by which you will be able to determine whether there will be any and what deficiency in the State's quota to be provided for. I have the Honor to be with the most perfect respect & esteem y^r Excellency's most obed. S^t

Go. Washington.

His Ex^{cy} Governor Clinton.

[No. 2725.]

GENERAL PARSONS LOOKS FORWARD.

Suggests to Governor Clinton That New York Frontier Grants Should be Given to Soldiers at the Close of the War.

Redding 21st Feb'y 1780.

Dear Sir. I find a considerable Proportion of the Officers of the Connec't Line are desirous of forming Settlements in the

western parts of the State of New York at the Close of the present War, and have desir'd me to inform myself whither they can expect any grants from the State for that Purpose.

I am of the Number who place their Views in your State, and have suppos'd the State of New York can in no Way be greater gainers than by ingaging a speedy Settlement of their western Frontier, as it would become a Barrier to the interior Settlements, appreciate the Value of the settled part of the Country, increase their Commerce as the Inhabitants are increas'd; and make a price for all ungranted Lands between the exterior & interior Settlements; if these should be the Views of your State, I cannot conceive a mode promising a speedier Completion of the Views of the State, than ingaging as many Settlers by liberal Grants at the Close of the War, as will completely make those Settlements; and no Way promises speedier Success than securing the Soldiers then to be disbanded; if such grants are made to the Officers as will make it their Interest to secure the Soldiers to settle there, rather than in another State you are sensible their Influence will be exerted for that Purpose, & are also sensible of the Effect those Exertions will probably produce. I own I feel myself interested in this application as my Hopes at the Close of the War are form'd on grants I hope I may be able to secure in New York; this also is the Case of many other Officers, of our Line; and should we meet in the Incouragement we wish, I believe we shall be able to procure a great proportion, if not the greatest part of our Soldiers to become Settlers in that Region immediately on the Close of the War.

If you can spare a moment from your public Concerns, I shall beg to know your Opinion on the Subject in general and whither

I may particularly form any Expectations from your State which may be worth my Pursuit; your Friendship in this matter will add to the Obligations already confer'd upon, Dr Sir, yr Friend
& h's Serv't

Saml. H. Parsons.

[To G. C.]

[No. 2726.]

Henry Rensen Makes Application for the Position of Commercial Agent, with the Governor's Answer.

Morristown, Feb'y 21st 1780.

Sir, I have lately been informed that the Legislature of our State, had it in contemplation to appoint one or more agents or Commissioners, in different Seaport Towns, or cities, for the purpose of procuring supplies, for the State Troops, or for the use of the Inhabitants in the interior parts of the State.

As I have taken a resolution of removing my Family, next spring, either to Philad'a, Baltimore, or Alexandria in Virginia, I take the liberty to offer my best services in commercial business, and have to request the favour of your Excellency to communicate the same to our Legislature.

I have been informed from very competent authority, that the states of Virginia & Maryland, by having commercial agents, at different Seaports, for importing, & purchasing goods, have made so much profit, by the Sales of those, not necessary for their Troops, as will nearly pay the allowance, those Legislatures have at different periods granted to their Troops in the Continental army.

I have had a good deal of conversation with Genl. Woodford, & other well informed Gentlemen from Virginia, on the subject, who all agree in opinion, that Alexandria in that State, affords

(in the present situation of our affairs) a better prospect in commercial concerns, than any other on the Continent, on account of the facility of procuring Tobacco, & other articles not prohibited, for exportation; and yesterday I had his Excellency Genl. Washington's opinion on the subject, who fully coincided in the opinion, & was pleased to offer me every service in his power, & the countenance & encouragement of all of his friends.

Having been an importer of European Goods from 1759 to 1775 and in the West Indian Trade for 12 or 14 years before our serious troubles commenced, I trust it will not be deemed, vanity in me to say, that I am competent in judgment, as to the quality & original cost of Fabricks & Manufactures from Europe, or from the West Indies, and as to my character for punctuality, assiduity, & integrity, in business, I must submit to an enquiry, from my fellow citizens of New York, now in the Senate & Assembly, or of those Gentlemen in Albany, Ulster & Dutchess Counties who in former times favoured me with their commands.

I beg leave to mention to your Excellency, that I have at present correspondents in Boston, Hartford & other places in Connecticut, Philadelphia, Baltimore & in Charles Town; also in Amsterdam, & at Bourdeaux in France, and that it will be no difficult matter to procure from the French Ambassador, an introduction to commercial Houses, in any seaport Town, or city in France; and being able to converse in that Language, & to render into English, any letter on common business, may be a means of enabling me to execute the trust with more advantage. I am very respectfully your Excellency's Obed't and Humb. Serv't

Henry Remsen.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

Pokeepsie March 29th 1780.

Sir, I was fav'd with your Letter of the 21st Feb'y last at Albany while the Legislature were sitting, & as I conceived with you that advantages might accrue to the State by turn'g their attention to trade, at least so far as to procure Cloth'g & other necess'ys for their Troops, I communicated to them your Proposals, but being involved in a multiplicity of other Business & near rising, I cannot learn that they came to any Determination on the Subject, and I fear that the distressed Situation of the State as well as the Condition of its Funds, which perhaps are the strongest Reasons for adopting the measure, will discourage them from engaging in it. Be assured, Sir, that I feel myself heartily disposed to serve you & more especially in this Instance, as I conceive it woud be advancing the Interest of the State, & that I am with the highest Esteem & Regard Sr yours &c.

[G. C.]

Henry Remsen, Esqr.

[No. 2727.]

THE LEGISLATURE ASSISTS WASHINGTON.

Governor Clinton Reaffirms His Original Position in the Case of Major Ballard.

Albany 21st Feby. 1780.

D'r Sir, Immediately on the Convening of the Legislature I laid before them your Excellency's Letter of the 16th Dec'r on the Subject of obtaining Supplies for the army and can with Pleasure inform your Excellency that they entered upon the Business without Delay and have passed two Laws for this Purpose. The one after allowing one Bushel of wheat or an equiv-

alent in Flour per Head pr. month until the first of August next for each Person in the respective Families within this State, empowering the assessors to seize the Remainder and deliver over to the Com'y Genl. of Purchases two third Parts thereof, for the use of the army, the other third Part to be stored for reliev'g the future wants of the Inhabitants. The other Law for remedying in some Degree the Deficiency of Money in the public offices, enacts that the Certificates of the Qu'r Mr. Genl. & Com. Genl. of Purchases & Forage shall be received into the State Treasury in Payment of Taxes. These Measures will I hope tend to relieve the army from their present Distresses and perhaps put in the Power of the public officers to lay in some small Magazines.

Your Excellency's Letter of the 13th Inst. [December, 1779] respect'g Major Ballard, was rec'd by me at Pokeepsie. I deferred answering it, concluding that I sh'd receive some further Information on the subject, from the Inhabitants on my arrival at this Place. It gives me pain to inform your Excellency that it is the concurrent voice of the People, that the Distresses which some of the Inhabitants on the Frontiers experienced from hav'g their Cattle & other Effects taken from them & sold, are to be attributed to a mercenary Spirit in some of the Officers, and that those Impositions did not in the least tend to promote the public service. I will not, however, pretend to say that Major Ballard was influenced by improper Motives; he seems to have acted under the orders of the Command'g officer of the Departm't and with a Degree of Precaution. I am not, therefore, apprehensive that any criminal Prosecution will be commenced ag't him; but should Individuals conceive themselves aggrieved by his Conduct, it is not in my Power to prevent their seeking Redress

by private Suits in the Courts of Justice but even then I presume if it should appear that the Major's Conduct was warranted by Necessity and that the Measures taken by him, tho' not strictly conformable to Law, was calculated for the Safety of the Country and for further'g the public Service, he will have little to apprehend. I am &c.

[G. C.]

[To Gen. Washington.]

[No. 2728.]

Major Hatfield, Commissary of Hides, Suspended from Duty.

War Office, February 23d 1780.

Sir, We have received so many Complaints respecting the Conduct of the Hide Departments in the state of New York & have been so disappointed in our Expectations of Advantage from the Business of that Department under Mr. Hatfield's managem't, that we were compelled from Duty to the Public to suspend him (the commissary & his assistants) tho' we could have wished first to have consulted your Excellency on the subject. We are Informed that the abuses have arisen chiefly from Persons in whom Mr. Hatfield has placed Confidence & who have deceived him, and Injured the Public, & that with respect to them great suspicions of Fraud have arisen. We have had no regular returns from the Department, and but a very little Benefit from it in the course of the Supplies. On the contrary we are told, the Hides remaining on Hand are, from want of care, worthless, and that the greatest Confusion pervades the Department. We have directed the Clothier General to apply to the Executive of the state for Advice & assistance when requisite, and we hope for your Excellency's usual Exertions in favor of

the Public Interest. We have the Honour to be, with the greatest respect, your very obed. Serv'ts

Richard Peters,

By order.

His Excellency, George Clinton, Esq., Gov. &c. State of
New York.

[No. 2729.]

Colonel Udney Hay Asks for a General Impress Warrant for One Month.

Fish Kill 25 Feb. 1780.

Sir, As the favourable Law the Legislature has been pleased to pass lately, respecting an immediate supply of flour for the army will, I doubt not, be the means of obtaining a considerable quantity of that article, I must request your Excellency will be pleased to grant me a general impress warrant for one month, that the intention of the Law may not be frustrated by letting slip any opportunity that may be embraced of forwarding on to the army, any flour that may from time to time be obtained.

If your Excellency is pleased to grant the warrant, you may rely on its being executed with as much delicacy & impartiality and as little distress to those individuals who may be called on, as in my power.

I have the Honour to be, wth great respect, Your Excellencies,
most obed. and very humble Ser't,

Udney Hay.

Governour Clinton.

[No. 2730.]

QUOTAS OF SUPPLIES.

Congress Calls Upon the States for Their Respective Shares of Provisions for the Maintenance of the Army.

In Congress 25th Feb'y 1780.

Resolved, that the several States be called on forthwith to procure their respective Quotas of Supplies for the ensuing Campaign as follows, to wit,

New Hampshire,	11,200 Hundred weight of Beef.
	35,643 Gallons of Rum.
Massachusetts Bay,	56,000 Hundred Weight of Beef.
	12,126 Bushels of Salt.
	195,628 Gallons of Rum.
Rhode Island,	2,240 Hundred weight of Beef.
	2,000 Bushels of Salt.
	18,621 Gallons of Rum.
	400 Tons of Hay.
Connecticut,	78,400 Hundred weight of Beef.
	1,011 Bushels of Salt.
	68,558 Gallons of Rum.
	500 Tons of Hay.
New York,	11,200 Hundred weight of Beef.
	13,969 Barrels of Flour.
	500 Tons of Hay.
	30,000 Bushels of Indian corn or other short Forage equivalent.
New Jersey,	18,000 Hundred W't of Beef.
	10,000 Barrels of Flour.
	3,758 Bushels of Salt.
	3,500 Tons of Hay.
	30,000 Bushels of corn or short Forage equivalent.

Pennsylvania,	40,000 Barrels of Flour.
	14,189 Bushels of Salt.
	24,423 Gallons of Rum.
	1,700 Tons of Hay.
	200,000 Bushels of corn or short Forage equivalent.
Delaware,	3,055 Barrels of Flour.
	500 Tons of Hay.
	18,662 Bushels of corn or short Forage equivalent.
Maryland,	40,000 Hundred W't of Beef.
	20,000 Barrels of Flour.
	200 Tons of Hay or corn Blade.
	56,152 Bushels of corn or short forage equivalent.
	1,000 Hogsheads of Tobacco.
Virginia,	47,000 Hundred W't of Beef.
	1,278 Barrels of Flour.
	10,700 Bushels of Salt.
	400 Tons of Hay or corn Blade.
	200,000 Bushels of corn, or short Forage equivalent.
	6,000 Hogsheads of Tobacco.
	100,000 Gallons of Rum.
North Carolina,	49,875 Hundred Weight of Beef.
	15,000 Barrels of Flour.
	4,500 Bushels of Salt.
	800 Tons of Hay or corn Blade.
	80,000 Bushels of corn or short Forage in proportion.

South Carolina,	16,000 Hundred W ^t of Beef.
	52,000 Hundred W ^t of Rice.
	5,000 Bushels of Salt.
	120,000 Gallons of Rum.
	800 Tons of Hay or corn Blade.
	80,000 Bushels of corn or short Forage equivalent.

Resolved, That Pork be received from any State in Lieu of Beef in Quantities proportioned to the prices assigned to each.

Resolved, That continental Rum or other Spirit suitable for the army be received in Lien of West India Rum in Proportion to the Prices assigned to each.

Resolved, That the articles aforesaid be collected and deposited or delivered at the risque of the respective States in such places within each State respectively as the commander in chief shall judge most convenient, except Tobacco, which is to be under the Direction of the commercial committee; Provided, that such of the said articles as shall be destroyed or taken by the Enemy after being deposited as aforesaid or which shall be damaged by long Keeping shall be paid for by the United States.

Resolved, that the respective States be credited for all such Commodities being of good and sufficient Quality, as shall be received for the use of the United States by Persons appointed to inspect the same at the prices following, to wit,

Merchantable Flour per Hundred W^t gross, viz. 112 Lb. 4½ Dollars.

Beef best Grass fed, which shall be delivered between the first of July and the first of December 5½ Dollars per net hundred Weight.

Beef, best stall fed, which shall be delivered in the month of December 6½ Dollars per net Hundred weight, and for all that

shall be delivered after the first of January and before the first of July 8 Dollars per net Hundred Weight.

Fresh Pork well fatted with corn or Rice seven Dollars per net Hundred weight.

Salted Pork per Barrel well fatted as aforesaid, containing two Hundred and twenty pounds net 22 Dollars.

Salted Beef per Barrel containing two Hundred and forty Pounds net $17\frac{1}{2}$ Dollars.

Clean well dried Indian corn per Bushel three fourths of a Dollar.

Oats well cleaned half a Dollar per Bushel.

Rye well cleaned per Bushel one Dollar.

White Beans and Peas per Bushel one Dollar & an half.

Wheat weighing Sixty Pounds one Dollar and an half.

Spelts $\frac{1}{2}$ a Dollar per Bushel.

Buckwheat per Bushel three fifths of a Dollar.

Rough Rice three fourths of a Dollar per Bushel.

Merchantable Rice three Dollars per Hundred weight.

Best upland first crop of Hay per Ton fifteen Dollars.

Best Indian corn Blades per Ton fifteen Dollars.

Good inspected Tobacco per Hundred net six Dollars.

West India Rum good Proof one Dollar and two thirds per Gallon.

Best Allum or Rock Salt per Bushel three Dollars, and other Salt in Proportion.

Continental Rum good Proof one Dollar, and other Spirits Good Proof suitable for the army at prices in the usual Proportions to the price of Rye.

Resolved, that all the accounts between these States relating to their Quotas of the Supplies aforesaid shall be kept and finally

settled in Spanish milled Dollars and the Balances finally paid in Specie.

Resolved, that if it shall appear on an adjustment of the Quotas of the several States, that any State has supplied more than its due Proportion in value, every such State shall be paid the value of the Surplus at the Rates aforesaid in Specie with Interest at six per centum per annum from the Time such Surplus shall have been deposited as above directed; and every State which shall have failed to supply its due proportion shall be charged with the Deficiency at the rates aforesaid and the like Interest thereon from the Time that the same ought to have been deposited.

Resolved, that the several States cause monthly Returns to be made to the Board of War of all such commodities as shall be procured for the use of the United States, specifying the Quantities issued in each preceeding Month.

Resolved, that where any State shall have taken the necessary Measures for furnishing its Quota of the said Supplies, and shall have given Information thereof to Congress such State be authorized to carry into Effect the Resolution of the Seventeenth of December last for Discontinuing purchases of such Supplies by the Commissaries or Quarter Masters within the same.

Resolved, that the several States be excused from paying into the Treasury two Thirds of the Moneys which they were called on to raise monthly for the use of the United States by the Resolution of the sixth of October 1779.

Resolved, that it be recommended to the States to furnish such Parts of their Quotas of Meat in Beef cattle, as the Commissaries shall from time to time have Occasion for to supply the army with fresh Beef through the different Seasons of the year.

That only such Quantities of Beef and Pork be salted to be

delivered in Barrels as shall be requested by the Commissary General.

That the Hides and Tallow of the Beef cattle delivered on Foot shall be received and credited at the same Price as the Beef.

That the Provisions furnished by authority of any State for the use of the army since the first Day of December last may be credited as part of the Quota of Supplies assigned to such State at the prices fixed in the foregoing Resolutions, if such State desire it.

Extract from the minutes.

Chas. Thomson, Secy.

[No. 2731.]

Captain Peter Ten Broeck Appeals for Permission to Go to New York to Effect His Exchange.

Sir, My long Confinement in gaol, and now being a prisoner Restricted to a very small limit, will I hope, plead my Excuse for this Troubling you, Mr. John Cumming who was lately in New York, acquainted me with your Goodness in agreeing Readily to have me Exchanged, for which I Return you my sincerest thanks. Mr. Loring, Commissary of prisoners was the only person to whom Cumming spoke Concerning me, and his answer was that he wou'd agree to no partial Exchange as that might be Detrimental to a General Exchange for the which he at present laboured to Effect. Yet my own Distresses are such as I think unsupportable, as I and my family are Rendered destitute of Every support, by our being Devested of our property by Different Seizures and sales by the Committee of Tryon County as well as being plundered by the Onida Indians: therefor, I Humbly implore your Excellency that you would permit me to go on parole to New York to endeavour to Effect my own Exchange, and if you think proper to Demand an Exchange from my family, it wou'd be proper you mention the name of a Capt. whom you wou'd choose to have in Exchange for me, as also a family for my family. I Certainly expect, if I was in New York, I might have my Exchange Effected, and if I could not, I am certain I must Receive some of my pay as a British officer to support me in Captivity untill my Exchange could take place. I am, with every Due Respect, Sir, Your Very Obed't Serv't

Peter Ten Broeck.

West Camp Febr. 26th 1780.
Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 2732.]

Abr'm J. Delamatter Asks to be Released from Military Service.

Sir, It has happend in the year 1777, on the 15th of October, that I was ordered out that the Inemy was Coming up the River. I immediatly got my horses and waggon, and loeded Some Goods as badding and Close and put wyve and Childeren on it, brought them on the Hurly Road and did let them go on, the marcy of God, for I my Selve went down according to orders and no living Soul I had fit for to send with them. If

I might a staid I could have rid all my furniture out of town. I was oblygd to stay at ye landing untill the Humny landed, then we ware forced to give away and when I came in town I found house and barn, furniture, in short all what I had hit in ashes. Since have been oblygd to live as a Rifegee in ye East Camp, and almost spent what was left behind; now, Sir, I am come to the age of forty seven years, very little in hands, but through the mercy of God, I am in helth and can work at my trade as will, that it encouradges me and must bag your Excellency since I am Resolved with the help of God to build in the Spring, that I may live no longer a stranger, that your Excellency be moved with compassion, and Excuse me from military service, and such man as I should want for assistance it might be a means that I might get them cheaper than there Extraordinary prizes, which is now going in the contey, which might be a great help to one, who is almost Ruend; this is the prayer from your Excellency's Petietioner.

Abr'm J. Delamatter.

[To G. C.]

[No. 2733.]

Return of Colonel Van Schaick's Regiment.

Return of the Non-commissioned Officers, & Privates in the 1st New York Regiment Commanded by Colo. G. Van Schaick, Specifying what proportion are inlisted during War, & the different Terms of the Residue.

Companies	Non-commiss'd officers		Rank & File		Time of Expiration	
	during War	Three Years	during War	Three Years	before the 1st Sept'r 1780.	after the 1st Sept'r 1780.
Light Infantry	5		47	2	2	
Capt. Hicks	3		36	1		1
Colonels	8		24	4	3	1
Capt. Van Rensselaer's	5		31	2	1	1
Majors	1		33	1	1	
Late Copp's	4		36			
Lieut. Colonels	5		30	5	5	
Capt. Parsons'	5		29	1		1
Capt. Wendell's	1		32	3	2	1
	43		298	19	14	5

N.B 4 Serjeants taken prisoner by the Enemy, inlisted during War, & not included in the above Return.
 37 Privates Do Do inlisted for three years Do Do

G. V. Schaick, Coll.

[No. 2734.]

Governor Clinton Writes to General Parsons Relative to His Western Land Plan.

Albany, 2d March 1780.

Dr Sir, I am favored with your Letter of the 21st ulto. The Legislature of this State had at their last Meeting a Bill before

them for opening a Land Office & making liberal grants to the gentlemen of the army. The Expectation of the arrival of the French Fleet & the necessary Preparations for operating ag't N. York occasioned their Rising sooner than was expected & their not passing it into a Law, & the Resolutions of Congress recommending to the several States to forbear for the present the establishing of Land Offices and the granting of unappropriated Lands, have prevented their reassuming this Business.

The Idea of your becoming a Citizen of this State gives me Pleasure and be assured, Sir, that as far as my Influence will extend, proper Encouragements will be given to induce yourself & the other Gentlemen you mention to carry their Intention into Execution. &c.

[G. C.]

[To Gen. Parsons.]

[No. 2735.]

Governor Clinton Declines to Issue an Impress Warrant to Colonel Udny Hay.

Fish Kill, 2nd March 1780.

Sir, As one who would wish to act with the strictest impartiality to all the State in my official Capacity, I think myself bound to acquaint your Excellency of the very little assistance I have by any means been able to obtain from Batemans Precinct, since the beginning of December last, though there never perhaps was a time in which greater exertions were necessary; I do not believe the teams of that District have done more than one tenth part the Duty the teams of this District has done since that time; what method is to be taken to compel their assistance I must request your Excellency to point out; no pains shall be wanting on my side to put it in execution.

I took the liberty to request an impress warrant for one month in a letter addressed to your Excellency of 25th ult; If you think proper to comply wth my request the bearer of this who is an express will bring back your answer I must again request you will mention to the Legislature the necessity of renewing the impress act passd last Sessions.

We have nothing new at present in this Quarter. I have the honour, to be wth great respect, Your Excellencies most obdt. & very humble Ser.

Udny Hay.

Gouverneur Clinton.

Albany, 5 March 1780.

Sir, I am favored with your Letter of the 2d Inst. An act has lately passed continuing the Laws for regulating Impresses and I do not recollect that any alteration is made by it with Respect to the Duties of your Department, tho it is provided that Indian Corn or Rye be impressed in Future for Forage. As I have not yet been furnished with a Copy of the act, and have not the State Seals here, it is at present out of my Power to give you an Impress warrant. I expect, however, that the Legislature will soon adjourn & that I shall set out for Pokeepsie the latter End of next week, when if a warrant shall still be requisite, your Request will be complied with, which at present is impossible for the Reasons I have mentioned.

[G. C.]

[To Col. Udny Hay.]

[No. 2736.]

DISAFFECTED FAMILIES IN TRYON COUNTY.

Whose Property Having Been Sold Are Now Desirous of Going to Canada—A List of Persons Captured Along the Susquehanna.

Johns Town, March 7th 1780.

Sr, We here send you a list of the Families whose Properties we have Sold pursnant to a resolution of the Council of Safety

Aug't 30th 1777 and they have been detained ever since. Therefore, hope your Excellency will in your Goodness grant them Liberty to go to Canada as we can Assure your Excellency that they are in great distress. There is also many Families that remains behind for want of Ability to remove. There is likewise several destitute Old Men unable to bear Arms, who are very desirous of obtaining Liberty to go to their Friends, which if they cannot must inevitably Perish or otherwise become a Charge to the County. We also send your Excellency a List of the People taken on the Susquehannah, so that your Excellency may have it in your Power to relieve them. And humbly hope your Excellency will be so good as to send us word whether these women who remain behind may go by the next Flag. We are, Sr. With all respect, Your Excellency's Obedient humble Servants

Fred'k Fisher, }
 John Harper; } Commissioners.

To His Excell'y George Clinton, Esqr.

William McLeod's Family: Cath. McLeod Nelly Molly Henry, Children;

John McGruire's Family: Mary McGruire Alex'r Mary Children; Jenny Frazier, Sister to Mary.

John Freil's Family: Barbara Freil Thos. James Children;

John Hare's Family: Margaret Hare widow William Sarah Cath. Polly Eliz'th Children;

John McDonald's Family: Catherine McDonald Mary Penelope Miles John William;

Kenned McDonald Family: James MacDonald May McDonald Malcolm;

Donald McGuire Family: Catherine McGuire Even, Duncan, Angus, Bell, Mary, Christy, Children;

Alex'r McDonald Family: Even, Flora, Ann;

John Frazier Family: Thomas Do, Mary Do;

Thos. Ross's Family: Chrysal Do Robt. Do;

... Monroe's Family: Catherine Do Catherine, John, Christy, Ann, Children;

John McDonald's Family: Catherine Do; Catherine, John, Children;

Sandy McPherson Family: Catherine Do, Dougal Flora Children;

John Morikston Family: Catherine; Kenned, May, Chiply, William, Collin, Children—By Accident Burnt and lost every thing but what they had on;

Murdoch McLean Family: Catherine Do Catherine;

Donald McLean's Family: Barbara Do; Donald Chrysal William, Allan, Children;

Philip Ross's Family: Jane Do Catherine, Donald, Children;

Donald McKay, Arsby Do; William Alex'r Chrysty Donald Children;

Donald Morikston: Catherine Do; William Peggy Children;

Angus McKay, Chrysla Do; Ann, Mary, Chrysty, Children

Phillip Shaver's Family: Elizabeth; Jacob Conrad Phillip Barbara Crate Henry Peter Elizabeth Children;

Frazier Family: Isabel Frazier; Mary and Tom, Children. Neither Clothes or any thing to Cover her or Children;

John Long's Family: Cath. Long, Edward, Sam, William, Catherine, Children.

A List of Prisoners taken from Wyoming: James Badlock, John Church, Jonathan Smith, Jac'b V. Garder, Case, Slookan

Child, Kingsly Child, Step'n Parish, Mrs. Hagerman, Lanorah Hagerman, Bubben Jones, Zebulon Parish, Jasper Parish, Step'n Kamboll.

From the West Branch of Susquehannah: Andrew Armstrong, Jonathan Delone, Robt. McCambel.

From Tryon County: 2 Children of the Name of John and Leonard Sternbrander, Joseph Breadnought and Wife, Saml. Kennedy taken from the Mohawk River.

From the Susquehannah: Sarah Lester and Hannah Lester Children belonging to the Widow Lester, Prisoners at Genesee; Ebenezer Williams belonging to the same Family.

Peter Hansen prisener at Canedy out of Tryon County.

Gentl. I have rec'd your Letter of the 7th Inst. with a List of women & Children in your County who you wish to have removed to their Friends [in] Canada; at present I can give no positive answer on this Subject, but if the women & Children taken from our Frontiers are liberated & suffered to come Home, I can see no Objection to granting similar Indulgence to the Persons mentioned in your List.

I am &c.

[G. C.]

Albany 9 March 1780.

[To Frederick Fisher and John Harper, Commissioners of Sequestration in Tryon County.]

Albany, 10th March 1780.

Gentlemen, When I wrote you this Morning in Answer to yours of the 7th Inst., I concluded you knew that the Flagg for Canada had set out from this Place some Days since, & that

your Request was that Families of whom you inclosed me a List might be permitted to go by the next; but to my Surprize I am now informed that those People are as far on their Way in Sleights as Balls Town. I am much concerned at this Circumstance, for tho I do not apprehend that there will be any Objection to their proceeding to Canada by the next Opportunity, it is by no means convenient to grant a second Plagg for this Purpose at this Time, or before the Return of that, which is already gone, besides the Season is so far advanced that I am informed it woud not be practicable for the Sleights & Drivers which might be necessary on this Occassion to return on the Ice.

[No. 2737.]

Deposition of Humphrey Merritt Relative to One Ludlow.

Ulster County SS:

Personally appeared before me Wolvert Ecker one of the Justices of the peace for said Connty Humphrey Merritt, being of full age and Duly Sworn Depoeth and Saith that on the Sixteenth & Seventeenth of February Last that, be the Said Depoent, was at Several Houses between North Castle & the Wite Plains, and in Each Repeatedly Said that Carow Ludlow was Come out of New York, and that they thought the Conuntry would rew it and the Depoent further Saith that he und. stand by the worse he heard pass there, that the Said Ludlow had Come out in cold weather under what Situation the Conuntry was for pervition and further this Depoent saith

Humphrey Merritt.

New Burgh March 5th 1780. Sworn before me Wolvert Ecker Justice of the Peace.

[No. 2738.]

Colonel Udry Hay Requests Exemption from Militia Duty of Fifteen Men Who Are in the Cooling Service Contract.

Fishkill, 9 March 1780.

Sir, I am favoured with yours of 5th inst., in which your Excellency is pleased to promise an impress warrant on your arrival at Poughkeepsie, for which shall take the liberty to apply if it should then appear necessary.

As our Smiths use a great many Coals in this Department I have made a contract for forty thousand bushells with a Robert Conolly to whom I have promised every assistance in my power to give as a public officer both in procuring the necessary Wood & in requesting a protection for his men employd in performing that contract, and to whom the following oath shall be administerd: "I do hereby solemnly swear to be true & faithfull to the United States of America, and voluntarily consent to be under military law for the space of eight months from this date or to such time as the contract made by my employer Mr. Conolly with Udney Hay, D. Q. M. General for forty thousand bushells of Coals shall be performd, not exceeding that time, and that I will not quitt his service during that time." Enclosed you have a list of fifteen men with the Regiments to which they belong who have taken the above affidavit, for whom I would request from your Excellency an exemption from all militia Duty except in cases of a general alarm.

I am induc'd to hope for your complyanee on this subject from a consciousness of my seldom making applications of the same nature. I have the honour to be with the utmost respect Your Excellencies most obedient and very humble Ser't

Udney Hay.

Governour Clinton.

Enclosed I send you a Philadelphia paper with some very broad hints from some of the members of their house of Commons to his most Gracious Majesty, I think if they do not receive a speedy and explicit determination on the subject of their distresses they will follow America in shaking off the yoke. Should this be the first account of this matter that has yett reachd Albany, let me request your Excellency will present it

to the Gentlemen of the Legislature, wth my most respectfull Compliments; as I have no petitions to make, it will I hope be receivd as a mark of gratitude for favours already conferrd.

Mrs. Hay joins in a tender of her most respectfull compliments to Mrs. Clinton.

A Return of the men's Names engaged with me in the Coaling Service, for the Space of Eight Months, and has each for himself taken the Oath, to be true and Faithfull for that time, and that they will not quit my Service till that Time.

Col. Brinkerhoff's Regt. at Fishkill.

Of Capt'n V'n Wyck's Comp'y	William Crawford, Ebenezar Dakins, John McTeer, Joseph Greens, Henry Cease, Andrew Doloway, James Huson.
Cap. Askins Co. F. Kill	

Col. Fryer's Regt. Poughkeepsie.

	Henry Rilya Peter Miller
Lt. Foort's Comp'y	Thos. Miller

Col. Johnson's Regt. New Molbery

	Adam Cropsy Allan Lester
	Seth Stalker Moses Holet
of Capt'n Cais's Comp'y	Henry Willis

By me, Robert Conolly.

Wappons Creek 6 March 1780. Copy.

[No. 2739.]

Lieutenant Colonel Millen to General Robert Howe.—This document belongs to and has been consolidated with Document 2753.—STATE HISTORIAN.

[No. 2740.]

CONNECTICUT TAKES THE LEAD.

And Attempts by Its Act to Establish the Public Credit to Place Its Finances on a New and Enduring Basis.

Lebanon 10th March 1780.

Sir, I have the Honor to enclose, for your Excellency's Observation, and for the Consideration of the Gentlemen of your State, sundry papers, among which you will particularly notice two acts of the General Assembly of this State of Connecticut, passed at their late sessions. One in repeal of the Tender Act (so call'd,)—the other an attempt to Establish the public Credit and Faith of the State, on a new and honorable Foundation. They are Essays at the performance of that public Justice, from whose dictates we among our sister States throughout the Confederacy, have so unfortunately and so widely deviated. And if they fail, by any inevitable Accident, of that success which the Legislature of the State hope to derive from them, there will at least remain the pleasing reflection that we have struggled against the Torrent of Injustice and Oppression; and we shall only have to Lament the Corruption and Infatuation of an age, in which Measures of Equity and Right, supported (as these must be,) by all honest Men, sink under the overwhelming pow'r and numbers of the iniquitous. Perhaps they may not be unworthy the consideration of our sister States. By whom should similar Measures be adopted. I think there is little doubt, of our deriving to our Country the most essential and lasting advantages.

You will also find enclos'd, several papers relative to Thos. Jones, Esq. who was lately taken from Long Island. Mr. Jones

is one of those Gentlemen who were taken up in the State of New York, in the summer of 1776, and sent into this State for confinement, as dangerous Enemies to the American Cause. And, as it may be thought by those who are not acquainted with every Circumstance, that Mr. Jones, (as having with the other gentlemen refer'd to broken the Conditions of the parole on which he and they were by me permitted to return to the City of New York,) ought rather to be closely and rigorously confin'd, than to be again liberated either on parole or in Exchange, I have taken particular Care to enclose you an affidavit sworn to by Mr. Jones, as a previous Step to the Negotiation of Exchange of himself for Genl. Silliman of the militia of this State. And, as this affidavit leads directly to a suspicion, either of my attention in this affair, or of the Honour of the British Commanders in N. York, I think it necessary to inform you: That in the summer of 1777, six months after these Gentlemen had been permitted to revisit their Friends, a Letter was written by me to all of them collectively, demanding their immediate return agreeable to parole, which was left with the officer commanding at an advanc'd post, beyond which the Flag was not admitted. That afterwards, Letters were written to each one respectively of similar import, and deliver'd in similar manner. No answer was receiv'd to either of these, and in consequence, my Letter to Sr Henry Clinton on the subject (a Copy of which you will find enclos'd) was sent in. No answer has been return'd to this, and it remains for you to determine on whom the Imputation of Dishonour shall rest.

I beg leave to add that from this time, I resign to your Excellency, the further Care of these Gentry, to be dispos'd of, as you shall see fit. Their paroles if ever you wish them, shall be care-

fully sent on. With all Respect and Esteem I am, Sir, Your most
Obedient and most Humble servant

Jonth Trumbull.

His Excell^y Governor Clinton.

At a General Assembly of the Governor and Company of the
State of Connecticut holden at Hartford by Adjournment and
Special Order of the Governor on the sixth day of January, 1780.

An Act for ascertaining and declaring the value of the debts
due to certain particular creditors of this State, and for supply-
ing the State Treasury with such sums as shall be necessary for
the exigencies of the Government, and to answer certain
requisitions of the United States, and for the establishment of
public credit.

Whereas, it behooves every Government to render justice as
far as possible to every member belonging thereto, and in a
most especial manner to those who have placed a particular con-
fidence in their equity. This Government considering that in
the progress of the present most cruel and oppressive war, the
Bills of public credit have, by unavoidable accident become much
depreciated, from which circumstances some doubts may possibly
arise in the minds of the public creditors of this State that they
may hereafter be obliged to receive their pay according to the
depreciated value of the present currency, to prevent all mis-
apprehensions of this nature:

Be it enacted by the Governor, Council and Representatives in
General Court assembled and by the authority of the same, That
the Notes executed and issued by the Treasurer of this State by
virtue of an Act of this Assembly passed in December 1776,
and the Bills of public credit which have been loaned to this

State in consequence of an Act of the General Assembly passed in May 1777, and in consequence of another Act passed in February 1778, and also the Bills of public credit which have been loaned as aforesaid in consequence of an Act passed by the General Assembly in May 1778, shall be paid for, together with the interest to the respective lenders in Gold or Silver, or in Bills of public credit of this State according to the full value of the said Bills or Notes when they were loaned or issued as aforesaid.

And to provide for the special exigencies of this State and other necessary uses, Be it Enacted by the authority aforesaid, that there shall be forthwith emitted upon the faith and credit of this State, Forty thousand pounds lawful money in Bills of public credit, computing every six shillings of such Bills to be equal to one Spanish milled dollar, and to other coins in that proportion, which Bills shall be redeemable by the first day of March 1784, and shall bear an interest to the possessors thereof, of five pounds pr. Cent. pr. annum, from the first day of March 1780 untill the said time of their redemption.

That a tax be, and hereby is granted upon the Polls and rateable estate of the inhabitants of this State, on the list which shall be given in to the General Assembly in the year 1782, of six pence on the pound, to be paid in said Bills, or in gold or silver, computing Spanish milled dollars and other coin as aforesaid) by the first day of January 1784, and that the Treasurer of this State be, and he hereby is directed to issue his warrants for collecting said tax, and shall discharge said Bills according to this Act.

Be it further Enacted That a tax be, and hereby is granted on the Polls and rateable estate of the inhabitants of this State, payable in Bills emitted by the Congress of the United States

of twelve shillings, lawful money on the pound, to be paid by the first day of April next, and also that another tax be, & hereby is granted on the Polls and rateable estate of the inhabitants of this State, payable in said Bills, emitted by Congress of twelve shillings on the pound, payable by the first day of June next, both of which last mentioned taxes shall be collected and paid on the list given in to this Assembly A. Dom: 1778. That a farther tax of twelve shillings on the pound, payable in said Bills emitted by Congress, by the first day of November next be, and hereby is granted, on the polls and rateable estate of the inhabitants of this State, as the same is or shall be given in on the list 1779, and that the Treasurer of this State be, and he hereby is, directed to issue his warrants to collect said three last mentioned taxes according to this Act.

Provided, nevertheless, that any person charged with the payment of any of the three last mentioned taxes, shall have liberty and power to discharge the same upon paying one thirtieth part of the sum wherewith he shall be so charged in such taxes, either in Bills of public credit, which are, or shall be ordered to be, emitted by this or any future General Assembly, or in coin according to the computation thereof as aforesaid.

That the aforesaid tax, payable the first day of November next, shall not reissue from the Treasury, except by the special order of the General Assembly; and that the taxes granted by this Act payable the first day of April next, and the tax payable the first day of June next, shall be applied to defray the expences of this State, and to answer the requisitions of Congress towards our quota of the expences of the United States.

And be it further Enacted by the authority aforesaid that there shall be borrowed on the faith and credit of this State the sum of

One million pounds in Bills of the common currency of the United States, which have already issued by Congress upon the following terms:

That every person who shall deposit for the use of the State in the hands of the Treasurer of this State any sum in said Bills of the United States, not less than one hundred and eighty pounds lawful money, according to the nominal value thereof, shall receive therefor, from this State to the amount of one thirtieth part of the sum so deposited, in silver or gold, computing Spanish milled dollars and other coins as aforesaid within six years after such sum shall be deposited as aforesaid, and shall receive annually on any sum or sums he shall deposit according to this Act, an interest of six pounds pr. Cent. pr. Annum either in gold or silver coin computed as aforesaid, or in Bills of public credit of this State, not bearing an interest of less than four pounds pr. Cent. pr. Annum, & regulated by the aforesaid computation, and redeemable within seven years after the same shall be emitted by an Act of this or any future General Assembly of this State. That all Bills of the common currency as aforesaid, which shall be deposited or loaned to this State agreeable to this Act, shall be exempted from any kind of tax until the monies therefor, shall be refunded and paid. That the faith of this State be, and the same is hereby plighted to fulfill the aforesaid engagements, and that seasonable provisions shall be made to discharge the same.

And Whereas the Bills of public credit which are ordered to be emitted by virtue of this Act are founded upon the most indubitable principles of public credit, and ought to be regarded accordingly, Be it, therefore, Enacted by the authority aforesaid, that all Bills of public credit which shall be emitted by this Act, shall be received in payment of all salaries, fees, and rewards for ser-

VICES within this State, as the same was established by law in the year 1774, and that no Quarter Master, Commissary, or other person employed to purchase any articles for the army, navy, or troops of this state, or to hire any service on a public account, shall give in said Bills ordered to be emitted by this Act more, therefore, than the same could be purchased, hired or engaged for, were the same paid for in gold or silver as aforesaid. And if any Commissary, Quarter Master, or other person employed as aforesaid, shall knowingly give more for any purchase, hire or service than the same might have been obtained for in gold or silver coin according to the aforesaid computation, he shall forfeit to the amount of the sums which he shall expend in violation of this Act, and shall also forfeit, the sum of one hundred pounds in Bills of public credit which shall be issued by this Act, or the like sum in gold or silver as aforesaid, to be recovered by Bill, Plaint or Information.

And Whereas, it is apprehended that there may be some lurking villians and traitors in this State, who under the mask of friendship are by a dark, insidious, and detestable conduct, endeavouring to defeat every public measure, however just and necessary for the establishment of the liberties of this country, incited by those vile motives they may endeavour, by offering exorbitant prices in gold or silver, or in Bills ordered by this Act to be emitted for articles and services wanted for the public, so as to occasion in a very unnecessary manner the prices of things to rise with a view to distress the public,

Be it, therefore, Enacted, by the authority aforesaid, that if any person within this State shall so conduct, either by offering or giving excessive and unnecessary prices for any articles or service, either in gold or silver or in Bills ordered to be emitted

by this Act, or in any other manner as shall afford a reasonable proof to that court who shall have cognizance of his offence, that his design and intention was to defeat in any degree the benefits which this State ought and has a right to expect from the use of their public credit as aforesaid, every such offender shall, upon conviction before that court who shall have legal cognizance and trial of his offence, be sentenced to pay such fine as they shall judge reasonable, and he shall also be imprisoned for a term not more than three years.

And be it further Enacted, by the authority aforesaid That Jabez Hamlin, George Wyllys, Elisha Williams, John Chester, and Benjamin Payne, Esqrs., be a Committee to cause said Bills ordered to be emitted by this Act to be imprinted, and that any two of them sign the same, which Bills shall consist of various denominations from nine pence to Forty Shillings, according to the discretion of said Committee, which Bills, as fast as they are signed, shall be by said Committee delivered to the Treasurer of this State, who shall give his Receipt, therefor, and shall from time to time deliver out the same as he shall be ordered, according to law. And the said Committee, are also hereby directed to prepare, a sufficient number of suitable Bank Notes properly indented, and deliver the same to the State Treasurer, taking his receipt, therefor, which Bank Notes shall be regularly filled up by the Treasurer and signed by him, and shall issue and be delivered to such persons as shall deposit on loan Bills of the common currency agreeable to this Act. And when payment of said Bank Notes shall be made according to this Act, such payment shall be made to the possessors of such Bank Notes, and the Treasurer of this State is hereby directed to make fair entries of the sums and persons from whom such Bills are borrowed, and not dispose

thereof, but as he shall be especially directed by the General Assembly of this State.

And it is further Enacted, that for the relief of the indigent, who are unable to pay their proportion of any of the three last taxes granted and laid by this Act, the civil authority and selectmen of the several towns are authorised and directed to abate, either in whole or in part of the rates of such of the inhabitants of their respective towns, as they shall judge stand in greatest need of such abatements, to the amount of one twentieth part of such town's proportion of such tax or taxes, and lodge a list of such abatements with the town clerk of such towns respectively, and deliver a copy thereof to the Collector of such tax or taxes, and the said Collectors shall be allowed credit for said abatements on their settlement with the treasurer.

A true Copy of Record

Examined By George Wyllys, Secret'y.

(Copy)

[No. 2741.]

Colonel Peter R. Livingston's Account Current of Fines on Raising the Nine Months Men.

The State of New York, in acc't with Peter R. Livingston On the Act for Raising Nine Months men.

Dr.	1776.	1779.	Cr.
To Cash Paid Capt. John Shaver for four men at 497.4. each	498. 16. 0		
To Ditto Paid Capt. Pulver for two men	194. 8. 0		692. 0. 0
To Capt. Klyne for Wm. Dickson	97. 4. 0		789. 8. 0
To Capt. Houscraft for Wm. Leach	97. 4. 0		887. 2. 0
To Capt. Smith for Joseph Laurance	97. 4. 0	August 19	984. 16. 0
To Adam Rypenberger for Cor's Creedon	97. 4. 0	Sept'r 22	1082. 0. 0
To Courraut Hallman for Johnson	97. 4. 0	Octobr 13	1179. 8. 0
To John's Netver for Thos. Burrows	97. 4. 0	1779.	
To John's Lyke for Duncan McMillan	97. 4. 0	March 11	1276. 2. 0
To David Botts for Eliehd Sharon	97. 4. 0	By Do of Capt. Elliott	1373. 6. 0
To Capt. Elliot for Lape & Strong	194. 8. 0	By Do of the Field Officers & Staff	1568. 0. 0
	4355. 4. 0		4355. 0. 0

Manor Livingston II March 1780. Settled this day at the house of Peter Pulver, all the Field Officers and Captains (Except Capt. Jacob Shaver) being Present. The Money from Capts. Elliott and Klyne together with the Field Officers not being paid till this day.

Peter R. Livingston.

Capt. Rockefeller raised 4125, which was paid to his Drafts, separate from the rest.

List of the Men to whom or for whom the Money was Paid: Nicho's Lupe, John Strong, Cornelius Creeden, Joseph Laurance, William Leach, Will'm Dickason, Casper Andonie, John Davis, — Johnson, Duncan McMullen, Jacob Shano, John Waldo, John Laurance, Andries Francis, Richard Sharon.

Wm. Plumly, Henry Huyser Paid by Capt. Rockefeller.

Deserted after Muster, the Bomty went to the Class: Jacob Shano, John Waldo.

Deserted after Drafting: Samuel Heiner, John Smith, Jacob Lyke, John Chisam, Peter Brese, Jacob Vredenburgh.

Returned by Leave of the General: Hendrick Schutt, Jun., Archable Thomson, Jacob Tinglebach, Thos. Turner, Frederick Patrick, Adam Vouch.

30 Men in the whole.

[No. 2742.]

Colonel Fisher Encounters a Number of Contumacious Scotchmen.

Caughnawag, 11th March 1780.

Sir, There is a number of Scotchmen Inhabitants of this County, living near Johnstown who has done no duty Since the Commencement of the present war: Last week I ordered them all to appear in Johnstown, in order to have them formed into a Company, but they possitively Refused to take up arms in defence of America; I would therefore, Request the favor of your Honour to let me know how I am to act further with them, in this affair. I am Sir your most obedient Humble Servant

Fred'k Fisher.

His Excellency George Clinton Esqr.

[No. 2743.]

John Simmet Applies to James Rivington for Influence to Enable Him to Go to New York.

Albany March 11th 1789.

Sir; I am a native & Citizen of London, a visitor to America; some time ago your neighbour, & having now no particular friend in New York beg leave to inform you my Case, & sollicit your assistance, conceiving you are intimate with the King's Governor & General; At the time Sir Lord Howe arriv'd at Sandy Hook, my potent friends in London wrote by the packet, ordering me immediately to put my little all on board, & return Home to them, as Death & Time had open'd a great advantage to me. I apply'd to Major Abeel, then Chairman, but could not obtain leave to go to the packet, then at the Hook, nor send a letter, as it requir'd a flag, but the Major advis'd me to retire to the country, when draughting was over, & he would give me a written character, which he did, & also Captain Ketteltas; expecting this contest wou'd soon be over & I might return to my habitation; but, Sir, being here so long, & my circumstances not admitting me to live as I was us'd to do, my health & strength is so declin'd I am sometimes scarce able to walk about my business. His Excellency, Governor Clinton, happening to come to town, I complain'd to him who very readily consented I should be permitted to pass out to New York, on condition an American prisoner is releas'd, & sent from thence in exchange for me, & I don't doubt, Sir, but on the receipt of this you will make application to relieve your Countryman & distressed humble Serv't

John Simmet.

To Mr. James Rivington, New York.

[No. 2744.]

WESTCHESTER'S DEFENCELESS CONDITION.

Colonel Thomas Submits the Matter to Governor Clinton and the Latter Promises Cooperation When the Legislature Bestows the Needful Authority.

North Castle March 13th 1780.

Sir, The exposed and defenceless Situation of the County of Westchester on the Frontiers, calls aloud for Protection and Security, which I flatter myself your Excellency will afford, as far as lays in your Power, as the Welfare of the virtuous People in this Part totally depends upon it. The good People residing hereabouts, & at Places adjacent, look up with anxious Expectation for Relief, their Fears and Apprehensions have already arose to such a degree that they are indeed very alarming. Stock of every kind nightly taken of and still exposed to the depredations of Thieves from the Enemy. Well affected People

obliged to desert their Habitations and fly to some remote Caverns for Shelter and Security. The Weather withal very tedious & difficulties innumerable, that if they can be in any Measure removed, & this Part by any Means put in a State of Security against the Incursions of the Enemy, the People may once more enjoy a temporary Ease and be happy in their Possessions; Half of my Regiment and half of Colonel Crane's, united together and posted in this Quarter for a short Period of Time untill we can have further Relief, I think would afford this Country a considerable Security and so to relieve each other by Turns and keep half constantly out, untill the draughts are made, if any there are to be; could wish that your Excellency would immediately order them out in Service. Many People Residents in this Quarter would turn out with Cheerfulness & strenuously exert themselves, if joind by small assistance, but unless some be granted, People that are Friends must totaly abandon this Part and seek Refuge, I know not where. I expect daily Col. Delancey Light Horse to make their Incursions into the Country, and like Savages with more than brutal Cruelty, to cut and slay all before them, and we unable to make any opposition without any Force, to your Excellency; the People look up for Relief wishing to have the Enemies Progress retarded and this Country secured. Captain David Hubby, the Bearer, will be able to relate to you the Situation of this Part, as well as I can, as he resides here and is a Witness of the apprehensions of the good People in this Part, which are daily presenting themselves to View. I am your Excellency's most obt. & very humble Svt

Thomas Thomas.

His Excellency George Clinton Esqr.

Poukeepsie 27th March 1780.

Sir, I am this Moment favoured with your Letter of the 13th Instant and I now inclose an Order for calling out a Detachment of Militia for the Protection of the Frontier Settlements of your County, which I shall be happy if it answer the desired Purpose. You may be assured I feel very sensibly for the distressed Situation of the Inhabitants who are exposed to the daily Incursions of the Enemy, & that I will embrace the earliest Opportunity afforded me of giving them a more ample Security in a way that will be less Burthensome to the People. I am not authorized to raise the Men intended for the Frontier Service untill I receive Assurances from Congress that they will pay & subsist them. I have long since wrote them on the Subject & wait with Anxiety for an answer that may enable me to set about this important Business. I am, with great Regard, & Esteem
Yours &c. [G. C.]

[To Col. Thomas Thomas.]

[No. 2745.]

ENEMY'S MOVEMENTS CREATE UNEASINESS.

General Robert Howe Reports an Important Enterprize in Contemplation—Asks That the Militia be Held in Readiness.

Highlands, 15th March 1780.

Dear Sir, I yesterday did myself the Honor to inform your Excellency that I had rec'd Intelligence, that the Enemy were preparing for some grand Maneuvre, & that it apparently seem'd to tend towards Morris-Town. I had not Time then to be particular, &, therefore, take the Liberty to write you more fully by Express to Day. One of my Emissaries who left New-York the

9th Inst. told me yesterday, that the Enemy were collecting their Troops, Horse, Vessels, & Boats, & were preparing to operate in Force upon some Occasion of Importance, & their Object seem'd to be the Army at Morris-Town. Another who left York the 11th at Night says they had prepared all the Houses on the North & west Sides of Staten Island as Barracks for the Reception of Troops; that a great many Vessels were Taken up; that on the 8th a considerable Body of Horse, & some Artillery cross'd over to Staten Island; that on the 9th, 10th & 11th they were preparing to send over a large Body of Infantry; that the Hessians from Long Island were crossing to York-Island, & that their Intention manifestly was to attack the Genl. at Morris Town. The Persons who give me this Intelligence, are those who have sometime acted for me, & have been intelligent and faithfull; they do not know each other, & derive their Information from different Sources.

In Consequence of this, Sir, I have ordered Poor's Brigade to hold themselves in Readiness to move at a moment's warning, & hold all here prepared to act as occasion shall require. If I find this Post not their Object, (a Circumstance however far from improbable, notwithstanding their Operations wear a different Aspect) & that they are moving in Force towards his Excellency, I shall with all the Force I can with Propriety, take with me, call their attention to their Rear by a movement to their Lines, against which I shall act as Circumstances point out.

In this Case, Sir, or if they act against me, it is probable I shall need the Assistance of a Part of your militia, & tho' I wou'd by no means wish them embodied, or call'd forth untill Necessity makes it requisite, of which your Excellency shall receive the earliest Information, yet I take the Liberty to suggest, as a

measure not unnecessary, that they should be warn'd to hold themselves ready, should Occasion require it. If militia must be call'd into the Feild, I would hint to your Excellency, that they should be ordered to bring with them twelve or fourteen Days' Provision, our Stores not affording an adequate Supply.

The Necessity of pushing with Expedition the Works necessary for the Defence of this very important Post, and the Impossibility of doing it without Teams, which we have not a Grain of Forage to support, induces me to request the Favour of your Excellency if it can with Propriety be done, to order in about thirty Teams of the substantial Farmers of your State, who are able to bring their own Forage. They may be relieved occasionally by others, &, therefore, the Duty be made as little oppressive as possible. Permit, Dear Sir, the Necessity of this Application to appologize for the Trouble I give you in it. I am (in great Haste) with great Respect & Regard, Dear Sir, Your Excellency's most obedient & very Humble Servant

Robert Howe,

His Excellency Governor Clinton,

‡ [No. 2746.]

*Colonel Van Rensselaer Issues a Certificate of Character to Samuel Baker.**

To all whom it may Concern. The Bearer, Samuel Baker, Resides within the District of my Regiment and has always behaved himself as a Sober Good Citizen and is firmly attached to the cause and Independance of America. Given under my Hand this Seventeenth day of March 1780.

K. V. Rensselaer, Collo.

[No. 2747.]

Colonel Jacob Klock to Governor Clinton. This document belongs to and has been consolidated with Document 2750. - STATE HISTORIAN.

*The original editor of the Clinton MSS., in his caption to this document, alludes to "Judge Morris' certificate." Judge Morris' certificate has not been found.—STATE HISTORIAN.

[No. 2748.]

Colonel Klock to Col. Van Schaick. This document belongs to and has been consolidated with Document 2750.—STATE HISTORIAN.

[No. 2749.]

Governor Clinton Indorses the Administration of Mr. Jacob Cuyler.

Fish Kill 19th March 1780.

Sir, The delays I meet with at Boston and Connecticut depriv'd me the Oppertunity of waiting upon your Excellency and the Assembly while Conveen'd at Albany. I went within a few miles of your House but being inform'd there was no Certainty of your being home for some days (the roads being exceeding bad) concluded it was best to proceed on my Journey to Head Quarters; shoud been happy in seeing your Excellency, and having your approbation in the continuance of Mr. Cuyler in Office, or a Recommendation of some other Person; a line from your Excellency upon that Subject by first post shall acknowledge a particular favour. The magazines being nearly exhausted, it will require my greatest Exertions and that of every person in the Department, to procure a sufficient supply of bread and beef to feed our army till after harvest: indeed, if we accomplish it I shall be exceedingly happy and hope we shall never experience such a Scarcity and want of Provisions in future. Remain with all due Respect, your Excellency's, Most Obedt. and most Hbl. Servant

Eph. Blaine, C. G. of Purchases.

Gov'r Clinton.

Pokeepsie 26th March 1780.

Sir, I am honored with your Letters of the 6th Feb'y & 19th Instant. The Expectation which the first afforded me of the

Pleasure of seeing you in Albany prevented my Answering it. The letter I found at my House on my arival from Albany yesterday. From the general good Character Mr. Cuyler sustains, and the Knowledge he must have acquired of the Duties of your Department, I cannot Hesitate in advising his Continuance in Office. I am, Sir, with great Respect your most Obed. Serv't

Geo. Clinton.

[To Commissary General Blaine.]

[No. 2750.]

CONSTERNATION ALONG THE FRONTIER.

Another Disastrous Indian Raid Near Little Falls— The Militia Weak and Almost Helpless for Want of Food.

Albany, March 21st 1780.

Sir, The inclosed is Copy of a letter I yesterday received from Colo. Clock of Tryon County; as it gives an account of Hostilities which have been committed in that County, I have thought proper to inclose it together with one from the Colonel to your Excellency. I shall order the provisions Colo. Clock applys for, & give him every assistance in my power. Your Excellencies most Obedient servant.

G. V. Schaick.

His Excellency George Clinton.

COLONEL KLOCK TO COLONEL VAN SCHAICK.

Palatine District, Tryon County March 17th 1780.

Honored Sir, The 15th Instant a party of the Enemy to the amount of fifty, have made their appearance at Reemsnyder's Bush, & have taken Capt. Keyser with his two Sons, & two

other prisoners, killed one, & burnt the Captain's House, I was up with the Palatine Battallion yesterday; the Enemy was gone off. I could not make a farther pursuit for want of Snow Shoes. Their is different reports that there is an other party of 100 out—an other course but nothing came officially. I have received General orders from his Excellency, the Govournour, directing to keep Guards at the different Forts which I ordered accordingly. Their is the greatest difficulty on account of provisions for a very speedy supply of which I must make free to apply to you. Their is grain & Flour seized by the force of a certain act of the Legislature, but I do not know, whether I have power to make use of it. The Frontier people is removing very fast, the people in very great Consternation. I hope you will do your utmost to procure a protection to the Extensive Frontiers of this County; remain honored, sir, your obedient humble servant

Jacob Klock, Col.

To Colo. Vin Schaick Commander of the Northern Department.

[Copy.]

COLONEL KLOCK TO GOVERNOR CLINTON.

Palatine District, Tryon County, March 17th 1780.

May it please your Excellency: Yesterday j was at Riemen-schneider's Bush with the Palatine Battallion. The Enemy to the Number of fifty, was gone off, after they have taken Captain Keyser with his two Sons, and two others prisoners killed an other Man and burnt the Captain's House. This Affair happened the 15th instant. Whether the Enemy has done any further Michief at Jerseyfield j could not learn, and for want of Snow Shoes j could not macke any further pursnit. Just now j

was honored with the Receipt of your Excellency's general orders of the 10th; j had ordered a party up Riemenschneider's Bush, and given orders to Collonel Bellinger to keep his Men at the different Ports at the Flats, till further orders. I am just ordering Coll. Vischer to put a guard upon Sacondago, which he shall think sufficient; also j have also sent an order to Capt. Koopman to keep a guard at Fort Planck in Conajohary. Upon different Reports, that an other party of a hundred Men of the Enemy is out, j ordered that continual Scoutings shall be kept, and the Militia ordered to keep in Readiness upon a Minnte's warning. Your Excellency will be sensible, that these Duties must fall very hard upon the Militia, particularly at this Season. The greatest Difficulties are on Account of provisions, for which j have addressed myself to Coll. Van Schaick. There is a quantity of flower and grain, which is seized, but i do not know wheter j have any power to macke use of it. J must beg your Excellency's Direction, how j must do in future on Account of Provision upon any Emergency; for there is many who have non to tacke along with them, whenever they shall be ordered under Service. Your Excellency will find by our Return, that the Militia of this County is too weack, to guard the very extensive Frontiers, and j macke no Doubt, you will lay our Defenceless Situation before Congress, to procure us some relief against an Enraged Enemy. J have the Honor to remain your Excellency's most obedient humble Servant,

Jacob Klock, Col.

To his Excellency George Clinton Esqr. Governor &c. of New York &c.

[No. 2751.]

Christopher Yates Draws a Gloomy Picture of Life on the Frontier.

Palatine, March 17th 1780.

Dear Sir, On Tuesday last we had an account that a party of the Enemy had been discovered between Fort Schuyler and the German Flatts and that from their Course it was thought they Intended to fall in at Riemensnyder's Bush (four miles North of the Little Falls). Unluckily thro' the Negligance of some one who was Intrusted with the Message, it did not reach the Bush till the Evening following: on Wednesday about one O'Clock afternoon the Party fell in, Killed one man and took Captain John Keyser (an Uncle of my wife's) with two sons, one Klock and one Shafer, Prisoners; the Party Burned Capt'n Keyser's House, Killed his Sheep, &c. and took away his provisions and best Effects, leaving Mrs. Keyser with three small Children, destitute of Cloathing or any other necessary of life; from the Information Mrs. Keyser gives, the Party consisted of Fifty men chiefly Tories, whom as they were dressed in Paint, she could not know.

A detachment of our Militia went up, but for the want of Snow Shoes could make no pursuit.

As the Tracks of the Enemy crossed from the south to the North side of the River we Judge they have come thro' the Country of the five Nations.

People that have as little confidence as I put in our Oneida allies, think as I do that the Oneidas have known of this Party and very probably been harboured there.

I am informed that a Number of weomen (Tories) are now at Saratoga, from whence they are to go to Canada as soon as the lakes open; as this will necessarily open a Correspondence between the Commanding officer here and the one in Canada on the

Subject of an Exchange of Prisoners, I beg the favour of you to mention the above to the commanding Officer of the Northern Department, and to use your Influence to have Capt. Keyser and the unfortunate prisoners with him Exchanged in the spring; from the many former Instances of Friendship I have received at your hands, I cannot doubt but you will be pleased to comply with my request in this particular.

The Irruption of this party so early, Indicates not only a Troublesome but Dangerous Summer to us in these parts. I wish those who have the Superintendence of affairs to be assured (and I assure it from my own knowledge) that, unless a Number of Troops are sent up speedily, who with the occasional assistance of the Militia can repel the incursions of the enemy, that very few of the People will think it safe to remain here; the County is very extensive and lies open on all sides to the Inroads of the savages. I need not describe to you the Distresses of such as are obliged to abandon their Habitations, and the consequent Distress and inconvenience of such as they fly to for refuge; besides the preventing of which, the crops now in the ground and those to be put in must (I should rather say ought) to be saved or there will be a famine to those who now reside here. I have every opportunity to convince myself that people have Bread for no longer than the ensuing Harvest; Indeed too many have not that.

It may appear that this letter is dictated from a spirit of despondence. It is true I feel for my fellow creatures and that from the Belief I have that this country will suffer bitterly unless we have relief sent up.

With this you will receive a Letter to my Father which be pleased to Forward. I have wrote to him for permission to send my wife and Children with some of my Effects to him as soon as

the river opens. I am with my best respects to your family your most Obedient Serv't

Christ'r P. Yates.

The Hon'ble Abraham Yates, Esqr.

Albany 23d March 1780.

D. Sir. The above explains itself namely, the Necessity of guarding the Fronteers; it is with that view I send Copy of the whole which I leave to your better Judgment wether adviseable to publish in the Papers. I dont like to hold out to the Enemy the Scarcity of Provisions, the Fronteers ready to be abandoned, and a jalaey of the Oneides; which may all be True, and Necessary for us to Consider, and yet not proper to apprise the Enemy of it: Besides I suppose that the Oneides have among them, and I dare say are, Pestered with their Tories, as much as we are with ours, Both in respect to Harboring the Enemy & Robbing the whigs. I hope you have got safe home; my Compliments to Mrs. Clinton, Peter Tappen and Mr. Platt. I remain, Sir, your very Hum. S't

Ab'm Yates, Jun.

P. S. Mr. Clerk (Clerk of Charlotte County) who has been in Power there two Days, tells me just now that Scheensborough is destroyed; that the Express come to Genl. Ten Broeck last Night. His Excellency George Clinton, Esqr.

[No. 2752.]

Captain Chipman Reports That the Garrison at Skenesborough Was Surprised by Indians.

Albany, March 23rd 1780.

Sir, Inclose your Excellency Copy of a letter I received from the Officer Commanding at Fort Edward, giving a disagreeable

account of what happened at Skeensborough, notwithstanding your Excellency ordered that Post to be occupied by forty men, it appears from the enclosed account that not near half that number were there at the time the surprise happened. If I receive a more particular account of this affair, I shall Transmitt to your Excellency by the first conveyance.

Colo. Yates who went with the Flag to Canada, not yet returned. Your Excellencies most Obedient humble servant

G. V. Schaick,

Governour George Clinton.

Fort Edward March 22nd 1780.

One O'Clock in ye morning.

D'r Colo., By this I wou'd inform that their has this moment a man arrived from Skeensborough, which informs that the Garrison at that place (consisting of thirteen of the militia) was surpris'd about eleven O'Clock on yesterday by a number of the savages & that to his appearance they were pretty numerous; which way they will push from their is uncertain I think not improbable this Post may be their next object; and their is but five men to defend it, desire the first possible assistance; from your humble servant

John Chipman, Capt.

P: S: The man that escaped belonged to the Garrison & happened to be upon west side of the Creek when the attack was made.

Colo. Van Schaick.

(Copy)

[No. 2753.]

DEPREDACTIONS BETWEEN THE LINES.

General Howe Sends Forward Three Dangerous Prisoners—Governor Clinton Suggests a Remedy for the Protection of Inhabitants Who Are Abused by the Militia.

Highlands March 11th 1780.

D'r Sir, I take the liberty to Trouble your Excellency, with the inclosed copy of a letter received last night, from the officer commanding on the Lines; the Prisoners mentioned therein, I have sent to the committee of conspiracy; my motive in this address is, that you, Sir, may have information of the conduct of some of the Militia below, which I know you will not approve, and may think proper to correct. With the greatest Respect & regard I have the Honour to be, D'r Sir, Y'r Excellency's Most Obedient hum'e Servant,

Robt. Howe.

His Excellency Geo. Clinton, Esqr.

 LIEUTENANT COLONEL MILLEN TO GENERAL ROBERT HOWE.

Phillips Mannor March 9th 1780.

Sir, I send three prisoners whom I suppose are great Villians. The one by the name of Geo. Forrester, says he came from Livingston's Mannor. I suppose he is one of those who Broke Jail at Poughkeepsie; another by the name of Isaac Gidden was taken at Marrineck; he has the character of being one of the low Thiivs. The other Wm. Cypher, has been with the Enemy for eight months, he Deserted the militia at Fishkill for Fear of punishment for not bearing arms in an alarm.

The militia are very laborious in plundering and distressing the Inhabitants, about us, especially between us and the Enemies Lines, there is scarcely any one who escapes their notice.

A scout of mine has just arrived, by whom I am informed that they fell in with a party of Militia last night, at Marrineck, who rob'd & plundered the Inhabitants indiscriminately, which conduct is so infamous, I think an immediate stop ought to be put to it, for the safety of those Inhabitants who are Friends to their country. I am, Sir, with respect yr. Hum'e Ser't

James Millen, Lt. Colo., Commandant.

Maj'r Genl. Howe.

GOVERNOR CLINTON TO GENERAL HOWE.

Pokeepsie 24th March 1780.

Dear Sir, I was honored with your Letters of the 14th* & 15th† Instant the Moment before I set out from Albany for this Place. A very tedious Passage has prevented my acknowledging the Receipt of them sooner.

The Information communicated respecting the Enemy appears to me to be too well founded to admit of a Doubt that they are preparing for some capital Enterprize. The Militia of that Part of the State which from its contiguity to the Posts in the Highlands can afford immediate Succor are under Orders to hold themselves in Constant readiness to take the Field on the Shortest Notice & should their Aid be wanted you rest assured that every Possible Exertion will be made to bring them to your Assistance with that Dispatch which the Emergency may require.

The Necessity there is for forwarding the Works for the Defence of the Posts in the Highlands wou'd be a sufficient Inducement to furnish you with the Teams which are necessary for that Service, if I had the Authority of Law to do it in the manner you propose. By the Laws of the State for regulating Impresses

*Not found.

†See page 541.

the Aid of the Inhabitants in the article of Teams (except on extraordinary Emergency or Movement of the Army) is to be had on the Application of the Qu'r Mr Genl. &c. to a Justice of the Peace who, only, is authorized to grant Impress Warrants, for this Purpose.

Your Letter of the 11th Instant I found at my House on my arival here The Prisoners mentioned in it are not yet arrived, when they are brought up they shall be delivered to the ordinary Civil Magistrate to be secured. The Law for The Appointment of Commissioners of Conspiracies being expired & that Board of course dissolved

The Wicked Conduct of the Militia near the Lines has given me great Anxiety & Trouble. This Practice is directly against my Orders & the Tenor of my Proclamation issued at the Request of the Legislature last Fall. I have attempted every Measure which I conceived woud be most likely to put a stop to it but without effect. From the particular Situation of that Part of the State Government is much relaxed in it, and unless the Individuals who suffer will take the Pains of applying to the Courts of Justice for Redress, it will be impossible to prevent those Enormities. In that Way they woud not only be compensated for the Injuries they sustain, but the Persons concerned woud meet with due Punishment. I am &c. [G. C.]

[To Gen. Robt. Howe.]

[No. 2754.]

Application of the Holland Family for Necessaries of Life in New York.

Bethlehem, March ye 24th 1780.

Sir, The granddaughters of the late Henry Holland, Esq. have inform'd me that they have made application to you, Sir, for leave to get out some articles from New York, that they are in great want of, and that your Excellency refus'd to grant their request. As I am an Executrix in Mr. Holland will, and the care of these orphans, without the means of their present support, devolved on me alone, in my advanc'd age, I hope I

shall be excus'd for troubling you, Sir, on the same subject. I row send you Excellency, for your perusal, a letter and a memorandum for Messrs. Robert Watts and John Oothout, Mr. Holland's Executors with myself. I'm perswad'd when your Excellency fully considers the situation of these unfortunate young Ladies, and the great inconveniencies I labour under, on their accounts, you'll have no objection to the article contained in the memorandum, I am the more confirm'd in my expectation, as my request (I conceive) is no way incompatible with the publick good and in favor of innocent objects who are really very great sufferers. I am, Sir, your Excellency's most Humble Servant

F. Holland.

To His Excellency George Clinton.

[No. 2755.]

Grievances of Half a Dozen Teamsters.

To His Excellency George Clinton, Esqr. Governor of the State of New York.

Sir, We the Subscribers, Inhabitants of Beckmans Precinct in Dutchess County, were on the 16th inst. impress'd by a warrant from James Vandburgh, Esqr. to transport a load of flour from Mr. Carman's Mill to Fish Kill to be deliv'd to Nath'l Stevens, Ast. Com. Issues at that post; we accordingly did on the 17th inst. transport each of us a load to said post and when we call'd on said Stevens to take delivery, he with William McBetts, A. D. Q. G. order'd us to proceed with our loads, some to the village & some to the Camp in the Highlands, which we refus'd, informing him we were impress'd by the Majestrate to bring our loads to that post and we should go no farther, as the roads were excessive bad, the snow that we had set out with had already left us; that we was not provided with either forrage or provisors, and that it was an unlawfull demand of them and Impracticable for us to go on; they still insisted we should proceed with our loads; much altercation insud; at length they call'd on the waggon master to furnish them with a number of drivers, who directly appear'd; they, the said Stevens & McBetts, then told us if we wou'd not drive on the drivers were come that should take our teams from us & go on with the loads, and call'd on us to come & sign the receipts or the other drivers should sign them; at length rather than let our teams which were valuable be put into such hands as appear'd prejudic'd against us and go in such exceeding bad roads, we concluded we had better go with our teams, which we did & deliver'd our loads, some to the village & some to the Camp in the Highlands, which we were oblig'd to do with no other support than what we had provided to go to Fish Kill; which we think is unreasonable unlawfull & oppressive; we know not when order'd out by the Civil Majestrate to do a tour of duty for a day, when it will end if the law of the state is no rub for the Commissary and Quarter Master; we Judge it will greatly impede the public Service if such oppressive Conduct is countenanced in the Staff department of the army; and as we conceive ourselves intituled to the protection & support of the Laws of the state & think ourselves unjustly & unlawfully treated by said Stevens & McBetts, we think it a duty we owe ourselves & Contry to make our Complaint to your Excellency, and pray you will do us that Justice and give us such relief in premises as the nature of the case requires. We are, your Excellency's most Obedient Humble Servants

James Cornwell, Philip Flegler, Senior, William Humfrey, Jun'r.

Philip Flegler, Jun'r, John Acker, Jun'r, Henry Cornell.

Beckman's Precinct March 25th 1789.

[No. 2756.]

Colonel Woodhull Writes in Regard to His Sister's Family to Governor Clinton.

Dear Governor; Sister Mathews has intreated of me to acquaint your Excellency of the misserable and unhappy State that her family is Redused to, in Consequence of her Husband

being Confined So Long from Home; the Negroes have got to be ungovernable and, of Consequence, but very Little Labour Done and no Care Taken. They have Lost a Considerable Part of their Stock this winter, only for the want of Care; the family is a gowing to Destruction Head Long in a most Rappid manner and of Course must be Reduced to a very miserable State in a Short Time, if Something Does not Turn up, which may Prevent. She Humbly Begg your Excellency would be Pleased to make His own House his Prison, on Condition of his giving Sufficient Security for his good Behaviour, if it be Consistent with the Powers Intrusted to your Excellency by the good People of the State, and will work no Injury to them were he Disposed to do mischeaf and has it in his Power. His Confinement at Goshen or Else where, unless it were Close would be more Dangerous than at his own House, for There, he would not have an oppertunity of Seeing Half So many People; if it might be Consistant for your Excellency to make his own House his Prison, it would be Dowing an Infinite Kindness to the Helpless family and would much ablige your moste Obd. & Very Humb. Serv't

Jesse Woodhull.

[To G. C.]

[No. 2757.]

TO PROTECT THE FRONTIER.

Governor Clinton Reports to the Delegates in Congress That New York Has Made Provision for Raising 800 Men.

Pokeepsie, 25th March 1780.

Gentlemen; The last Letter I had the Honor of addressing you was Dated the 9th Instant & forwarded by Post. It covered a Letter to the President of equal Date on the Subject of paying

& subsisting 800 Men, to be raised in this State for the Defence of the Frontiers. Least by any Accident those Dispatches may not have reached you, I now inclose you Duplicates. By Letters I this Moment received from Colo. Van Schaick commanding at Albany & from Colo. Clock of Tryon County, Copies of which I now have the Honor of inclosing you, you will receive the disagreeable Intelligence of the Enemy's having surprized & taken a small Detachment of the Militia stationed at Skeensborough and of their having burnt Capt. Keyser's House in Tryon County & made him with his two Sons & two other Persons, Prisoners. These early Incursions of the Savages instead of overtures of Peace, which we had some Reason to expect from them, have as you will readily conceive filled the Minds of the Frontier Inhabitants with the most dreadful Apprehensions & I am warranted in saying that, unless some more effectual Measures are immediately taken for their Protection, than what can be derived from the Militia the different Settlements which are most exposed, will be abandoned. It is, therefore, of the utmost Importance that the Sense of Congress on the Subject of my last Letter should be obtained & forwarded to me without the least Delay.

The Legislature are adjourned until the 1st of June. The only Provision made by them for the Security of the Frontiers, is a Law authorizing the raising the above Number of Men by Drafts, from the Militia, when assurances shall be received from Congress that they will pay & subsist them, & should Congress reject this Proposal I dread the Consequences, unless a Detachment of the Continental Army should be ordered for this Service & I trust, when it is duely considered how much the public Interest is concerned & that the present innabillity of the State

to provide for its own Security arises from the uncommon Exertions it has made to feed the Army & support the War, so reasonable a Request will not be denied. You are so well acquainted with the Strength & Situation, & I may add, Conduct of Colo. Warner's Regiment, as to be able to shew Congress that they add little or nothing to our safety, should they be considered as a Force for our Protection. I have the Honor to be, Gentlemen, with the highest Respect & Esteem your &c.

[G. C.]

The hon'ble the Delegates from the State of New York in Congress.

[No. 2758.]

The Indian Raid at Skeensborough.

Albany, 25th March 1780.

Sir, Lt. Colonel Van Veghten of the Saratoga Regiment by letter Received of him last night, Informs me that he was on his march with Part of the Regiment; near Fort Miller an Express he had sent to Fort Edward Returned, brought him Intelligence that an Express sent from Fort Edward to Skeensborough was Returned, & Informed that Skeen's House & Barn & one other House in the neighborhood was Burnt by the Enemy, an Inhabitant & his wife killed & Scalped, that the Detachment of militia at Skeensborough Consisted only of 13 men, that three of them made their Escape, the Rest, Supposed to be taken & Carried off, that the Enemy made off in great Haste, I have ordered a Court of Enquiry to Report Immediately.

Colonel Yates is Returned from Canada; he says he has been well Treated but brought no Prisoners in Exchange; he saw the Party on Lake Champlain that have been at Skeensborough;

they Consisted of 100 Indians & three white men, Tories from Balls-Town & Tryon; with great Regard, I Remain your Excellency's most Obedient Humble Servant,

Ab'm Ten Broeck.

His Excellency George Clinton Esqr.

[No. 2759.]

Governor Clinton Informs Colonel Klock That the Protection of the Frontier Must Depend Upon the Militia.

Ponkeepsie, 26th March 1780.

Sir, I yesterday Evening received your Letter of the 17th Instant and am sensibly affected with the disagreeable Intelligence it contains. I was led to hope that the Distresses the Savages were reduced to last year by our Successfull Campaign against them, might have induced them to sue for Peace & our Frontier Settlements thereby remain in a State of tranquillity. Their present early Incursions warrant a different Sentiment & leaves us to apprehend every Misschief, they are capable of committing. The Troops intended for the Frontier Service, I am not authorized to raise untill Congress agree to pay & subsist them. As early as the Law passed, I wrote in the most pressing manner to Congress on the Subject, pointing out the necessity of their immediate Decision & have since transmitted them a Duplicate of my Letter with the Accounts from Charlotte & your County to hasten their Determination, but I have not yet received their Answer.

Until these Men can be embodied, I need not tell you, Sir, that the only resource we can command for the Protection of the Frontier Settlements is from the Militia; it was this induced me to issue my Orders to you of the 10th Instant, lest the dif-

ferent Posts being unguarded might encourage the Enemy to attempt what they would not otherwise do. I highly approve of your Exertions & the orders you have given for Guards at the different Posts & Passes mentioned in your Letter. I have wrote to Colo. Van Schaick to remove any Difficulty that may arise with respect to Provision at the different Posts or on sudden Emergencies. I am very sensible the Frontier of your County is too extensive to be guarded by its own Militia, and I have wrote to General Ten Broeck to turn his Attention that Way & furnish you such Relief as may be in his Power. I have been under the Necessity since my Arival to order a large Detachment of Militia to the Frontiers of West Chester County & I am now called upon for Aid from every other Quarter. I hope these Difficulties will soon be removed by my being enabled to raise the Men for the Frontier Service or by Aid of Continental Troops which I have requested should the other Fail & of which you may rely on having a full Proportion. I am &c.

[G. C.]

[To Col. Klock.]

[No. 2760.]

Rochester on the Ulster Frontier Prays for a Guard and the Governor Replies that at This Juncture Reliance Must be Placed on the Militia.

Naponagh, ye 13 March 1780.

Honoured S'r, The Bearer hereof, will Deliver you a petition with this Letter, which petition you'l perceive was intended to have been Sent to Albany Directed to your Excellency and the Honourable Houses of the Senate and Assembly, but being informed that the Legislature would Soon break up, the petition would perhaps Come too late was Detained, and is now Com-

mitted to your Excellencies Consideration alone. And we Humbly Beg your Excellency will be pleased, if possible, to furnish the petitioners with a Sufficient Guard as early as The Snow is gone; if not Assisted we Dread the Consequence, for if the Enemy comes on our Coasts, they will Certainly know our Defenceless condition, and in that Case, we will be obliged to Move our families, which will be of bad Consequences to our selves, respecting our Livelihood and to our Neighbours, as they will then become the fronteers; be pleased to let us know by a few Lines by the bearer, weather we may Seasonably Expect a Guard and Shall Ever remain your Excellencies Dutifull and Humble Servants to Command.

Johannis Bevier, Jur., A. D. Witt, John DeWitt, And's Bevier, Tjereck Dewitt, Cornelius Bevier, Reuben D. Witt, Stephen DeWitt.

*To his Excellency George Clinton Esqr. Governour of the State of New York &c. and the Honourable Senate and Assembly of Said State. Your petitioners Humbly Sheweth That Notwithstanding the smiles of Providence in Making our Armes Successful to the Westward Last Summer and by that Means the Enemy have been Greatly suppressed, your Humble petitioners the inhabitants of the southwestermost part of the Township of Rochester, are Apprehensive and in fear (if the Enemy do not sue for peace and conclude on good Terms and the British Troops Continue in New York) we will be Exposed Next Spring and Summer to the invasions of the Savage Enemy, if not furnished with a Sufficient Guard, by reason of the Situation of our Neighbourhood, being as Much and More Exposed as any part of the fronteers, the Enemy having a Convenient passage Down the Delaware River to Showhaukan, thence a Convenient passage and road to our Neighbourhood, and they Generally first invade the Weakest part of the Country, and which is Most Convenient for them, it is probable it may be our fate. Witness the Destruction they Made Last Spring in killing Ten persons and Burning Twenty three Houses and Earns a Grist and Saw Mill in and Near our Neighbourhood in the face of Coll. Cortland's Regiment, and if providentially that Regiment had not been here, it is Most probable we would have Shared the same fate with the Sufferers. And as your petitioners have Suffered Much these Two years past by frequent alarms and invasions, Notwithstanding the protection our Legislature Afforded us, have been prevented in a Great Measure in Tilling and Cultivating our Land, So that we have Scarcely been able to Support our Families. Notwithstanding all our Difficulties we have not been favoured in Drafts and Taxes which is no Small addition to the Misfortune of the Situation of our Residence on the fronteers in this Criticle Juncture. Therefore, your petitioners do Humbly Pray your Excellency and the Honourable Houses of the Senate and Assembly, will be pleased to Grant us in the Spring Seasonable a

*See page 491.

Sufficient Guard so that we may be Enabled to prosecute with Some Safety, our Domestic Business and your petitioners Shall Ever Pray.

Rochester ye 14 February 1780.

John Brodhead, Peter Cantine, A. D Witt, Cornelius Newkerk, Benjamin Newkerk, Jesse Bevier, Stephen DeWitt, William DeWitt, Benjamin Rosa, Jacob Newkerk, Gerrit Newkerk, Wm. Brodhead, John DeWitt, A. D Witt, And's Bevier, Johannis Bevier, Jur., Benjamin Bevier, Jacob Bevier, Lewis Bevier, John Vanwagenen, Nathen Vernoy, Moses Depue, Terck DeWitt, Cornelius Vernooy, Joshua Tomson, John Mullen, Johannes Hornbek, Danniël Macamble, Benjamin Bruyn, John Kittle, Cornelius Bevier, Petter Vernooy, George Mack.

GOVERNOR CLINTON'S REPLY.

Poughkeepsie March 26th 1780.

Gentlemen, Your Letter of the 13th Inst. with the Petition accompany'g it did not reach me till my arrival from Albany on Thursday last or I should have given you an earlier answer.

The Legislature passed a Law at their last meet'g. for the embody'g 800 men for the frontier Service but I am not authorized to direct the raising of them until I receive an answer from Congress that they will pay & subsist them. As soon as the Law passed I wrote to Congress on the Subject & pressed them for an immediate answer. I have since transmitted to them duplicates of my Letter, but have not yet rec'd their determination on the Subject. The only present Resource, therefore, we have for the defence of the frontiers is the militia. I have written to Colo. Cantine to confer with Cols. Snyder, Jansen & Newkerk on the State of the frontiers of your County & to order out such Detachments from their Regim'ts as may be necessary for their protection untill I shall be enabled to relieve them by the Troops intended for that Service of which you may rely on having a due Proportion. It was to be hoped that the Distresses to which the Savages were reduced by our Operations ag't them last Campaign would induce them to have sued for Peace, & that our Frontiers would have remained in a State of Tranquillity, but I am just now informed that two Parties have lately appeared on our Frontiers,

the one at Sneider's Bush in the upper Part of Tryon County, where they burnt Capt. Keyser's House Captured himself, his two Sons & two other Persons & killed one Man; the other surprized & took a Guard of 12 Men at Skeensburgh in Charlotte County; these Incursions warrant a different Sentiment & tho there is every Reason to believe both those Parties came from the Northward, it ought nevertheless to put us on our Guard as to our western settlements. The Militia pursued the Party in Tryon County but were obliged to desist, for want of Snow Shoes which the Enemy had. I have only to add that you may rest assured of my utmost Exertions for your Safety & that I am &c.

[G. C.]

[To Johannis Bevier & others.]

[No. 2761.]

Colonel Allison Favours Mrs. Hammell's Desire to Go to New York.

Graves End 26th March 1780.

Sir, I Embrace the opportunity by Mr. Glean to Informe your Excellency, that a certain Briant Hammell from Orange County, waited on me at my Quarters soon after my Return to this place, and among other matters informed me, that he was in the Indian Department, and that there was a superintendent of Indian affairs, Resideing in New York, from whome he could Furnish me with a list of the Prisoners names Taken on the Dilewar in July Last, an information your Excellency must know I have much at Heart and have been flatter'd with the Expectation, untill this Day when he Inform'd me that the said superintendent had serched his papers Cairfully but in vain.

Said Hammell at the same time intimated to me, his Desire of his wife and Children coming into New York, and wish'd to know

whether I thought there was a probability of succeeding, which I answered in the affirmative, founding my opinion on something (if I Recollect Right) that fell from your Excellency in Conversation, when last at Poughkepsay. Said Hammel has wrote his wife on that head, and beg'd me to write to your Excellency pryer to hir applycation. When I in Turn, promis'd him I would, but knowing nothing perticular of his family, can only with submission say, I cannot see any Inconvenience arrising from Permitting women in that situation going to their Husbands, and should your Excellency view it in the same point of light, I doubt not on proper applycation hir Request will be granted. I have the Honour to be, with due Respect, your Excellency's most obed't Humble Serv't

Wm. Allison.

His Excellency George Clinton Esqr.

[No. 2762.]

Washington Selects Commissary Stations in This State.

Head Qrs. Morris Town, March 26th 1780.

(Circular.)

Your Excellency will have received I presume before this, a Transcript of an act of Congress* of the 25th of last month, calling on the several states for specific quantities of provision, Rum & Forage for the army, and directing the articles of supplies to be collected and deposited at such places in each of the States, as should be judged convenient by me. In the case of a defensive war like ours, which depends almost wholly on the movements and operations of the Enemy it is difficult if not impracticable, to fix on places of deposit for stores, which may not be rendered improper by subsequent events & all we can do upon

*See page 513.

such occasions is, to collect them where it shall appear from a comparative view of circumstances, that they will be probably secure and most likely to facilitate the purposes intended. I have considered the point with respect to the supplies required of your State, and I beg leave to inform your Excellency, that it appears to me, they should be deposited at the following places, and in the proportions set against them respectively, Viz.

	Barrels Flour	Tons Hay	Bushells of Corn
Fort Schuyler,	1,000	50	1,000
Albany,	4,000	100	6,000
Claverack,	1,000		
Fish Kill Landing,	2,000		
West Point,	5,969	100	3,000
Fish Kill & Fish Kill Landing,		250	20,000
	13,969	500	30,000

As to the Beef, the time and place of delivery & the proportion from time to time must of necessity be governed by the occasional requisitions of the Commissary General. I have the Honor to be with the highest respect & esteem y^r Excellency's most Obed't S^t

Go. Washington.

His Excell^y Governor Clinton.

[No. 2763.]

Governor Clinton Issues Orders to Officers for the Assembling of Militia Detachments to Protect the Frontier.

Poughkeepsie, March 26th 1780.

Gentlemen, It is unnecessary to mention to you that the only measures taken by the Legislature at their last meet'g for the Defence of the frontiers, was the passing an act for raising 800 men for the Purpose, on Condition Congress would engage to Pay & Subsist them. As soon as the law pass'd I wrote to Congress on the Subject & pressed for an immediate determina-

tion & I have since transmitted them Duplicates of my Letter; but have not yet been favored with their answer, & it is to be feared that, the Hopes which they were led to entertain that the Savages would in consequence of our successful Operations ag't them last year, sue for Peace, may have delayed their Determination. I am sorry to inform you that I have just now received Accounts of two Parties of Savages appearing on our frontiers; the one surprised & took a small Guard of militia at Skeenboro' & the other Burnt Capt. Keyser's House on the frontiers of Tryon & made him with his two Sons & two others Prisoners & killed one man; they were pursued some distance by the militia, but for want of Snow Shoes were not overtaken, and altho' it appears that both these Parties came from the Northward, yet it discovers that our western Frontiers may tho' with great difficulty also be exposed to their Incursions, which ought to put us on our Guard. I have, therefore, to request that you will meet with Cols. Janson & Newkerk & confer with them on this Subject & fix on the number of men which may be necessary for the Protection of the frontier Settlements of your County and the quota each Regt. ought to furnish for this Service as also of the Disposition to [be] made of them so as best to answer the end, and thereupon agreeable to the result of your Conference to order out under proper officers, without waiting my further Directions, the number of men agreed upon, for which Purpose you & the Command'g Officers of the other Regts. of your County will consider this Letter as a sufficient Order. I am apprehensive that in conducting this Business, Difficulties will arise with Respect to Provisions for the Men which I wish I knew how to prevent. You are Sensible we have neither Commissaries or Magazines & in this Situation it appears to me, the only alternative is, for the Detach-

ments to be relieved at short Periods and find their own Provisions, for which they must be allowed the full Value at the Time of Payment, unless some Person can be found who will undertake to provide for them, in which Case I will order a Sum for the Purpose from the Treasury. I have only to add, that I shall be happy how soon this Business may be executed & in the Receipt of your Report of what you may have done in consequence hereof & that I am with great Regard your most Obed. Serv't

Geo. Clinton.

Colos. Snyder & Cantine.

A similar Letter (of equal Date) was written & sent (by Mr. Denton) to Colos. Hathorn & Woodhull to confer with the command'g Officer of Goshen Regt.

P. S. Similar Orders are sent to Ulster, Tryon, Albany & Charlotte & a considerable detachment is ordered from the militia of Westchester for the Protection of their Frontiers.

[No. 2764.]

Captain Chipman to Colonel Van Schaick. This document belongs to and has been consolidated with Document 2767, page 569.—STATE HISTORIAN.

[No. 2765.]

Governor Clinton Informs Colonel Van Schaick That the Protection of the Frontier Must Rest Upon the Militia.

Pokepsie 27th March 1780.

Sir, I have been favoured with your Letters of the 21st & 23d Instant with their respective Inclosures & am extremely unhappy at the Disagreeable Intelligence they contain. I was led to Hope that the Distresses which the Savages experienced by our Op-

perations ag't them last year might have induced them to sue for Peace or at lest that the Season woud have been a protection to our Frontier Settlements untill we were better able to repell their Incursions. I am not yet enabled by an Answer from Congress to embody the men designed for the Frontier Service, tho I wrote them early on that Subject & have since repeated my Application accompanied with the account transmitted by you.

Untill I shall be favoured with their Answer, the Defence of the Frontier Settlements must depend on the Exertions of the Militia & I have, therefore, wrote to Genl. Ten Broeck* and Colo. Cloek† in addition to my orders to them of the 10th Instant, to furnish proper Detachments for this Service. I inclose the Letters to those Gentlemen unsealed for your perusal which when you read you will please to seal & forward & I rely on your ready Advice & Assistance in every Measure that may be conducive to the Safety of the Country & I expect that when the Militia are called out they will meet with no Difficulty on acc't of Provisiion. I am Sir &c.

[G. C.]

To Colo. Van Schaick.

[No. 2766.]

The Mathews Family in a Bad Way.

Goshen, March 28th 1780.

Dear Governor, The bairer Mrs. Mathews is Extreeme Desirous to get hur Husband home as Every thing is a going to Destruction and the Servents have got so bad as they will do nothing but what they Please; if it tis Consistent with your Duty and Law to Purmit it will grately Oblidge the Distrest Fammely and I Dare say she will Gratefully Acknowledge the Same. I am with Respect your Excellency moste Obedient H'm Servente
Isaac Nicoll.

N. B. Capt. Mathews is willing to give any Security for his Peasable and good Behavior.

His Excellency George Clinton.

*Not found.

†See page 559.

[Nos. 2767 (2764), 2768.]

General Ten Broeck Sends Reinforcements to Fort Edward.

Albany March 29th 1780.

Sir, I inclose you Copy of a Letter from Capt. Chipman to Colonel Van Schaick and I am directed by the Hon'ble Brigadier General Ten Broeck, to inform his Excellency, that in Consequence thereof he had ordered four Regiments out of his Brigade laying to the Northward of this Place to march with Six Days Provisions to Fort Edward.

The inclosed Letter arrived yesterday about Seven O'Clock A. M. and the General sent off his Orders immediately; and in the Afternoon about Four O'Clock Colonel Van Schaick received the following Verbal Account by a Man from the Northward: That he had observed from Mount Independence to the Number of about one hundred and Fifty of the Enemy on the Lake and that they had several Sleds with them. Colonel Van Schaick informs me that, when he asked him if it could not have been Collo. Yates and his party who arrived in this Town last Saturday, he could make no possitive Answer. The General will Transmit every farther Account he shall receive. The General's Respects to his Excellency and Family. I am, Sir, your most Obedient humble Serv't

Jer'h Lansingh, Major Brigade.

His Excellency George Clinton.

 CAPTAIN CHIPMAN TO COLONEL VAN SCHAICK.

Saratoga March 26th 1780.

Sir, I left Fort Edward this afternoon to come to this place, was overtaken with Intelligence in a Letter a Copy of which I transmit you.

Granvil March 26th 1780.

I have this Moment received Express from Major Allen who was at Putmans Creek, That three hundred of the Enemy set out for Fort Edward yesterday with Twenty Sleds. This from yours in great haste

Silas Childs, Capt.

To the Commanding Officer Fort Edward.

I have sent to Colonel Van Vechten to hasten on his Men as quick as may be. I intend to return as fast as possible. If the Militia come on seasonable I hope to give you a good Account of them in my next. I am, Sir, with great Respect

John Chipman, Capt.*

Colo. Van Schaick Albany.

[Copy.]

COLONEL JOHN MCCREA REINFORCES CAPTAIN CHIPMAN'S SKELETON GUARD AT FORT EDWARD.

Summer Kill 29th March 1780.

Sir, This Day I went up to Fort Edward to hear and see what Situation we were in with respect to the present Alarm which was the Reason of calling so many Men into our defenceless Frontier part of the Country. Its true this present Alarm has proved groundless, but when the true Situation of our Affairs are taken into Consideration they become an Object of the most serious Attention. From every piece of Information we apprehend we have every Reason to expect the Enemy daily, I might have said hourly. Among us the People are spirited free and chearfully willing to use every Exertion in their power for their own Defense & that of the Frontier Country, but finding no attention paid to them in their perilous and exposed Condition

*See Document numbered 2764, page 567.

by those from whom they once thought at least they might have placed more confidence, has induced the Inhabitants to come to a serious and mature Determination (and that is) to abandon their Habitations unless that some speedy and immediate Relief can be obtained. The Stores lodged at Fort Edward are under the care of Capt. Chipman; he has himself and three Soldiers to hold and Guard that important Post & no more. He has this Day applied to me and Colonel Van Woert for a Detachment of Men to support him, to which I readily conceded, in Conjunction with the Field Officers of my Regiment, but found the People very reluctant, belonging to Cambridge Regiment, assigning for a Reason they were ordered to Garrison the Post at Skeensborough in Conjunction with Schatecoke Regiment (be this as it may) I can't say but one Thing I durst mention (and that is) the People are very unhappy and look upon Themselves as totally neglected. I hope there will be some immediate & effectual Remedy devised and pointed out to satisfy the present alarming Apprehensions and Fears of the Northern Country, otherwise it seems the general Voice of the People will make use of such Means as they conceive will most effectually secure their own safety. This is a true Relation of Facts which I am desired by the Inhabitants of Saratoga District, as well as my incumbent Duty to transmit your Excellency for your serious Consideration. I shall order a small Detachment to Capt. Chipman's Relief untill I can hear what is to be done. I am, Sir, your most obedient humble Serv't

John McCrea.

General Ten Broeck.

[Copy?]

[No. 2769.]

Important Financial Proposition of Congress.

Poughkeepsie, March 29th 1780.

Dear Sir, Previous to the Rec^t of your Letter of the 23d, written at the foot of Mr. Yates's, I had rec'd the disagreeable Intelligence of the Incursion of the Enemy, at Skeensboro' & Tyron County. You are sensible, Sir, that the only Relief I can at present possibly afford, must be from the militia & I have, therefore, directed Gen. Ten Broeck & the militia officers of Tryon to order out such Proportion of their militia as they may conceive necessary (until some other Protection can be afforded them) to prevent any farther Depredations, & I have also given similar orders to the militia of Ulster & Orange respect'g their Frontiers, & I have been under the Necessity of ordering out considerable Detachm^{ts} for the Protection of West Chester. How these are to be fed God only knows. I have not yet received any answer from Congress on the Subject of the Troops to be raised for the Defence of the Frontiers, altho' I wrote to them as soon as the act passed, & have since transmitted a Duplicate of my Letter with acct's of the Incursions of the Enemy to the northw'd & westward to hasten their Determination.

I have just now rec'd some Important Dispatches from Congress on the Subject of Finance,* to be laid before the Legisla-

*These United States having been driven into this just and necessary war, at the time when no regular civil governments were established, of sufficient energy to enforce the collection of taxes, or to provide funds for the redemption of such bills of credit as their necessities obliged them to issue; and before the powers of Europe were sufficiently convinced of the justice of their cause, or of the probable event of the controversy, to afford them aid or credit, in consequence of which, their bills increasing in quantity beyond the sum necessary for the purpose of a circulating medium, and wanting, at the same time, specific funds to rest on for their redemption, they have seen them daily sink in value, notwithstanding every effort that has been made to support the same; insomuch that they are now passed, by common consent, in most parts of these United States, at least 39-40ths below their nominal value, and still remain in a state of depreciation, whereby the community suffers great injustice, the public finances are deranged, and the necessary dispositions for the defence of the country are much

ture with a request to convene them for the Purpose if adjourned, & as the Plan now adopted makes so essential a Change in the whole System of Money Matters I fear I shall be obliged to call you together at a much earlier Day than that to which you stand adjourned. I feel much at a loss to determine on the Place. I am &c. [G. C.]

Mrs. Clinton joins in Compliments to your good Family.

Ab'm Yates, Jun'r, Esq.

impeded and perplexed; and whereas, effectually to remedy these evils, for which purpose the United States are now become competent, their independency being well assured, their civil governments established and vigorous, and the spirit of their citizens ardent for exertion, it is necessary speedily to reduce the quantity of the paper medium in circulation, and to establish and appropriate funds that shall ensure the punctual redemption of the bills; therefore,

Resolved, That the several states continue to bring into the continental treasury, by taxes or otherwise, their full quotas of 15,000,000 dollars monthly, as assigned them by the resolution of the 7th of October, 1779; a clause in the resolution of the 23d of February last, for relinquishing two-thirds of the said quotas, to the contrary notwithstanding; and that the states be further called on to make provision for continuing to bring into the said treasury their like quotas monthly, to the month of April, 1781, inclusive; that silver and gold be receivable in payment of the said quotas, at the rate of one Spanish milled dollar in lieu of 40 dollars of the bills now in circulation.

That the said bills, as paid in, except for the months of January and February past, which may be necessary for the discharge of past contracts, be not re-issued, but destroyed.

That as fast as the said bills shall be brought in to be destroyed, and funds shall be established, as hereafter mentioned, for other bills, other bills be issued, not to exceed, on any account, one-twentieth part of the nominal sum of the bills brought in to be destroyed.

That the bills which shall be issued, be redeemable in specie, within six years after the present, and bear an interest at the rate of five per centum per annum, to be paid also in specie at the redemption of the bills, or, at the election of the holder, annually, at the respective continental loan-offices, in sterling bills of exchange, drawn by the United States on their commissioners in Europe, at 4s. 6d. sterling per dollar.

That the said new bills issue on the funds of individual states, for that purpose established, and be signed by persons appointed by them, and that the faith of the United States be also pledged for the payment of the said bills, in case any state on whose funds they shall be emitted, should, by the events of war, be rendered incapable to redeem them; which undertaking of the United States, and that of drawing bills of exchange, for payment of interest as aforesaid, shall be endorsed on the bills to be emitted, and signed by a commissioner to be appointed by Congress for that purpose.

That the face of the bills to be emitted read as follows, viz:

The possessor of this bill shall be paid _____ Spanish milled dollars, by the 31st day of December, 1786, with interest, in like money, at the rate of five per cent. per annum, by the state of _____, according to an act of the legislature of the said state, of the _____ day of _____, 1780.

And the endorsement shall be as follows, viz:

The United States ensure the payment of the within bill, and will draw bills of exchange for the interest annually, if demanded, according to a resolution of Congress of the 18th day of March, 1780.

That the said new bills shall be struck under the direction of the board of treasury, in due proportion for each state, according to their said monthly quotas, and lodged in the continental loan-offices in the respective states, where the commissioner to be appointed by Congress, in conjunction with such persons as the respective states ap-

[No. 2770.]

John Smith Ambitious to Rank with Gentlemen of the Same Rank.

Fort Herkimer March 30th 1780

May it please your Excellence! I make bold to acquaint you, that agreeable to your Orders, I have kept Garrison at Fort Herkimer with 15 Men, and Myself, and as the time is just expir'd that your Excellency appointed Vizt: the first of April, I shall strive to keep the men, or as many of them as I can get to stay, till the middle of April at least, or till otherwise order'd by your Excellence.

Your Excellence was pleased to promise me a Commission. I hope it will not be denied me, as it will enable me to Rank with Gentlemen of the same Rank.

point, shall attend the signing of the said bills; which shall be completed no faster than in the aforesaid proportion of one to twenty of the other bills brought in to be destroyed, and which shall be lodged for that purpose in the said loan-offices.

That as the said new bills are signed and completed, the states respectively, on whose funds they issue, receive six-tenths of them, and that the remainder be subject to the orders of the United States, and credited to the states on whose funds they are issued, the accounts whereof shall be adjusted agreeably to the resolution of the 6th of October, 1779.

That the said new bills be receivable in payment of the said monthly quotas, at the same rate as aforesaid of specie; the interest thereon to be computed to the respective states, to the day the payment becomes due.

That the respective states be charged with such parts of the interest on their said bills, as shall be paid by the United States, in bills of exchange; and the accounts thereof shall be adjusted agreeably to the resolution aforesaid, of the 6th of October, 1779.

That whenever interest on the bills to be emitted shall be paid, prior to their redemption, such bills shall be thereupon exchanged for others of the like tenor, to bear date from the expiration of the year for which such interest is paid.

That the several states be called on to provide funds for their quotas of the said new bills, to be so productive as to sink or redeem one sixth part of them annually, after the first day of January next.

That nothing in the foregoing resolution shall be construed to ascertain the proportions of the expense incurred by the war, which each state on a final adjustment ought to be charged with, or to exclude the claims of any state to have the prices at which different states have furnished supplies for the army hereafter taken into consideration and equitably adjusted.

That the foregoing resolutions, with a letter from the president, be dispatched to the executive of the several states, and that they be requested to call their assemblies, if not already convened, as speedily as possible, to take them into immediate consideration, to establish ample and certain funds for the purposes therein mentioned, and to take every other measure necessary to carry the same into full and vigorous effect, and that they transmit their acts for that purpose to Congress without delay.—

Journals of Congress.

I have the Honour to be, your Excellencies, Most Obedient,
Humble Servant,

John Smith.

[To G. C.]

[No. 2771.]

Estimate of Rations for New York Troops Serving in the Line.

An Estimate of Rations of Rum &c. to be issued Monthly to the Troops of the State of New York, serving in the Continental Army, agreeable to an Act passed by the Legislature, March 11th 1780.

	Rum	Sugar	Tea		Tobacco
	G'ls	lbs.	lbs.	oz.	lbs.
1 Major General	4	6		8	
1 Brigadier Do	3	4		6	
8 Colonels & Lt. Colonels	16	24	2		
5 Majors	7 ¹ / ₂	15	1	4	
2 Chaplains	4	6		8	
8 Surgeons & Mates	12	24	2		
145 Commissioned Officers	217 ¹ / ₂	435	36	4	
1800 Non-commissioned Officers & Privates	843 ³ / ₄	1800	225		1800
Total	1107 ³ / ₄	2314	267	14	1800

N. B. The above Supplies for three Months, will at least weigh twenty two Tons, the cartage of which, at twelve Dollars p Ton, p Mile, (the lowest price at present) will amount to Fifty two Thousand Eight hundred Dollars, the distance computed at 200 Miles.

Jno. Wiley.

[No. 2772.]

Kitty Ten Eyck Requests John Taylor to Intercede in Her Desire to Procure a Pass to New York.

Halfe Moon, April 11th*

Sir, An unsourmountable Necessity of inquiring into some Affairs relative to my Father's Estate, Calls me to New York; the Difficulty of obtaining Permission, has for a long time retarded me; however, that Difficulty ceases, by a Letter from Mr. Faesh, I learn that Mr. Wm. Smith, will wait on me as soon as I arrive at the

*The year is not written on this document.—STATE HISTORIAN.

British lines, with a Permit for me to enter the City. I shall, therefore, esteem it as a peculiar obligation, your charging yourself with the Trouble of soliciting his Excellency, Governor Clinton, for a passport for me to go; doubtless you will say, what is this urgent Business, that Calls you their, its such as this; at the time of my Father's Death I gave all the Books belonging to his Estate to Mr. Merseylus who did the Business for me, while I was at Col. Hays at Fish Kill; he went to New York without my knowledge, and I cannot recover any thing for my support. I am Sensibly pain'd on the occasion; my feelings will not Permit me to be Beholding to Strangers; my Purse has not been like the Widow's Cruise. I belive you are acquainted with the frequent attempts that I have made to get in the City; my Perseverance has been thro Necessity. I doubt not if you would be so oblidging as to make his Excellency acquainted with my Situation, but that that Godness of Heart which is incompatible with him will indulge in leting me go. I hear that Mr. Bloodgod is a going. I shall be in Town as soon as Possible; after my best Compliments to Mrs. Taylor I remain with Tender Esteem, yours
Kitty Ten Eyck.
Mr. John Taylor.

[No. 2773.]

NERVOUSNESS ALONG THE FRONTIER.

Governor Clinton Orders Out Detachments from Four Regiments of Militia to Quiet the Apprehensions of the People.

May it please your Excellency; That at a meeting of the principal Inhabitants of the Western part of Orange, & Ulster Counties Present, Solomon Caukendoll and Benj'm Depuy, Esqrs; Major John Decker, Capt'n Cuddeback, Capt'n of the Peenpeck Comp'y, Lieut. Vantile and others. Resolved, That your Excellency be Immediately acquainted, that the Indian Enemy have begun to make Inroads thus early on the Back of our Settlements; That this Day, is Come in from Lacawaugh one Kimball a man of veracity, and Declares unto Capt'n Chambers, and to ——— Kortwright, Esqr. a Magistrate within the Jersey Line, our neighbours; that the eve of the 31 Ult. he saw near a house or hut, in said Lacawaugh, some Indians, supposes them to be seven in number, who fired after a Comrade of his at that time some Distance from said Kimball, and that he said Kimball, in his escape heard firing, and Whooping, and hastened in to obtain assistance to pursue, which was granted, and is now forwarding by Capt'n Chambers.

The Inhabitants of this District from their expos'd Situation on this (now) Frontier Line, are fill'd with the most fearfull apprehensions of the possibility the enemy has to Come on them with ease; and the Probability, from the Divers. Ill-dispos'd persons now with the enemy, from this vicinity; that our almost ruined Situation, and Circumstance as well as some of our neighbours on same Line, who has not yet felt much of their Savage Cruelty, Should suffer a final Loss, both of Persons and property; to desire your Excellency to grant us a Guard, on this Line, both in No. and Station as to you may appear proper; the Bearer can inform you of the Forts, their Distance and the open avenues that are most expos'd.

We Conceiv'd it to be our duty to inform your Excellency of these Important Facts, of our apprehensions &c. in time, as the want of a Guard here, will oblige us to Leave open this part, and from nature's first Law, fly into some Interior part of the Country, Disagreeable and ruinous as the alternative may be.

We Devotedly Leave our Case and Request with your Excellency, encourag'd with hopes that your timely Care, may be so adapted to our wants, that we may ever Retain the Sentiments we now do, of your desire to Save and Succour all in your power for the good of the Whole.

We desire to be accepted, as we feel our selves Disposed, your Excellency's most Obed't and very Humble Servants:

Sign'd in Behalf and at the Request of the whole, per order

Solomon Caukendoll, Esq., Benj'm Depuy, Esq., Abram Cuddeback, Capt'n, John Vantile, Lieut.

April 1st 1789.

To His Excellency George Clinton Esqr.

GOVERNOR CLINTON'S REPLY:

Pokeepsie April 4th, 1780.

Gent., I have received your Representation of the exposed Situation of the frontier Settlements & the information of Kimball. In consequence of Intelligence I received some Days ago of the appearance of some hostile Savages on the Frontiers of Tryon & apprehensive that your frontiers might be also subject to surprise, I issued my Orders on the 26th Ultó. to the command'g officers of the militia of Ulster & Orange to confer together, & immediately to order out such proportion of their respective Regim'ts as they should conceive necessary, for the Protection of the frontier settlements, until some more permanent force can be obtained & to station them at such Passes as they should deem most proper for that Purpose. I have now repeated my Orders to them & requested that they be carried into execution without one moment's delay. Be assured, Gentlemen, that no Exertion on my part shall be want'g to give you that Protection which your exposed Situation may from Time to Time require.

[G. C.]

[To Solomon Caukendoll and others.]

GOVERNOR CLINTON REPEATS HIS ORDERS TO MILITIA COLONELS.

Poughkeepsie April 4th 1780.

Gent., I have just now rec'd a representation from the Inhab'ts in the neighborhood of Minisink (by express), signed by Solomon Cockendall, Benj. DuPuy, Ab'm Cuddeback & Jno. VanTie, an Extract of which cont'g the Information by them rec'd is enclosed, from which it appears that they are under the most fearful apprehensions, from their exposed Situation, that the

Enemy will make a sudden Descent on the Western Frontier. And I am very apprehensive that, unless some immediate protection is afforded them, the whole of our Western Frontier Settlements will be aband'ed. I have, therefore, to request that you will without a moment's delay cause my orders contained in my Letter of the 26th Ult.* to be carried into execution.

Yrs. &c.

Geo. Clinton.

Colos. Snyder & Cantine & Hathorn & Woodhull.

[No. 2774.]

BRANT'S RAID ON HARPERSFIELD.

A List of Those Killed and Captured—Captain Harper's Letter Written in Brant's Presence.

Schohary, 2 April 1780.

May it Please Your Excellency; The distressed Situation of this frontier Settlement urges us to call upon your Excellency for Relief. We flatter ourselves that your Excellency is Convinced that the Western Expedition has not Prevented the Enemy from making Inroads upon our Defenceless Settlement, as appears by the Inclosed Copy of Captain Alexander Harper's Letter and by the list of those Taken and killed. Immediately upon the above Account Received from Harpersfield, we have Transmitted the same to General Ten Broeck; in Answer to which he Informs us that he had Issued Orders for Two Hundred Men of his Brigade to march for this Place but none have Arrived as yet. Cobus Kill is Daily Applying to us for Relief, which is out of our Power to Grant, as we have three forts to Maintain in this Place besides Constant Scouts to be sent out. Those taken and killed, have left six large and Helpless Famelies Destitute of the Common

*See page 565.

Necessaries of life, which we hope, your Excellency will take into Consideration, and point out some way for their support., There is a number of Disaffected Persons at Harperfield, Cortwright's Patent and the Delaware, whom we Suspect of having Harboured and Supported the Enemy, and did not Inform us till Six days after the Party was Killed & Taken altho they Remained amongst them three Days Making Canoes. We hope your Excellency will Inform us what Steps we shou'd take Concerning those Persons. We have the Honour to subscribe ourselves Your Excellencies Most Obedient Humble Servants

Peter Vroman, Coll., Pieter Ziele, L: Col., Thomas Eckesen, Jur. Major, Will'm Wills, Lt. Col., Johannis H. Becker, Jacob Heger, Capt., Geo. Richtmeyer, Capt., Storm Becker, Capt.
His Excellency Governor Clinton.

A List of those Persons Taken & Killed by Jos: Brandt and 18 others. Killed: Major Thomas Handry, Lieut. James Handry, William Stephens.

Taken Prisoners: Capt'n Alexander Harper, Lieut. John Handry, Freegift Patchin, Isaac Patchin, William Lam & son, David Brown & three sons, Izra Harp, Wm. Trumbell a Continental Soldier in Colonel Van Schaick's Regt.

Delaware, 8th of April 1780.

My Dear, by this you may know that I am Prisoner: and I am very glad that I am fallen into their hands that has me, seeing that it is my lott to be taken Prisoner, (to Witt, Capt. Brant and Lieut. Johnson;) who used me, and all them that is taken along

with me exceeding well, and as for them that was kill'd there is no accounting for it: And as for Stephen's being kill'd at Walter Elliott's, I wou'd not have you look the worse on him, for it, for he has suffer'd a great deal of loss, and has very near, sheared the same fate: And I wou'd not have you to revenge it upon the place at all, for I think the[y] new nothing of the party; And I hope that you will spare no pains nor Cost, but apply immediate to the Governor, for an immediate Exchange, for I have been talking to Capt. Brant about an Exchange who says it can easily be obtain'd, and that it is the fault of the Country and none of theirs if it is not. And as for my advice to you, I cannot give any; you must try to do the best you can. I will ad no more; only remain your loving Husband; likewise give my love to all my Friends & to Father & mother. You must shew this immediately to the Comanding officer.

Alexander Harper.

(A Copy)

N. B. The above letter was wrote by one of those Disaffected Persons in Harpers Field in Presence of Brant. Peter Vroman.

[No. 2775.]

General Robert Howe on the Subject of the Arrearages of Pay in Colonel Parling's Regiment.

Highlands 3d of April 1780.

Dear Sir, I was last Night Honor'd by your Excellency's Favour of the 31st Ult. I know of no Circumstance of Service that militates against sending the two Persons you mention within the Enemy's Lines, except the Removal of Poor's Brigade, now at the moment of coming down from Danbury to this Place,

which the Situation of Affairs makes necessary, & of which for some particular Reasons I would not wish the Enemy to be inform'd. I should, therefore, be glad they might be sent by such a Route, as to have them if possible ignorant of that Operation. This also holds good as to Mr. Cummins, tho' as his Removal is to be by Water, the unfinish'd State of Verplank's & Stony Points, which he can not but observe as he passes, & will probably report, it a Reason for detaining him a little While, that does not operate as to the others, & prevails upon me to hope that some plausible Pretext may be found, to detain him until those Works are finished. Or if this cannot be done, it would I think be best to give Orders that he passes those Works in the Night Time, to prevent as much as possible his obtaining any Knowledge which may be injurious to us, & all Spy Glasses should be forbidden to be carried in the Vessel.

In Respect to Col. Pawling's Affair, it is to be wish'd that the usual modes in such Cases could have been pursued, but the Circumstances your Excellency mentions rendering it impossible, it would be hard if some method cannot be fallen on, to settle this matter satisfactorily to so respectable an Officer as Col. Pawling, & in Behalf of a Corps which are acknowledged to be so useful & your Excellency may depend upon every Thing in my Power to effect in which with Propriety I can do.

If the Appearance of Matters here will permit me, I think to visit you at Poughkepsie in a Day or two, as I wish much to confer with you upon several Subjects. I have the Honor to be, with the greatest Respect, & Regard Dear Sir your Excellency's most obedient & very Humble Servant

Robert Howe.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 2776.]

Governor Clinton Honors General Howe's Requisition for the Signals of Alarm.

Highlands, 3d of April 1780.

Dear Sir: The Intelligence received gives Room to think that this Post is an Object with the Enemy, which is among some of the Reasons for my removing Poor's Brigade. As it may become necessary to alarm the Country, to call in the Militia, I should be obliged to your Excellency to give me a Detail of the Signals of Alarm agreed upon, that no Mistake may happen, which please to do without Delay by this Express, as no Detail has been left me. I am, Dear Sir, with Regard & Respect your Excellency's most obedient Servant

Robert Howe.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

Dr Sir, I am hon'd wth yo'r favors of this Day. I now enclose you the Signals for alarm'g & call'g in of the militia, together with a Copy of my Orders to the Militia, & I have only to observe that I have not been inform'd that Signal Guns were ever placed on Mullender's Hill which was a p't of the original Plan or East of this Place. Small Guards were, during the Course of last Campaign, stationed at the different Bacons and at the Alarm Gun at this Place; whether those at the Bacons are continued I know not; the Guard at this Place was furnished by Colo. Pawling's Regt. & was dismissed when that Corps quit the Service. I do not conceive that there is at present any absolute necessity of forwarding the two Prisoners at this Place immediately, & it may be some Time yet before Cummins is ready to go down to New York; but shoud it become necessary

you may rely that every Precaution you mention will be taken to prevent their obtaining a Knowledge of any Matter that can be useful to the Enemy. I am made happy in the Hopes you give me of the Pleasure of a vissit & am with the highest Regard &c.

[G. C.]

[To Gen. Robert Howe.]

[No. 2777.]

Colonel Fisher to Colonel Van Schaick. This document belongs to and has been consolidated with Document 2781, page 585.—STATE HISTORIAN.

[No. 2778.]

Rev. Saml. Provoost Applies for Permission for His Wife to Visit New York for Her Health.

Sir; I am induced by the very low state of Mrs. Provoost's health and her repeated solicitations to trouble your Excellency with a request I should not otherwise have thought of.

Instead of receiving any benefit from the remedies she has tried here, she is daily growing worse, and thinks her only chance of recovery would arise from the change of air, medecines, and other necessaries she might procure in the City of New York; If she is happy enough to obtain your Excellency's permission for this purpose, she intends to accompany Mr. Cummings or any other flag which may go to that city this summer and to return if possible by the same sloop she goes in.

If I thought any inconvenience could result to the publick from this favour being granted her, I should be very far from making the present application, but of this, Sir, you are the best Judge, and I am convinced she will acquiesce with pleasure in your determination. If you think it improper at this Conjuncture to comply with her desire, her principal concern will be, the having imposed the disagreeable task of refusing her upon a person of your Excellency's Humanity. I am with utmost respect your Excellency's most obliged and very Humble Servant

Saml. Provoost.

Manor of Livingston April 3d 1780.

[To G. C.]

[No. 2779.]

New Jersey's Pension Provisions.

Morris Town 3d April 1780.

Sir, I have the Honour of your Excellency's Letter of the 11 of March.

The Provision which our Legislature has made for the widows & Children of such officers & Soldiers as die in the Service, is to allow the widows half pay during their widowhood, & in case they remarry before their children arrive to the age of eight years, the half pay goes to the Children or Child under that age. As for allowing half pay to the officers during life, our Assembly seems utterly averse to it.

An act for compleating the Quota of our Troops, I do myself the honour to inclose you, & am with great Respect your Excellency's most humble S^r Wil: Livingston.
His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 2780.]

*Congress Bestows Continental Pay and Rations on New York's Quota
for the Defence of the State.*

In Congress April 4th 1780.

Resolved, That Governor Clinton be informed Congress approve the raising a body of eight hundred militia for the defence of that State & that they be entitled to receive continental pay and rations and be employed under the direction of the commander in chief of the continental army for that purpose.

Extract from the minutes.

Chas. Thomson, Secy.*

[No. 2781.]

An Indian Scouting Party That Overshot the Mark.

Albany April 4th 1780.

Sir, I have the Honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellencies favor of the 27th Ultimo. I shall give every possible

*See Washington to Clinton, page 612.

advise & assistance in my power to the militia when called out in service.

Inclose you Copy of a Letter containing an agreeable account of what lately happened in Tryon County.

I am, with perfect Esteem, your Excellencies most Obed't
 Humble servant
 His Excellency George Clinton.

G. V. Schaick.

COLONEL FISHER TO COLONEL VAN SCHAICK.

Caughnawaga, 3rd April 1780.

Sir, On Tuesday night last the Blockhouse near Sacondaga was attacked by a scouting party of Indians to the number of seven, as near as could be ascertained who endeavour'd to set it on fire in two different places, which they had nearly effected, had not it been for the activity of one brave man, named Solomon Woodworth, who (altho alone) Sallied out, and extinguished the fire; & whilst he was doing that, five shots was fired at him one, of which by Glancing off one of the Logs touched him slightly; on his returning in the House, he then took his Gun, & fired at them, one of which he wounded through the thigh; on which they fled & took the wounded Indian with them. The reason of the Blockhouse being without men at that time, was through the neglect of one of the Militia Officers, which I have already taken notice off, in a particular manner.

I immediately sent out a party after them, who returned without success, for want of Snow-shoes. Then seven Volunteers turned out on Thursday last, & came up with them on Saturday about twelve O'Clock; five Indians fired on my men (the other two was out hunting) and the whole missed, upon which these

brave men rushed up, & fired on the Indians with Buck-shot & wounded every one of them; took & killed the whole of them, & brought in their Packs, & Guns, without receiving the least hurt; I have just received this late intelligence by Express from Coll. Veeder who commands at the Blockhouse with sixty men out of my Regt.

As I have borrowed a Quantity of Rum, for the use of my men on Duty, you will please order me up some for to repay it & for their further supply, as they are constantly out Scouting, which article is very necessary for them; as also Amunition, being midling Scarce thereof. Your Commands at any time shall be punctually obeyed by, Sir, your most humble serv't

F. Fisher.

P. S. On Rec't of your fav'r of the 27th March last I ordered the whole of my Regt. on Duty for four days.

Colo. G. V'n Schaick.

(Copy)

[No. 2782.]

Mr. Leonard Van Buren's Application for Permission to Receive a Chest of Clothing and a Cane from New York.

Albany 4th April 1780.

Sir, Mr. Ab'm Bloodgood is of Oppinion, that he can prevail on Mr. Commons to have my things sent out of N. York by the return of the flag; will your Exelency please to grant a permission to Mr. Bloodgood to have my Chest Clothing and a Cane I have at N. York brought out your Exelency will much Oblige, your Hble. Serv't

Leon'd V. Buren.*

His Exelency George Clinton Esqr.

*Granted April 28, 1780

[No. 2783.]

Colonel Klock Fears the People Will Abandon Their Homes if Proper Protection is Not Given Them.

Palatine Tryon County April 4th 1780.

Sir, As our militia is much wanting their money for their services they have done, I send the Bearer George Ecker, with the Pay Rolls of my Regiment, and hoping your Excellency will be kind anove to Instruct Mr. Ecker how he should kit the money.

Since my last to you, we have been most Constend in alarm here; a Party of the Enemy has been Dracked Near Fort Schuyler. I kipt out Scouts and Could not discover them as yet, it comes very hart upon our meletia here, I have Posted part of the militia in seven defirend posts on the Fronteers, and if we do not Cit assistance soon, I am afrait the Greatest part of the People will moove away; therefore, I hope you would grant ns assistance as soon as Possoble you can, and Remain, Sir, your most obetiant Humble Serv't,

Jacob Klock.

To his Excellency George Clinton.

[No. 6129.]

Mr. Nathaniel Stevens Succeeds Mr. Fitch as Superintendent Commissary of Issues.

*Philad'a 4th April 1780.

Sir, I have the honor of your letter of 28th March recommending Mr. Nathaniel Stevens, to Succeed Mr. Fitch, and have with great pleasure, as far as in my power at present Complied with it, by Sending Mr. Stevens an appointment, as Superintend't Commissary of Issues, in Mr. Fitch's district in his absence. The

Board of War think it improper for me to fully accept Mr. Fitch's resignation untill his accounts be settled. Mr. Fitch will no doubt earnestly set about that business, and Mr. Stevens will do the duty and probably succeed Mr. Fitch as Soon as his accounts are Closed.

I am happy to hear that the Conduct of both meets your approbation, and hope the future attention of Mr. Stevens to his duty in the present Time of pinching Scarcity, will prove that he is deserving such weighty recommendations as Governor Clinton & you have given him. I have the honor to be, Dear General, Your Mo. Obied't Serv't

Chas. Stewart, Comm'y Gen. Issues.

The Hon'ble Major Genl. Howe.

[No. 2784.]

Washington Warns Clinton of the Necessity for Prompt Assembling of the Militia Should the Enemy Threaten the Highlands.

Head Quarters Morris Town, 5th April 1780.

Dear Sir, I have lately been concerting measures with Governor Livingston, for the arrangement and disposition of the militia of this State, in case the enemy, thinking to take advantage of the reduction of our numbers by the expiration of the times of service of our troops, and from other causes, should move out against us. Should such an event take place, I would wish that the commanding officers of the militia of the County of Orange, in your State, had orders to assemble at Clarks Town and Kakeate, to watch the motions of the Enemy's Right, and to give them all possible annoyance. I make no doubt but General Howe has already concerted a plan with your Excellency for assembling the

militia of the upper part of the State at the shortest notice, should the enemy operate suddenly against the posts in the Highlands. Another embarkation is certainly preparing at New York, supposed to be a reinforcement for General Clinton: But as a measure of this kind will, more than probable, occasion a further detachment from this Army, the force remaining in New York will be proportionably stronger than ours. Our latest accounts from Charlestown are of the 4th March, tho' it seems from a publication in Rivingston's paper that the Enemy had made no material progress upon the 11th at which time Genl. Robertson left South Carolina.

I was duly honored with your Excellency's favors of the 21st Feb'y and 10th March. I have the honor to be with very great Esteem y'r Excellency's most obt. and h'ble Serv't

Go. Washington.

Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 2785.]

Colonel Klock Again Urges the Governor to Send Reinforcements to Tryon County.

Tryon County, April 5th 1780.

Honored Sir; Last Monday the 3d Instant a Party of the Enemy broot out here in a place Called Remersnyder's Bush, Consisting of Forty or Two & forty men; they have taken Nineteen of our men Prisoners; we have pursued them about Twenty five miles; Coud not further for want of Snow Shoes. This Remersnyder's Bush has been a Large settlement; now the People is all moaving away from there, Except a fue families that Lives in a Fort there, where I have kept a small guard. I am sorry that I must inform your Excellency that my opinion is,

if we are not very soon assisted with Troops, that this County will be Intirely destroyed, for the Regiments is but very small; the Half of our People is Inlisted in the Batoe-Service & Taken Prissiners. Therefor, hopes if Possible your Excellency will assist us with Troops otherwise we cannot stand it. The Enemie has made a very old man prissoner the other day, which they Discharge agan. They told him they woud before long destroy the whole County. Tho this Last party Burnt nothing Except a mill, I am very Certain the Indians will if Possible, have Revenge for what damage they have Rec'd Last Summer, which they Can very easy here, if no assistance Comes.

I have further to acquaint your Excellency, that the same day that the Enemie took the aforesaid Prissoners, that Seven more of the Enemie was discovered at a place Called Sauchandago, behind Johns Town, which was pursued by Seven of our men & the forth day our men overtook them & killed five out of the Seven; the other two was not by them, Supost to be Hunting. I have the Honour to be your Excellency's most Humb'e Serv't

Jacob Klock, Col.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

Pokeepsie 14th April 1780.

Sir, I am this Moment favoured with your Letters of the 4th & 5th Instant. It gives me real Concern to hear of the late Outrage committed at Snyder's Bush in your County & of the distressed Situation of the different Frontier Settlements. I am not, however, without Hopes of being speedilly able to put them in a State of greater Security, as I am now authorized by Congress to raise the Men intended by the Legislature for that Service; you will receive my Orders by the Bearer for this Purpose &

I forbear adding any other Consideration than the Service for which these Troops are intended to excite you to the Utmost Dispatch in the Execution of the Orders.

Mr. Coppernall, the Bearer, handed me the Pay Rolls & Abstracts for your Regt. & I was about to send him with them to the Auditor Genl. who lives 14 Miles distant to be auditted, when I discovered that you had neglected to sign the Abstracts, & that there was some other Ommissions in them, such as not incerting the year in which the Service was performed; as it would have prevented their passing the Auditor's Office & of Course rendered the Journey fruitless. I, therefore, thought it most adviseable for him to return immediately that you might be able to have the Abstracts corrected & perfected in these particulars in Season to send them down by one of your Members at the next Meeting of the Legislature, which will be about the first of next Month; the Matter may then be accomplished & [the] Men receive their pay without further Trouble or Delay. I woud only observe that the Abstract for the Field & staff Officers shoud be seperate from that of the Companies & the particular Time of Service expressed. I am sorry for the present Disapointment but it is unavoidable.

[G. C.]

[To Col. Jacob Klock.]

[No. 2786.]

James Duane Requests Permission for His Sister Mrs. Patterson to Meet Her Brother Colonel Livingston on the Lines.

Manour Livingston, 6th April 1780.

Dear Sir; This will be handed to you by my worthy Friend Col. H. Livingston. He has lately receivd a Letter from our Sister Mrs. Patterson which he will show you. The Impertunity with

which she entreats for an Interview with her Brother on leaving her Country and her Friends, perhaps forever! obliges me to ask the favour of your Excellency to grant him a Flagg to meet her on our Lines.

We were much disappointed in not being favoured with your Excellency's & Mrs. Clinton's Company at the Manshion on your Return from Albany. Mr. Benson called and undertook to prepare the Dutch papers for the Hearing and to acquaint me when they were ready. This alone retards my Journey to Congress. Be kind enough to present him my Compliments & request to hear from him as soon as the Business is dispatched. As I am conscious I do not deserve it; I will not hazard the Censure of delay in a matter of such Moment & Expectation to the State. I have much to say to your Excellency but shall defer it till I have the pleasure of waiting upon you. I need not assure you that I am with the utmost respect Dear Sir Your Excellency's affectionate & most Obedient Servant

Jas. Duane.

P. S. Mrs. Duane joins me in our most respectful Complim's to yourself & Mrs. Clinton.

His Excellency The Governour.

My Father in Law is in his usual distress respecting his Iron works, Equally afraid to decline or to carry them on. All the Family wou'd be very happy if the State woud have taken them on any Terms; as that is not the Case, another Effort is resolved upon, if he can obtain the usual Exemption for his workmen. Your Excellency will be troubled upon this Subject & I doubt not will do every thing to encourage so essential a Business which is consistent with your duty to the State, & your own Judgment.

[No. 2787.]

For a Ferry on the Mohawk Between Fort Plank and Paris.

We the Supervisors of Tryon County do hereby certify that the Place of John Walrad is very convenient to be an establish'd Ferry, and at this Time highly necessary to preserve a Communication between Forts Plank and Paris, and do hereby recommend the said John Walrad to his Excellency Governor Clinton, for a License for a Ferry across the Mohock River. Given under our Hands the 6th Day of April 1780.

Jelles Fonda, Chris'r P. Yates, John Pickerd, Augustinus Hess, Henrick Staring.

[No. 2788.]

Representation from Sundry Citizens of Great Nine Partners in Favor of Thomas Palmature.

May it please your Honours; Wee the subscribers beg leave to address the Honourable Bench, in behalf one Thomas Palmature a Continental Soldier, who comes under your Honours' Inspection this Court, wee doe not think, his late conduct is by any means Justifyble However, being antious to increase the number of Soldiers for our army, which the Said Thomas Palmature, has turnd out at the first of these times for his Country's Cause, and has acted like a good Soldier in many actions together with his Brothers; and one of his Brothers kill'd in the Service; and as its the first crime the Said Thomas Palmature has been Guilty of to our knowledge, and are still antious to Serve his Country in all Cases, therefore, wee sincerely wish your Honours will please to Consider the Said Thomas Palmature's Unhappy situation and your Honours' Subscribers will For Ever Pray.

Great Nine Partners April ye 9th 1780.

Smith Sutherland, Eliphaz Fish, Richard Bullock, George Cronkhite, William Garnatt, James Cronkhite, Phinchas Knapp, Ephraim Bullock, Clement Earll, Stephen Haight, Wilber Earl, Ezra Allin, Chomer Bulock, David Sutherland.

[No. 2789.]

Governor Clinton Reports the Condition of the State to General Washington.

Poughkeepsie April 7th 1780.

Dr Sir, The Legislature of this State at their late meeting passed a Law for raising 800 men to be subject to y'r Excellencys orders for the Defence of the Frontiers on Condition that Congress should engage to Pay & subsist them. Immediately on the passing of this Law, I wrote to Congress & transmitted them the Resolutions of the Legislature upon the Subject, but

have not yet been favored with an Answer. The late Incursions of the Savages at Skeensboro' & on the frontiers of Tryon County have filled the minds of the Inhabitants with the most dreadful apprehensions, & they are daily aband'g their Settlements & retiring into the interior part of the Country which all the Countenance & Protection I am able to give them with the militia, is not suff't to prevent. The People, influenced by a Sense, of their Danger, have frequently requested me to apply to your Excellency for a Detachment of Continental Troops to be stationed among them, which I have hitherto declined from the little Hopes I had that the Situation of the Army would enable your Excellency to comply with the Request. I am now informed that they have of their own accord addressed a Petition to your Excellency on the Subject, which the Bearer hereof is to present, & I have, therefore, thought it necessary to inform you of the Measures taken by the State & to request that your Excellency will be pleased to interest yourself in obtaining a favourable & speedy Determination of Congress with respect to the Levies offered by the State for this Service if no other Relief can be afforded. I take the Liberty of inclosing to your Excellency a Copy of my Letter to Congress* & am with the highest Respect & Esteem your Excellency's &c.

Geo: Clinton.

His Excell'cy Genl. Washington.

[No. 2790.]

List of Killed and Wounded of the British forces since the Beginning of the War.—This document belongs to and has been consolidated with Document 2793, page 599.—STATE HISTORIAN.

*See page 556.

[No. 2791.]

The Politics in the Vermont Situation.

Brattleboro', 10th April 1780.

Sir, I find upon my Return home that a very general & great Uneasiness prevails among the loyal Subjects of New York, because Congress did nothing relative to the New State, in February last. Some few have openly joined Vermont; many others are wavering and begin to believe what was given out by their Agents upon their Return from Philadelphia, that Congress will not determine the Dispute; and that it is, therefore, time for them to secure their Interests by an agreement with the ruling Powers.

I have done, Sir, and shall continue to do what is in my Power, consistent with honor, to keep up their Spirits, & to preserve them in the Interests of New York, until Congress can have Lieusure to settle this important Controversy: but do not think it can be done longer than until the Legislature meets in June next: with which I beg your Excellency will be kind enough to acquaint our Delegates at Congress, as an additional motive for their endeavouring to expedite a Trial.

The Legislature of Vermont are straining every Nerve to make themselves Powerful. In their March Session at Westminster, they granted large Quantities of Land (some appropriated and some not) to Persons residing in the New England States. They have also appointed a Committee, consisting of three of their agents, to confer with the Yorkers; and, if our Information is right, they may speedily be expected among us: as they are some of their most artful Men, & have attended Congress upon the Subject, I much fear they will be able to mislead a number.

The Plan proposed by the Delegates to the Legislature at

their last sitting, I have, in Confidence, communicated to two or three Persons of the most sense and Influence among us, who appear to be full as averse to it as I am; and I have not a doubt but the Yorkers, almost to a Man, are of the same opinion

By what I can learn the Legislature of New Hampshire, or at least some of the Members, and their Partizans west of Connecticut River, entertain an opinion that the western Boundaries of that State will be fixed at the Green Mountains.

I sincerely wish our Delegates might be cautioned against reposing any Confidence in the Delegates from New Hampshire, in the Trial respecting a New State, as reports, coming immediately from some of the Legislature of New Hampshire, are that their agents were instructed not to put in their Claim if there was a Probability of Vermont's maintaining its Independence. This is more to be credited because the Legislature of N. Hampshire have, heretofore, been more complaisant, and indeed friendly, to Vermont, than they ought to have been, if they considered the People as having revolted from any of the States in Union.

I have the Honor to be your Excellency's most obed't & Very
Humble Serv't
His Exc'y Governor Clinton.

Micah Townsend.

[No. 2792.]

The Movements of the Enemy Mystify General Robert Howe.

Highlands 10th of April 1780.

Dear Sir, The Preparations of the Enemy wear so duplicate an Aspect, that no determinate Conjecture can be form'd of their ultimate Intention. At the same time that their Em-

barkation would lead us to think that their Design was beyond Sea, they are not less busy in Preparation which indicate interior Operations.

If they really mean only Reinforcements to Sir Harry Clinton, it is wonderful they should let such a Succession of fair Winds escape them, when his Situation, & the advancing Season clamour so loudly for the utmost Dispatch. It behoves us, Sir, to be upon our Guard, for if South Carolina is not their Object, we probably are. I, therefore, venture to suggest the Propriety of keeping the principal Militia Officers (as they I suppose have most Influence with the men) for some Time at least, as much in the Vicinity of their several Commands as possible. I have the Honor to be, with the greatest Respect, Dear Sir, your Excellency's most obedient Servant

Robert Howe.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 2793.]

Losses of the British from the Beginning of the War.

Highlands 11th April 1780.

Dear Sir, I am exceeding sorry I cannot have the Pleasure of forwarding to your Excellency the Magazine* contain'g the List of kill'd, & wounded at Fort Montgomery.

*Return of cannon, stores, ammunition &c. taken and destroyed upon the expedition up the North River, Oct. 6, 1777.

Cannon. Thirty-two pounders 6; eighteen-pounders 3; twelve-pounders 7; nine-pounders 3; six-pounders 41; four-pounders 3; three-pounders 2; two-pounders 2; Total 67.

Two frigates built for 30 and 36 guns were burnt by the rebels on the forts being taken. The guns aboard them, and two galleys which were likewise burnt, amounted to above 30. One sloop with 10 guns fell into our hands. The whole loss therefore is above 100 pieces.

Powder. 51 casks; 11½ barrels; 12 236 lb. exclusive of what was aboard the vessels.

Cartridges fitted. 1852 cannon; 57,396 musquet.

Cannon shot. 9530 round; 886 double headed; 2483 grape and case; 36 cwt. 1. qr. 15 lb. Landgridge.

For musquets. 1379 wt. of ball; 116 wt. of buck shot; 5469 flints.

Every article belonging to the Laboratory in the greatest perfection. Other stores,

I pursued Capt. Moodie's Directions to obtain it & in Addition wrote very pressingly to Capt. Bannister; his Answer (as it may possibly afford some Satisfaction), I do myself the Honor to inclose for your Excellency's Perusal & am with the greatest Respect & Esteem your Excellency's most obedient Humble Servant

Cl. Sargent.

[To G. C.]

such as port-fires, match, harness, spare gun carriages, tools, instruments, &c. &c. in great plenty. A large quantity of provisions. The boom and chain which ran across the river from Fort Montgomery to St. Anthony's Nose is supposed to have cost the rebels 70,000 l. Another boom which we destroyed near Fort Constitution must likewise have cost the rebels much money and labour. Barracks for 1500 men were destroyed by Major-general Tryon at Continental Village, besides several store-houses and loaded waggons, of the articles contained in which no accounts could be taken.

Return of the killed, wounded, and missing of the troops under the command of Lieutenant-general Sir Henry Clinton, in the storm of Ports Clinton and Montgomery on the 6th of October, 1777.

Light infantry and grenadiers. 1 Captain, 3 rank and file, killed; 1 Captain, 1 Lieutenant, 1 Serjeant, 3^d rank and file, wounded; 3 rank and file, missing.

26th regiment. 1 Rank and file, killed; 1 Lieutenant, 1 rank and file, wounded.

52d. 1 Lieutenant-colonel, 2 rank and file, killed; 2 Lieutenants, 1 Ensign, 13 rank and file, wounded.

57th. 2 Serjeants, 4 rank and file, killed; 1 Captain, 1 drummer, 13 rank and file, wounded.

63d. 1 Major, 1 Lieutenant, 1 Serjeant, 6 rank and file, killed; 2 Captains, 2 Serjeants, 27 rank and file, wounded.

One company in 71st. 1 Lieutenant, 3 rank and file, killed; 1 Lieutenant, 1 Serjeant, 7 rank and file, wounded.

Hessian chasseurs. 3 rank and file, killed; 11 rank and file, wounded.

Hessian regiment of Trumbach. 2 rank and file, wounded.

Capt. Emerick's Provincial corps. 1 rank and file, killed; 5 rank and file, wounded.

Loyal Americans. 1 Ensign, 2 rank and file, wounded.

New-York volunteers. 1 Major, 7 rank and file, killed; 10 rank and file, wounded; 2 rank and file, missing.

Total 1 Lieutenant-colonel, 2 Majors, 1 Captain, 2 Lieutenants, 1 Ensign, 3 Serjeants, 30 rank and file, killed; 4 Captains, 5 Lieutenants, 2 Ensigns, 4 Serjeants, 1 drummer, 126 rank and file, wounded; 5 rank and file, missing.

Names and ranks of the officers killed and wounded in the above return.

Light infantry and grenadiers. Capt. Stuart. 26th, killed. Captain D'Eeb, Anspach grenadiers, Lieut. M'Donell, 26th, wounded.

26th regiment. Lieutenant Delahunty, wounded.

52d. Lieutenant-colonel Campbell, killed; Lieutenants Grose, Russel, Ensign Thomas, wounded.

57th. Capt. Brownlow, wounded.

63d. Major Sill, Lieutenant Wrixen, killed; Captains Nesbitt, Jones, wounded.

71st. Lieutenant M'Kenzie, killed; Lieutenant Frazer, wounded.

Loyal Americans. Ensign Ward, wounded.

New-York volunteers. Major Grant, Ensign M'Donell, killed.

N. B. Count Grabouskie, a Polish-Nobleman acting as Aid du Camp to Lieutenant-general Clinton, killed, not included in the above return.—The Remembrancer for 1777.—STATE HISTORIAN.

CAPTAIN BANNISTER TO MAJOR SARGENT.

Verplanks Point, April 9th 1780.

Dear Major, Your of the 7th Instant were handed to me last Evening earnestly requesting a Magazin &c. Sir, the least hints of your wish will always have my complyence with Pleasure if Possibl wish it ware in my Power at this Time.

Col: Smith of the Connecticut Line for Head Qrs. Past here. I have sent you what I took from him; he took it from a gentleman late from Long Island, who took it from a British Magazin as he sais); this remote account I suppose has excited your Curiosity.

By my own knowledg of the war there must be errors in the account which stands thus

(viz.) Extract from the London Magazin Feby. 1778.

In March 1776 the Parlement of Great Britten voted 42,390 Men for the service in America. These Troops landed according and have lost agreabl to the Returns:

	Kill'd	Wound'd	Taken
At Lexington & Conkard,	43	70	
Bunker Hill,	746	1150	
Ticondaroga & Qubee,	81	140	350
On the Lake Champlain by Genl. Arnold	93	64	
Sullivan's Island	191	264	
Ceders	10	70	
Norfolk, in Virginia	129	175	40
Diferant actions Long Island,	840	1660	60
Harlem & Hell Gate	236	143	49
N. York, Time of Landing	57	100	
White Plains	450	100	270
Fort Washington	900	1500	
Do Lee	20	30	
Trinton, Hessions	35	60	948
Prinstown,	74	100	210
Boston Road, by Adm'l Harding	52	50	750
Transports Taken,			390
Danbury,	260	350	40
? Iron Hill near Elk	59	80	20
Brandywine,	800	1120	
Reding Road, by Genl. Maxwell	19	60	
Straten Island, Genl. Sullivan	94	150	278
Benington,	200	wounded & Taken	1100
Fort Montgomery	580	730	
Fort Miflen & Red Bank	328	53	84
Gen. Burgoyne's Army	2100	1126	5542
	8448,	9785,	10164
Diserters	1100,		
	8148,		
	9785,		
	10164,		
	29094		

S'r; this Morning I sent a Boat down the River, while I write one Returns from against Spiten Devel Creek sent Down before were chased from there by the Enemy; Boat discoverd; no shipping, save one galley.

The Adj't. Genl. Scammell and Maj'r Gilmon for Head Qrs. Past here yestoday. All is safe we are very Busy, doing but very little.

This moment Received yours of this morning and the Gen'l's Note Respecting the Drovers and Cattle—shal obey.

Any thing in the above that is Necessary, Please to Communicate to the Genl. as I would not wish to trouble him with too much of my stuff. I am, S'r with every sentiment of respect your very Humble serv't

Seth Banister.

Maj'r Sargent.

[No. 2794.]

The Law for Raising Troops for the Defence of the Frontiers, Passed 11th March, 1780.

An Act to raise Troops for the Defence of the Frontiers. Passed March 11th 1780.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and assembly, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same: That troops shall be raised for the defence of the frontiers of this state, for the ensuing campaign, whenever the Congress of the United States shall have declared that the said Troops shall be paid and subsisted at the Expence of the said United States. That the Commanding officer of each regiment of militia shall cause just and exact lists to be made and returned of all the male inhabitants (slaves excepted) of the age of sixteen years and upwards resident within the district of the regiment. That the said Commanding Officer, together with the other Field Officers of the Regiment shall, within one week after such returns shall be made, meet together at such time, and at such place within the District of each regiment, as the Commanding Officer thereof shall appoint: That at this meeting, the Field officers or the major part of them, shall divide the regiment agreeable to such return thereof into classes, each class to consist of thirty five names; and if there should be a surplus of names, after the regiment shall be so divided into classes, the majority of the said Field officers shall add the persons of which such surplus shall consist to the several classes, and in such proportion to each class as they shall think proper: so that the several classes shall, with respect to estate and ability, be as nearly equal as may be. That the Commanding officer of the regiment shall cause to be delivered to a militia officer, or to some other reputable person, belonging in each class, a list of the class. That each class shall, after the expiration of fifteen

Raising of
Frontier Troops
suspended 'till
Congress grant
them pay &c.

Lists to be made
of all above 16
years old, to be
classified.

Each class to
consist of 35
names.

Low Surplus to
be distributed.

Classes to be
qualified as to
Estate & ability.

days from the delivery of such list, furnish and deliver to the Commanding officer of the regiment, at such time, and at such place, within the district of the regiment as he shall from time to time appoint, notice whereof shall be given to the person to whom the list shall be delivered, one able-bodied man to be provided with a good musket or Firelock, a cartouch-box or pouch, capable of containing seventeen charges of ammunition, a Knapsack or Haversack, and a good Blanket, to serve in the corps to be raised by virtue of this act, for the defence of the Frontiers, until the first day of December next, unless sooner discharged. That if any class shall omit or neglect to furnish and deliver a man, to be accoutered and provided as aforesaid, within the time or times for that purpose to be appointed as aforesaid; the Commanding officer of the regiment shall, thereupon, convene the assessors of the Ward, Town, Manor, District or Precinct wherein such class shall be at such Time and place as the said Commanding officer shall appoint: That the said Commanding officer shall lay before the said assessors a list of the names of the persons belonging to such delinquent class, that the said assessors or a majority of them, which shall be so convened, shall thereupon assess upon such class a sum equal to double the amount of the highest bounty which shall then have been given by any class in the Regiment for a recruit to be raised in pursuance of this act; and shall apportion the said sum to and among the several persons composing such delinquent class, in such manner as the assessors shall deem reasonable: due regard being had to the Circumstances and ability of each respective person. That the said Commanding officer shall, thereupon, deliver the assessment-Roll to said Serjeant in the Regiment as he shall appoint for the purpose. That the said Serjeant shall thereupon, by distress and sale, levy of the several persons named in such assessment-Roll the sums opposite to their respective names, and shall, after deducting thereout a poundage of one shilling in the pound for his services in collecting the said monies, pay the same to the said Commanding officer by whom they shall be paid into the Treasury of this State. That if any person shall refuse to pay the sum assessed upon him, and shall not be possessed of Goods and chatties whereof the same can be levied, the said commanding officer shall, by warrant under his hand to be directed to any serjeant of the regiment, cause such person to be committed to the Gaol of the County; or if there shall be no Gaol in the County, to the next nearest Gaol, there to remain without Bail or mainprize until the sum so assessed upon him shall be paid to the Commanding officer of the Regiment. That if any one or more persons belonging to a class shall, at his or their own costs and expenses, procure the man to be furnished by such class; or provide the man so to be provided, with arms accoutrements and a Blanket as aforesaid: The person or persons who shall advance monies for either of the purposes aforesaid, shall have a remedy against the several other persons in the Class, to recover from them their respective proportions of the said monies so advanced, by suit, to be commenced before a Justice of the Peace of the County: and in determining such proportion, due regard shall be had to the circumstances and abilities of the Defendant, compared with the circumstances and abilities of the other persons in the Class: and the Justice or Jury shall assess the Damages of the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs accordingly: and the Justice shall be authorized to have Cognizance of such action, notwithstanding the sum in demand may exceed the sum of one hundred pounds. That the corps to be raised, by virtue of this act, for the defence of the Frontiers, shall be subject to the rules and Regulations contained in the articles of war, made or to be made by the Congress of the United States of America for regulating the armies of the said States; and that courts-martial, for the Trial of any person belonging to the said corps, shall consist of officers belonging to the army of the United States, or to the militia of this State, or to the said Corps; as the person administering the Government of this State, for the time being, shall order and direct. That the person administering the Government of this State, for the time being, shall, from time to time, make such arrangement of the said Levies intended for the Defence of the Frontiers, and divide them into such and so many corps as he shall deem proper, and shall by and with the advice and consent of the Council of Appointment, appoint the necessary officers accordingly. That the

Each class to furnish one man with arms &c.

Who is to serve 'till 1st of Dec'r next.

Penalty on omitting &c. to furnish such man &c.

To be levied by a Serjeant, who after deducting per cent, is to pay the rem'r into the State Treasury.

For want of Goods &c. to levy on. Commitment till the fine be paid.

Any person providing a man or arms &c., to have remedy ag't the class, for monies advanced for such man &c.

How such monies are to be proportioned on such class.

Corps to be subject to contin'l articles of War.

How courts-martial are to be formed, to try offenders in this corps.

Arrangement of these Levies.

To be rendezvoused where the Gov'r shall appoint.

This law to be executed by General orders, after Congress consent to pay & subsidist the troops.

Commission & non commission officers are to be punished for offences as a court martial of militia officers shall direct.

Particular Sergeants & corporals to be sworn to make & return true lists.

Exempts from Draft. Ministers of the Gospel. Persons who have hired men in continental service. Physicians & Surgeons & Surgeons' mates of the Continental Hospital. Quakers.

Penalty of £100 on assessors refusing or neglecting their duty enjoined by this act.

When recovered, to be paid into the State Treasury.

Commanding Officers of the regiment shall cause the Levies to be raised by virtue of this act, to march to such place or places of Rendezvous, as the person administering the Government of this state shall appoint. That this Law shall be carried into execution by General Orders to be issued for the purpose, by the person administering the Government of this State for the time being, from time to time, and whenever he shall deem it expedient after the Congress of the United States shall have declared that the troops to be raised in pursuance of this act, shall be paid and subsidist at the expence of the said United States; and each and every Commission or Non-Commission officer of the militia who shall omit, or neglect to do or perform any matters or duties imposed on, or required of him, shall be subject to and incur such penalties and punishments as shall be adjudged against him by a court-martial to be instituted and appointed for the purpose; to consist of officers belonging to the militia of this State. That the Commanding Officers of the several companies of militia shall be authorized and required, to administer an oath to the several Sergeants and Corporals, whom they shall order and direct to make such lists as aforesaid: That the lists by them respectively made and returned, are just and true. That the following persons shall be exempted from the draft to be made in pursuance of this act; and their names shall be omitted out of the Lists herein before mentioned; That is to say, all ministers of the Gospel; all persons who have heretofore procured others to enlist in either of the Continental Battalions raised under the direction of this State, according to law, and who shall produce certificates thereof, so as the time, for which the respective persons, so procured, did engage to serve shall not have expired, at the time when the said lists shall be respectively made; all Physicians, Surgeons and Surgeons' mates belonging to the General Hospital of the United States; and all such persons who, in Judgment of law are, or shall be of the people called Quakers. That if the assessors shall, upon being duly notified, refuse or neglect to meet at such time and place, as the Commanding Officer of the regiment shall appoint, for the purpose of making the assessments herein before mentioned; or meeting, shall neglect or refuse to make such assessments; the assessor so offending, shall for each offence, forfeit the sum of one hundred pounds, to be recovered in a summary way, before any Justice of the Peace of the County, by the said Commanding Officer, by suit to be commenced in his own name; and the said penalty when recovered, shall be paid by the said Commanding Officer into the Treasury of this State.

PLACES OF RENDEZVOUS FOR THE TROOPS RAISED IN DEFENCE OF THE STATE.

State of New York.

Poughkeepsie April 11th 1780.

General Orders.

The hon'ble Congress having by Act of the 4th Instant, declared that the Troops to be raised in this State for the Defence of the Frontiers in pursuance of the foregoing Act of the Legislature shall be entitled to continental Pay & Rations; His Excellency the Governor orders that the said act be immediately carried into effectual execution by the respective Officers charged with the same. The Levies to be raised by virtue of this act will

rendezvous at the following Places vizt.—Those of Charlotte County at Skeensborough or next adjacent Post; Those of Tryon at Forts Herkeimer and Planck; Those of Genl. Ten Broeck's Brigade at Forts Edward, Sacondaga Blockhouse, and Schoharie; the Genl. will assign, out of these, the particular Place for each Regiment. Those of Ulster vizt. Suyder's Regiment at Shendeken, Cantine's at Leghewegh, Jansen's at Memacotting and Neuren Kill, and McCiaughry's at Pienpack. Those of Orange vizt. Hay's at Nayaek or such other Place as the Militia or other Guard in that neighborhood shall be stationed at, and the other Regiments at Minisink. Those of Westchester at Crompond and North Castle or such other Places as the militia Guards shall be stationed at, and those of Genl. Swartwout's Brigade vizt. Graham's Regiment at Shendeken and the other Regiments at Fishkill. The above Places, being conceived most convenient for the men to collect at, are only to be considered as a temporary Disposition. Officers will be appointed to attend at the several Places of Rendezvous & take charge of the men and as soon as they are arranged into Companies and Regiments such further Disposition will be made of them for the Defence of the State as the Commander in Chief of the Army of the United States shall direct. As the Safety of the State is immediately concerned not only in the speedy & effectual execution of these Orders, by which the Duty of the militia on the Frontiers will become less burthensome, but also that the men to be raised be such as are fit for the most active Service, it is expected that the officers will pay particular attention to these matters and receive none but, such active able bodied men, as will pass muster, and that they be armed accoutred and provided according to Law.

By order of his Excellency the Governor.

[No. 2795.]

Colonel Biddle on the Subject of Supplies Furnished by New York.

Morris Town April 11, 1780.

Sir, Your favour of 13 ulto. came to hand while I was absent at Philadelphia from whence I have just returnd, but it was answered by my assistant Mr. Durie & the necessary orders given to Colo. Bostwick & Colo. Lewis for making out the Estimates & returns which you have required.

Your State not only furnish'd a great quantity of Hay & Grain but a very considerable part of the Grass of two Counties was fed by the horses of the army, which were sent into the Country to be supported; for this Grass either Certificates were given or appraisements made & both directed for payment to Colo. Bostwick. A few were paid at my Office in Camp, of which I shall make out an account & transmit the same to you, as I wish that Justice may be done to your State for the great supplies it has furnish'd & I shall ever retain the most grateful remembrance of the ready assistance & great aid I have received therein in my Department from the Legislature & executive Officers thereof.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect & Esteem,
Your Excellency's Mo: Obed't & very hum'e ser't

Clement Biddle. C. G. F

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 2796.]

Henry Wisner Approves William Tredwell's Application to Visit Long Island.

Goshen, April 11th, 1780.

Dear Sir, The Bearer Mr. William Tredwell, has for a Long time past, Been very Desirous of going on to Long Island to see his antiant parents, who he is informd are in a Bad state of helth; he Being my near neighbour and my intemate acquaintance with him, gives me the fullest Reason to Beleive, that was it in his power, he would doe no injury to the intrest of the United States. I have several Reasons of my own

which induces me to wish that he might Be permitted to goe on, to wit: that my wife and her Children who Reside here have several sums of money to the amount of near one thousand pounds out on Bond upon Long Island, a Considerable part of which I am afraid, if the Enemy goe off we shall Loose. I have sent to a friend some time agoe to Collect the money, But am not able to Know wheather he has done it or not; if he has I should Be glad of an opportunity to git it.

I am also very desirous of Being informed what Reasons Coll. Allison had to Expect, to Be able to git a list of the names of the prisners taken at the Battle on Delawar last summer, as mentioned in his letter to Mr. Brunsen which your Excellency has seen when at Albany. However all the above Reasons, nor any other motive whatsoever, would induce me to wish your Excellency to permit him or any other person, if it Be inconsistent with your Duty, of which yourself is Judge.

I am your Excellencies Humble Servant,

Henry Wisner.

[To G. C.]

[No. 2797.]

Colonel Isaac Nicoll Writes to the Same Effect.

Goshen Apr. 11th 1780.

Dear Governor, The Bairer Mr. William Tredwell having Received an acct from his Parents, Informing him of the Death of his Brother, the Ill State of health of his Father, and the Desire they had of Seeing him, these Resons and the Esteame I have for him Induses me, to ask a Purmit from your Excellency for him to go and See them, if it Tis Consistent with your Judgement; as for his Carractor it stands good; he has been aiding and assisting In the general Cause of his Contry Since he was a Prisner for going on Long Iseland, I Dars engage he will do nothing unbecoming a friend to his Contry.

I am, with Respect, your Excellency most Obedent and Humbel Servent

Isaac Nicoll.

His Excellency George Clinton.

[No. 2798.]

NEW YORKERS IN VERMONT DISHEARTENED.

*Unless Congress or New York Acts Decisirely They Must of Necessity
Throw Their Fortunes with Vermont.*

Brattleborough, April 11th 1780.

May it please your Excellency, We think it our Duty to acquaint you, that the People of this County, who have hitherto continued loyal to the State of New York, are extremely disheartened, because Congress did not, in February last, determine, or at least enter upon, the Business of settling the Disturbances prevailing upon the Grants. Those who disown the authority of New York assert, and many disinterested Persons who live out of this Scene of Contention, and are likely to be

acquainted with the Matter, join with them in thinking, that Congress will not put a Period to our internal Disputes during the Continuance of the present War; since they have neglected to do it on the first of February, & have not fixed upon another time for that Purpose.

That your Excellency may put a right Construction upon our Intentions, we beg Leave to remind you of some past Transactions. As it was our Duty, so it was our Inclination, from the Aera of the Independence of Vermont, to continue Subjects of New York; to encourage us to remain in Allegiance, the Legislature of New York have in the most solemn manner pledged the Faith of the State, to protect our Persons and Properties. We mean to lay no blame to your Excellency when we assert that this has not been done. The properties & Persons of a considerable Number of the Subjects of New York, have, from time to time, been notoriously injured, without their being able, in any way, to obtain the least Satisfaction, therefor; and without any Steps taken by the State to prevent the like Injuries in future.

We have also had our hopes fixed upon Relief in another Way; that Congress would interfere, & restore, to us the invaluable Blessings of Peace and good Order. That honorable Body, after great and repeated Sollicitations, appointed a Committee to come upon the Grants & to enquire into the reasons of the Disorders. They came; but your Excellency best knows in what manner they conducted, & how it answered the End proposed.

The 24th of September Congress were again prevailed upon to turn their attention to our Situation; and passed a number of Resolutions, some of which were generously designed for our Protection, & to prevent the alienating of public Property, until

the Settlement of the Dispute. But the Legislature of Vermont has convinced us of their Inefficacy, by making large Grants of Land, at different Times, since the first of February; Their Magistrates have also, since that time, imprisoned & harrassed several of the Subjects of New York, for Offences against the Laws of Vermont; some for Selling Liquors without a License obtained from them.

Their Legislature have also appointed a Committee to endeavour to persuade the Subjects of New York to submit to their Government before the first of June; at which time, we are credibly informed, they have come to a Resolution to enforce their cruel Laws upon us.

We have also been well informed that they have passed a Law declaring all Grants void which shall not be brought to them at their next sitting.

Hitherto, Sir, we have, at the risque of our Ears, & of receiving the infamous Punishment of whipping, supported the Jurisdiction of the State in this County: But as we begin to beleive that Congress (with whom the matter now solely rests) will not do any thing effectual for our Relief, we do not think it our Duty any longer to put our all at Stake. We would wish, Sir, we are earnestly desirous, to live under the Government of New York; but cannot longer risque so much for a Government which is either unable, or unwilling, to protect us; and must candidly assure your Excellency, that unless Congress shall have settled this Controversy by the first of June next, the Subjects of New York in this County, must, for their own Safety, connect themselves with some Power able to afford them Security.

We beg leave, however, to express the warmest Sentiments of Gratitude to your Excellency for your Conduct through the

whole of our most distressed Situation. We are truly sensible, Sir, that you have done all in your Power to relieve us, and that if Congress had the same Tenderness for the Calamities of their Constituents, which you have repeatedly shewn to those under your Care, we should before this have been in a Capacity of doing something to assist the Continent in carrying on the War.

The Towns, where the Subjects of New York dare act, will hold the Elections, in hopes of Congress doing something previous to the first of June. There are some Towns in which (as times are) the Subjects of New York do not think themselves safe in meeting for that Purpose.

We have only to request that your Excellency will be kind enough to transmit this Letter to the Delegates from New York, that they may know what disagreeable Steps we shall be compelled to pursue, if a Determination is not had by the beginning of Summer. We have the honor to be With the utmost Gratitude & Respect, Your Excellency's most obed't Humble Serv'ts

By order of the Committees from nine Towns.

Samuel Minott, Chairman.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 2799.]

Pennsylvania's Generous Care for Her Troops.

In Council, Philad'a April 12th 1780.

Sir, Your favour of the eleventh of March has been duly received, and in answer thereto, I beg leave to inform your Excellency that the provisions made for the Pennsylvania Troops in addition to the pay and allowance of Congress are as follows: To the Officers, one uniform suit, consisting of a coat, waiscoat, two pair of breeches, three shirts, three pair of shoes, and three

stocks, annually, during their being in actual service. To every officer and private during such service, certain enumerated articles of stores, consisting of rum, sugar, tea, coffee and soap, in the following proportions vizt. For each ration per week one pint of rum at the rate of five shillings per gallon, one half pound of sugar at the rate of three shillings and nine pence per pound, one ounce of tea at the rate of twelve shillings per pound, one quarter of a pound of Tobacco at the rate of nine pence per pound and hard soap at one shilling and three pence per pound.

By a Law of this state the half pay given by Congress for seven years is extended to life under certain limitations and restrictions. And at the last sessions the House of Assembly voted Land in the following proportions vizt.

A Major General	2000 acres,
A Brigadier	1500,
A Colonel	1000,
A Lieutenant Colonel	750,
A Surgeon	600
A Major	600
A Chaplain	600
A Captain	500
A Lieutenant	400
An Ensign	300
A Serjeant	250
A Private	200,

These lands to be free from taxes while in the hands of the immediate grantee. The Widow or Children of every Officer or soldier falling in battle is entitled to the land the husband or father would have had if he had lived.

The provision for disabled soldiers is a pension ordered by the Orphans Court of the County payable by the County Treasurer not exceeding half pay and rations. The provision for widows and orphans is under the same direction, but the Court has a discretionary power as to the amount of the pension or annuity.

Thus I have endeavoured to give your Excellency a compendious view of our system; it doubtless admits of many amendments but hitherto it has proved satisfactory to the army. In the hasty removal from this City on the invasion of the enemy, the whole of our Laws passed to that period, were left so as to fall into the enemies hands. It is in contemplation to print a new edition; as soon as that is done or if any of the missing copies can be procured, I shall immediately forward a compleat sett. I esteem myself happy in this and every other occasion to express the respect and esteem with which I am, Your Excellency's most obedient and very humble servant,

Jos. Reed.

His Excellency George Clinton, Esquire, Governor of the State
of New York.

[No. 2800.]

*Captain John Willey Selected as the Agent to Purchase the
Necessaries for the Troops of This State.*

Camp near Morris Town, April 12th 1780.

D'r Sir, Your very agreeable favour of the 11th of March I received and communicated the Contents to such of the field Officers as were in Camp, who were unanimous in their Choice of Captain John Willey of New York as the most proper Person to undertake this long wished for Business. His being in Camp at the Time, and readily accepting the office, promising to enter

upon it as soon as his appointment was confirmed by you, & his being mentioned by Genl. McDougal among a number of others, were among the principle motives that influenced the Gentlemen's Choice in his favour.

By resignations & several vacancies have taken place in the New York Line, so that there only remains three Colonels, four Lieutenant Colonels & four Majors to the five Regiments, besides a number of Captains and Subalterns whose places wait to be filled up; repeated Applications have been made to me by those Gentlemen who stand next on the List for Promotion to have them appointed to the respective vacancies.

I have declined giving them an answer, untill I hear from you whether they are to be filled up in the usual way, or a reduction of one regiment is to take place. I am yours affectionately,

James Clinton,

Gov'r Clinton.

Pokeepsie 23d Apl. 1780.

Dear Sir, I am favoured with your Letter of the 12th Inst. I approve of the Person recommended as Agent to supply the Troops with Necessaries. Before Capt. Wily can enter on this Business it is necessary he should see the Treasurer, & the sooner he can repair hither the Better. His Appointment & the Law by which he is to govern himself will be ready to deliver [to] him. I wish he may meet with as little Difficulty in obtaining the necessary supply of Cast which from the present State of our Treasury I fear will not be the Case.

As the Reduction of one of our Regts. Depends on the Will of Congress, I cannot pretend to determine whether that Event will take Place. It has been a Subject of Conversation by some of the Members of the Legislature but I believe no Step has been

taken to effect it. The inclosed Copy of Resolution of Congress which I some Time since received will however prevent filling up the Vacciancies you mention unless through the Intervention of the Commander in Chief. I am yours Affectionately

G. C.

Genl. Jas. Clinton.

[No. 2801.]

General Washington Congratulates New York on Its Success in Raising Troops for Its Defence.

Head Quarters Morris Town, 12th April 1780.

Dear Sir, I was yesterday honored with your favor of the 7th* and am very sorry to find that your Frontier is likely again to be disturbed by the incursions of the Savages. It appears by yours that you had not received the act of Congress of the 4th instant, by which they approve of your proposal of raising 800 militia for the defence of the State. I take the liberty of inclosing you a copy† of it, lest the dispatches of the President, conveying the matter to you officially, may meet with some delay. Your Excellency will observe, by the Resolve, that these Troops are to be employed, "under the direction of the Commander in chief of the Continental army." You are so much better acquainted than I am, with the parts of the Country which call more immediately for support and defence, that I shall leave the distribution of the militia who are to be embodied intirely to you. I shall only wish to be informed of the disposition made by you, as I may hereafter have occasion to make correspondent arrangements with Continental Troops. I cannot help expressing my thanks for this exertion of the State in raising a body of men at this time, as it will probably relieve the Continental army from

*See page 593.

†See page 584.

making a detachment for the same service which would be extremely inconvenient, considering the great reduction it has lately undergone by the expirations of service, and by the reinforcement which we have sent and are now sending to the Southward. We hear that some of the States are recruiting with success, but we cannot expect to derive much advantage from their recruits till very late in the season, as they have but just entered upon the business. I have the honor to be With the greatest respect & esteem your Excellency's most obed^t servant

Go. Washington.

Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 2802.]

Colonel Lush to Governor Clinton. See Document 2804, page 614.

[No. 2803.]

General Greene to Governor Clinton in Regard to an Account of the Supplies Furnished by New York.

Morristown, 13th Apl. 1780.

Sir, I received your Excellency's favor of the 13th of March. It came to me at Philadelphia. I should have given it an earlier answer, but I was, and am still, at some loss, to know how to accommodate the business to your Excellency's expectation. I have written to Colonel Hay, to furnish you with the most perfect account he can; and you may rest assured, there is no information in my power to give, but that may always be had from the slightest intimation from your Excellency, or the legislature of the state of New-york. I am, with respect your Excellency's
Most obedient Humble Servant

Nath. Greene, Q. M. G.

Governor Clinton.

[No. 2804.]

Colonel Lush Asks a Favor of Governor Clinton.

Albany 13th April 1780.

Much respected Sir, The inclosed Letter I wrote yesterday but was prevented from transmitting it as I expected. Mr. Younglove who was to have delivered it went off before I co'd see him.

While your Excellency was at Albany I obtained a Permission for my Nephew to go to New York with the present Flag. His tender years and the repeated requests of my mother have induced me to ask another Favor of your Excellency—a Permission for a Servant Girl (who wants to go to her Parents at New York) to take the Care of him; if your Excellency thinks proper to grant it I have inclosed a blank Pass; nothing but Necessity would have influenced me to make a Request which I fear may give your Excellency some Pain in complying with. I am, with every Sentiment of Respect & Esteem, your Excellency's most obed. ser.

Stephen Lush.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

 COLONEL LUSH WRITES ON POLITICS, FRIENDSHIP AND GOSSIP.

Albany April 12th 1780.

Much respected Sir, I inclose your Excellency Mr. Cuyler's acc't & Rec't as requested.

The late Resolutions of Congress respecting the Money have been received here with various Effects the Generality of the People for them a few against them and even most of those now seem to acquiesce in the Necessity of the Measures recommended with as much Grace as possible.

The ensuing Election will I believe occasion some Heats. The Candidates for Seats in the assembly are numerous and divided

into Parties; but, notwithstanding, I am convinced your Excellency does not entertain a wish to continue at the Head of public affairs, I must inform you that in every List I have seen, your Excellency is noted for Gov'r & Mr. Cortlandt for Lieut. Gov'r. Colo. P. [Levi Pawling] of Ulster I believe however has been using his best Endeavors in several Parts of this County for what Purpose you may possibly determine. Colo. Campbell (with his usual Earnestness) requests me to inform that by a Letter he has just seen the Person last mentioned has been very busy in representing to his Constituents the Injustice of loading them with new Taxes and of raising Levies for the Frontier Service, when he conceived both Measures were unnecessary & that the same Person has been using all possible Means to lower his Colleague Mr. Boyd in the opinion of his Constituents. I question whether this Information will be in the least interesting, but I cannot resist the Importunity of Colo. C. and have, therefore, communicated it.

Be pleased to offer my best Respects to Mrs. Clinton & Mrs. Tappen, with a wish for the Continuance of Washington's Health and Compl'ts to Miss Caty & Cornelia and Colo. Benson if your Excellency pleases. I am with every Sentiment of Respect & Esteem your Excellency's most obed't serv't

Stephen Lush.

His Exc'ly Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 2805.]

Judges Hobart and Hoffman's Report of Persons Tried and Convicted at the Special Court of Oyer, &c.

Sir, We have to report to your Excellency that during the session of the Court of Oyer and Terminer and General Goal Delivery held for this County, the following Persons received sentence of Death, viz.

John Hodges, for Horse stealing, upon his own Confession.

James Farrell, for the same offence, upon his own Confession.

Thomas Palmerton, for grand Larceny upon his own Confession.

James Hedding, Jun'r for the same offence upon the same Evidence.

The foreman of the Jury informed the Court that it was the unanimous wish of the Jury to recomend this Convict to your Excellency for a pardon, His Character appeared upon trial to be exceeding fair, previous to this unhappy affair.

Gulielmus More, otherwise called William More, and James Wilson—for horse stealing, upon possitive proof; these men were with the party who carried John Smith and his sons to New York.

We have the Honour to be, your Excellency's most obed't Serv'ts

Jno. Sloss Hobart,
Anthy Hoffman, Jun.

Poughkeepsie 14th of Appl. 1780.
His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 2806.]

Micah Townsend Finds Himself in a Position Truly Disagreeable.

Brattleboro', 12th April, 1780.

Sir, Mine which accompanies this was written before the Meeting of the Committees, which was on the 11th instant. A Number of them, & by their account, of the People they represent, appear to despond more than I had imagined. Their Letter which goes with this, will inform your Excellency that they have but little hopes that Congress will do any thing more in the matter, or of their being protected while they continue Subjects of New York. They, therefore, begin to think seriously of Messrs. Olcott & Woodward's Plan. It may perhaps be of Service to forward their Letter to the Delegates: & if you think, Sir, that mine of the 10th will be any ways beneficial, you are welcome to make that Use of it.

I find myself in a Situation truly disagreeable. Many, if not the Majority, of the Legislature appear to esteem whatever they do for the Maintenance of their Jurisdiction here, a favor conferred upon their Friends. On the contrary, the New Yorkers here view themselves as having merited much (at least Protection) from the Legislature, for having without any Prospect of private advantage, so spiritedly maintained the authority of the State against such Men as they have to contend with. Add to

this the Prospect of loosing all my time & Trouble (and it has been my only business since my Residence here) without accomplishing the important End proposed; and the Risque of being left to ruin from those whom my attachment, and allow me to say Services, to the State of New York may be supposed to have exasperated: These make me feel extremely uneasy at my Situation, and anxious to be relieved from it in some Way or other.

14th April.

Since writing the above, we have a Report here, which comes tolerably direct from Mr. Livermore, the New Hampshire agent in this Business, that Congress have at length determined against Vermont, and that another Committee will be upon the Grants the first of June to determine whether the Jurisdiction belongs to New York or New Hampshire. I confess I do not see the reason of another Committee of Congress coming upon the Premises, (nor do I at all like the measure) to settle the Boundaries between Hampshire & York upon Principles of Right. If, however, there is any Truth in the Report, I expect next Post will bring me Notice of it from Colo. Benson, who promised to send me a Copy of any Resolutions of Congress upon this Subject. Your Excellency's most Obed't Very humble Serv't

Micah Townsend.

His Exc'y Governor Clinton.

[No. 2807.]

A List of Articles Jacob Cuyler Required in New York.

Albany Apl. 14th 1780.

Sir, If you can Procure me the follow'g few articles for our use & deliver to Mr. Bloodgood I will Esteem it as a Particular favour. I am, sir, your most Obedt Serv't

Jacob Cuyler

Memorandum: 12 yards of fine dark Purple Callico; 2 pair of best shoes for Mrs. Cuyler No. 4 & 5; 2 pair of Coulaired Gloves, for our Caty; 1 Gauze undressed Cap trimed with black for Mrs. Cuyler; 3 Pair silk & 3 of thread Hose, all white for myself, (large); $\frac{1}{2}$ doz. Pocket Handkerchiefs; 2 yards find book Musling; 2 oz. fine thread No. 16 & 22; 2 lb. Good Green tea; 1 Piece of Check Linnen; Something Gentle that will answer for Two Vests & Two Pair Bretchers for myself. for Summer

Henry Cuyler Esquire New York.

Ja: Cuyler

[Nos. 2808-2809.]

Henry Glen and John McKesson Use Their Influence in Behalf of Mrs. Banks.

Schoenectady, the 14 April 1780.

Houn'd Sir, The Bearer Mrs. Banks is a person that has been a Neighbour of myn for these nine years; Has Ever been a fruguel and Prudent women, But from the wars Continuation, proofs Reather Burthensome to support her Comfortably, and In that Case is under the necessity of Troubling her acquaintencies to Recommand her to your Excellency for a pass to go to New York, from where, she informs me, she intends by first Vessel to sail for England, in which Cuntry she has an uncle, her only hope & suport; Lift under these wanting necessitys I Could wish your Excellency would Indulge her to Proceed on Board the Vessell Mr. Commons & family go in, & you will oblide your most obed. Hum. Serv.

Henry Glen.

To His Excellency George Clinton Governor of the State N. York.

Sir, Mrs. Banks the Bearer of this waits on your Excellency, to obtain your Permission to go to New York, on her way to England, where she has Relations whose Affluence would render her much more comfortable, than her present Circumstances admit of in this Country.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry and other Friends here, with whom Mrs. Banks is connected, assure me that she is a woman of unexceptionable Character; and that her Detention cannot be of any use to the Country, as she has not any Relations, or connections of importance, among the Enemy in America. I have the Honor to be, with great Esteem, Sir, your most obedient humble Servant

John McKesson.

Albany 14th April 1780.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 2810.]

CHARGES AGAINST COMMISSARY ROBINSON.

Conflicting Testimony Adduced Suggestive of Private Enmity.

Claverack District April 15th 1780.

Sir, Your Excellency will recollect that you directed Mr. Benson to furnish me with copy of an Affidavit taken before Peter R. Livingston, Esqr. against John D'k'r Robison, an Agent under my directions. I have made proper inquiry into the matter

and find that Either Mr. Livingston has been negligent in taking down what the deponent declared, or the deponent has been very partial and wicked in his Testimony; in one part of the Affidavit it appears that Robison offered to give Talmage a permit to carry a load of flour, which he was to take up at two different places, over the lines; from the Tenor of the deposition it would appear that Robison offered the permit for fraudulent purposes; whereas, had Talmage declared, and the Justice committed to writing, the purpose of the permit, it would have appeared that the flour belonged to the public, and that Robison intended the permit to carry it to the magazine at Barrington; and I recollect that at or about that time I gave Robison directions to send all the flour in his care forward to that place. Mr. Robison will deliver your Excellency an Affidavit, from the same person the Substance of which is in some parts in direct contradiction, of what he formerly declared, or it will otherwise appear that certain matters were suppressed with a View to pervert the sense of what the deponent ought to have declared in order to deceive. In Justice to Mr. Robison I would observe to your Excellency that not long after the time Talmage sounded the inclination of Robison respecting the sending of wheat over the lines, he Seized and procured to be condemned a load of flour belonging to Talmage and others, and that since that time the greatest Enmity has Subsisted between them; this is a Striking proof that Robison was not under Secret Terms with Talmage.

Your Excellency will undoubtedly recollect that upon first view of Talmage's Affidavit I was apprehensive there might be some truth in the charge; I am since upon Strict enquiry and upon comparing circumstances fully convinced that the Affidavit was made to gratify private pique.

The deposition of Talmage taken by Robison is in terms not clear and concise. Mr. Robison will be able to Explain to your Excellency its true meaning, and also to compare such parts thereof with the deposition taken before Justice Livingston as will Serve to Shew the matter in its true light. I have the honor to be, Your Excellency's most Obedient and very hbl. servant

Peter Van Ness.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

DEPOSITION OF ELISHA TALLMAGE.

State of New York)
County of Albany.) ss:

Elisha Tallmage of Claverack District, County aforesaid, blacksmith, being duly sworn deposed and saith, That John Decker Roberson in the district and County aforesaid, has frequently been with this deponent and offered him if he would purchase grain or flour, he would take the one half of it, paying the first cost and charges, and give him a permit to carry it over the line as public stores and divide the profits between them (the above Roberson acting at the same time as a Deputy Agent or Commissary under Colo. Peter Van Ness). This Deponent further saith, that the above Roberson told this deponent that there was about one hundred and sixty bushels of wheat of a Mr. Snooks that lay concealed at one Rases which he desired this deponent to go and purchase, and he would go halves with him and that he should carry it over the line, and that he would be damned if he would seize it. Also that at another time he, the said Roberson, after purchasing two barrels of flour of Peter Bain, told this deponent to go and take them up; and three more he was to take up belonging to Colo. Van Ness, and he would give him a permit for the whole to be carried over the line.

Besides, various other instances of the like kind having often invited this Deponent to go with him and he would pretend to seize the grain and he should go in afterwards and purchase it as cheap as he could and he would go halves with him; and further saith not.

Elisha Tallmage.

Sworn to before me this 7 Dec'r 1773.

Peter R. Livingston Justice.

(Copy)

DEPOSITION OF THONIS HOGHTELINGH.

County of Albany ss.

Personally came before me Thonis Hoghtelingh, and being well caused and thorely Examned and duly sworn, deposed and sayth, that the very day that John D. Robeson agent, had siezed flour of John Dalmage, John Harvy took three Barrels of flour out of Elisah Dalmage's Barn and carreyd the said three Barrats of flour norththerly

from said Barn into a pice of woods of said Elisah Talmage betwen said Elisha Talmage and said John Harvey, which was on the 21 day of June last, that said John Harvey had then said that he took the said three Barrels of flour for four (?) which was taken from them by John D. Robesan; that thay had better take them three Barrels, then to have none, and John Harvey farther sayd, that the said three Barrels was there in the care of said John D. Robesan agent, that some time afterwards John Talmage carryed the said flour out of the said three Barrals in Baggs into the house of John Harvey, and put the flour into a mail chist on the chamber, and that said John Harvey had stiched the Emty Barrels and consealed the said three Emty Barrels in the woods, this Deponant farther says that Elisha Talmage had advised John Harvey so to do and farther says not.

his
 Thonis X Hoghtelingh.
 mark

this above swar to before me this 13th day of Sep'r 1779.

Rich'd Esselstyn, Justice.

TESTIMONY OF ELISHA TALLMAGE.

State of New York, County of Albany:

Elisha Tallmage of Claverack District and County afore said Black Smith, Being Deuly Sworn Deposeeth and Saith that Sum time in the Latter end of April or in May in the year one thousand Seven hundred and Seventy-nine that John D'k'r Robison met with this Deponent and this Deponent asked Said Robison whether he wold Seize any Body if he Should See them going with a few Bushels of wheat oute of the State to change it for Indeen corn, for his owne use, where he mite have two Bushels of Indeen corn for one Bushel of wheat, and Said Robison answered no unless it was Sum Raskel, Such as Doctter House or Richerd Warner, that made a Practice in Runing wheat or flower; he the Said Robison Saide that he wold Seize it from them even to a half Bushel; then this Deponent asked Said Robison whether he wold Seize him, the Deponent, if he was to See him, the Deponent, cary oute a few Busels for that Purpus; Said Robison answerd no; and the Deponent Saith that he asked Said Robison if he did not want Sum Indeen corn, and Said Robison answered yes, that he wanted Sum for his owne use; then this Deponent asked Robison whether he had Sum wheate; Robison answerd no, then this Deponent Said to Robison that if he culde get Seven or Eight Bushels of wheate, the Deponent wold Pay for the one half, and the Said Robison Should Pay for the other half; and then the Deponent Said, that he did know of a canch where he coulde get two Bushels of Indeen corn for one Bushel of wheate in Egremont; and Robison Should have one half of the Indeen corn and the Deponent the other half, and said Robison said that he wold try and Buy Sum, and Sum Short time afterwards, this Deponent Seen Said Roblson, and asked him whether he had got the wheate; Robison answerd no, then Said this Deponent to the Said Robison, you have wheate at Hendrick Statts, which you have Seized there; let me have Sum of that wheat. Robison answerd and Said that he darst not let him have any of that wheat, that if he was to let him have any of that wheate it wold bring him the Said Robison into Trouble. Said Robison then Said that if he could com acros Sum wheate which he was not obldged to Seize or had not Selzed and could buy it, he wold do it, and let Deponent have it; whereon Said Robison asked this Deponent to go with him and if he could finde any wheat which he was not oblliged to Seize, that he wold give this Deponent a Chance to buy the Same and whold not Seize it; But did not go nor never was put in Practice; that said Robison tolde this Deponent that he had ten Bushels of wheat at one John Silvernail's, a Little South from Ancram, which Said Robison had agreed for; and Desierd this Deponent to fetch the Same, but did not go, and afterwards Said Robison, told this deponent that he had bin for the Said ten Bushels of wheate, and by his weating so long the afore said wheate was gon; that afterwards, said Robison, asked this Deponent to go with him, and that said Robison wold give this Deponent the first chance to bye, and whold not Seize it, on which this Deponent lafed and said that he thought Robison ment to imprese (?) or Seize the wheate after this Deponent had bought, and afterwards Said Robison told this Deponent that he knew of a Quantity of wheate at one Rasees in Livingstone's Manner, which Belonged to one Tunis Snuck, Supposed to be the owners name of Said wheate; this Deponent asked Said Robison what Quantity of wheate their mite be,

anserd that their was one hundred and fifty or Sixty Bushels; this Deponent then Said that he wold go and bye it, but before he went, he heard that Said wheat was sold therefore, did not go and that this Deponent then Desierd said Robison to by wheat or flower, on which Robison said if he cold get any wheate or flower without Sizing it, he wold do it; and afterwards Said Robison asked this Deponent, for his wagon and horses to fetch Brand, from Cornel Kansler's mill, and this Deponent answerd and said if he could have Continantiel wages, that he wold fetch said Brand, and said Robison then said, that there was Continentel flower at said mill Belonging to Cornel Peter Van Ness, and Desierd Said Deponent to take up three Barelz of said flower at said mill and two more barelz, said Robiso had at Peter Bains, which he had bought and told this Deponent that it wold make him a Load and wold Procure him a Permit to bring the same to Grate Bearington, for Publick use; and the Deponent sent for the aforesaid three Barelz of flower, and then in order to take up the aforesaid two Barelz with flower, he went to the said Robison and asked him for the Permit, Robison said he wold write one as the Deponent was then agoing sum further in to the Neighbourhoud, it should be ready against he cam back, and the Deponent asked Robison whether he could give Permits, Robison said yes, that any of the agents could give Permits, as he had orders from Cornel Peter Van Ness, that if he had or could Procure any flower, he should send it to Grate Baringtown, to Moses Hopkins Esq., for Publick use; and when the Deponent came back to said Robison, he asked him for the Permit, Robison then said, that the two Barelz at Peter Bains was gon or stolen; then this Deponent Refused to cary oute the first three Barelz and did not; and further says that he never was to have any Permit from the said Robison for any wheate or flower only, for the above said five Barelz of flower; and further saith that sum time in the Begining of December last, this Deponent came to the House of Peter Pulver in the Manner Liveingstone and their met with Cornel Peter R. Liveingstone and Cornel Peter R. Liveingstone requesed this Deponent, to give an Efadafet of sum matters of what had past between this Deponent and said Robison, concerning the above said wheate and flower, and this Deponent told him the said Peter R. Liveing, that he wold give it in full, and said Liveingstone said to the Deponent that he only wanted the princeble points, and said Liveing wrote the Deposition in that sort and said he only wanted the heads of our Dicouse or Perjections in the said affair of wheate and flower and further saith not.

Elisha Tallmage.

Sworn Before me this 26 day of March 1780.

Johannis Van Deusen Justice.

[No. 2811.]

*Petition in Behalf of Gulielmus Moore. April 15, 1780.**

[No. 2812.]

*James Farrell's Petition for Pardon. April 15, 1780.**

[No. 2813.]

*James Wilson's Petition for Pardon. April 15, 1780.**

[No. 2814.]

Letter from the Treasury Board.

(Circular.)

Treasury Office April 15th, 1780.

Sir, We inclose you a State of the Tax account of New York to which we beg your attention; we shall be carefull to confine our Reports for warrants to the exact amount, and as large sums are due from the United States to the Inhabitants of the State, shall as far as possible appropriate the Continental Taxes thereof, within the same, which we suppose will be both more convenient and more agreeable. Cases may occur in which this Rule cannot be adhered to, but they will not be more frequent than is absolutely necessary.

The Drafts lately made and those now making, are intended to discharge as far as practicable, Debts now owing from the Public as well as to keep the supplies from failing in the Interim till the State Purchases take effect. The Resolution of Congress of the 18 of March ult. will shew reason of including the Taxes of January and February 1780. I have the Honor to be

By order of the Board

Your Excellency's Most obedient and very humble Servant

John Gibson, Presid't.

His Excellency George Clinton, Esqr., Governor of the State of
New York.

[No. 2815.]

FINANCIAL METHODS.

*Editor John Holt Criticises Congress Sharply in a Letter to
Governor Clinton.*

Saturday morning, 15th April 1780.

Sir, I shall be obliged to you, if you will send me a Copy of the Quotas and Rat's Recommended by Congress to the several

States. Col. Hathorn shewed me a Copy, which was the first notice I had of them, and it appears to me that matters of such Consequence ought to be universally known. Indeed I think there has been a very great Defect in communicating Intelligence of the Proceedings of Congress to the Public, tho' highly concerned in it. They seemed to conclude, that if published in their Journals, or a Philadelphia newspaper, their proceedings would naturally be known all over the United States. But perhaps they did not know, or attend to the State of the post offices, which are in as bad a Situation, or perhaps worse, than they would be, if they were under no legal Regulation at all, and it frequently happens, that a southern paper, (tho' I suppose they are all regularly sent to the post office,) does not get to my House once a month. From this, and other concurring Causes, the Resolutions of Congress have frequently failed of their intended Effect, and I think we have Reason to be apprehensive, that their Weight and Influence will continually decrease, till it entirely ceases.

Their Resolutions, relating to the Quotas of the States in the payment of the monthly Taxes of 15 millions, as published in my last paper, appears to me likely to answer the End proposed (tho' there are some parts of the Scheme, that I do not see the Reason of, particularly, the allowance of the payment of a hard Dollar in Discharge of 40 Dollars of Taxes). It is true the proposed new Dollar, is to do the same, besides the advantage of Interest. But I question whether the Interest will be thought equivalent to the permanence of the Security, and the greater Variety of purposes to which the hard Dollar may be applied. But the great objection against this measure is, that the Tories, & they only, will receive the Benefit of it. They will consider it as degrading our paper Currency, to a fortieth part of its nominal Value

(tho' this is not the Case). But had the Tax been absolutely required in paper money, the Tories who have little or none of it, would have been obliged to procure it, perhaps at an advanced price, and the Quantity in Circulation would have been lessened forty Times as much as the amount of the payments made in hard money.

It has long been clearly my opinion, that the Circulation of Gold & Silver money in all the States, ought to have been entirely suppressed, under a severe penalty, at least the Forfeiture of all that should be offered. Every objection to this Scheme, that I have been able to think of, might easily be answered. Those who have any of it that they want to use, particularly Foreigners, might, from officers to be provided for that purpose, have been furnished in Lieu of their Gold & Silver, with the Value of it in paper money, with a Security to return it again at the same Rate on Exportation; mean while it might remain in the Office, not to be applied to any other uses. It also appears to me that the Congress might have made the Scheme less intricate; as it is, I find the people do not generally understand it, or at least have made it a pretence for advancing the prices of every Thing they have to sell, & sinking the Value of the paper money to a fortieth part of the Value of Hard money. The Effect it has upon my Business, is such, that I frequently hesitate whether it is best for me to continue it or not. The increasing Wages demanded by my people, without end or Limitation, the enormous & continued advance upon every article either for living or Business, & the great Difficulty in procuring paper & the Distance of bringing it, are extremely perplexing. If I pay Wages & procure necessaries at the present rates, my money will presently be exhausted, & I shall not have sufficient to purchase 20 Reams of paper, for

which I must send at least as far as New Haven, and hire a Carriage to bring it up. My present Stock of Paper is nearly exhausted, & I am much at a loss what to do.

If the Scheme of the Congress has its natural Effect, it will I think increase the Value of the paper money at least one Twelfth part every month. But on the Contrary, we find it depreciates faster than ever. I impute this to several Causes. One is the practices of those specious Villains lurking among us, who studiously watch every opportunity to defeat every salutary measure the Friends of America can propose for its benefit; another, the late act for seizing the Surplus Wheat in every one's Hand, which is to be paid for at the highest current price. The owners of this Wheat, therefore, are exerting themselves to raise Wheat to an extravagant price, that they may obtain that price for their Wheat that has been seized. Another is a misapprehension, or pretended misapprehension, of the Resolutions of Congress, which is generally interpreted as authorizing the Depreciation of paper Dollars to a fortieth part of the Value of Silver ones.

As to this last article, I propose to put the matter in a clearer Light than it stands in the Resolutions of Congress, so that it may be more generally understood by the Common people; and for this purpose I want the Regulations before mentioned. I did not read them over, but I am told wheat is therein rated at 60 Dollars Pr. Bushel, and the Rule on which this price is calculated is, that wheat being risen to double its usual price, that is 12/ P Bushel, in hard money Forty Times that Sum is to be paid in paper money.

I confess I cannot see the Reason of this advance upon Silver money, which in effect is rating it at double the Value of the proposed new Emission; for 60 Dollars paper money, carried to

the loan office will produce 3 Dollars for the purchase of the Bushel which is supposed to cost $1\frac{1}{2}$ Dollar in Silver. But If I understand right,—The Discharge of 40 Dollars paper, by the payment of on[c] of Silver, or of the new Emission, is only in the payment of Taxes. and nothing else; for in every other Respect 20 of the present circulating Paper Dollars are equal to one Silver one, or to one of the new Emission, which is to bear 5 P Ct. Interest. The Wheat too, that is Rated at 60 Dollars, is not wheat in general, but only such as is paid in Taxes for the Quotas of the Several States.

I have long been too much indisposed to ride, else I should frequently have waited on you. and requested your opinion and advice on sundry matters of a public nature.

I have heard of the arrival of an Express, with advice of further mischief done by the Enemy in Tryon County. If you think that or any other matter, not in the newspapers, proper for my paper of Monday next the Communication will oblige, Sir, your most obed't Serv't

John Holt.

[To G. C.]

I have seen some of the purchasers for the army, who complain they have not money to comply with their Engagements, and that tho' they have orders on several State Treasuries, those Treasuries are empty. Query. Whether this Defect does not arise from neglect in the Collectors? And whether that neglect is not the Cause of the Continuance of Depreciation? Since if the Taxes had been duly collected, it must have occasioned a sensible shrinkage of the money, and have restrained the Extravagances of Demands & purchasers.

[No. 2816.]

Tryon County, in the Vicinity of Little Falls, in a State of Terror.

Albany, 15th April 1780.

Sir, You have, inclosed, an abstract of a Letter from Major Fonda and Yates; the Substance of this Letter with the former account from Scheensbury and now at Harpersfield (the Last I Presume you have in Van Schajek's Letter) Indicate no Peace (Abram & Johannis Kryn not yet Returned) but on the Contrary Treatten a desultory campaign. It will, therefore, be necessary, and that soon that som step be taken to give Confidence in the People or they will fly from Place to place and Ruin one an other. Mr. Duer who is now in the city tells me that the Inhabitents of Scheensbury, all except two, have Petitioned the Vermonters to Protect them, that this state would or did not; be this as it may, the People on the Fronteers must be suported or they will move.

I am afraid Congress will not Provide for our 800, if so, what can be done with Genl. Washington; we had a Report here that a Brigade was to be dispersed on the Fronteers. Mr. Tayler, I am Informed, has a letter wherein you Refer him to a Letter you wrote me with a New York News Paper Enclosed, which I have not Received. I suppose it is to come by water.

The Resolve of Congress wether it is the best step that could have been taken with the mony I know not but this I am clear in, that some step was absolutely necessary, and this gave a great deal of noise in the begining but it decreases. Indeed some that were very noysy are now Converted and Quiet and so is your very Humble Ser't

Ab'm Yates, Junr.

Gov. Clinton.

Extract of a Letter Dated Palatine, April 7th, 1780.

“On Tuesday last a party of Tories and Indians fell in at Reimensnyder’s Bush, burnt one Grist Mill and Captivated nineteen men; it is needless to mention their names, as I am convinced you know none of the people—this heavy Stroke makes our Loss in the whole to be already 25 men—since mine of 17th of last month above fifty Families have moved into the interior parts of the County—this last stroke breaks up the fine Settlements in Reimensnyder’s Bush, in Consequence of which 56 more Families move in, and many more are upon the move from other parts—consider, dear Sir, what Distress this must inevitably bring on the County, and what the Consequence will be, if Troops are not sent to our relief; by intercepted Letters to Tories in this County we Learn, that the Enemy intend to come against us in force for the Total Destruction of this devoted County.”

Extract of a Letter Dated Cagneuage 12th April 1780. “It seems as if our County is not minded or notice taken of I think to move out of it soon.”

[No. 2817.]

Want of Food and Funds Intensifies the Situation in the Upper Part of Tryon County.

Albany April 15th 1780.

Sir, Since I did myself the Honor to write to your Excellency on the subject of the Indians taken & killed near Sacondago, in Tryon County, I have received accounts that nineteen of the Inhabitants, in the upper part of Tryon County, have been made prisoners & carried off by the Savages; & that on the 7th, Eleven were taken & three killed, at a small settlement on Harpers-field, between Schoharry & the Susquahanna; from those & the former

Depredations, it has become highly necessary that our Frontiers should be well Guarded. General Ten Broeck has for that purpose order'd out Detachments of militia, but their march must at present be delayed for the want of provision; such is the low state of our magazines that but very small supplies can be drawn from them at present, & I cannot help to express myself feelingly on this occasion.

The Purchasing Commissarys in this quarter, have not during the course of last Winter been enabled to purchase provision for the want of money, nor are they yet for the want of money, enabled to lay in supplies from which it appears that the small Quantity of provisions at present in store, & which only serves the present Exigence will soon be exhausted. I have made a representation of this to the Commander in chief, & hope from an Ernest desire I have for the protection of the Frontier settlements, that a speedy remedy may be devised, so as to enable us to protect either by militia or otherwise our Frontiers from the Incursions of the Enemy. I am with every sentiment of respect & esteem, your Excellencies most obedient servant

G. V. Schaick.

Governour Clinton.

[No. 2818.]

ALARM AND TERROR IN TRYON COUNTY.

Testimony Showing Not Only the Exposed Condition of the Frontier, but the Sufferings of the Inhabitants for the Common Necessaries of Life.

Albany 15th April 1780.

Sir, On Receipt of your Excellency's Favour of the 27th Ultimo, I waited on Colonel Van Schaick to consult what was

best to be done for the General Security of the different Settlements on the Northern and Western Frontiers, the Situation of which are truly distressing as your Excellency will find by the inclosed Letters and Papers received from Collo. Klock and Collo. Vroman.

The Indian Letter from Joseph Brandt* I have not been able to get translated, Colonel Van Schaick has wrote to and requested Mr. Kirekland who lives at Stockbridge to translate it; as soon as it is done I will send it to your Excellency.

I have ordered one eighth part of Colonel Yates' Regiment to Skeensborough to relieve the Guard at that place from Collo. Webster's Regiment, and have directed Colonel Vroman to place small Guards out of his Regiment in the Forts at Schohary and Cobus Kill, and to keep out Scouts constantly. Collo. Klock has placed small Guards at the several Forts in Tryon County.

I see the necessity of ordering part of my Brigade to the Frontiers and had in my own Mind determined on sending one eighth part immediately, about 200 Men to Schohary, 200 to Tryon County, and about 200 to the Northward. Colonel Van Schaick is in Sentiment with me; it would ease the Minds of the Frontier Inhabitants, afford them some Security and prevent their breaking up their Settlements, but I am unhappy to inform your Excellency that there is a real Scarcity of Provisions in this Quarter. I beg leave to refer you to the inclosed Copy of a Letter from Mr. Commissary Cuyler to me on that Subject. I am informed there is no other Provisions in Tryon County but such as is destined and laid in for the Garrison of Fort Schuyler; should this be taken for the Militia as this is all they have to depend on that Garrison must be exceedingly distressed.

*See page 646.

These Matters considered, the Colonel advises me not to call out the Militia at present; I have, therefore, deferred issuing my orders untill I shall receive your Excellency's farther Directions. With great Esteem I remain your Excellency's most Obedient humble Serv't

Ab'm Ten Broeck.

His Excellency George Clinton

COLONEL KLOCK TO COLONEL VAN SCHAICK.

April the 5th 1780.

Sir, Last Monday the 3d Instant about Forty of the Enemy broke out at Remsnyder's Bush and took Nineteen of our People Prisoners and burnt a Mill. The same Day seven more of them made their Appearance at Saſkandaga Block House, which was pursued by seven of our Men and overtaken the Fourth Day and our People has killed Five out of the Seven; the other Two was hunting, they were not by the rest; Us and Remsnyder's Bush People moves all away (except a few that lives in a Fort there where I have kept a small Guard). Therefore, if we dont get People soon to assist us here we cannot pretend to stand it. Hopes you'l do what lays in your Power to get Troops to ly on this River. We have pursued this Party that took the above Prisoners about Five and Twenty Miles; could not further for want of Snow Shoes. Sir I am your humble Serv't

Jacob Klock Colonel.

Collo. Goose Van Schaick.

(Copy)

COLONEL VROMAN TO GENERAL TEN BROECK.

Schobary April 12th 1780.

D^r General. Inclosed you have the Examination of Walter Elliot, a Letter from Capt. Harper to his Wife* and one from Joseph Brandt in Indian. Would be glad to have the Contents of Brandt's Letter by the returning Express if you can get it translated into English; also please to direct me what I must do with the Weomen and Children of the Persons taken and killed; five of the Familys are in this Place, who are all helpless and no way to be supported unless it be out of the Public Store. David Brown's Wife has sent word to me to fetch her out as soon as possible for she had nothing to live upon save a half a Schipple of Indian Meal, which was brought her by a Neighbour and has five Children to support. I have ordered a part of my Regiment into the Forts at this place, and expect your Orders by the Bearer as I dont know how to Act as the old Militia Law is out of Force. I am D^r General your humble Serv^t

Peter Vroman.

General Ten Broeck.

(Copy.)

EXAMINATION OF WALTER ELLIOT.

That on Friday the 7th of April a party of Indians commanded by Joseph Brandt, 19 white Men and Indians, came to Harpers Field about 12 Miles distant from Brackabien, and killed three, and took Captain Harper and Eleven More Prisoners, and said Walter Elliot was taken and kept almost four Days and three Nights. Those people taken being gone there to make Sugar. The party that took them was designed

*The letter from Captain Harper to his wife will be found on page 579.—STATE HISTORIAN.

for Schohary but happening to fall upon that place, those poor People became a Victim for them. Schohary 12th April 1780.

(Copy.)

Walter Elliot.

N. B. The Persons who are taken and killed were as follows: Capt. Alexander Harper, Lieut. John Henry, William Lamb and Son, David Brown and his three Sons, Izra Sarp, Freegift Patchin, Isaac Patchin & William Trumbull a Soldier belonging to Collo. Van Schaick's Regt. Those killed were Major Thomas Henry and Lieut. James Henry of Collo. Harper's Regt. and William Stephens. The Party informed the Examinent that the Flag that was seent to Niagara woud be, detained Prisoners there till their Return; five white Men were with the Party Vizt. Hendrick Nellis, Archibald Thompson, Benjamin Begratt, William Smith and Henry Huffson.

*[Mr. Holt can publish such extracts of the aforego'g as he may think proper (except the latter Paragraph as far as it respects the Detention of the Flag which for certain Reasons had better not be published). Since receiv'g the above, other accounts (which however have not been authenticated) say that Capt. Harper & the above Party had effected their Escape & were returned home; they killed a part of the Guard who had them in Charge & put the rest to flight. Mr. Holt will return this when he has done w'th it.]

COLONEL CUYLER'S GLOOMY COMMUNICATION.

Albany 14th April 1780.

Sir, Your Letter of this Day's Date is now before me. I cannot help speaking feelingly on the Distresses in which the Com-

*The matter in brackets is in Governor Clinton's handwriting and would indicate that the governor had complied with the request of Editor Holt, see page 626.—STATE HISTORIAN.

missaries Department is involved by past Neglects in not giving them Cash in Time to lay in Magazines of Provisions; so small is the Quantity that I have had pressing Letters from West Point to send them a Relief from here, and I am certain we have not more in this Department of the Meat kind than will feed such as now draw longer than the first of June; how long we can give Flour I cannot ascertain; ever since the Resignation of Collo. Wadsworth the late C: G: P: I have not considered myself as responsible for the Wants of the Army, whilst Congress have withheld from me that Supply of Cash necessary for the Purpose, and without which nothing can be had. All that I have done must be attributed to an earnest Desire I have to serve my Country; I have however given the strictest Attention in procuring all we can and will in this Instance endeavour to make Provisions for those Men now ordered on the Northern and Western Frontiers but I am fearfull of failing in the Attempt. I am, Sir, your most Obedient Serv't

Jacob Cuyler, D. C. G. Purchases.

Genl. Ten Broeck.

(Copy)

[No. 2819.]

Governor Clinton Ready to Issue a Warrant on the Treasury to Any One Who Will Undertake to Supply the Troops with Provisions.

Pokepsie 17th Apl. 1780.

Sir, I am this Moment honored with your Letter of the 15th Instant with its enclosures. The Disagreeable Accounts which I continue daily to receive from almost every Part of the Frontiers of actual Depredations committed by the Enemy, or of the

Danger to which the Inhabitants are exposed, are truly distressing, & our Embarrassments under these Circumstances are greatly increased by the State of the public Magazines, which if they contain but a bare Competency for the Garrison of Fort Schuyler as you mention, forbids our drawing from them supplies for the Militia which may [be] called out for their Protection. It is, however, absolutely & indispensibly necessary that some Measure be immediately taken for the Security of the Frontier Settlements to prevent their being abandoned & destroyed, and there is no other in our Power until the Troops intended for that Service can be raised, for which Purpose I transmitted you my orders on Thursday last, but that of ordering out such Detachments of the Militia as may be competent for the Purpose to take their own Provisions with them to be relieved at short Periods. This is what I have ordered in West Chester, Orange & Ulster Counties, & Burthensome as it really is, the Necessity of the Case has engaged a chearful Compliance in those Counties, with the Measure & proper Detachments are now out. You are sensible, Sir, that on this Emergency there is no alternative * * * to obtain competent Supplies of Provisions in our public Stores for this Service, yet to wait for such Event of which there is but little prospect might be attended with the most fatal Consequences. I am, Sir, &c. [G. C.]

P. S. If any Person can be found to undertake the furnish'g the militia w'th Provisions I will readily issue a warr't on the Treasury for a Sum of money for the Purpose, tho' from its exhausted State, I have but little Hopes that my warr't will be complied with. If the militia provide their own Provisions they must be p'd the full value of it.

[To Gen. Ten Broeck.]

[No. 2820.]

Exposed Settlements to be Furnished with Formidable Guards.

Poukeepsie 17th April 1780.

Sir, I am this Moment favoured with your Letter of the 15th Instant. The disagreeable Accounts I continue daily to receive from the Frontiers confirm me in the Opinion I had formed of the Necessity of having formidable Guards at the different exposed Settlements. I am, therefore, extremely unhappy to learn that the Detachments which I had directed to be called out for this Service have been delayed by the exhausted State of our public Magazines. I sincerely wish to facilitate the obtaining of adequate Supplies of Provisison & if any Measure can be pointed out in which I can possibly promote this necessary Business it shall be immediately complied with. If from this unhappy Circumstance the Frontier Settlements should be totally neglected the most mellancholy Consequences are to be apprehended. I have, therefore, advised Genl. Ten Broeck to order out Competent Detachments of Militia for their Defence to take their own Provisison with them & to be relieved at short Periods untill the Troops to be raised for that Service can be embodied. This Measure was proposed to Ulster & Orange & W. Chester Counties & distressing as it is it was chearfully complied with. I took the liberty of inclosing my Orders for raising the Levies for the Frontier Service to you on Thursday last and forwarded them by Mr. Coppernall of Tyron County which I trust have come safe to Hand. I am &c.

[G. C.]

[To Col. Van Schaick.]

[No. 2821.]

Governor Clinton Brings the Harpersfield Affair to Colonel Cantine's Attention.

Pokeepsie, 17th April 1780. 7 O'Clock P. M.

Sir, I am this Moment informed by Express from Genl. Ten Broeck that on the 7th Instant, a Party of 19 of the Enemy composed of Indians & Tories, commanded by Brandt appeared at Harpers Field, made Capt. Harper & 13 other Persons Prisoners & killed Major & Lent. Henry & one other Person. A Letter wrote by Capt. Harper to his wife is dated at Delaware 8th Apl. I give you the earliest Information of this unhappy Affair that you may take every necessary Precaution & be prepared to oppose any Attempt that may be made ag't your Quarter. You will please to forward a Copy of this to the Guards at Minissinck & the intermediate Posts. I am your most Obed't Serv't

G. C.

To Colo. Cantine or Officer Commanding the Detachm't of Militia on the Frontiers of Ulster County.

[No. 2822.]

Governor Clinton Promises General Security to the Frontiers as Soon as Necessary Orders Can be Executed.

Poughkeepsie April 17th 1780.

Sir, After the Departure of Mr. Lighthall from this Place to Genl. Washington, I rec'd the Resolution of Congress whereby they engage to pay & subsist the Troops directed to be raised by the Legislature for the Defence of the Frontiers. As my Orders for the rais'g of those Troops are issued & were forwarded to you by Mr. Coppernall, I have only to add that you may rest assured

that as soon as the orders are carried into Execution, such Disposition will be made of the Troops as shall appear best calculated to give general Security to the Frontiers & for the protection of your County in particular. I am &c.

[G. C.]

Colo. Klock.

[No. 2823.]

Jonathan Dean's Parole.

Having his Excellency Governor Clinton's Permission to remove with my Family to Froggs Neck & to continue there with my Father in law, I do pledge my Faith and Word of Honor, that I will not during my Continuance there, or at any Time until my Return say, or do any Thing whatsoever, Injurious to the Interest of the United States of America or of this State. Given under my Hand this 17th Day of April 1780.

Jonathan Dean.

Attest. Zepha Platt.

[No. 2824.]

Colonel Drake Submits a Veratious Proposition to Governor Clinton.

Peecks Kill, April 17th 1780.

D'r Sir, I heir inclose the orders we give to the Commanding Officer of the trupes ordered out on the lines, agreeable to your Genll. orders of the 27th of March: the feaild officers ordered out one Class, which if the holl marched would amount to 95 men and Two Capts. and Two Subs, with six days provision for 15 days, to bee releved when thair provision is gown. I dont know wheair they will git aney more, which I feair they will plunder the Inhabitance or desart home. I Cawled yesterday on Genll. How to know wheair they Could draw or now, the Geniral Informes me that he did not know aney thing about the millita being Ordered out. He Could not bee answerable for ordering of them Provision. I Should bee glad if I Should bee Directed not to Order out the reluffs, as we air ordered to raise the Guards for the State, as it will distress the farmour at this season to bee

ordered out for 15 Days Each, on Rotation of duty, untill they are relieved by the guards now to be raised, and they paying their proposition agreeable to their circumstances for raising the same.

And you will Oblidge your Humble Serv't

Samuel Drake.

Excellency Gorge Clinton.

THE GOVERNOR'S REPLY.

P. 20th Apl. 1780.

Dear Sir, I have rec'd yours of the 17th Inst. by Capt. Delavan with whom I have conversed on the Subject to which it relates. The Want of Provisision is an insurmountable Obstacle & will I fear, prevent your exactly pursuing the System I at first conceived most adviseable for the general Defence of your Frontiers, & will justify in this Case your adopting any other practicable one cond[uc]ive to the Safety of the Country & shall be agreed upon by you & the other Commanding Officers of Regts. in your County until the Men intended for this Service can be embodied, which I wish may be accomplished with the utmost Dispatch. Yours

[G. C.]

[To Col. Samuel Drake.]

[No. 2825.]

Captain Elijah Hunter's Serious Charge Against Colonel Holmes.

Bedford, April 17th 1780.

S'r, Some Days ago, as I was Riding from my house to Horse Neck, in Company with Capt. Jonathan Platt in Discourse about Col. James Holmes, he told me that he thot till lately, that he come out as Friend to his Country, but he beleavd him to be a Friend to Goverment now, and after Considerable Discourse I led him to give me his Reasons, which were as Follows: he says that

Col. Holmes has sent of his Papers and Cloathing, and that a Man from Duches County had been down and brot the News of it and that Col. Holmes had sent to him to Prepare a Boat at Horse Neck or Stanford to set him across, if he should come down, but it has not as yet been Complyed with.

The above are the Facts as I Reseavd them; you who are on the spot who are acquainted with his Conduct are Capable of judging of the Truth of it.

As I had no Personal Knowledge of this myself, I give you my auther, but I hope great Caution may be taken if you should make any alteration of his Situation, as it might perhaps be suspected that I must of given some Information; since I saw you last I have seen him by his Peticular Desire and at that time he Conseavd me to be a Friend to goverment. But from every part of his Conversation he appeard to me that he come in with a Design to stay in the Country and a Retired Life in some Remote Part of the Country seemd to be his Desire. But he appeard to me that he was Rather Delorius or Bewilderd, as he did not appear to be any thing like the man he once was, when I was there, so that I had no Reason to think but what he ment honest; when I was there and told him I would Indevour to assist him, but God knows his heart and as a Friend to my Country I let you know his Conduct as far as it comes to my Knowledge. I leave your Excellensy to judge of the Propriety of the Matter and shall ever Remain your sinsear and hearty Friend

Elijah Hunter.

N. B. I make no Doubt but you might of heard many Different stories about me to my Prejudice, but I hope and Beleave that let you hear what you will, you will not Beleave them till you hear from me, as there are some False stories now Sirculat-

ing without the least Couler or grounds for, and made by People who are my enemies, because I despise the Prinsipal of Plundering or taking Contrarey to law, which is Continually done here, even by some of our majestrates which I look upon Despisable in the eyes of God and man. I Beleave, I can ever answer to God and my Country for the Rectitude of my Conduct in this Presant Dispute between Great Brittin and this Country, and am sorry you do not Conseave my Servises of that Consequence which some gentlemen due.

His Excellensy Governor Clinton.

[No. 2826.]

*Certificate in Favor of Thomas Palmerton.**

[No. 2827.]

*Certificate in Favor of James Heady, Jr.**

[No. 2828.]

*Examinations, &c., in Favor of William Moore, a Criminal, Under Sentence of Death.**

[No. 2829.]

*Affidavit in Behalf of William Moore.**

[No. 2830.]

*Appeal in Behalf of William Galichmus Moore by His Grandmother, Mary Griffen.**

*Omitted.

[No. 2831.]

Emergency Orders for the Orange County Militia.

Poukeepsie 18th April 1780.

Dear Sir, Previous to the Receipt of your Excellency's Letter of the 5th Instant, I had the Honor of conferring with Genl. Howe on the Measures necessary to be taken for drawing forth the Militia to his Assistance, in Case of a sudden attempt ag't the Posts in the Highlands & orders were issued to them agreeable to the Plan agreed upon. The Militia of Orange County were on the Signals of an alarm being given, to have repaired to West Point; But I have now, agreeable to your Excellency's Request, directed them in Case of any capital Movem't of the Enemy into New Jersey, to rendezvous at Clarkes Town & Kakiate & govern themselves agreeable to the Direction contained in your Excellency's Letter. I have the Honor to be, with the most perfect Respect & Esteem, your Excellency's most Obed. ser't

[G. C.]

[To Gen. Washington.]

[No. 2832.]

*General Schuyler Predicts the Enemy Will Make an Extensive Penetration in South Carolina.*Philadelphia April 18th 1780.

(Private.)

Dear Sir, The news papers announce all the foreign intelligence received by Congress and something more, except that of the Enemy's Intended plan of operation for the opening campaign which we believe we are possessed of. I enter not into a minute detail, least this letter should miscarry; let it suffice to observe to your Excellency, that I think it will, on their parts,

evaporate as the last did especially to the Northward, if Supplies can be furnished for the army* To the Southward, I fear they will make an extensive penetration into South Carolina, for I have no great hopes that the troops in Charlestown will be able to make effectually opposition. I wish they may not be caged; all was well there on the 24th ult. but a private letter of a later date advises that the Roebuck had passed the bar and would have her Cannon on board in ten hours. If this is fact, we shall soon have some serious Intelligence from thence.

*By His Excellency James Robertson Esquire Captain General and Governor in Chief in and over the Province of New York and the Territories depending thereon in America, Chancellor and Vice Admiral of the same, and Major General of his Majesty's Forces.

A PROCLAMATION.

The King having been graciously pleased to honor me with the care of a Province, where, in a long Residence, I have contracted an Esteem for some, and an Affection for many of its Inhabitants, I proceed with great Pleasure to announce his benevolent Intentions.

It is his Majesty's wish, by the Revival of the civil Authority, to prove to all the Colonies and Provinces, that it is not his Design to govern America by Military Law, but that they are to enjoy all the Benefits of a local Legislation and their former Constitution.

To this End I have brought out the Royal Appointments for forming the Council, and supplying the Places of Lieutenant Governor and Chief Justice. And in concurrence with the Commander in Chief of the British Forces, who is also his Majesty's commissioner for restoring Peace to the Colonies, I shall, as speedily as the publick Exigencies will permit, give order for opening the Courts of Judicature, and convening the Assembly; and in general proceed to the Execution of the Powers reposed in me, for the free Course and complete Re-Establishment, both of the Legislative and Executive Authority.

I take great Satisfaction in the Anticipation of that happy Day, when Relations, Friends and Fellow-Citizens, having dismissed their gloomy Apprehensions, shall embrace each other, and return to the Offices, Pleasures and Employments of Peace. Your Country with your antient Privileges, will then participate in an extensive commerce, and be exempted from all Taxations not imposed by yourselves.

Until I meet you regularly in General Assembly, for the Restoration of mutual Confidence, and the Remediying of private as well as public Evils, I pledge myself to Men of all classes in every Part of the Province, that it is the compassionate Desire of your Sovereign and of the Parent Country, to unite in Affection as in Interest, with the Colonies planted by her Hand, and which have long flourished under her care—that the Suggestions of her Intention to impair their Rights and Privileges, are the Arts of Malice and Faction,—and that every Insinuation made by the domestic Enemies of Great Britain, of her being disposed to abandon the Provinces to internal Anarchy; and the Mischiefs of their jarring Interests and Claims, or to the fraudulent and ambitious views of foreign, popish and arbitrary Powers (of whom your Fathers had a wise and virtuous Jealousy) is equally false and malicious.

Happy herself, under a Constitution which is the Envy and Admiration of surrounding Nations, she wishes to include in one comprehensive System of Felicity, all the Branches of a Stock, intimately connected by the Ties of Language, Manners, Laws, Customs, Habits, Interests, Religion and Blood.

I lament with the ingenuous Thousands of America, who are irreconcilable to the unnatural Separation, so inauspicious to yourselves, as well as all the Rest of your

The Enemy have published one of my Letters which they took from Mr. Crane at Paramus; one to your Excellency, another to Mrs. Schuyler & a third to Colo. Lewis have not yet appeared in print; their view in publishing mine appears to be to announce to their friends that we were under some difficulty with respect to our Finances, for it otherwise afforded them little consolation.

Maryland & Delawar continue unrepresented, so that the Vermont business still hangs by the Eyelids.

Mr. Livingston is gone into Jersey. I am one of a committee

Fellow Subjects in the other Quarters of the world, that the Few who have found Means to acquire a Sway in the Managment of your affairs, have been averse to every uniting System of Policy, and studiously shunned the Paths to Harmony and Peace.

But it is not my Aim to call them to a hopeless and mortifying Review of their conduct. Can they want Evidence at this Day, of the Detestation of their Measures, by an increasing Majority of their own Countrymen? And having every Thing to fear from their exhausted Patience, I warn them to desist from, any future Attempts to restrain and seduce the Loyalty of others, and wisely to provide against their Resentment, by signalizing themselves, as heretofore in exciting, so now in closing the Scene of their intollerable Calamities. And I hereby give the strongest Assurances of effectual Countenance, Protection and Support to all Persons who avail themselves of the Proclamation issued by his Excellency Sir Henry Clinton, dated at James Island the third Day of March.

Less inclined to reproach than to conciliate, to aggravate than to forget, even the Guilt of those, who, privy to the repeated calls of Great Britain to Friendship, upon Terms adequate to the Desire and Expectation of their constituents, yet nevertheless forbore to reveal them, that they might with the greater Ease, press the antient Enmity of foreign Foes, to the Aid of their own Ambition and Avarice, I exhort them to seek an Early Refuge in the abundant clemency of the crown, from the Perils to which they have exposed themselves, by Measures fraudulently concerted and tyrannically enforced, and affording by the complicated Miseries they have brought upon their country, and the mighty Ruin still impending, irresistible Evidence of the Folly and Malignancy of the councils by which its affairs have been conducted,

Towards redressing the Disorders, arising from the Loss or want of Charters, I recommend it to all concerned, to apply without Delay in the ordinary Course for Charters, which shall be granted as soon as Civil Authority takes Place.

As to the Public Books of Records, so important to your Titles and Estates in all Parts of the Colony, and formerly lodged in the Secretaries Office, I understand that they were separated from the Rest by the provident circumspection of my Predecessor, whose Merits are above my Applause and have often had yours; and having been afterwards sent Home for safe Custody, you may rely upon their being carefully preserved, and duly returned as soon as the Common Tranquillity is restored.

I now call upon every Individual in the Colony, to shew his Allegiance, Fidelity and Patriotism, by affording his Assistance towards accomplishing the King's most gracious Design of restoring the Blessings of Peace and Good Government: and they who shall most distinguish themselves by their laudable Efforts for these good Purposes will most assuredly best recommend themselves to the Royal Approbation and Favour.

Given under my Hand and the Great Seal of the Province of New York, in the City of New York, the Fifteenth Day of April 1780, in the Twentieth year of his Majesty's Reign.

By His Excellency's command,

James Robertson.

Sam. Bayard, Jun'r, D. Secry.

God save the King.

directed to repair to the army, for the purpose of arranging all the staff departments, thereof; this business and that of visiting the different posts east of Jersey will take much of my time, so that General Scott will be left alone, and altho our business will not suffer in his hands, yet sickness may prevent his constant attendance; would it not, therefore, be prudent to hasten Mr. Duane on. I hope your Excellency has received the act of Congress allowing pay & subsistance to the men to be raised for the defence of our frontiers.

Please to make my respects acceptable to Mrs. Clinton. I am,
D^r Sir, your Excellency's most obedient Servant

Ph: Schuyler.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 2833.]

*Abraham Yates' Letter Respecting Loan Office Certificates, and
Joseph Braut's Threats.*

Albany 18th April 1780.

Dear Sir, Your favour of the 9th Instant I have before me together with the Certificates.

1700 one Part thereof are Dated since the last Day of Februa'y Seventy Eight and so paid in mony the

Drs

1200 Dated the 30 March 1778 at the rate of 26: 2:6 342: 33

900 Dated the 23 April Do at 24:63:2 423: 46: 2

Ad to this 109:70:4 Paid short last year to the

one and 44:26:2 to the other

Total 154:06:6 151: 6: 6

589: 86: 0

which 589 Dollers 86 Nineteeths together the Remaining 3600 for which you have Bills of Exchange to the amount of 416 I now send you by Capt. North.

Major Fonda just now tells me that there is a Report (and that only) that there again is eight men taken to the westward, I think above the Germens Flats; this he had not heard at home, but while he was at Schonectady; he says there was also another Report, that three that were taken at Schoharrie (Harpers Field) were returned to Schoharrie, having taken an opportunity at the time their keepers were Careless or Drunk, Possessed themselves of their arms and killed some (I forget the Number I think six) with their own guns.

I dont know how we are to understand these early exertions of the enemy: I suppose you have heard that Joseph Brant (who was Head of one of the Parties) has Discharged one of his Prisonners by whom he has sent a Letter (I have not seen the Tranlation) Purporting that he has used his Prisonners well, and he has heard we have not used some of ours so, that for the future unless we use ours well he will ill use his, and make no Distinction of age or sex; the man says also (this I have of Judge Dow) that Brant told him that Ab'm and Han Kryn (that were last fall or winter sent by the Commissioners to negotiate Peace) should not return until he now arrived at Niagara.

If Mr. De Wit (who managed at the Tready of Breda) was with them, I would suppose that the Negotiations of Peace were Protracted in order by these Previous steps to Convince us, that Peace is as Necessary to us as to them, as well to get more Reasonable Terms as to make the Peace (if Concluded) more lasting.



C. Putshin of Cavab.⁹

You have Inclosed a Certificate for a Tory; the Licence you will please to send with the expences to me. Mr. Yates & Lansing has their Compliments with me to you & Mrs. Clinton. I Remain your very Hum. S^t

Ab'm Yates, Jun.

His Ex'y George Clinton Esq.

[Nos. 2834-2835.]

Governor Clinton Grants Two Requests of General Howe.

Highlands April 14th 1780.

Dear Sir, Capt. Drake applies to me in behalf of a certain Robert Cock, who he says has some Estate fallen to him by the Death of a Brother, near White Stone Ferry, upon Long Island, which he must lose, if he does not go over between this and the 1st of May, and wants to obtain a pass for him to go over for a few days, to get what is left him; under these circumstances, & as Capt. Drake speaks well of him, I have no objection to giving Robert Cock the pass, if your Excellency thinks it not improper. I am, Dear Sir, with great Respect your Excellency's Most Obt. Serv^t

Robert Howe.

[To G. C.]

Highlands 21st of April 1780.

Dear Sir, Having Occasion to send down a flag to New-York, or at least as near it as they will let me, I write to know whether your Excellency has not some Business which might be transacted at the same Time. There is a certain Mr. Fish who was kidnap'd the other Day by the Enemy, & whose Family, a Col. Hammond reports to me, is in the utmost Distress—indeed is starving, as their Sustenance depended upon his daily Exertions.

This man was some thing in the Forage Department, & has (as I am inform'd) many Papers & Vouchers necessary to the Settlement of the public Accounts, which with motives of Humanity combined with other Reasons make me wish to have him exchange'd—should I propose an Exchange as for a military Character, the present Situation of affairs will not admit of his being liberated in that way. I should, therefore, be glad your Excellency would give me Licence to exchange him for some Citizen, which I think I can effect, as the Enemy know him not in a military Character. Your immediate Answer to this matter would oblige me, as I want to send off a Flag as soon as possible. My Letter accompanying this ought to have reached you several Days since. To that also, please favor me with your Answer. I am, Dear Sir, with great Respect & Regard your Excellency's most obedient Servant

Robert Howe.

[To G. C.]

Friday Even'g April 21st 1780.

Dear Sir, I am this moment favored with your Letters of the 14th & of this Day. I am ignorant of the Character of Mr. Cock, but as I presume you have been satisfactorily informed of it, I have not the least Objection to his being permitted to go to Long Island whenever you shall think it expedient. I, however, take the liberty [to] hint to you the propriety of getting strict Injunction ag't his bringing off any merchandize for the purpose of Traffic. I mention this as in some Instances similar applications have been made, when the real Design was for the above Purpose which I wish to prevent.

I thank you for the notice of your Intentions to send a flag to

New York. Oglevie & Tobias, the two Citizens I mentioned to you some time since, & who are exchanged, remain still at this Place; and as Mr. Cummings will be ready to proceed by Water about the latter end of next week I have thought it a proper & safe mode of Conveyance for those Gentlemen.

I readily consent to your negotiating an Exchange of a Citizen for Mr. Fish & am sorry that I have it not in my Power, at present, to mention a Person. Mr. Philip Pell, Comm'y of Prisoners, for this State who resides at Fredrickburg has a List of the Citizen Prisoners in our Possession, and if it should be necessary he will furnish you with the name of a Person for this Purpose. I am &c. &c.

Geo: Clinton.

The Hon'ble Major Genl. Howe.

[No. 2836.]

Jacob Cuyler on the Subject of Provisions for the Levies Raising for the Defence of the Frontiers.

Albany 22nd April 1780.

Yesterday was me delivered your Excellencies Letter of the 17th enclosing an act of Congress of the 4th. The deranged State of my Department will undoubtedly make it exceeding difficult to procure supplies of Provisions for the men ordered on the Frontiers. I shall, however, use every means in my power to give it them, tho I have some apprehensions of failing in the attempt, had we Cash it might be done with much greater certainty.

I am much Obligated to you for your kind offers in giving me your aid to facilitate this business. I would propose to you, Sir, to write to Governor Trumbull upon the subject of Beef which,

from the situation in the Purchasing Department in Connecticut, I conceive will be the only means of drawing a supply from thence, for the Troops stationed in this State, who are now almost entirely without any. I have made many applications but have not been able to effect the purpose. I Have the Honor, to be
Your Excellencies, most Obedt. Humble Servant

Jacob Cuyler.

His Excellency George Clinton.

[No. 2837.]

Major Moffat's Request in Behalf of James Sayre.

Blooming Grove 23d April 1780.

May it Please your Excellency, The Bearer James Sayre, is the Person I mentioned to you in Albany who wanted a pass to go on to the East End of Long-Island to bring off some property; he would be glad to have it in such a manner as would enable him to bring in such things as he could get, and might suit him best when he arrives there, without danger of Seizure, as it is uncertain what kind of Property his friends will be able to supply him with. I have only this to add, that his character as to Whigism stands unimpeached.

I doubt not but your Excellency will grant his request unless something intervenes to render it improper. I am, with due respect, your Excellencies most Obedient and very Humble Servant

Thos. Moffat.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 2838.]

FARM PRODUCE IN NEW YORK EXHAUSTED.

Governor Clinton Notifies General Washington That the Legislature Will Again Convene May 9th.

Poughkeepsie April 24th [1780].

Dear Sir, I have to acknowledge the Rec^t of your Excellency's favors of the 26th Ult.* & 12th Inst.† Two Days before the former came to hand I received the act of Congress respect'g the Troops proposed to be raised for the Defence of our frontiers. Some considerable time will necessarily elapse before

*See page 564.

†See page 612.

they can be embodied and as the Enemy have already appeared at diff't Times & Places on the northern & western frontiers, I am very apprehensive that in the Interim, the ^{more} remote Settlements will be abandoned. Every measure will be used to expedite this Business and yr. Excellency will have the earliest Information of the Disposition which in consequence of your Letter I shall cause to be made of these Levies.

The act of Congress of the 26th of last M^{ch}, respect'g the quotas of Supplies for the army to be furnished by the diff't States, was not received until some Days after the Rising of the Legislature. This together with some other Important matters, from Congress, has induced me to call them together at an earlier Day than that to which they stand adjourned, & I have accordingly issued my Proclamation for convening them at Kingston on the 9th of next month; when this Business will be submitted to their Consideration. In the Mean Time I think it my Duty to inform your Excellency that in Consequence of the several Laws which have been enacted for obtaining Supplies of Provisson & Forage for the Army, this State is so exhausted that I am perswaded there is not more Grain & Meal left in the Possession of the Farmer than a bare competency for the support of its Inhabitants untill the new Crops come in; and with respect to Forrage Few of the Farmers have a sufficiency to bring their Stock through Grass. Shoud, therefore, the present Supplies besides what are already in the Hands of the public Officers be wanted before Harvest they are not to be had in the State I shoud have written to your Excellency earlier on this Subject but I did not receive your Letter untill a few Days ago. I am &c.

[G. C.]

[To Gen. Washington.]

[No. 2839.]

Pay and Allowances Granted by New Hampshire to Its Troops.

Hampton-falls April 25th 1780.

Sir, In Answer to your Excellency's favor of the 11th Ulto., I have the honor of inclosing you Copies of what has been done in this State in consequence of Recommendations from Congress, and Petitions from our Officers and men, serving in the Continental Army in order to settle, and adjust what pay and allowance, they are to receive. This matter has been adjusted, and agreed upon, by a Committee of our General Court, and of some of our Officers from the Army; which I think gives general satisfaction.

I am likewise to acknowledge the Receipt of your favor of the 17th of July last, with which I was honor'd accompanied with Copies of the Laws of your State, which was a very agreeable favor. I should not have delayed so long acknowledging the Receipt of that favor, had I not expected to have been able, long before now, to have returned you Copies of the Acts passed in this State, which were preparing for the Press, when I received your Letter, but through difficulty of procuring paper, and hurry or slow progress of the Printer, are not yet compleated. As soon as they are, I shall be happy in forwarding a sett of them to you. A Reciprocal communication of the Laws, passed in the United States, and their Determination on matters in which they are nearly alike concerned, would I think be very beneficial.

Every communication from your Excellency of this sort, will be acknowledged with gratitude. I have the Honor to be with great Respect and Esteem Your Excellency's most Obt. Humble Serv't

Meshech Weare.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

State of New Hampshire. In the House of Representatives March 10th 1780.

The Committee on the Depreciation due to Officers and Soldiers reported their Opinion; that the money that has or shall be paid the officers and Soldiers in the Continental Army in part of Depreciation from the first day of January last to the fifteenth day of April next be estimated at the rate of forty for one.

They also beg leave to Report the draught of a Bill to secure the Payment of their respective Balances. Which is submitted by Josiah Bartlett for the Committee.

Which Report being Read & Considered, Voted that the same be received & accepted. Sent up for Concurrence. John Dudley Speaker, P. T.

In Council Eodem die Read & Concurred. J. Pearson, D. Secy.

Copy Examined. P. J. Pearson, D. Secy.

State of New Hampshire.

In the year of our Lord one thousand, seven hundred and Eighty. L. S. An Act to provide for the security and payment of the Balances, that may appear to be due by virtue of the Resolutions of the General Assembly of the twenty sixth of March & the fourteenth of December, one thousand seven hundred & seventy nine, to this States Quota of the Continental Army, agreeable to the resolutions of Congress.

Whereas, it is necessary immediately to make provision, to enable the Treasurer of this State, to give security for the payment of the several Balances, which may be found due to the Officers & Soldiers belonging to this States Quota of the Continental Army on the first day of January last.

Be it, therefore, Enacted by the Council and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened, & by the authority of the same, that the Treasurer of this State be, & he is hereby directed on the Credit thereof, to issue his Notes for the payment of the Balances, which shall appear were on the first day of January last due to each Officer and Soldier belonging to this States Quota of the Continental Army (on receiving a Warrant from the President of the Council or Chairman of the Committee of Safety of this State) in the manner & form following; vitz.

State of New Hampshire. No.) The first day of January 1780.

In behalf of the State of New-Hampshire, I, the Subscriber, do hereby promise & oblige myself and Successors, in the Office of Treasurer of this State to pay unto ——— or his order the Sum of ——— on or before the — day of December 178—, with Interest at the rate of six per Cent, per Annum, both Principal & Interest to be paid in the then Current money of this State in a greater or less Sum to be computed as the then current prices of Indian Corn, Grass fed Beef, and Sole-Leather, shall bear to Indian Corn at four shillings per Bushel, Grass fed Beef at three pence per pound, & Sole-Leather at one shilling & six pence per pound, being the prices affixed to them by a Law of this State, made in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred & seventy seven, entitled an Act for regulating the prices of Sundry Articles therein enumerated.

{ Comtee, Witness my hand

Treasurer.

Which form shall be printed on good paper to be procured by the Treasurer with a suitable border round the same, & when the notes are issued, a Counterpart indented of each Note shall be kept by the Treasurer.

And be it further enacted, that John Taylor Gilman and Noah Emery be a Committee to sign blank Notes in the form prescribed at the left hand & to number them before they are filled up by the Treasurer.

And be it further enacted, that the Treasurer be, and hereby is directed, to issue to each of the said Officers & Soldiers in favor of whom a Warrant shall be drawn by the President of the Council or Chairman of the Committee of Safety for their respective Balances. Two Notes (in the form aforesaid) of equal Sums as near as may be, the whole containing the ballance due to them respectively, one of which shall be payable the first day of December next, & the other the last day of December, which will be in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred & eighty one.

And the President of the Council or Chairman of the Committee of Safety is hereby impowered & requested to issue his Warrants in favor of the said Officers & Soldiers, upon its being certified to them by the Committee of this Court, to be appointed to adjust the Accounts of the said Officers & Soldiers what is the ballance due to each of them respectively, provided it shall appear by a Return made by a General Officer

or the Commanding Officer of a Regiment, that any such Field, Staff or Commissioned Officer belongs to this States Quota of the Continental Army, & that such Noncommissioned Officer & private Soldier hath enlisted and been mustered as one of this States Quota of the Continental Army for the term of three years or during the War, such Return specifying to what Company and Regiment or Corps they belong.

And the President of the Council or Chairman of the Committee of Safety for the time being, are also hereby impowered & requested & the Treasurer is hereby impowered & directed to proceed in the same manner and form mutatis mutandis with Respect to the Executors, Administrators or Heirs at Law of such Officers & Soldiers who were engaged for three years, or during the War as part of this States Quota of the Continental Army, and who have died or been slain in the Service upon Similar Certificates being produced.

And be it further enacted that the Committee of Safety for the time then being, or the Major part of them, are hereby impowered and directed to Compute and determine what are the current prices of the said three Articles of Indian Corn, Grass fed Beef & Sole-Leather upon an Average through this State at the times of payments of the aforesaid Notes herein mentioned, and also what is the value of every pound of said Notes, in the then current money of this State, & shall certify the Same to the Treasurer:

And the Treasurer is hereby directed to pay the value of said Notes, & the Interest thereon, remaining unpaid as they become due accordingly.

And to the intent that the Current prices of the said three Articles of Indian Corn, Grass fed Beef and Sole-Leather at the times of payment herein mentioned may be more easily ascertained, & in order that a just and equitable settlement may be annually made with this States Quota of the Continental Army in future for their future services.

Be it further enacted, that John Calfe Esq; for the County of Rockingham, John Burnam Hanson Esq. for the County of Strafford, the Hon'ble Jacob Abbott, Esq. for the County of Hillsborough, William Heywood Esqr, for the County of Cheshire & Charles Johnston Esq. for the County of Grafton be, and hereby are severally appointed to collect & keep a true Account accord[ing] to the best of their judgment of the prices of each of the aforesaid Articles in their respective Counties monthly upon an Average of the whole month for every succeeding month, untill the aforesaid last day of December, Anno Domini one thousand seven hundred and eighty one from the first day of January in the present year, and they shall make a true report of the same into the Secretary's Office upon the third Wednesday of December Anno Domini one thousand seven hundred & eighty one, which Return shall be under Oath, certified by a Justice of the Peace for the same County.

State of New Hampshire.

In the House of Representatives March 15th 1780.

The foregoing Bill having been read a third time—Voted that it pass to be enacted.

Sent up for Concurrence. John Dudley, Speaker, P. tem.

In Council March 16th 1780. This Bill was read a third [time] and Voted that the same be enacted.

M. Weare, Pres't.

Copy Examn'd J. Pearson, D. Secy.

State of New Hampshire. In the House of Representatives March 26th 1779.

The Report of the Committee to whom the Petition of the Officers of the three Battallions belonging to this State in the Continental Army was recommitted is as follows Vizt.

That every Officer, and Soldier, belonging to the said three Battallions, engaged for three years, or during the war, at the Expiration of the term for which he is engaged, in case he serves out the same, or is honourably dischargd. and the heirs of such as die in the said Service, shall be accounted with, and wholly indemnified by this State, for all loss whatsoever sustained by depreciation of the paper Currency, or the enhanced Price of provisions, since the first of the year 1777; making the several articles in the Regulation Act of this State, the Standard for the Value of said currency, at the several periods, wherein the same has been, or may be paid by the Continent; Only reserving an allowance to be made, where the price of any article has been enhanced, by a real Scarcity. Provided that all Supplies, and gratuities from this State, or the Continent, and all town bounties, and Supplies of Soldiers families, except the continental and State bounties, according to their true value at the times of their being

paid and receivd, according to the Standard aforesaid, shall be allowd in part Satisfaction for the depretiation aforesaid. And every officer in the said three Battallions, appointed by this State before the expiration of the year 1777, shall forthwith Receive out of the treasury of this State, as follows Vizt. a Collonell fifteen hundred Dollars, a Lieut. Collonell twelve hundred Dollars, a major one thousand Dollars, a Captain Eight hundred Dollars, a Lieutenant five hundred and Sixty Dollars, an Ensign four hundred Dollars, a Surgeon twelve hundred Dollars, and a Surgeon's mate Eight hundred Dollars. And such Officers in said three Battallions, as have been appointed by this State, since the year 1777 expjred, shall receive one half of the Respective Sums aforesaid, according to their Rank, in part of Said Depretiation. Provided, that in case the Treasury cannot be Supplyd with current money sufficient to answer the payments aforesaid, the same shall be paid in State Notes on interest, redeemable in a short time.

And the said Town Bounties, and Supplies of Soldiers families, shall be chargd to the State, in order to their being carried to the charge of the soldiers as aforesaid. The above Articles to be complyd with by this State, in case the Continental Congress shall not make good said Depretiation, Otherwise to Stand Void.

And the Board of war, shall continue to furnish the said three Battallions, with necessaries at the Stipulated prices as heretofore.

Which is Submitted by Josiah Bartlett for the Com'tee.

Which Report being Read and Considerd -Voted that the same be Received and accepted.

Sent up for Concurrence John Dudley, Speaker, P. T.

In Connecill same day Read and Concur'd. E. Thompson, Secy.

Copy.

State of New Hampshire. In the House of Representatives March 17th 1780.

Voted that the Committee for settling the Soldiers Accounts &c. in Settling said Accounts, consider, in making up Depreciation for the Officers and Soldiers according to the value of money as affixed by a Committee of the General Court, vizt.

Two for one in the middle of the year 1777—Six for one in the middle of the year 1778, & twenty for one in the year 1779—And that for the intermediate spaces of time they compute the Depreciation accordingly.

Sent up for Concurrence.

John Dudley, Speaker, P. T.

In Council the same day Read & Concurr'd. J. Pearson, D. Secy.

Copy Examin'd. P.—J. Pearson, D. Secy.

[No. 2840.]

Joshua Sands Meets with Misfortune.

To His Excellency George Clinton Esqr. Governor of the State of New York.

The memorial of Joshua Sands Sheweth, That in consequence of your Excellency's and General Howe's permission, I proceeded to the British post at Paulus Hook, where I was relieved and after examining my passport my buisness was done and I was dismissed. Returning on the main road about seven miles from Paulus Hook, I was made prisoner by a John Berry and three other armed men, although my Flag was display'd and my passport shewn to them. This party treated me in the most abusive manner, plundered me of two Horses, a waggon and harness compleat worth one hundred and Fifty four pounds, a Silver Watch, worth Twelve pounds, Total Value in hard money, one hundred and Sixty Six pounds, as also Nine hundred and seventy dollars in Continental money; carried me to New York by the way of Hobuck, where I was sent to the main Guard. Next morning I was taken before General Knyphausen, Aide de Camp, who, after enquiring the circumstances, said I should be sent out in the first Flag, I ask him if my property was to be restored; he told me he wou'd consult the General; in the mean time I was sent to the Sugar house and put in with the prisoners. Fryday 7th April, I was called to give a particular account of my loss; the next day I was informed by Mr. Loring's Assistant that I was to go out that day; I asked him whether the things taken were to be returned; he said he

knew not. I desired of him a copy of the General's order respecting the affair but was denied it, and the same day sent in a Flag Vessel to Elizabeth Town, without any further notice being taken of my complaint.

As this is not only a very great damage to me, but also an Insult to the States, I flatter myself that your Excellency will take effectual methods to procure redress to both.

Joshua Sands.

State New York, 26th April 1780.

[No. 2841.]

Samuel Hake Accused of Suspicious Connections.

Dutchess County Rynebeck Prec't Apl. 27, 1780.

Sir, We have this day taken the Liberty to order Samuel Hake, into Custody, to be Conveyed to the Common Goal of the County for Practices, as we think, in Direct opposition to the intention of his Parole, not only Daily Exceeding his Limits, but holding (as is Supposed) a Dangerous Connection and Correspondence with those who are Notoriously Inimical to the United States; he has absented himself for the Space of Eight or Ten days, and we are informed by a message from Esquire Lawrance, that during that Time he frequently Lodged with the most Dangerous Persons in the Little Nine Partners, Distant from hence between Twenty & thirty Miles; this Intelligence was Rec'd by Esqr. Van Ness in the Presence of Coll. Morris Graham, who was much Exasperated against Hake's Proseedance and urged by all means to commit him to Prison. Esqr. Landon upon hearing of the above Transactions Declared, that was he to be found in his Vicinity he would absolutely Commit him, so that with such Concurrent Opinions and our own knowledge of Hake, we have thought it Prudent to act in this matter, hoping that it will meet with your Excellency's approbation. We are Sir, with the greatest Respect your Excellency's most Obt. Hum. se.

Herman Hoffman,

David Van Ness

His Excellency Geo: Clinton Esqr.

N. B. We should have refered the matter untill we should have Received yr. Excellency's Order for his Removall, but we thought the Necessity of the case was sufficient for us to Commit him.

[No. 2812.]

Petition of Samuel Kip, an Infirm Man.

To his Excellency George Clinton Esquire Governor of the State of New York, General and Commander in Chief of all the Militia and Admiral of the Navy of the same. The Petition of Samuel Kip Most Humbly Sheweth, That at the Commencement of the present War, and long before, your Petitioner was an Inhabitant of the Out Ward of the City of New-york; in which place he has a farm. That upon the approach of the Enemy in the year 1776, your Petitioner removed to the town of Orange in Orange County, where he hath resided 'till the present time, having occupied a House and piece of ground of John Perry, Esq. That your Petitioner has lately received notice from the said Perry to remove, whereupon your Petitioner has been endeavouring to hire another place, but without effect. That your said Petitioner is an infirm man, has a numerous Family, mostly young and unable to help themselves; the property your said Petitioner brought into the Country is nearly Spent, and himself without a place in the Country to go to, and Distitute of money to purchase for himself and Family the Necessaries of Life.

That under such Circumstances your Petitioner is Constrained to apply to your Excellency, and prays your Excellency to grant him a permit to pass with his family in a Carriage to Poulas Hook or some other ferry near New-york; and your Petitioner Shall ever Pray &c.

Orangetown April ye 27th 1780.

Samuel Kip.

[No. 2843.]

Orders Regulating the Conduct of a Flag of Truce.

By his Excellency George Clinton Esquire Governor of the State of New York &ca. &ca.

Permission is hereby given to Mr. Abraham Bloodgood, with the Sloop Elizabeth, navigated by the Hands [William Bloodgood, Sam & Harry] named in the margin, to pass with a Flagg of Truce to the City of New York, for the Purpose of conveying thither John Cumming, Esqr., his Family & Effects, the Wife and Family of Hugh Fraizer, Mrs. Conroy, and also such other Persons as have Passes for the Purpose. And on his Return to bring out the Family of Peter Vandervoort, Jun'r, of Kings

County, Long-Island and his Household Furniture, and other Effects and the Household Furniture Bedding & Wearing Apparel of Mr. Morris Hazard, now in the Possession of Abraham Schenck, Esqr., of Kings County.

Given under my Hand at Ponkeepsie this 28th Day of April 1780. G. C.

I hereby Certify that Mr. John Cumming came up in a Sloop the Beginning of last Winter with a Flagg from the Commandant in New York, Genl. Pattison, but Cold Weather setting in suddenly, the Navigation up to Catts Kill where his Family resided, was obstructed by the Ice & the Sloop, therefore, returned which occasions the present Flagg to remove his Family. The other was left in my Possession but misslaid.

Sir, You will proceed in your Sloop with the Flagg of Truce now granted to you, to the Mouth of Murderers Creek, from whence you will dispatch my Letter directed to Genl. Howe to the Officer commanding at West Point with a Copy of your Flagg & these Orders, and wait his Answer; when you obtain his Permission to pass the Fort you will proceed down to New York observing his Directions as to your Conduct in passing the Different Posts in the Highlands. You will be careful not to receive on Board any Person who has not my Pass. And you are not to take on Board a greater Quantity of Provisision than shall be sufficient for your Passage. On your Return, you are not on any pretence to bring out on Board of your Sloop any Persons or Effects but such as are mentioned in your Flagg or for which my Permission in Writing shall be produced. And you are to be particularly careful not to suffer your Flagg to be prostituted to

the Purpose of Traffick in the smallest Degree. You will return with as much Expedition as possible.

Given at Pokeepsie, this 28th Apl. 1780

Capt. Abraham Bloodgood.

[Nos. 2844 2845.]

Correspondence of General Howe and Governor Clinton on the Flag Question.

Highlands 28th of April [1780].

Dear Sir, The inclos'd Papers, received by a Flag from the Enemy which is stop'd at Tallow's Point, will inform you of their Errand, & you will if you think proper, order down the Persons sent for. It would I should suppose, be a good Opportunity to send down those you mention'd in your last Favor, as it would save Trouble & prevent Communication. It would be best that those who do go, should hasten down as soon as possible, & they ought to pass Stoney & Verplank's Point in such a manner as not to see our works there, & be suffered to land no where or commune with any Persons on their way down.

I also inclose you a long List of the Names of women at & about our Lines, that the Inhabitants wish to be sent off, & who are solicitous to go. Please inform me by this Express if you would have it done, & also relative to those who are to go down in the Vessels—those on the Lines may be march'd down. I am, Dear Sir, with great Regard your Excellency's most obedient Servant.

Robert Howe.

P. S. I woud request your Excellency to return the inclos'd Papers, after Perusal.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

Poukeepsie 28th Apl. 1780.

Dear Sir, About two Hours before the Receipt of your Letter of equal Date, I dispatched the Flagg with Cumming's Family & others on Board. They are to proceed down to Murderers Creek from whence the Capt. is to dispatch a Letter he is charged with to you, & Copy of his Orders & wait for your Permission to pass the Posts. As Cummings has his Effects on Board, it might be inconvenient to remove them to the other Flagg, and for this Reason as well as on Mrs. Provoost's Acc't whose Case is particularly mentioned in my former Letter, I wish the present may be permitted to proceed. I know nothing of Briggs or his Family, but if you conceive it will advance the public weal to send them off with the [other Women]* mentioned in the inclosed List I have no Objection. I am, D'r Sir, with great Regard your most
 Genl. Howe. G. C.

[No. 2846.]

Disposition of the Levies for the Defence of Orange and Westchester Counties.

Poughkeepsie, April 30th 1780.

D'r Sir, I have the honor of enclosing you a Copy of the act of Congress respecting the Levies raising in this State for the Defence of the frontier Settlements: by which you will perceive that they are to be paid & subsisted by the continent & subject to the Direction of the Commander in Chief of the cont'l army. As his Excellency Genl. Washington has been pleased to refer the Distribution of these Troops, among the Parts of the Country, which call more immediately for Support & Defence, to me, and as those to be raised in Westchester & the lower part of Orange

*These two words are struck out in original.

Counties will be employ'd in assist'g to cover that part of the Country which comes within your Command, I think it my Duty to inform you that I have directed those of Westchester to rendezvous at Crompond & North Castle & those of Colo. Hay's Regt. in the lower end of Orange County at Nayaack or such other Place in those neighborhoods as the militia Guards shall be stationed at. I have also directed those to be raised in Dutchess (which will am't to between 2 & 300 & which when collected are intended for the western frontiers of Ulster & Orange) to rendezvous at Fishkill. This I have tho't necessary to inform you of, as they will have to draw Provisions while they continue there, in which they may meet w'th Difficulties unless the Commiss'y shall have your order for the Purpose. As soon as the Officers to command the Levies of Westchester & lower part of Orange are appointed, you will be furnished with their names & they will be directed to take your orders. I am &c. Geo: Clinton.

Major Genl. Howe.

[No. 2847.]

General Robert Howe Suggests That the Troops be Supplied with a Small Portion of Rum at the Present Crisis.

Highlands, 30th April 1780.

Dear Sir, The fatal certainty there is, that a want of Provisions will very soon arrive, makes it requisite by very short allowance to protract a period teeming with dreadful consequences as long as possible. Your Excellency need not be told the Inconvenience, indeed the Danger, that attends the dealing out Provisions in scanty Portions to the Soldiery, even in other Respects under easy Circumstances, & how much more Hazardous is it in the present Situation of our Affairs, & at a crisis when the least

Discontent given the men will prevent, not only, the Reinlistment of those men in particular, but that of many others who listen to, & are influenced by their Murmurs. Experience has taught me, & you cannot but know it also, that when men have been stinted in the Rations they have a just Claim to, the only quieting Draught was the serving out to them a small Portion of Rum. This article to our great misfortune we are entirely destitute of. There is much of it however in this Vicinity, in the Hands of some Chapmen who mean to retail it, & tho' at some Times it is an article we could dispense with, at this Point of Time it is essential to us to be possess'd of it. Those men who have it will not, I have Reason to think, be willing to sell it to us if we even had money to purchase it. But it is a melancholy Truth we have not the money.

Are there, Sir, no legal means existing by which we can come at it, and either in future to pay for or replace it in Kind, when our Stock from the Eastward comes up.

If there are such legal means, please, Sir, to inform me, & if not, are we not warranted by the Necessity of the Case to lay hold of the Rum, & shall we not be afterwards supported for having done so.

I shall be anxious to hear from you upon this Subject, because much more depends upon it than I can express, or indeed need to do to you, who cannot but take in, all that could be said about it.

I write this Letter to you only, Sir, except you find it necessary to communicate it to other confidential Persons under proper Restrictions. With the greatest Respect & Esteem I am, Dear Sir, your Excellency's most obedient Servant

Robt. Howe.

[To G. C.]

[No. 2848.]

Payroll of Men at Fort Herkimer under Command of Lieutenant John Smith.

A Pay Roll of a Party of Men raised by Order of Colonel Goose Van Schaick for the Defence of the Stores at Fort Herkimer under the command of Lieutenant John Smith: from January the 1st, 1780 to April the 30th, 1780, inclusive.

Names and Rank	Time of Beginning	Time of Ending	No. of Days in Service	Wages pr Day	Amount of Wages.
John Smith, Lieut.	Jan'y the 1st	April 30	121	s. d. 7-2 ³ / ₄	£43 11 2 ³ / ₄
Christian Ittick, Sergeant	do	do	106	2-8	14 2 8
George Ittick, Corporal	do	do	do	1-11 ¹ / ₂	10 7 5 ¹ / ₂
Isachod Bony, Private	do	do	do	1-9 ³ / ₄	9 8 5 ³ / ₄
Conrad Ittick, do	do	do	do	do	8 5 ³ / ₄
Frederic Getman	do	do	do	do	8 5 ³ / ₄
George Weaver	do	do	do	do	8 5 ³ / ₄
Peter Getman	do	do	do	do	8 5 ³ / ₄
Conrad Getman	do	do	do	do	8 5 ³ / ₄
William Folmer	do	do	do	do	8 5 ³ / ₄
Conrad Folmer	do	do	do	do	8 5 ³ / ₄
Peter Hoyer	do	do	do	do	8 5 ³ / ₄
George Hoyer	do	do	do	do	8 5 ³ / ₄
Rudolph Bersh	do	do	do	do	8 5 ³ / ₄
William Cline	do	do	do	do	8 5 ³ / ₄
George Herkimer	do	do	do	do	8 5 ³ / ₄
Conrad Folts	do	do	do	do	8 5 ³ / ₄
Substance for a Lieutenant 121 days @ 2 s per day				201	6 0 ¹ / ₂
				16	2 8
				£	217 8 8 ¹ / ₂

Personally appear'd before me Frederic Fox one of the Justices of the Peace for the County of Tryon, Lieutenant John Smith, and made Solemn Oath, that the Officers and men in the within Pay Roll were in service the number of Days set Opposite their Names, and that there has been no Pay receiv'd for Performing the same.

Friederich Fox, Justice.

I do Certify that the above Pay Roll is Just, and that there has never been any Pay receiv'd for the same.
John Smith, Lieut.

[No. 2849.]

Returns of Levies from Colonel Peter Van Ness' Regiment.

A Return of the Names of the Levies raised and Mustered for Colo. Peter Van Ness's Regiment in Consequence of General orders dated April 11th 1780.

Stephen Chapman, Ju'r, Samuel Chapman, Nathaniel Kitcham, Abijah Virgin, Michael Lusk, David Harris, John Camble, Ebenezer Green, Amasa Hill, Aaron Day, Ju'r, Rubin King, Joseph Lawrance, Thomas Harris, William White, Ju'r, David Wilkinson, Zadock Ward, William Hatch, Joseph Smith.

[No. 2850.]

Governor Clinton Writes to General Howe Relative to the Compensation for Rum Confiscated for Troops.

Pokeepsie, 1st May 1780.

Dear Sir, Until I received your Letter of yesterday, I was led to hope from the Measures which were taken by this State last Winter & the Exertions I was informed were making in others for collecting Supplies for the Army, that we had no longer a Scarcity of Provisions to apprehend. I am exceedingly concerned to learn that this is not the Case, & what adds to my anxiety on this Occassion, is a Conviction founded on the best Information, that except what is already in the Hands of the Commissaries, there is not more than a bare competency in the State (I mean of the Bread kind) to bring its Inhabitants through to Harvest. The act of Congress fixing certain Quotas of Provisions to be furnished by the different States for the Army did not reach me till after the rising of the Legislature of this State, but had it arrived in Season to have been submitted to their Con-

sideration under our present Circumstances, they could not have exceeded what they had already done. They are to meet again the 9th Inst. & judging from their former Conduct if any Thing remains in their Power to relieve the Distresses of the Army I am perswaded it will be cheerfully complied with.

I do not know of any legal means by which the Rum you mention can be procured other than by Purchase. If the Owner will not consent to sell it & it should be taken from him he will most certainly be entitled to his Suit & recover to the amount of his Damage. The Necessity of the Case may induce the public to indemnify the Officer by paying whatever may be recovered of him but this [is] all the Support they can consistently afford him; a promise to replace the Rum I think should be a suff't Inducem't to the owner to part with it. I am, D'r Sir, with great
 Regard your most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

[To Gen. Robert Howe.]

[No. 2851.]

*Governor Clinton Compliments Governor Trumbull for Connecticut's
 Proposed Act to Establish the Public Credit.*

Ponkeepsie May 1st 1780.

Sir, I have been honored with your Excellency's Dispatch of the 10th March last & its Enclosures some Time since. Considering the embarrassed State of our public Finances & the unsurmountable Difficulties which would attend the reducing them to order by any ordinary means, I cannot but approve the System adopted by your State; by which a due Regard is paid to the public Interest, & Individuals will sustain as little Loss in this as by any other mode that could be devised, & the public Credit fixed on a more solid Basis in future. I have the pleasure of as-

suring your Excellency that most of the Gentlemen of this State whom I have had an opportunity of conversing with on the Subject approve the measure.

I am fully persuaded, Sir, that your Conduct towards Mr. Jones has been strictly consistent & proper. If the repeated notifications which you sent into the British Lines did not reach him, it is his misfortune. Mr. Jones must be sensible that we cannot controul the Enemy's Officers within their Lines. If they have kept from him Information, regularly conveyed & in which he was so much Interested it is to them he must apply for Redress. Your Excellency will be pleased to accept my Thanks for the trouble you have taken in this Business & I shall be obliged in having the Paroles of all the Gentry forwarded to me when a Convenient Opportunity presents. Your Excellency's
&c. &c. &c. Geo: Clinton.

His Excellency Gov'r Trumbull.

[No. 2852.]

Hendrick Wyckoff's Account.

Dr. Hend'k Wyckoff to the State of New York. Cr.

	£	s	d	1779	£	s	d
April							
May	497		63 ¹		124	14	3 ¹
July	195	2	3 ¹		1064	17	8
Nov'r	1254	5	4		267	8	63 ¹
	419	3	3 ¹		698	10	11 ¹
	£2365	11	3 ¹		42365	11	51 ¹
To flour Seized in the Mo. of April, which was Legally Confiscated to & for the use of this State, as pr. Ret'n Deliv'd To flour Seized in the Mo. of May, which was Legally Confiscated to & for the use of this State; as pr. Ret'n Deliv'd To flour Seized in the Mo. of July, which was Legally Confiscated, to and for the use of this state, as pr. Ret'n Deliv'd To Money Due to this State from flour Seized in the Month of November, as pr. Return Delivered				June 15 By Money paid Theod's V. Wyck, one of the Com- missions for Sequest'n for flour Seized of Persons gone to the Enemy, as pr. his Rec't July 11 By Money paid Thos. Storm Esqr. for flour Seized in July, and Condemned before said Thos. Storm & Saml. Dodge Esqrs. By Money paid Thos. Storm Esqr. for 8 bbls. flour Seized in April as pr Ret'n & Condemned before said Thos. Storm Esqr. Balance due to the State			

Fishkill May 1st 1780.

(Errors Excepted)

Hend'k Wyckoff,

[No. 2853.]

Hendrick Wyckoff's Return of Flour Seized.

A General Return of Flour Seized and Delivered for the use of the army of the United States, agreeable to an Act of the Legislature of this State from the 8th of April 1779 to the 30th of November 1779 Included—by Hend'k Wyckoff.

When seized.					Flour				Total Amo.		
					Bbls.	C	Qrs.	lb.	£	s	d
1779	Seized in the Month of	April	as pr.	Return Delivered	17	29	3	17	497		63 $\frac{1}{2}$
	Do	Do	May	Do	7	11	2	19	195	2	31 $\frac{1}{2}$
	Do	Do	July	Do	35	63	3	6	1254	5	4
	Do	Do	November	Do	67	130		8	1977	17	8
	Total Seized				126	235	1	32	£3924	5	10

(Errors Excepted.)

Fishkill, May 1st, 1780.

Hend'k Wyckoff.

[No. 2854.]

Hendrick Wyckoff's Return of Flour and Wheat Purchased.

A General Return of Flour and Wheat Purchased and Delivered for the use of the Army of the United States, Agreeable to an Act of the Legislature of this State, from the 8th of April 1779 to the 30th of September 1779 Included by Hendk Wyckoff.

When Purchased	Flour				Wheat			Total Amount			
	Bbds.	Tierces	Bbds.	C	Qrs.	Bb.	Bushels.	Quarts.	£	s	d
1779 Purchased in the Month of April, as per Return Delivered											
Do May			268	486		11	123	16	882	10	11
Do June			160	283	2	7	332		6981	13	2
Do July	1		319	575		15	118		12063	1	3
Do August			326	571		11	280		11250	3	11
Do September		1	102	176	1	1	2	16	5268	10	11
Do October			179	305	3	1	2	3	6011	4	5
Total Purchased	1	1	1354	2401	0	2	876	4	45056	5	7
Total Seized			126	235	1	22			3291	5	10
Total Purchased and Seized	1	1	1480	2636	1	24	876	4	48347	11	17

Fishkill May 1st 1780.

(Errors Excepted)

Hendk Wyckoff.

[No. 2855.]

Samuel Hake Claims He is the Victim of a Conspiracy.

Sir, The extraordinary stretch of power, which Messrs. D. V. Ness & H. Hoffman have taken in getting me apprehended, & sent here—Your Ex'y may be assur'd is done thro' ill designing people; & I am sorry to say it corresponds with their late declarations, that they were determin'd to do me all the injury possible.

I tho't Mr. Pell, the Commissary of Prisoners, to whom I gave my Parole to, was the Gentleman in case I err'd was to settle it. I saw him a few days since here, & told him candidly my situation; that I was so situated, to beg he would be pleas'd to speak to your Ex'y & get my Parole taken off, & that I hope no advantages would be taken of the distance I had taken; he assur'd me that he would speak to your Ex'y & beg me to return, that I should hear from him at Sopus by the 10th Instant. And said tho' he had rec'd Letters, f'm some pretend'd friends to the Country to my prejudice, he should take no notice of it, & I may be assur'd of his friendship.

I now rest solely on your Ex'y goodness, & have taken the Liberty, sending the enclos'd Letter, & Certificate, & had I have known that such a step would have been taken by the Magistrate, & had a little time, I am certain that I could have got five hundred good Whigs to have sign'd the same Certificate, address'd your Ex'y sent in Nov'r last. I have the honor to be, yr. Ex'y most Obt. Humble, ser't

Samuel Hake.

Poghkeepsie Tuesday Morn'g 2d May '80.

His Ex'y Gov. Geo. Clinton Esqr. &c. &c. &c.

Private.

To His Excellency Gov'r Clinton Esqr. of the State of New York &c. or to Philip Pell Jun'r Esqr. Commissary of Prisoners.

We, the subscribers, do Certify that the Bearer, Mr. Samuel Hake, late merchant of New York, have, upon the strictest enquiry since his being put on his Parole here, conducted himself friendly to the states, & in every other respect as a Gentleman. We are sensible he has a powerful Enemy to contend with, who seems determin'd to fall upon every plan to distress & injure him.

Mr. Hake advis'd with many of us who signed the Petition (which were upwards of one hundred) address'd to your Ex'y in Nov'r last, if we tho't, their would be any risque or it would be look't on as an offence if he was to go a few miles beyond his Limits of his Parole, which we conceiv'd that your Ex'y or Commissary would not object too, as we thought that Mr. Hake situation hard, & to our knowledge the charge that we hear is brought against him of going beyond his Parole; he was oblig'd to go, to get hard Cash to pay his Board &c. And many of us knowing Mr. Hake's situation, recommended & advis'd Mr. Hake to go, who sign'd the Petition sent your Ex'y in No'r.

We also recommended to Mr. Hake to go to Mr. Peter Harris, his late Lodgings as being a decent House, & his Lodging & board more reasonable, which was the reason we advis'd him to it, as we conceiv'd the distance of a few miles could not be material. We are sensible their apprehending Mr. Hake & taking him with a warrant appears to us that it is done thro some ill designing men, with no other view than further to distress him.

We now beg leave to recommend Mr. Hake to your Ex'y kind attention, & that your Ex'y will be pleas'd to condescend to comply with the tenor of our Certificate address'd to yr. Ex'y in Nov'r last, relative to Mr. Hake, as we really think this Gentleman much injur'd, & any favors done him will be as done to your Ex'ys most Obt. Humble Ser'ts

Jacob Schermerhorn, Samuel LeRue, Surgin, John Clum, Capten, Efrom Gilbert, Martin Vosburgh, Philip Jacobs, Henry Seeter, Abraham Seeter, Peter Knickerbacker, James Crawford.
Rhinebeck 29th April 1780.

Sir, I have knone Mr. Samuel Hake for sum time past and Never knone him to assosyate with anay but good whigs so that I beleive it is a deal out of Spite, that sum desined parsons have against him. Thairfore, I think with maney othir good whigs that he is extrimely hard delt with. I dout not but your Excellency will be pleased to let him Return with us, which will much oblidge manay of your Rail freinds and in pertickelar your moast Obediant

Samuel LeRue Surgin.

May ye 1 1780.

To His Exalancy George Clinton Esqr.

Had Mr. Hake time, he could have had 500 or a 1000 good whigs to sine for him that he has behaved properly.

[No. 2856.]

The Situation in Vermont Approaching a Crisis.

Brattleborough, 2d May 1780.

Sir, When we did ourselves the Honor to address your Excellency on the 11th of April last, we were in hopes of not being again under the Necessity of troubling you with our Complaints; at least for some time. As the Vermont Legislature had appointed a Committee to confer with the Yorkers, and professed

an Intention of perswading us into an Union with them, we did not imagine they would at the same time do any thing to irritate and oppress us. But thus, Sir, the Case has been: In pursuance of orders from Mr. Chittenden, Drafts of Men have been lately made in this County; in some Towns without any Distinction between those who acknowledged, and those who denied, their authority; and where a Difference has been made, it was intirely in favor of the Subjects of Vermont. In Marlboro', they drafted Mr. Phelps, together with two others who had for some time past opposed their authority. In Halifax, five Yorkers and none of their own Men. In Guilford, Capt'n Rice, four other Yorkers, & two New States Men. In Fullam one of each. In Putney 13 Yorkers & 2 Vermonters are to furnish five Men. These are all the Towns where we have heard there is like to be a Dispute at present.

In Marlborough, the only Place where they have yet distrained for the Fine, Mr. Phelps (from whom it was taken) and his Son beat off the Persons who came to make the Seizure, & knocked down and wounded the officer. They have since, however, when Mr. Phelps was from Home, taken his Cattle; and an irregular Court of theirs (as we have been informed) has fined his Son twenty silver Dollars, which if he does not pay in a short time he is to be whipped, & we hear they have already erected a Post for the Purpose.

On Friday next the time expires, which the other Drafts were allowed to equip themselves; after which it is not doubted but they will generally distrain the Property of the Defaulters. This, Sir, we have every reason to expect will induce many of the Yorkers to risque their Lives in Defence of their Property, relying upon the Faith of Congress to keep the Peace of the

Confederacy, agreeable to their Resolutions. If Congress should disappoint them, or even delay their Interposition, those who are now for New York must be irretrievably ruined.

In our last by the Post (which we hope has by this time come to hand) we acquainted your Excellency that the Magistrates of Vermont had imprisoned, and otherwise harrassed, several of the Subjects of New York, for offences against the Laws of Vermont, since receiving the Resolutions of Congress. That we were credibly informed the Legislature of Vermont had passed a Law declaring all grants void, which shall not be brought to them at their next sitting; and had come to a Resolution to enforce their cruel Edicts upon us immediately after the first of June.

From the whole Tenor of their Conduct, as well as from the assurances of Members of their Legislature (and we do not speak it from Timidity) we view these not as idle Threats designed to intimidate, but are fully convinced that they intend to put their Laws in Execution.

This, Sir, is a true unexaggerated Description of our Circumstances. On the one hand we have nothing to expect, but an unequal & bloody Conflict, with a ferocious Set of Men, exasperated by our opposition to their illegal Measures; on the other, Submission to a government which we know to be usurped, and whose Cruelties have already taught us to dread and abhor it. From this Dilemma, Congress, and Congress alone, can relieve us; and if our Situation could be rightly explained to them, and that honorable Body could be induced for a Moment seriously to attend to it; if they have not wholly lost that glorious Spirit which has, heretofore, in so eminent a manner distinguished them; and regard their Faith unanimously and

solemnly pledged; we are perswaded they must put an End to our Miseries by speedily determining to which of the 13 States we belong. But if they will not, God knows what will become of us, even while we are waiting their leisure.

Independent of our poignant Sufferings, it appears to us who live upon the Spot, and can see the Measures the Leaders of Vermont are pursuing, that the Honor and Interest of Congress absolutely require that this Controversy should be determined with all possible Dispatch: as they are increasing the Number of their Friends with amazing Rapidity, by selling confiscated Estates, by granting Lands unappropriated or which have formerly been granted by New York, and by other measures. And at the same time, they are instilling, into the Minds of their Subjects and Friends, the Doctrine that Congress have no right to adjudge whether the Grants shall be a State, because they have not submitted it to their arbitration: and consequently that the People of Vermont may justly oppose the Decision of Congress should it be against them.

If the Controversy should be ended speedily, we have reason to believe, from Conversation with men not in office, that so large a Party would adhere to Congress that the remainder would be discouraged from any opposition: or, if any should be so imprudent, that it must be a very feeble one. But if a Decision is not immediately made, we have great reason to fear that they will become unanimous in the Plan of opposing the Determination of Congress by arms.

Since our last, in some Towns, the advocates for a New State tore down the Notifications of the Election, & threatened all concerned with Prosecutions upon their Whipping Act. In Putney they had the Impudence to appear at the Election, and

in an authoritative manner to prohibit the Proceeding. This violent Conduct has deterred many of the more timorous Friends of New York from giving their Voices.

We trust that your Excellency, considering our dangerous Situation, will not blame us for taking any Measures which we may think most conducive to our Safety, after the time prefixed in our last Letter; but rather admire the Fortitude and Loyalty which have induced us so long, and unassisted to stem the impetuous Torrent of Disloyalty and oppression. We are, with the highest Sentiments of Esteem & Gratitude, your Excellency's most obed't Humble Servants

By order of the Committees from eleven Towns.

Samuel Minott, Chairman.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 2857.]

The Problem Now One of Provisions Rather Than of Men.

Pokeepsie, May 2d 1780.

Sir, By some unaccountable Delay in the conveyance of your letter of the 4th ulto. it did not reach me until the 28th. Previous to my Departure from Albany at the rising of the Legislature, I directed Genl. Ten Broeck to keep out such Detachm'ts of his militia as might give Security to the frontier Settlements & on the first Intelligence of the Ravages of the Enemy in your quarter, I repeated to him my orders as I have since also done on his transmitting me the disagreeable account communicated by your Letter. These were the only means in my Power for your Protection. The Troops intended for the Defence of the Frontiers are now raising; you may rest assured that as soon as they are embodied, your frontier will be furnished with a due

Proportion of them. The Scarcity of Provision is an unsurmountable Difficulty, which greatly embarrasses & impedes the turning out of the militia.

I have no Power vested in me to give any orders respect'g the Disaffected Inhabitants at Harperfield &c. &c. neither can I possibly advise what is best to be done on the subject. If they have been guilty any Crime ag't the state it is the Duty of the civil magistrate to take cognizance of them.

You'l be pleased to communicate this Letter to the other Gentlemen who signed your Letter. I am &c.

Geo: Clinton.

Colo: Peter Vroman.

[No. 2858.]

Petition of William Halenbeck, Under Sentence of Death.

To his Excellency George Clinton Esqr. Governor &c. of the State of New York. The Petition of William Hallenbeck of the County of Albany, Most humbly sheweth, That your Petitioner was lately imprisoned in the Gaol of the said County and where he still remains. That in the last Supreme Court held in the City of Albany, your Petitioner was tried and convicted as an Accessory to a Felony heretofore committed by Johannes Weighman, Frederick Baum Monck, and Johannes Groenenbagh, and is sentenced by the Court to die. That your Petitioner was convicted on the sole Testimony of one John C. S. P. Miller, a German Deserter from the British army, and who was one of the Principals in the commission of the original Felony, and to which charge on his arraignment he pleaded guilty. That in the Time of your Petitioner's Confinement, the gaol of the said County was broke by several Criminals who ran off, when your Petitioner could easily have made his escape, but did not, nor did he give any aid in breaking the said gaol. That your Petitioner is informed that he is the first who has in this State been convicted for the said offence without having the Benefit of his Clergy. Your Petitioner therefore most humbly prays your Excellency to take these matters into Consideration and be graciously pleased to grant him a Pardon. And your Petitioner as in Duty bound will ever Pray.

William Halenbeck.

Albany Gaol 2d May 1780.

[No. 2859.]

Nath'l Underhill's Appeal Relative to Confiscated Cattle.

Westchester 2d May 1780.

May it please your Excellency,

Some time ago a party of Troops from Colo. Millin came down to Westchester in the night time, and took some stock, amongst

which were six head of yearlings, branded with the letter K belonging to me; these Cattle were not plundered, but bred at Westchester. I should, therefore, be exceedingly glad that your Excellency would be good enough to assist me in the recovery of my Cattle. I take it hard that I should be thus plundered and stript when I am obliged to entertain a number of gentlemen who come down on flaggs and frequently remain with me for several days together. In consideration of this, I hope your Excellency will be pleased to direct a restoration of the six head of young Cattle aforementioned. I am with respect your Excellency's Humble Servant

Nathl Underhill.

I beg leave to observe that I entertain a number of prisoners and it is well known that I supply them when in provoost with money and many other necessaries.

His Excellency Governor Clinton,

[No. 2860.]

Fragment of a Letter from Colonel Uday Hay to Governor Clinton.

* * * * *

[May 3, 1780.]

may even impertinent to a Legislature that has given already such firm and convincing proofs of their inclination to support the public officers employd within their State: It seems the Farmers in Connecticut & Masseursetts refuse letting our public Horses go away unless they are first paid for keeping them. I sett off the day after tomorrow to that Quarter of the world to try if they cannot be prevaild on to part with them upon terms which we have it in our power to comply with. I shall be early on Tuesday morning at Poughkeepsie, lett me, there-

fore, request that you will be so good as ask any of the Judges who may be at Esopus, to give their attendance that day, as I have some matters I want much to lay before them, if it should be more convenient for them that I should come to Esopus, I will with pleasure do it, of this they will please inform me by Mr. Chandarett who will be the bearer of this.

Believe that I am wth every sentiment of respect & esteem,
your Excellencies, most obed't & very humble Ser't

Udny Hay.

Goovernour Clinton.

Doctor Craig pass through here yesterday in his way to Rhode Island, at which place he is to prepare Hospitals for the reception of any such there may be in the French Fleet.

[No. 2861.]

*Lieutenant-Colonel Gilbert Cooper Desires to Forward a Number of
Women and Children to New York.*

New City, Orange County, May 3d 1780.

Dear Sir, The Bearer hereof Mr. De Clark applies to your Excellency for permission for a Number of Women and Children to goe into New York where their Husbands and Friends, Relatives and Connections reside.

We have thought proper to refer them to your Excellency for the above Permission. We cannot conceive that their going into the Enemies lines can be any prejudice to the Common Weal but rather a Benefit, as they must inevitably if they continue among us become a Charge to the County; and more especially as they [neither] wish nor intend to return. We, however, submit the Matter to your Excellencies better Judgement and are with all due Respect your most Obed't most humble Ser'ts

Gilb't Cooper, Joshua H. Smith, John Stag, John Gardner, John Coe.

His Excell'y George Clinton &ca.

The Number of prisonners Names to be forwarded:

Mrs. Morrall & 3 Children; Doe Mrs. Steal & 4 Children; Doe Mrs. Clark; Doe Mrs. MacDonald; Doe Mrs. Funk & 2 Children; Doe Mrs. Ackerson & 4 Children; Doe Mrs. Stevens & 4 Children; Doe Mrs. Demmeraa & 1 Child; Doe Mrs. Baley.

Permission is hereby granted to Lieut. Colo. Gilbert Cooper, (on his obtain'g Genl. Howe's consent) to remove within the Enemy's Lines, Mrs. Morrel & her 3 Children; Mrs. Stead & her 4 Children; Mrs. Clark; Mrs. McDonald; Mrs. Funck & 2 Children; Mrs. Ackerson & 4 Children; Mrs. Stevens & 4 Children; Mrs. Demarest & 1 Child; and Mrs. Bailey; this Permission is not to extend to the male Children capable of bear'g arms. Given &c. May 7th 1780.

May 7th 1780.

Sr, I am informed that a common Practice prevails in your neighborhood of women's going into New York & return'g. You must readily perceive the ill consequences that flow from such Conduct. It is, therefore, to be hoped that the Justices will execute the Powers vested in them by a late Law & commit all such Persons to goal or take Recognizance for their future good behavior. Yrs. &c.

G. C.

Lieut Colo. Cooper.

[No. 2862.]

Petition for Protection from Horse Thieves in Orange County.

Blooming Grove, 3d May 1780.

May it Please your Excellency. The frequent Incurtions of Horse Thieves from the Enemy into this part of the Country exposes the Inhabitants to many losses and difficulties of which we presume your Excellency is not altogether unacquainted, and as the Troops now about to be raised for the frontiers will soon be compleat and as they are Subject to your Excellencies orders, we would request that a Small guard, not to consist of less than Six Men, might be left under the direction of the field officers of this Regiment, or such other person as your excellency shall think Proper in order to Scour the Mountains and upon occasions to guide the guard that may from time to time be sent out for that purpose from the Fort at West Point.

If your Excellency can, consistant with your duty, grant our request we doubt not, but it will answer very valuable Purposes. We are with due regard your Excellency most obedient Humble Servants

Henry Brewster, Thos. Moffat, Wm. Smith, Jesse Woodhull, Elisha Marvin, Jer. Clark, Joseph Chandler, Nath'l Satterly, Saml. Raymond, Ebenezer Woodhull, Ezra Carll, Zabud June, Benjamin Thorne, Myrdred Cooper, Henry Vanduzer.

His Excellency Governour Clinton.

[No. 2863.]

The Case of Johan Casper Smith Peter Miller.

The People &c. vs. Johan Casper Smith Peter Miller. Case.

In July Term 1779 the defendant was indicted in the Sup. Court by the name Casper Smith Peter Miller for a Robbery in the dwelling House of Johannes Reghter to which he pleaded the general Issue was tried and acquitted.

In that same Term, two other Indictments were presented against him, viz't one ag't him and Johannes Groenenpagh for the Robbery of Coonradt Flaacke in his dwelling House; and another against him, Felte Schram & others, for a Riot with an attempt to commit a Robbery at the House of Jacob Cooper.

In October Term 1779, by Law adjourned to November, another Indictment was found against a Number of the Felons who robbed Flaacke and the Name of Miller omitted; and he was produced as a witness (among several others) against Groenenpagh & Moncke, who were afterwards executed; Since which Miller has remained a Prisoner in the gaol at Albany.

In order to deliver the gaol aforesaid, on the last day of April Term last, the said prisoner, by the Name of Casper Smith Peter Miller (Johan being omitted in the Indictments) was arraigned on the Indictment found against him in July Term 1779 for the Robbery of Coonradt Flaacke, and on the Indictm't for a riot with an attempt to commit a Felony at the House of Jacob Cooper; and to each of these Indictments respectively he pleaded guilty.

Mr. Attorney General did not at that Time think proper to move for Judgment against him, and he remains a prisoner in the gaol of the People &c. at Albany.

John McKesson, Albany 3d May, 1780.

Sir, At the Request of Mr. Attorney General I transmit your Excellency a State of the Case of Johan Casper Smith Peter Miller; and have the Honor to be, Sir, your most obedient humble Servant

John McKesson, 3d May, 1780.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 2864.]

Anxiety in the North Eastern Section of the State.

White Creek, May 3d 1780.

May it please your Excellency, I am requested by a number of people of this District (met on the Subject) to Inform your Excellency, that by reason of your Excellency's Orders being not Carried into Execution, the Post at Skeansborough is Evacuated & the small stores which was there is moved to Fort Edward. Its presumed that fifty of Collo. Yates' Regiment was by your Excellency Ordered to take Post at Skeansborough & to Continue there one Mounth. The Troops to the number of Twenty four or Twenty five of that Regt. went to Skeansborough, but would not stay, so that your Excellency will see that we are Intirely Exposed to the Enemy. Numbers have moved off from

Skeansborough and the remainder are moving, and without timely Assistance it will be the Case with us, as the militia here have been so perpetually Harassed, it is Impossible to send a sufficiency for that post, from this Regiment there although the New Levies will probably be ready in a fortnight. It is most Humbly requested that your Excellency will cause a sufficient number of those New Levies to be stationed at Skeansborough & Fort Ann as its a great Distance for them to Range. From Fort George to Skeansborough is 40 Miles and from Skeansborough to Rutland is 27 Miles, the two Nearest posts. The People on this frontier are greatly Alarm'd. Fourteen went of to the Enemy last week from Kingsbury, and the Scots' Patent, and they will Inform the Enemy how we are Scituated. However, we hope your Excellency will persue such measures as will give a generall Sattisfaction, so as to Quiet those who are about to move off, as well as for them that hath moved off to return, as it will be Sattisfactory to the People must request an Answer, which will greatly Oblidge one who is with respect & Esteem, your most Obed't and Most Humble Serv't

John Williams.

N. B. We are Credibly Inform'd that Skeansborough People are about to silisit the New State for protection & if its granted (which I make no doubt but it will) others will follow them.
To Governor Clinton.

[No. 2865.]

Micah Townsend Introduces Major Hunt to Governor Clinton.

Brattleborough 4th May 1780.

Sir, As Major Hunt, who will have the Honor of delivering the Committee's Letter, is entirely unknown to your Excellency; I

take the Liberty of recommending him to your Notice. He is a Gentleman possessed of considerable Property and Influence amongst us, of strict Honor and Veracity, but of so much Modesty as to prevent his appearing to advantage among those who are Strangers to him. In short he is as amiable a Character as we have in this new Country.

If the Proclamation for convening the Legislature is in Print, hope to receive it at Mr. Hunt's Return: together with any News relative to the Settlement of the Disturbances here, which your Excellency may have received in the Recess of the Legislature. I have the Honor to be your most obed't & very humble Serv't

Micah Townsend.

His Excellency Governor Clinton,

[No. 2866.]

*Captain Barnardus Swartwout Declares Irregular the Court Martial
That Cashiered Him.*

To his Excellency George Clinton Esqur, Governor & Commander in Chief of the Militia of the State of New York &c. The Remonstrance, & petition of Bernardus Swartwout, now or late Commander of a Comp'y in Coll. John Frear's Regt. of foot in the Said Militia, humbly Sheweth That on the 16th of Nov'r 1778, your petitioner (in Consequence of an arrest by the Said Coll. Frear), was had before a Brigade Court Martial, Charged with Disobedience of orders and behaving unbecoming an Officer as by a Record of the proceedings of the Said Court may appear.

That your petitioner, Cannot but think the proceedings of the Said Court were partial, as the testimony of Several of his witnesses, which he thinks were of great importance to him, were Scarcely taken notice of, and not So much as enterd on their books; that the whole or a great part of the proceedings of Said Court appears unregular, for it was not only held in the Night Contrary to the rules of war, but when the Charge was Call'd for, Coll. Frear answer'd he had no written Charges, and was then Directed by the president, to get a Clerk and Draw up his Charges.

That your petitioner, would have Defended himself by Showing that the Orders Rec'd from the S'd Coll. were grievous, partial and Repugnant to the Melia Law, insomuch that he thought himself Justifiable in refusing a Strict Compliance therewith, but the testimony of his Evidences, (who were with great reluctance admitted by the president), was disregarded. That your petitioner, (altho the Sentence of the Said Court was never approv'd of by the Commandant) was publicly aspers'd in the Newspapers by the Said Coll. That your petitioner, therefore, prays for Such Relief in the premises as to your Excellency may Seem meet and your petitioner as in duty bound Shall ever pray &c.

Barnardus Swartwout.

Poughkeepsie May 4th 1780.

N. B. Inclos'd are a Copy of the proceedings of the Court Martial.

[No. 2867.]

*Colonel Fisher Makes Application in Behalf of His Men.*Albany, the 1st of May 1780.

Sir, By the Genl. orders the Portion of the Nine Months men to be Raised for the Block House at Sacandaga are to Come out of Genl. Ten Broeck's Brigade. I have been aplied to by Several of the most Respectable men out of my Regt. to Intrit with you that the men Reaised out of my Regt. Being best acquainted with that part of the Contry, may be Posted in the Block House which I have Promised to do and in Consequence, thereof, the Regt. gaive Large Bounty to get the Best of men for the purpose. I must, therefor, Beg that it may be so altered, and the men that are to Come out of genl. Ten Broeck's I presume will be Equell Servisable Either at Fort Plank or Harkermar. I am Sir your most obed't Humble Sir't

F. Fisher.

His Excellency Gorge Clenten.

[Nos. 2868-2869.]

Grievance of Mr. John Cumming.

Sir, It gives me the greatest Concern, that I cannot at this time send out an Exchange for my young People agreeable to my Parole. I waited on Mr. Loring who possitively refus'd me, unless I cou'd find four Citizens willing to go out to whom he wou'd procure Passports, I then waited on Genl. Robertson who desir'd I shou'd detain the men, and he wou'd endeavour in a little time to procure an exchange for them. He likeways desired I shou'd remind you of his permitting Major Lush to go out on his Parole long before his Exchange, and that he was certain you wou'd without any doubt permit these men to remain in, till he had it in his power to Comply with your request; as the men were never

in arms against you, and that they should remain as on parole till they were exchange'd. I have reason to believe that my friend Mr. Loring will soon be superceded, in which case Capt'n Smith who is most likely to Succeed him, promises to agree immediately to relieve my Parole; the young Gentl'n you gave me a list of, are already sent out, and one more who was taken at the same time, is sent out with the Flagg. However, I begg to have your Sentiments concerning this matter pr. next Flagg, when you may believe I will use ever endeavor to fulfill my engagements with you, and I only regret that it is not at present in my Power. I have sent papers with Mr. Bloodgood, and believe me to be with a gratefull sense of your goodness humanity and Civility to me. Your Excellency's most obed't Serv't

Jno. Cumming.

New York May 5th 1780.

Will your Excellency please to consider the Case of Mr. Wm. Ray* of Coxsocky who I never look'd on as your enemy. Mr. Bloodgood can inform you of his present case as near as I could inform him. Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 2870.]

JOHN JAY SEEKS INFORMATION.

But Warns Governor Clinton That Spain and France Are Addicted to Inspecting Letters.

Aranjuez 21 miles from Madrid, 6th May 1780.

Dear Sir, As I have not my Papers with me I cannot ascertain the number or Dates of my Letters to you since I left America.

*New York May 5th 1780.

The Subscriber hereby certifies, that Will'm Ray, after for above a twelve month past, having been attacked, with an Intermitting Fever, which frequently returned; has now for six months been afflicted with a Dropsy, which hitherto has eluded the Force of every Remedy that has been prescribed for him, and which from its obstinacy and continuance has now become of very doubtfull event.

Samuel Bard.

I have often done myself the Pleasure of writing, to you, and am in daily Expectation of receiving a few Lines from you,

The last accounts from America were of the 10th March, contained in two or three Boston News Papers brought to Bilboa from Newbury. They give us Reason to expect that your namesakes Fleet has been thoroughly dispersed and his Designs on South Carolina thereby defeated.

I am anxious for a Confirmation of this Intelligence. It would operate in Europe as much to our advantage, tho perhaps not so much to our Glory, as a victory. As long as you can maintain your Importance, and appear neither to want Friends or fear Foes, you will enjoy Respectability on this Side of the Water, and reap all the advantages resulting from it. By her Power, Justice, Commerce and Consequence, America must expect to gain and keep Friends. The Equity of her Cause is with many only a secondary Consideration.

It is said you have again adopted the System of regulating Prices. I expect no good from it.

[What] has been done with Vermont? It would give me pain to hear that things remain in the State I left them. Delay is a Trump Card that ought not to be permitted to remain in Hand.

An English paper contains what they call, but I can hardly believe to be, your Confiscation act. If truly printed, New York in disgraced by Injustice too palpable to admit even of palliation. I feel for the Honor of my Country, and, therefore, beg the Favor of you, to send me a true Copy of it, that if the other be false, I may by publishing yours remove the Prejudices against you occasioned by the former.

I wish to know who are your members in Congress. I find Livingston is one and I am glad of it. What has become of

Morris? Dont let his Enemies in or out of the State run him down.

When you write to me recollect, that it is ten to one but your Letter will be inspected on its way thro the Post offices of France or Spain. Write, therefore, under this Impression.

When you see my old Friends remember me affectionately to them. You know who they are.

Mrs. Jay is at Madrid, in better Health than she has been for some months past. Tell me in your next how the Children do; assure Mrs. Clinton of my Regard and believe me to be very sincerely your most obed't Serv't

John Jay

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

[Private]

[No. 2871.]

Decisions of a Delinquency Court Martial.

Head Quarters Poughkeepsie May 6th 1780.

Genl. Orders.

Tried at a Genl. Court martial whereof Lieut. Colo. Joseph Hasbrouck was President—William Kapp, for disobedience of orders, acquitted; John Lucky, Sergt., for Desertion found guilty & sentenced to pay a fine of fifty Dollars; Joseph Mapes, for delinquency found guilty & sentenced to pay two hundred Dollars; Israel Hodge for delinquency, plead inability to march & was acquitted; Thomas Johnston, sergt. for delinquency, plead Indisposition; was acquitted; Tunis Ransom for delinquency found guilty & sentenced to pay sixty Pounds; Samuel Brown for desertion found guilty and sentenced to receive one hundred Lashes on his bare back or pay three hundred Pounds; Cornelius Dumeree for delinquency found guilty & sentenced to pay one hundred Pounds; Daniel Cain for delinquency plead inability and was acquitted; Silas Runnels for delinquency found guilty and sentenced to pay sixty Pounds; John Hall for delinquency found guilty & sentenced to pay two hundred Pounds; Nathaniel Bailey for delinquency acquitted; Matthew Terril for delinquency, found guilty and sentenced to pay two hundred Pounds; John Ball Sergt. for delinquency found guilty and sentenced to pay one hundred Pounds; Nathaniel Davis for delinquency found guilty & sentenced to pay two hundred & fifty Pounds. Martin King for delinquency plead indisposition and was acquitted; Simon Ray for delinquency found guilty & sentenced to pay three hundred Pounds; Aaron Everit for delinquency found guilty & sentenced to pay one hundred & fifty Pounds; William Cooper for Desertion found guilty & sentenced to pay one hundred Pounds; Ebenezer Sammon for delinquency found guilty & sentenced to pay Two hundred & fifty Pounds; John Brundage for delinquency found guilty & sentenced to pay two hundred & fifty Pounds; Joshua Terry for delinquency, found guilty & sentenced to pay one hundred Pounds; Daniel Clark for delinquency found guilty & sentenced to pay one hundred Pounds; Richard Benjamin Jun'r for delinquency found guilty & sentenced to pay five hundred Pounds; James Finly for desertion found guilty and sentenced to pay three hundred Pounds; James Ensign for delinquency plead indisposition & was acquitted; Jesse Seely Jun'r

for desertion plead guilty & was sentenced to pay forty Pounds; David Howe for delinquency plead indisposition was acquitted; John Cornwell for delinquency found guilty & sentenced to pay one hundred Pounds; Abraham Decker for desertion, found guilty and sentenced to pay one hundred Pounds; Jabeth Lewis for delinquency found guilty & sentenced to pay forty Pounds; Oaky Bloom for delinquency found guilty and sentenced to pay sixty Pounds; Jacobus Van Derhoff for delinquency found guilty & sentenced to pay three hundred Pounds; James Armstrong for delinquency plead indisposition & was acquitted; Israel Sammons for delinquency found guilty & sentenced to pay two hundred & fifty Pounds; Solomon Smith for delinquency, found guilty & sentenced to pay one hundred Pounds; Michael Jackson for delinquency found guilty and sentenced to pay two hundred Pounds; James Hall for delinquency found guilty & sentenced to pay Sixteen Pounds; Robert Hatfield found guilty & sentenced to pay three hundred Pounds; James Rannels for delinquency acquitted; William McMillen for delinquency plead guilty & was sentenced to pay two hundred Pounds; John More for delinquency plead guilty & was sentenced to pay three hundred Pounds; Selah Tucker for delinquency plead indisposition, was acquitted; Asher More for delinquency plead guilty and sentenced to pay three hundred Pounds; Gamaliel Tuthill for delinquency found guilty & sentenced to pay two hundred Pounds; Gabriel Ludlam for delinquency found guilty and sentenced to pay three hundred Pounds; William Belmain for delinquency pleaded guilty and was sentenced to pay one hundred Pounds. Thomas Horton, Sergt. for delinquency plead indisposition & was sentenced to pay forty Pounds; Samuel Bull for delinquency found guilty & sentenced to pay three hundred Pounds; Philip Miller for delinquency was acquitted; Thomas Night for delinquency found guilty & sentenced to pay twenty Pounds; Ebenezer Bull for delinquency found guilty & sentenced to pay three hundred Pounds; James Johnston for delinquency found guilty & sentenced to pay two hundred Pounds; Jeremiah Butler for delinquency found guilty & sentenced to pay three hundred Pounds; William Garrison for delinquency found guilty & sentenced to pay two hundred Pounds; Rosel Gee for delinquency found guilty & sentenced to pay two hundred Pounds; James East for delinquency found guilty & sentenced to pay two hundred & fifty Pounds & Ebenezer Oweu for delinquency found guilty & sentenced to pay three hundred Pounds.

His Excellency the Governor approves the Proceedings of the Court & the several Sentences (except such of them as respect the follow'g Persons who it appears were not present at their respective Trials viz't (here insert their names). The several Sentences (except those ag't the abovementioned Persons) are to be immediately put into execution & the several Persons acquitted are to be released.

Saml. Brown, Ebenezer Sammons, John Brundage, Joshua Terry, James Fierly, Ab'm Decker, Jabeth Lewis, Oaky Bloom, Jacobus Van Derhoff, Gamaliel Tuthill, Gabriel Ludlam — his F. app'd, Saml. Bull, Philip Miller, Thos. Night, Ebenezer Bull, James Johnston, Jeremiah Butler, Wm. Garrison, Rosel Gee, James East, Eben'r Oweu

[No. 2872.]

John Wiley's Commission as Commissary.

By his Excellency George Clinton Esqr. Gov'r &c.

To John Wiley Esquire Greeting. Whereas by an act of the Legislature of this State, entitled "an act to provide the Troops of this State in the service of the United States with clothing & other necessaries" passed the 14th March 1780, among other Things enacted "That it shall be lawful for the Person administering the Govern'm't of this State for the Time being by writing and seal to appoint from Time to Time during his Pleasure a Commissary to provide the said Troops with necessaries." Therefore, reposing confidence in your ability and integrity, we hereby appoint you the said John Wiley, Commissary for the said Troops, and during the Pleasure of the Person administering the Gov't of this State, to be being, in the execution of which you are to govern yourself by the said Law.

In Testimony whereof I have hereunto set my Hand and Seal at Albany in the County this 6th Day of May in the fourth year of our Independence, and the year of our Lord 1780.

[No. 2873.]

The Field Officers of Van Woert's Regiment Submit a Grievance.

Cambridge, May 6th 1780.

To his Excellency George Clinton Esqr. Gov'r &c. &c.

Sir, It is with the deepest Concern that we find ourselves urged by necessity to Represent to your Excellency upon what a Scene of past misfortunes has made our present Grievance.

Prior to which Grievance we would beg Leave with the most profound respect to Submit to your Excellency's Consideration the following Introductive reasons: Since the time of our return home, after being drove off by the Enemy, we have been under Standing Orders, to repair upon the Shortest notice to the frontiers: these Orders we have Punctually Obeyed, Chearfully exerting ourselves upon every appearance of danger; not even upon Such occasions regarding the most pressing calls of necessity to continue at home to provide for our families.

We have likewise borne our proportion in Publick Drafts for Campaine Service, in Detachments, and in Taxation with the other parts of the State. All which assistance we readily afforded, tho' distressing in our broken Circumstances. So that the Product of these years past has been nothing less than an unabated Struggle betwixt the Enemy, and Domestick necessity.

In the month of April past we received Orders to List and Equip every thirty-fifth man for the Ensuing Campaine to be posted as frontier Guards, than which nothing could be more to our minds. It was, therefore, Cordially Complied with, and Speedily Executed, hoping by this means to relieve ourselves from the Insupportable burden of Detachments.

But now, Contrary to our Expectation, and what we consider as a Grievance, we are ordered to raise one Eighth part of our

Militia, and to provide them with Arms, Ammunition, and Provision; to take post upon the frontiers, and to be continued by Relieving. Now, tho we think it most Necessary that the Frontiers be well guarded, as Some of the Inhabitants are already moving, and we must Soon if not defended, to the now Interior parts of the State will upon a few removes more become the frontier, yet in our present Situation we are able neither to Raise nor Equip them.

As to Arms they might be provided, but for Ammunition it is out of our Power to procure; for tho an Article of the Act for Regulating the Militia Points out how Ammunition it to be obtained, yet we are altogether unable to Purchase it.

As to Provision, it is Absolutely out of our Power to Victual ourselves upon the frontiers, and leave Sufficient to Support our families at home.

This Sir is our Grievance for the Consideration, and redress of which most humbly Implore your Excellency.

That your Excellency may long Enjoy the peaceable Government of this State, is for what we shall ever pray.

Lewis Van Woert Colonel; John Blair Lt. Colo; Jam's Ashton Major.

[To G. C.]

[No. 2874.]

Captain Williams Promptly Reports the Accidental Burning of a Beacon.

Sir, By some unaccountable negligence in the Guard, the Beacon on the east side of the river, either by accident or design unfortunately took fire about one o'Clock this day & burnt to the ground. As it is probable this accident will be taken by the

Country for a signal of alarm, I have taken the liberty to give you this information to prevent the movement of the Militia. I have the honor to be Your Excellency's most obed't humble servant

Abraham Williams, Capt. Commandant Fishkill.

Fishkill May 7, 1780.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

Poughkeepsie, May 8th 1780.

Sir, His Excellency Gov'r Clinton directs me to present you with his Thanks for your attention in forward'g the acc't of the burning of the Beacon. The alarm guns not being discharged & a gentleman passing thro' this Place from Fishkill prevented any alarm taking Place. I am
R. B. [Robert Benson.]
[To Capt. Abraham Williams.]

[No. 2875.]

General Lewis Morris Unable to Attend the Scession of the Legislature.

Society Hall, May 7th 1780.

Dear Sir: I am honored with your Excellency's circular Letter of the 22d ult. requiring me to attend the Legislature at Kingston on the 9th instant. My zeal for the public Interest makes me extremely anxious to contribute my feeble aid in the Councils of the State to which I belong, but the particular Situation of my Family obliges me to request your leave of absence. I presume this request will not appear extraordinary when you consider that my Family is large, and the economy of it has suffered, and still suffers, in an eminent Degree, by my long at-

attention to public Business; besides this Consideration permit me to remind you, Sir, of the Petition which was preferred against the Refugees who are members of the Legislature. Whether the objections to them are founded in Reason or the Spirit of Party I will not pretend to determine. Dignity of office has few Charms to attract a man of my advanced years; and I should wound my own Feelings, as well as violate one of the fundamental duties of Society, were I to continue in the Legislature contrary to the wishes of my Fellow citizens. At the Same time I assure you, Sir, that I am far from wishing to retire from the Service of my Country, and should the operations of the Campaign call for my Exertions in the Field, I shall receive your orders with Pleasure, and execute them to the utmost Extent of my slender abilities. Indeed from the late arrival of the Marquis la Fayette in Boston, added to the general appearance of things in Europe, and the West Indies, I cannot help indulging a Hope that we shall soon move against New York, with such a combined Force, as will afford us the most flattering success. Before I conclude this Letter I beg your Excellency will receive my warmest congratulations on your being reappointed to the Government.* The well grounded Esteem I have always entertained for your private, and public Character, induces me to wish, most sincerely, that you may preside over the State during Life. And should I be honored with a Seat in the Legislature, when Peace is established, I shall take pleasure in contributing to render your administration agreeable to your Constituents, and Pleasing to yourself. Pray make my best regards acceptable to

*Under the first State Constitution the term of office of Governor was fixed for three years. Governor Clinton's plurality in 1788 was 22, and in 1789 it was 21. The result of the election in 1789 are not to be found in the archives of the Secretary of State's office.—STATE HISTORIAN.

Mrs. Clinton and Family, and believe me to be, D^r Sir, with the greatest Respect, your Excellency's Friend, and Most Humble Servant

Lewis Morris.

P. S. Upon Recollection I believe the Petition I speak of was not preferred for some political Reasons but it was brought to town and postponed to the next Session of the Legislature.

[To G. C.]

[No. 2876.]

THE WAR IN THE SOUTH.

Colonel Hay Notifies Governor Clinton of the Investment of Charleston—Also of the Deplorable Condition of Washington's Army.

Fishkill 8th May 1780.

Dear Sir, I lately arrived from head Quarters without bringing any news, except that Charlestown was compleatly invested on 16th ult; but there was no doubt of its safety on 20th and I think it must have been safe much latter than that otherwise we should have heard of its fall from New York, as the winds at this season of the year are generally favourable for vessels coming to the northward, and there is no doubt but news of such consequence will be conveyd with all possible dispatch.

Governor Rutledge with some other of the principal gentlemen left the City at the request of the inhabitants, the gentlemen of the general's family have great hopes respecting it, provided they have a sufficiency of Provisions, and it is said they have six months; I wish it may be so, and indeed I am in hopes it is, otherwise an officer of General Lincoln's Prudence would not have suffered himself to be so compleatly invested, when by a timely and safe retreat he could have prevented it.

The Marquiss* brings no news that has yett transpired. The English at New York appear undoubtedly to be uncommonly apprehensive of a French fleet, and yett the Marquiss declares publicly he knows of none that is coming. The Committee of arrangement has been at head qrs. almost a month, but have done very little indeed, they are excessively embarrassed about forming a system for the Qr. masters Department, a very and complicated one indeed, was formed by General Mifflin and Mr. Pickering, to which the Committee in their orders from Congress are desired to adhere as nearly as possible, and as they find many matters therein which want alteration they have I believe wrote Congress for fuller powers.

The Army at Morristown both have and now are in a most deplorable situation both for want of Provisions & Forage. We are no better here. I have by letter advised the General to order both Commissarys and Qr. masters to agree for the necessary supplies at a hard money price, payable on or before the first of Sept., either in hard money or the current paper money of the Country equivalent thereto; the General after laying it before the other General officers has adopted the plan, I am in hopes it will be of considerable help to us.

I sett off for Hartford tomorrow morning to try, with the assistance of Colonel Wadsworth, if the salt Provisions in that State can be gott on, of which we have not more than five days allowance in this Department.

I shall do myself the Honour of waiting on you at my return.

*The sword ordered by Congress for the Marquis de Lafayette being at length finished, I sent it down to him at Havre where he was with the troops intended for the invasion. I wrote a letter with it, and received an answer, copies of which I enclose, together with a description of the sword, and drawings of the work upon it, which was executed by the best artists in Paris, and cost altogether two hundred guineas. The present has given him great pleasure, and some of the circumstances have been agreeable to the nation.—Franklin to Francis Hopkinson.

and am with my own & Mrs. Hay's respectful compliments to Mrs. Clinton your Excellencies most obed't & very humble Se't
 Udny Hay.
 Governour Clinton.

[No. 2877.]

Governor Clinton Offers No Objection to the Foster Family's Proceeding to New York.

Fish Kill 8 May 1780.

Sir, I am ordered by General Howe to request your information respecting the Parole generally taken from a Citizen found in arms when permitted to go within the Enemies lines; there is a Benijah Burtis of Westchester County under these circumstances at present, and the General is incited from the reports he has had respecting his Conduct to grant him his Parole.

The General desires likewise I would inform you that a Mrs. Foster with seven Children—the oldest twelve years—wants to go to her husband below the lines who is an old man of sixty years and went to the Enemy about six weeks agoe: she is informed he is upon Alderman Leggett's farm: she is strongly recommended by Lt. Knap and Mr. Gilbert Budd: I am totally unacquainted with any of their Characters. I am most respectfully, your Excellencies most obedient and very humble Se't

Udny Hay.

She has the general's consent if she obtains yours.
 Governour Clinton.

D'r Sir, I have rec'd your two Letters of the 8th Inst. You will please to inform Genl. Howe that I have no objection to Mrs. Foster's going with her Children to her Husband at New York,

if he thinks it proper. The substance of the Parole of a Citizen permitted to go in Exchange is, that he will not say or do anything prejudicial to the Interests of the United States in general, or of this state in particular, and that he will, if not duly exchanged, deliver within the Time limited himself up to the Commissary Genl. of Prisoners. I have only to add &c.

[G. C.]

[To Col. Udny Hay.]

Kingston 20th May.

[No. 2878.]

Dr. Provost Acknowledges Governor Clinton's Kindness to Mrs Provost.

Sir, I eagerly embrace the first opportunity of presenting the most cordial acknowledgments to your Excellency for the favour granted to Mrs. Provost which I really hope will prove of service to her health, tho' she is not flattered by the Physicians with the expectation of a speedy recovery, or any removal of her complaints, but what must arise from unremitting attention to her Diet and the most industrious perseverance in following their Prescriptions. On her passage to and from New York she was treated with the kindest attention by General Howe and the other officers at the forts, for which we think ourselves greatly indebted to your Excellency's recommendation and their politeness.

There was a letter sent to the care of Mrs. Provost by Mr. William Smith, which being written in a figurative stile, that she could not readily comprehend, and mentioning bills as sent by her which she never saw or heard of, she thought necessary to deliver to Capt. Bloodgood, who has promised to send it back

to Poughkeepsie for your Excellency's perusal, should it be perfectly inoffensive as very probably it may be. I know your goodness will excuse the ignorance or overcaution of herself and the captain. I am, with the most lively sentiments of gratitude and esteem your Excellency's very Humble Servant

Saml. Provoost.

P. S. Mrs. Provoost joins in respectful compliments to Mrs. Clinton and family.

Manor of Livingston Thursday the 10 of May 1780.

[To G. C.]

[No. 2879.]

COLONEL VAN SCHAICK OVERRIDES BOARD OF WAR.

Disregards Their Orders to Abolish Several Military Posts in the Northern Department.

Albany May 10th 1780.

Sir, Inclose your Excellency, Copy of an act of the Honorable the Board of War, by which you will be informed that they have ordered a number of Posts in this Department to be broke up. Amongst those are enumerated, the places your Excellency assigned for the Rendezvous of the Troops raising for the defence of the Frontiers in this, Tryon, & Charlotte Counties. General Ten Broeck having met with an accident which will render him unfit for Duty for some time, apprehensive that the act would not be carried into execution so soon as what was necessary, I have requested the officers Commanding Regiments in General Ten Broeck's Brigade immediately, to send their men to the places of Rendezvous assigned to each Regiment by the General.

I have also thought proper to supersede the orders of the Board of War, by directing the Deputy Commissary General of Issues in this Department, to continue an Issuing Commissary at each of the following Posts; Schoharry, Fort Plank, & Sacandago. The Troops at Fort Edward can be Victualed by the Commissary from Fort George. Altho General Schuyler concurs in opinion with the Board of War, a line from your Excellency to the Commander in Chief, I trust will obtain a Justification of my Conduct, & an order for continuing Issuing Commissaries at the places the Troops may be stationed for the defence of the Northern, & Western Frontiers in these parts. If Issuing Commissaries are not allowed to be continued, I wish some mode may speedily be pointed out in what manner those Troops are to be Victualed. I am most respectfully, your Excellencies most obedient humble servant

G. V. Schaick,

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

Philadelphia 16th March 1780.

Dear Sir, Your favor of the 27th Ulto, inclosing Col. Van Schaick's Certificates, I have Received, and laid both before the Board of War in expectation that they would Justify you and of Course myself, from the Charge of keeping up many unnecessary Posts in your district. I have their Orders to desire you will as soon after the Receipt of this as Possible break up the following Posts Viz: Schenectady, Schohara, Johnstown, Fort Plank, Oneida Castle, Halfmoon Point, New City, Saratoga, Fort Edward, Skeensborough, Bennington, Rutland, Keen & Peterborough, Charlestown & Haverhill. Previous to my writing you on this Subject, I Requested to Consult General Schuyler who Con-

curs in opinion with the Board of War, and who has Copies of the daily Issues of most of those Places, which appears to make it quite unnecessary they should be Continued. I beg you will lose no time in fully obeying this order of the Board of War; if it should differ widely from your own Judgment you will Close the accounts of the assistants that are suspended by this order as fast as possible, and have any Stores that may Remain on hand at the time of their Respective dismissal forwarded to the most Convenient Posts, that is yet to Continue; the detachments that are Stationed at the Posts now to be broke up must be furnish'd with Provisions monthly from the Posts that Remain on orders of the officers Commanding at those Places.

Signd Charles Stewart, C. G. of I.

Copy.

To James Gray, Esqr., Deputy Com'y Genl. of Issues Albany.

[No. 2880.]

Massachusetts and the Currency Question.

State of Massachusetts Bay. Council Chamber.

Boston May 11th 1780.

Sir, Agreeable to the Direction of the Hon'ble Council of this State I do myself the Honor of transmitting to Your Excell'y the doings of the General Assembly respecting the Currency, in Consequence of a recommendation of Congress of the 18th of March last.* I am, With every Sentiment of Esteem Your Excellency's Most Obed't Serv't

John Avery, D. Sec.

His Excell'y Gov'r Clinton.

*See page 572.

[No. 2881.]

To Fill Vacancies in James Clinton's Brigade.

Pokeepsie, May 12, 1780.

Dr Sir, There have been frequent applications from the different Regts. of your Brigade to fill up vacancies occasioned by Deaths or Resignations &c. It is impossible for the Council of Appointm't to enter on this Business upon those partial Returns with any Certainty of doing general Justice, and yet not only the public service may suffer but also the Officers to whom promotion is due unless this Business is completed. I have, therefore, to request of you to obtain a proper Return of the vacancies in the Differ't Corps raised under Direction of this State, and of the Persons who agreeable to their present Rank ought to fill them, and the different Promotions, that will be, thereby, occasioned & this Return signed by yourself & approved & certified to be necessary by his Excellency the Commander in Chief. You will be pleased to forward me without Delay, that I may lay the same before the Council of Appointm't who are convened at Kingston & will sit ab't 3 weeks; I wish Capt. Wiley to proceed to Kingston & receive his appointm't & Instructions agreeable to my Request in my last Letter to you.

[G. C.]

[To Gen. James Clinton.]

[No. 2882.]

Major Wynkoop Forwards His Resignation.

Kingston May 12th 1780.

Sir, This morning I came to Kingston purposely to resign my Commission to your Excellency. In doing this, it may be ex-

pected, and I doubt not is proper, that I should assign the Reasons which has determined me on such a step.

Ever since my appointment to the Rank I now hold more than an equal share of actual Service has Fallen into my Lot. Colo. Elmendorph has been for years, thro' Sickness incapable, of duty, and Colo. Snyder's mode of managing the Regt. has, in my opinion, never been calculated either to Promote harmony among the officers and men or utility to the publick. In the orders which he has in several Instances issued to me, the nature and form of them argues in him, either Ignorance or design. These are my Reasons, Sir, and as I have long and deliberately weighed them, and now Firmly resolved, your Excellen'y will please accept of my Resignation.

Permit me now to assure you, that as in my Public Character I have ever endeavoured to be Forward in my duty; so in my private Capacity my most strenuous efforts shall never be wanting to the Calls of my Country. I am, with great Esteem, your Excell'y Most Obed't Serv't

A. Wynkoop.

Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 2883.]

Daniel Uhlendorph's Information Respecting the Enemy.

Daniel Uhlendorph's Information:

He sat out from Niagara with about a Hundred of Butler's greens, and a small Number of Regulars of the 34th on Board a vessel.

The same time and in the same Manner Brand sat out, with 300 Indians, as they said, but he believes they were considerably inferior to that number.

Both these vessels landed the troops at Oswego, where Sir John, was with 150 as he guessed.

From Oswego the troops proceeded, one part on Battoes, the rest by land. The Battoes proceeded two Days, when they came to a carrying place; where the Battoes and Cargoes were carried over, and then proceeded on, as he tacks it on the same Lacke or River, Still Water; from thence the Battoes proceeded into a small Creek, which led into a Lacke, which lacke the made in an Hour's time; here the Land troops joined; the Battoes were brought into a small Creek and left there. He has heard that three Days provision was left with the Battoes; one Battoc was sent back with sick and Creeples; He adds that the Creeck was saltish.

[No. 2884.]

*Colonel Klock and Captain Deygert Apprehend Further Depredations
from the Indians and Tories.*

Tryon Comty, Conajohary, May ye 12th 1780.

Sir, Upon a Declaration under oath of a Person, who was a considerable Time ago kept by us as a Spy, and actually has done these parts very material Services by his faithfull Informations, we find that this County is once more in the most critical Situation. Sir John Johnson with a Body under his Command is under March to come out at Johnstown and to attack Stone araby. Brand with an other Body is to fall upon Conajohary at the same Time. The Blow, as is mentioned in a Letter of the former, would have been given at this Time, if Snow and Water had not been an obstacle. We have to Day made Application to general Ten Broeck for the most speedy and effectual

Assistance; for we must expect the Arrival of the Enemy every Day. Our Deponent further adds, that a Number of disaffected had already assembled, and were dayly assembling from the Helle Berg, Schonaectady and all Corners; those in the neighbourhood to have orders to be ready with Provisions and for joining upon a Minute's Warning. He declares that provision is carried to furnish those assembled and assembling; he himself was helping to ride provision. We must declare that we have not the least reason to doubt the Veracity of this Declaration; it agrees perfectly with the Contents of three Letters, who were send by a party, who took prisoners at Riemen-snyder's Bush, from disaffected persons of this County to their families, wherein is mentioned, that they were making greater preparations, as they never saw before, and thereby they are not doubting of conquering the Country, at Least these parts, and in order, that they will soon see their Families. We think it our Duty to acquaint your Excellency with all these Particulars, but we think secrecy is a material point to our preservation; for we can not know most whom to trust or upon who to depend. Our deponent says, that there is officers of the lower District, who have Comissions from the Enemy, and actually enlisted one the Number of eighty one Man. Coll. Vischer makes no Doubt to disobey my Express orders; upon whom to rely upon any Emergency I think very precarious. We make no Doubt but your Excellency will grant us such Assistance, as our Case requires and furnish us with such other Directions as you think to be expedient in order to frustrate most effectually the wicked Designs of our external and domestic Enemies. We must recommend unto your Excellency a supply

of Ammunition and provision, and remain your Excellency's most obedient and most humble Servants

Jacob Klock, Col.

Peter S. Deygert.

To his Excellency George Clinton Esqr. Governor &c. of New York.

[No. 2885.]

Linca! List of Officers of New York State Organizations.

Morris-Town May 14t 1780.

Sir, I beg leave to inclose the present arrangement of my Regiment; together with the Promotions, which of right belong to those Genteln: whose names are fixed opposite the Vacancies, and Death.

Your Excellency, will, I hope, be pleased to lay before the Counsel of Appointment, for their approbation, the Genteln's names, who have served as Ensigns without Comissions. I was authorized by your Excellency's Letter dated May 15th 79. to Continue them, upon the Nomination, untill the Counsel could be Convened.

The Vacancies with respect to those Ensigns have happened, as specified in the margin.

I am, with Sentiments of great Respect, your Excellency's most obedient most humble Servant

Fred. Weissenfels.

His Excellency George Clinton, Esqr.

A Rank Roll of the Field and Commissioned Officers of the 4th New York Battalion in the service of the United States May 5th 1780.

Appointed.	Names of Officers.	Rank.	Remarks.
Jan'y 13th. 1779.	Frederick Weissenfels	Lt. Colo. Comdt.	Res'nd 11th Apl. 1780 Capt. Rosecrants
May 29th. 1778.	Joseph M'Craken	Major	
Nov'r 15th. 1775.	Samuel Sacket	Capt.	Died 15th Apl. 1780 Capt. Lt. Dunscomb
Feb'y 6th. 1776.	John Davis	Capt.	
Nov'r 21t. 1776.	Benjamin Walker	Capt.	
Nov'r 21t. 1776.	Israel Smith	Capt.	
Nov'r 21t. 1776.	Jonathan Titus	Capt.	
April 23d. 1778.	Nathaniel Norton	Capt.	
April 23d. 1778.	Theodisious Fowler	Capt.	
April 23d. 1778.	Edward Dunscomb	Capt. Lieut.	Lieut. Gray
March 18th. 1777.	Silas Gray	Lieut.	
Sept'r 15th. 1777.	Peter Elsworth	Lieut.	
Nov'r 9th. 1777.	Peter Van Benschoten	Lieut.	
Nov'r 9th. 1777.	Thomas Hunt	Lieut.	
Nov'r 9th. 1777.	Abraham Hyatt	Lieut.	
Nov'r 9th. 1777.	Redolph V Hoevenbargh	Lieut.	
Nov'r 9th. 1777.	Joseph Frellek	Lieut.	
Nov'r 9th. 1777.	James Barrett	Lieut.	
Nov'r 9th. 1777.	Daniel D. Deniston	En-Sign	Daniel D. Deniston
Nov'r 9th. 1777.	Azariah Tutbill	Ensign	
Nov'r 9th. 1777.	Samuel Tallmadge	Ensign	
Nov'r 9th. 1777.	Ephraim Woodruff	Ensign	
Jan'y 1st. 1778.	John Barr No. 2	Ensign	No Commission
Jan'y 1st. 1778.	Samuel Dodge No. 3	Ensign	No Commission
Jan'y 1st. 1778.	Stephen Griffin No. 4	Ensign	No Commission
Jan'y 1st. 1778.	Joseph Morrill No. 1	Ensign	No Commission

Fred. Weissenfels Lt. Colonel Comandant 4t N. Y. R.

Return of the Company officers of the 2d N. York Regiment with their Ranks & the Dates of their Commissions &c. May 15th 1780.

Names.	Rank.	Dates of Commissions.	Remarks.
Charles Graham,	Captain,	November 21st 1776,	
Samuel T. Pell,	do	Nov'r 21st do	
Jacob Wright,	do	Nov'r 21st do	
Jonathan Hallett,	do	Nov'r 21st do	
Abner French,	do	June 1st 1778	
Charles Nukerek,	Capt. Lieut.	Nov'r 21st 1776	Capt. Lieut. Nukerek on Lieut. Marshall intitled to promotion Since the 23d April 1779.
Elihu Marshall,	Lieut.	Nov'r 21st 1776	
Christopher Colwise,	Lieut.	Nov'r 21st 1776	
James Fairlie,	do	Nov'r 21 1776	
John L. Hardenbergh,	do	June 21st 1777	
William Munday,	do	Oct'r 10th 1777	
Charles F. Weissenfels,	Do	Sept'r 1st 1778	
Tjerek Beckman,	Do	Sept'r 1st 1778	
William Glenney,	2d Lieut.	June 21st 1778	Lieut. Wm. Glenney intitled to promotion since the 23d Apl. 79.
Tunis Van Waganen,	2d Lieut.	Sept'r 1st 1778	Lieut. Vanwaganen intitled to promotion since the 5th Apl. 1780.
Barnardus Swartwout,	Ensign No. 3	Sept'r 1st 1778	
John Brown,	Do No. 6	Sept'r 1st 1778	
Robert Provoost,	Do No.	Sept'r 1st 1778	

Charles Graham, Capt. Commdt.

Return of the Officers of the Fifth N. York Battalion with those
Intitled to Promotions and the dates. May 15th 1780.

Officers Names,	Dates of Com'n.	Remarks.
Captains.	No.	
James Rosekrans	1 Aug' 75	Intitled to Maj'r from 31st March by the Resignation of Lt. Col. Begler.
James Stewart	2 Nov'r 21st '76	
Philip D B Bevier	3 D	
Henry Godwin	4 D	
John Hamtramck	5 D	
John Johnson	6 D	
Capt. Lieut.		
Henry Duboys		Intitled to a Captancy from 23d Decbr. 1779 Colo. Duboys Resigud.
Lieutenants		
Henry V. D. Burgh	1st Nov'r 21st '76	Intitled to a Captancy by the promotion of Capt. Rosekrans.
Henry Dodge	2 D	Entitled to the Capt. Lacey by the promotion of Capt. Lt. Duboys from 23d Decembr 1779.
Henry Pawling	3 D	
Michael Connolly	4 D	
Samuel Dodge	5 D	
John Furman	6 D	
Samuel English	7 D	
2d Lt. acting as Ens'n		
Ebenazar Mott	D	Intitled to fill the place of Lieut. by the Resignation of Capt. Duboys 23d Decbr. 1779.
Ensigns		
Henry Swartwout	1st Nov'r 21st '76	Intitled to Lieutenancy by the Resigna'n of Lieut. Betts, March 1st 1780.
John McClaughry	2 D	Intitled to Lieutenancy by the Promotion of Lieut. V D Burgh.
Abraham Legget	3 D	
Francis Hammer	4 D	
James Johnston	5 June 25th '77	
Barth'w V D Burgh	6 May 1st '78	
Nehemiah Carpenter	7	

John Johnson, Capt. Comdt.

[No. 2886.]

Governor Clinton Regrets That Colonel Klock's Informant Was Not More Specific.

Kingston 15th May 1780.

Sir, I have this moment rec'd your Letter of the 13th [12th] Inst. by Express contain'g Intelligence of the hostile Intentions of the Enemy ag't your County. I co'd have wished it had been more explicit, as if the Places where it is said Preparations are making for this Enterprize were mentioned, and the Routes that the different Parties will probably take were designated, I should not only have been able better to determine how far the

Information might be credited but to have made use of the best Precautions in my Power to have defeated their Designs. I could also wish that the Names of the Officers who it is said are recruiting for the Enemy as well as the Places where the disaffected rendezvous had been specified; in this Case I could have given more pointed Directions respecting the Steps proper to be pursued and these are Things which must have rested in the Knowledge of your Informant, as it seems he himself had been employed by the Enemy in collecting Provisions for them. However, even on this imperfect Information, it is my Desire that the whole Militia of the County be kept in the most perfect Readiness to act on the shortest Notice to oppose the Enemy upon their first approach, & that Scouts be constantly kept out reconnoitering at Distances as remote as possible, that you may have the earliest accounts of their Movements & not be taken by Surprise. Genl. Ten Broeck has my Orders herewith transmitted, to cooperate with and furnish you with as much aid from his Brigade, as may appear requisite and in his Power to give and Colo. Van Schaick is requested, if the public Magazines will admit of it, to order you a supply of ammunition & Provision for the Men who shall be actually engaged in this service. With Respect to the disaffected, who have embodied themselves to join the Enemy the moment you have sufficient Evidence of it, you will not hesitate in taking every necessary Measure for suppressing them.

I must entreat, that no Time be lost in completing your Men designed for the Frontiers, that they enter immediately on that Service. Of the Levies when embodied you may rely upon, hav'g as great Number as I can give you, consistent with my Duty to the other exposed Parts of the State, and of every other Relief

which I am empowered to afford you. Unanimity among the Officers of the militia, especially among those commanding Regiments, is at this so interesting Crisis (with most spirited Exertions) essentially requisite; let me, therefore, recommend it in the strongest Terms as the general safety & that of your County in particular much depends upon it. This Letter is to be considered as an order & you are to transmit Copies of it with such further directions as may be proper to the Command'g Officers of Regts. in your County. I am &c.

[G. C.]

[To Col. Klock.]

I am far from thinking that the Troops directed to be raised for the Defence of the Frontiers will be sufficient for that Purpose; it is, therefore, the Interest of the Members of your County to attend the Legislature & press the Necessity of making Provision for raising an additional Force for this Service.

[No. 2887.]

Colonel Van Schaick Directed to Cooperate with General Ten Broeck.

Kingston 15th May 1780.

D'r Sir, By a Letter from Colo. Klock & Major Deygert of Tryon of the 12th Inst. rec'd this moment by Express, I have the most alarming Intelligence of the hostile Intentions of the Enemy ag't that County; for the particulars I refer you to Genl. Ten Broeck to whom they inform me they have wrote on the subject. As the Information may probably be true, I would request that you would be pleased to take every step you shall think necessary & to give Genl. Ten Broeck every assistance in your Power for the Protection of the Frontier & the safety of the Inhabitants. And that as far as the public Magazines will allow of it, you will

supply such of the Militia as shall be in actual service with ammunition & Provision of which they are entirely destitute. If you are furnished with Returns of the Levies you will oblige me by sending me an abstract as without it it is out of my Power to make the necessary Disposition of those Troops.

I have rec'd your Letter of the 10th Inst. and think it highly improper at present to break up the Posts of Skeensborough Fort Plank & Herkimer & Fort Edward but I conceive that a smaller Number of Commissaries than those now employed will be sufficient to serve the different Posts mentioned in the Orders of the Board of War. One or two might be enough for each County and Provision be drawn Monthly by Quarter Masters of Regts. for the use of such Posts as may not have a Commissary.

[G. C.]

[To Col. Van Schaick.]

[No. 2888.]

PORTENTOUS NEWS FROM FRANCE.

General Schuyler Requests Governor Clinton to Hold the Legislature In Session Till the Contents of Lafayette's Despatches Be Known.

Morris Town, May 15th 1780.

Dear Sir; The Marquis de la Fayette,* of whose arrival your Excellency has doubtless been Informed, left us yesterday with dispatches from the Court of Versailles for Congress, and for the

*Under date of March 14, 1780, Washington wrote to James Duane, as follows:

"The arrival of the Marquis de Lafayette opens a prospect, which offers the most important advantages to these States, if proper measures are adopted to improve it. He announces an intention of his court to send a fleet and army to cooperate effectually with us. In the present state of our finances, and in the total emptiness of our magazines, a plan must be concerted to bring out the resources of the country with vigor and decision. This I think you will agree with me cannot be effected, if the measures to be taken should depend on the slow deliberations of a body so large as Congress, admitting the best disposition in every member to promote the objects in view. It appears to me of the greatest importance, and even of absolute necessity, that a small committee should be immediately appointed to reside near head-quarters,

Chevalier De La Luzerne;* whilst here the Marquis detailed the Contents of the dispatches, of which he was fully advised, to a select few. They evince the most decided determination on the part of France to Support us thro the Contest, and an event will soon take place which will announce to all Europe and America that his most Christian Majesty will not confine himself to mere professions of amity to us or to pecuniary aids.

I am not at present permitted to be more explicit; but a common friend of ours has wished me to Communicate thus much, with the Express view that the legislature may not separate until they hear from Congress on the Subject I have alluded to. If, therefore, there should be a disposition to a speedy close of the session, it may perhaps be proper to signify that I consider it a duty incumbent on me as their servant in Congress, to intreat the legislature may not rise, as there will most assuredly be a necessity of reconvening them at an early day.

Mr. Livingston has been here and proposed to do himself the honor to wait on the legislature, but was prevailed on, to return to Congress to afford his aid on the important business which will immediately claim the attention of that body; he has intreated me to mention this to your Excellency that the legislature may be advised of it; altho I am closely engaged with the committee

vested with all the powers which Congress have, so far as respects the purpose of a full cooperation with the French fleet and army on the continent. Their authority should be plenipotentiary to draw out men and supplies of every kind, and to give their sanction to any operations which the Commander-in-chief may not think himself at liberty to undertake without it, as well beyond as within the limits of these States. The committee can act with despatch and energy. By being on the spot: will be able to provide for exigencies as they rise, and the better to judge of their nature and urgency. The plans in contemplation may be opened to them with more freedom and confidence, than to a numerous body, where secrecy is impossible, where the indiscretion of a single member by disclosing may defeat the project."

*Franklin, from Passy, France, under date of June 4, 1779, here told the new French Minister to Francis Hopkinson in these words:

"Permit me to recommend the new Minister, the Chevalier de Luzerne, to your civilities, as a gentleman of most amiable character here, and a hearty friend of the American cause. If you can in any respect be serviceable to him, you will much oblige me."

appointed to the arrangement of the Staff departments. Yet if your Excellency and the legislature shall deem my presence necessary at Kingston for the purpose of giving any information they may require, I shall with great alacrity attend. I am, Dear Sir, with every sentiment of Esteem & affection your Excellency's most obedient Humble Servant

Ph: Schuyler.

Charlestown safe on the 1st Instant; little Impression made by the Enemy. If it is not reduced before this day, there are reasons to believe it will not be at all.

His Excellency George Clinton Esqr. &c.

[No. 2889.]

Colonel Cooper Indorses James Linkletter's Application.

Cakiatt ye 15th May 1780.

Dr Sir: A Neighbour of mine one James Linkletter, a Refugee from New York, seems well effected to the American Cause, but in Low Circumstances, with a large family and unacquainted with the ways of the Country has Sundry times apply'd to me to Solicit your Exelency for a permission allowing his wife to go to New York, as he has had encouragement of getting some Cash, and other affairs due to him; he has understood that a Flag was going to New York in which Tomas Smith Esqr. was to go; if so, he begs your Honour to let his wife go in Company with him, with having your Permission to go; and Return with some Cash &c. for her own families use; with this & my Best Respects I Remain yours at Command

Gilb't Cooper.

To his Exelency Governor Clinton.

N. B. As Judge Coe is to be the Bearer hereof, he can explain the Situation of the family of Linkletter better than I am able to write.

[No. 2889½.]

A General Order for Militia Colonels.

The Safety of the State at this Juncture requires that the Militia, particular those Regts. contiguous to the Frontier Settlements, sh'd be kept in the most perfect Readiness to take the Field on the shortest Notice; that on the approach of the Enemy or other Emergency that may render necessary the strengthening the Guards stationed at the respective out Posts, the Militia

may be able immediately to join them. The Command'g Officers of those Regts. are, therefore, to see that their Men are properly armed & provided with ammunition. Those of Tryon, Albany & Charlotte are, upon the Requisition of Lt. Colo. Harpur, or the command'g officer of his Corps of Levies, from Time to Time any Sudden Emergency or Intelligence of the approach of the Enemy to furnish such aid from their Regts. as shall be necessary effectually to oppose the Enemy & give Protection to the contiguous Posts & Settlements, as are those of Ulster Orange & West Chester upon the Requisition of Lieut. Colo. Pawling or Officer Comm'g his Regt. without waiting further orders. The Commanding Officer of Regts. Albany to report this order to their Brig'r & what they may do in Consequence. It is expected that the officers will be particularly attentive to this order as from Neglect the most fatal Consequences may arise.

[No. 2890.]

Andrew McFarlan Makes Request for Permission to Visit England.

Schanaetdy 16th May 1780.

Sir, When I applyed to you in Albany for a pass to go to Montrial, or the British Lines, to fall on sum method to sattle a Debt that I owed in England, you was Convinced of the Reasonableness of it: you only wanted to Inquire into my Political Charector, and I am Convinced that you found that, not to be any Bar in the way: You will much oblige me by Sending a pass to go by the First Flag or any other way that you will think Best. I am, Sir, your Most Humble Sarv't

And'w McFarlan.

George Clinton, Esqr.

[No. 2891.]

*John Tayler Forwards an Intercepted Letter of William Smith
Written to Peter R. Livingston.*

Dear Sir, The Inclosed letter came from New York, & was Inspected at your office with others brought out by Mr. Prevoost. Mr. Bloodgood, Supposing its Contents ought to be known by

you previous to its delivery, & Imagining it to have been overlooked among the number, detain'd it & Requested me to send it to you. I Confess I should hardly suspect the person for a Whig to whom an Intimate Tory friend should say such things—a Certain———a Taylor by trade was some days ago apprehended in Charlotte County, & brought to the Goal of this City: the account given by himself is, that he deserted from the 4th British Regiment some time after their leaving Philadelphia, that he went a privatering out of some Eastern Port, that some time after he came to this State & worked at his trade, that on his Expressing a desire to Return to Ireland by way of Canada, when at work at New Burgh, at one Fosters or Forristers, said Foster told him he would Recommend him to Captain Pemberton, at Albany, who would assist to Canada; he Call'd at Pemberton's, who told him he had it not in his power to help him, but would Recommend him to another that would, & directed him to Abram Lansing, New City. Some time after he Came to Lansing's, Doctor Smith arrived there, and after Introducing himself as a friend, asked Several questions, which the other answerd, as follows: That he Came from New York, was on his way to Canada, and if he had papers did not Chuse to Show them. Smith then told him that he did not doubt him to be an honest man, but that the Whigs had frequently Sent persons among the Tories in order to detech them; it was, therefore, necessary to be cautious, that his Son was gone to Canada some time ago, & that himself Expected to go there ere long, as he had Solicited for an Exchange; he then gave him a letter to Philip Lansing at Saratoga, who furnished him with a guide from his house about four miles on his way, where he was Supplied with provisions; he was handed along until he Came to the house of Some tories

who were taken in in the manner Mr. Smith mention'd, and Confin'd in Goal, those people fearing a like deception apprehended the fellow; Smith & Pemberton are admitted to Bail.

General Ten Broeck Recovers Slowly; he will fight little this Campaign. Jacob Cuyler has been very Ill, but is better. Mrs. Cuyler deliverd of a Son. Tryon County much alarmed; the Inhabitants moving down; no appearance of an Enemy; please Inform Mrs. Clinton that I have not as yet Received the little articles she mention'd. I shall take Care to forward them as soon as they Come to hand. Mrs. Tayler joins in our love to Mrs. Clinton, & yourself & believe me to be with Every friendly wish.

Dr Sir, your most obed't Servant

John Tayler.

Albany 16th May 1780.

Gov'r Clinton.

New York 4th May 1780.

WILLIAM SMITH TO PETER R. LIVINGSTON.

My dear Sir, I thank you for your Letters by the Flag and hoping to see you soon, shall add nothing more, except that you may rely upon the assurances contained in my letter to Mrs. L. by your Brother Henry & that I wish to be informed immediately of your arrival, after you reach Elizabeth Town.

I had rather see you here than there, and have that confidence in the generosity of the King's Generals, as to assure you that you may come with Safety, & return when you please. Our sick Sister cannot at any Rate be moved farther, than from one Room to another of the same house.

It puts us to Pain that the small articles you wish for, can't be sent out; no Difficulties are made on this side, but at the Foot of your Letters there are Prohibitions, in the hand of a Mr. Tap

pen, & as Miss Ten Eyck says, agreeable to Mr. Clinton's orders in her Presence.

If it is heresy in Politics to wish a speedy End of the present contentions, that Policy must be wrong, that feeds a Few at the Expence of the Felicity of millions. I shall be very impatient till I see you, for the sake of her who is so anxious for that vessel; and with compliments to our common Friends & especially to Walter, whose Letter I have. I am most affectionately yours

W. Smith.

Let Walter know that he was misinformed by Mr. Benson for that Mrs. McDonald came in not only without but ag't Leave before the Date of his Letter.

I intended also to have put Dr. Thompson's money to a good use for him, if not restrained by the Spirit so unfriendly to yourself. Mrs. S. will therefore return him the Bills Mr. Ludlow left with her, by Mrs. Provost. I wish the Doctor well, & the same compl'ts to the other jolly Physician in red Cloaths. Mrs. P. has a Letter to him from Mrs. L——ns Sister who is here, and would be mighty happy to see her. But I suppose that also is impracticable. How many private Skeams of misery, for a Project that if it succeeds, would turn Brooks into Rivers, & be of no use to any, but such as can run away with their Plunder, to some happier Regions. Fare well.

Peter R. Livingston, Esqr.

[No. 2892.]

Thomas Tredwell Vouches for Henry Roscrow.

Amenia, May 17th 1750.

Sir, I have taken pains to enquire into the Character of Mr. Henry Roscrow who came off the Island with Hubbard, and have obtained Information that fully satisfies me that the man may safely be suffered to go at large; he has all along been accounted a whig both by whigs and Tories upon Long Island and has early as well as laterly

been treated ill by the latter upon that account. Joseph Hazard is now at Esopus, and I should be glad, if you should think fit to grant the man his Liberty upon this Information, and Permission to dispose of a small quantity of Goods which he has saved from the Enemy and brought off with him that you would send them by him. I am Sir with the greatest Respect & Esteem your very humble Serv't

Thos. Tredwell.

To His Excellency George Clinton, Esqr.

[No. 2893.]

Colonel Van Schaick Pictures a Discouraging Prospect for the Frontier Inhabitants.

Albany, May 17th 1780.

Sir: The repeated Applications which are hourly made by the Inhabitants of the Western & Northern Frontiers for protection & support, while they display their apprehensions of the Enemies Incursions in striking Colours, afford me the most painfull sensations, excited by a Conviction that their fears are far from groundless and the Reflection that it is not in my power to mitigate the Evils with which they are threatned, much less effectually to guard against them.

The exposed & defenceless state of our Frontiers settlements, which will in all probability if longer continued be attended with very serious Effects; the militia of Tryon County much harassed by the military services which their situation render indispensable, are at present exceedingly dispirited and appear averse to adopting the measures necessary for repelling the Enemy. They consider themselves as disregarded by their Fellow subjects and devoted by their inattention to Destruction. Hence the most remote settlements are daily breaking up, and unless some speedy and effectual Measures are taken to inspire those desponding people with Confidence, it appears far from improbable that Schonectady will be our Frontier to the Westward. The apprehensions of those to the Northward are equally lively,

and I should not be surprised if all the settlements to the Northward of the Mohawk and Westward of Hudson's River were shortly either destroyed or abandoned. Upwards of one hundred men have in a few days gone off from this and Tryon County, and amongst those, some who were formerly reputed good staunch whigs, actuated by their Fears and despairing of succour many others may perhaps be induced to follow their Example.

It is confidently reported by the disaffected in Tryon County that Sir John Johnson is on his march to make an Incursion into the Country, and I have reason to think from a variety of concurring Informations that it is more than conjectural that the Enemy meditate a Blow in that Quarter. Upon the whole the situation of the Frontiers is truly distressing.

Thus circumstanced, I am incapacitated to draw forth the militia for want of provisions. Our stores are exhausted, and it is with difficulty the Commissary furnishes subsistence for those few men who are in the Public service in this part of the Department. Drafts from the militia have been made a week or two since some appeared at the place of Rendezvous, but being unfurnished with provisions were obligated to disband.

Tho' this may possibly appear an exaggerated account, I think I have not heightened the Colours on this occasion.

General Ten Broeck, in Consequence of my Application, has ordered out one half of his Brigade with eight Days' provisions, at the Expiration of which time or shortly after, they will probably be obliged to return, as it is next to impracticable to subsist even that small Number with the provisions which the Commissary will be able to provide.

Perhaps the Disposition of a few Troops or militia Drafts in addition to the nine months men, in proper posts on the Fron-

tiers would have a Tendency to curb the Enemy's Incursions and inspirit the militia. I have the fullest Reason to think it would prevent the Inhabitants from quitting their Habitations in the manner they do at present. But the want of provision discourts every measure; nor have we a prospect of that obstruction to our defensive operations being soon removed. I have the Honor, to be, your Excellencies most obedient humble servant

G. V. Schaick.

His Excellency George Clinton.

[No. 2894.]

GOUVERNEUR MORRIS LOSES A LEG.

*Chancellor Livingston Declares His Money and Credit Are Exhausted
—Suggests That New York Should Stop the Sale of Confiscated
Property.*

Philadelphia, 18th May 1780.

Dear Sir, You may be surprized at hearing of me again from this place after my determination to leave it. I had indeed set out but was stoped by the important intelligence that has been communicated to you & which is too delicate to dwell upon in a letter.

It gives me extreme pain to see the Vermont business so long delayed, but we find it impossible to proceed in it for want of a full representation; the moment we have, I shall endeavour to bring it on, if I can stay so long tho' as my money & credit are exhausted & my affairs not in the most promissing situation at home I have some doubts on this point. You have heard of poor Morris's misfortune in the loss of his leg;* he bears it with becoming fortitude and is, I hope, in a fair way of recovery.

*In Philadelphia in May, 1780, while trying to control a pair of runaway horses, Morris was thrown from his phaeton, dislocated his ankle, and fractured the bones of his left leg. The two physicians who were called to him recommended an immediate

We have an account by the way of New Berry Port that a fleet of 8 sail of the line were on the coast of Georgia on their way to Charlestown on the 3d of May; should this prove true & our other expectations be answered we have every reason to hope that this campaign will terminate the war in America.

I hope our State have had the prudence to stop the sale of the confiscated property & to make use of it as a fund for the redemption of their money. I have drawn upon the treasury for the amount of my taxes, having no other possible way of discharging them while here & as the State is greatly in my debt I hope they will answer my bills. Your Excellency will do me a favor by getting some genl. resolution for this purpose. I am, Dr Sir, with the highest esteem & resp't your Excellency's most obt. Hum: Serv't

Robt. R. Livingston.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

amputation as the only means of saving his life, and, although this must have been a painful alternative for so young a man to contemplate, he submitted to the decree of the doctors with philosophy and even cheerfulness, and to the operation with extreme fortitude. The leg was taken off below the knee, and the operation has been cited by physicians knowing the particulars as most unskillful and hasty. The day after it took place a friend called upon him, full of sympathy and prepared to offer all the possible consolation on an event so melancholy. He painted in vivid words the good effect that such a trial should produce on his character and moral temperament, enlarging on the many temptations and pleasures of life into which young men are apt to be led, and of the diminished inducement Morris would now have to indulge in the enjoyment of such pleasures. "My good sir," replied Mr. Morris, "you argue the matter so handsomely and point out so clearly the advantages of being without legs, that I am almost tempted to part with the other." Morris seems to have felt the force of his friend's arguments in regard to the balancing effect on his character of the loss of a portion of his person, for to another friend, also deeply sympathetic and full of regret that he should have met with so grave a misfortune, he remarked: "Sir, the loss is much less than you imagine; I shall doubtless be a *steadier* man with one leg than with two." For the remainder of his life he wore a wooden leg, of primitive simplicity, not much more than a rough oak stick with a wooden knob on the end of it.—Diary and Letters of Gouverneur Morris, edited by Anne Cary Morris.

[No. 2895.]

ALARMING NEWS FROM CANADA.

*In Effect That a New and Formidable Expedition Was Preparing to
Attack Our Frontier.*

Albany, May 19th 1780.

Inclose your Excellency copies of two Letters I received last night in their nature alarming; few of the Levies have as yet appeared at the places of Rendezvous—Returns of those are collecting & which will be transmitted. I have the Honor to be, very respectfully your Excellencies obedient & most humble servant

G. V. Schaick.

His Excellency Governour Clinton.

White Creek, May 16th 1780.

Dr Sir, As two of the Soldiers who were taken at Skeensborough this Spring having made their escape from Canada and informs that the Enemy intends to attack Fort Schuyler soon it was thought prudent to inform you of it.

They say that the enemy were making great preparations for the Expedition, and the Cannon was moved out of Montreal before they left it which was 18 days since. But they were informed that the Troops to the amount of five Thousand would march for the Fort on the 15th Instant. By them we learn that they with 12 others were taken at Skeensborough by fifty eight Indians, Two Canadians, & one Tory, the latter was one Bettice, from Stillwater. That they were used well, and had a Sufficiency of provision but was close confined till they made their Escape,

which was by tying a Blanket at the Grates (after breaking out some of them) and letting them down in the Kings Garden adjoining the Provost in Montreal; as to the number & strength of the Enemy they are ignorant off; one Vessel of the Enemies is at Crown Point. Remain your most obed't & most humble servant

Joseph McCracken.

Colo. Van Schaick.

Sir. Mr. Savage of this place who was with you last week, informs that no provision had been procured for our Frontiers, & that you made no doubt but men could be had, & sent to Skeensborough, provided they could be supplied with that article. I take the liberty of informing you, that I can spare 20 Bushels of Wheat & as much Rye & Corn; others here can part with some & I make no doubt but they will. I am about to see what can be procure, for if men are not sent to that Post we must leave our Habitations. remain your Friend

Jno. Williams.

(Copy)

New Perth, Charlotte County, May 17th 1780.

Sir. This night William Woodworth, son to Captain Woodworth of Cambridge of Colo. Van Woert's Regiment is arrived from Canada, he being one of the Party who were taken the 21st of last March at Skeensborough. He says that during his Confinement several Hessians of his Guard at different times told him, that on the 15th of this Instant 5000 Indians, Regulars, & Tories were to set out from Montreal in order to attack Fort Stanwix, & also a British Soldier who was in Confinement with him gave him the same intelligence; further that while in Provost at Montreal, he from the Prison Window saw them transporting

a variety of Military Stores which he was informed they intended for said Expedition & from every circumstance both by intelligence, & from what he seen, he believes them to be now on their march against said Post.

Said Wm. Woodworth says that he & three others (who were taken at the same time he was) made their Escape from Provost & are all safe arrived after fifteen days Travel; they escaped on the 29th of last April. As this information in our opinion will be of importance we take the liberty to Transmitt it to you with a Dispatch. As the above informant from what he could learn, the Enemy designed some Depredations on this part of the Frontiers & as we are informed, the only reason why Guards are not Stationed to the North is the want of Provisions: upon Examination we find as much Grain can be spared in this Township alone, as would support 80 or 100 men at Skeensborough for some months.

We beg leave to add that as the within Informer has been well known to us before his imprisonment, so we think the variety [veracity] of his intelligence is indisputable. We are, Sir, most obed't & very humble Servants

Ebenezar Clark, John Barns.

P. S. We would have wrote the within information to Colo. Webster who is now at the Legislature that he might communicate it to the Governour, but presuming you will either write the substance or Inclose this to the Governour we decline it.
Colo. G. V'n Schaick.

(Copy)

[No. 2896.]

PREPARING FOR THE NEXT CAMPAIGN.

Congress Calls Upon the Various States to Supply Funds and to Fill up Their Respective Quotas of Troops.

(Circular)

In Congress, May 19th 1780.

Sir: Congress have received authentic Information that his most Christian Majesty is preparing to send a powerfull naval and land force to some part of the Continent of North America. This force generously calculated either to produce a Diversion in our favour, or to forward the operation of our arms by being directed to the same Object, may either by our Exertions be made the means of delivering our Country in the course of the Campaign from the Ravages of war, or being rendered ineffectual thro' our Supineness, serve only to sully the Reputation of our arms, to defeat the benevolent Intention of our great ally & to disgrace our Confederacy in the Eyes of all Europe.

Every State that reflects upon the Depreciation of the Currency & their own Deficiency in the Payment of their Taxes must necessarily conclude that the Treasury is exhausted. The military Departments are at a stand for the want of money to put them in motion. Congress have no Resource but in your Spirit & virtue, upon these they confidently rely. You know the value of the Prize for which you contend; nor need you be informed how much you are interested in a speedy Termination of this distressing and expensive war.

But as the smallest Disappointment in the Requisitions they make may be attended with the most serious Consequences, they have endeavored so to limit their Demands as not to exceed your Power to comply with them.

The Sum for which you are called upon by the within Resolution, they flatter themselves you will furnish to the Treasury by the fifteenth of June at farthest, without neglecting to discharge the Orders that have been drawn upon you for the whole of which you will receive Credit on your account of Taxes due on the first of March last.

As this money is absolutely necessary to put the Army in motion, independant of the Purchase of Provisions, we trust you will by no means remit your attention to the forwarding your quota of Supplies which the present Exigency renders more requisite than ever.

It may not be improper to suggest to you that if a strict & immediate Collection of Taxes should be insufficient to procure the necessary Sums within the Time limited it may perhaps be more speedily obtained by Loans.

Congress for the greater Dispatch have thought it expedient to appoint a Committee to assist the Commander in Chief in drawing out Supplies—as their Powers will be inadequate to the Purposes of their appointment unless they shall derive their force from the States to whom they will be under the necessity of applying.

They most earnestly request you, if you should find it inconvenient to continue your Sessions, to lodge such Powers in your Executive or some Part of your legislative Body, as will enable them at this interesting Period on the application of the Committee to call forth the Resources of your State.

Congress trust that these Requisitions will not appear unnecessary when compared with the Information on which they are grounded: In the Importance of which they doubt not that you will find a sufficient apology for the Demand, and the warmth

with which they entreat you to carry these measures into immediate Execution.

By order of Congress,

Samuel Huntington President,

His Excellency, Gov'r Clinton.

In Congress, May 19th 1780.

Resolved, that the States of Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts Bay, New-Hampshire be most earnestly called on to collect & Pay into the continental Treasury immediately, if possible & at all Events within 30 Days from this Time, Ten millions Dollars, for the specially Purpose, hereafter, mentioned in the following Proportions, the Payments to be credited to the said States respectively on their quotas of money due to the United States to the first of March last, vizt.

Virginia	\$1,953,200.	New York	\$585,950.
Maryland	1,234,350.	Connecticut	1,328,050.
Delaware	132,800.	Rhode Island	156,250.
Pennsylvania	1,796,950.	Massachusetts Bay	1,796,950.
New Jersey	703,950.	New Hampshire	312,450.

Resolved, that Bills be immediately drawn under the Direction of the Board of Treasury, on the hon'ble Doctor Benjamin Franklin for 25,000 Dollars & on the hon'ble John Jay for 25,000 Dollars payable at sixty Days sight. That they be offered for sale in Massachusetts Bay, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Maryland & Virginia in the following Proportions vizt.

Massachusetts Bay	\$20,000.	Pennsylvania	\$10,000.
Rhode Island	3,000.	Maryland	5,000.
Connecticut	8,000.	Virginia	4,000.

Resolved, that the money to be raised as aforesaid be appropriated and applied solely to the bringing the Army into the field & forwarding their Supplies in such manner as the exigency and nature of the Service may require.

Resolved, that the Committee at Headquarters be directed to expedite the drawing forth the Supplies of the States required by the Resolution of Congress of the 25th of February last, as the Exigency & nature of the Service may require and the Commander in Chief shall judge them necessary. That in Case of any extraordinary Emergency more of any of the articles enumerated in the said Resolution shall become necessary than is therein provided for, that the said Committee with the advice of the Commander in Chief do apply to the legislative or executive Powers of any of the States aforesaid from New Hampshire to Virginia inclusive as may be most convenient, to have them immediately purchased at the Expence of the United States or otherwise procured on the Credit of the same, if necessity shall so require. That the said Committee give Directions for procuring any other articles not provided for in the said Resolution of the 25th Feb'y, which the Exigency of the Service may in the opinion of the Commander in Chief render necessary, and direct the proper applications to the civil magistrates of any of the States for obtaining them in such manner as shall not admit of Delay. That the said Committee be also authorized to give assurances where any of the aforesaid articles shall be purchased or otherwise procured on the Credit of the United States that the just Value of the same shall be paid with Interest at Six per Cent, as fast as money can be raised for that Purpose. That the said Committee report their Proceedings to Congress once a fortnight.

Resolved, that the Legislatures from New Hampshire to Virginia inclusive, be requested to invest their executive authority or some other Persons with such Powers as will enable them on the application of Committee aforesaid, to draw forth at this critical Period the Resources of the State.

Extract from the minutes.

Chas. Thomson, Secry.

In Congress May 20th 1780.

Resolved, That the several States be earnestly requested to forward their Quotas of Troops to join their respective Corps of the Army as soon as possible.

Extract from the minutes.

Chas. Thomson Secry.

[No. 2897.]

Colonel Jacob Cuyler Applies for Exemption for Himself and Other Officers of His Department from Field Duty.

Albany 19th May 1780.

Sir, Myself and one of my Clerks have yesterday been ordered to go out with the Militia to Stone Arabia. I have never taken any advantage of being in the service of the States, but always furnished a man in my place, but lest it might so happen that none could be procured when the whole should be called out. I could wish your Excellency would grant me Exemptions for myself, two Clerks, David Fonda and Henry Bleecker, as also for Mr. Cornelius Cuyler one of my Assistants, without whose aid and constant Assistance, the service must suffer; there are some others such as Butchers, Coopers &c. employed in my Department who of course I shall be under the necessity of applying

for some time hereafter. I am, your Excellencies most Obedient
& Humbl. Ser't Jacob Cuyler.
To George Clinton Esqr. —

[No. 2898.]

*Colonel Morgan Lewis Follows With a Similar Request for the
People in His Department.*

Albany 19th May 1780.

When I had last the Pleasure of seeing your Excellency, I requested of you an Exemption from Militia Duty for certain persons employed in my Department and was referred by your Excellency to General Ten Broek. The Militia is ordered out; and no Distinction is paid to any Officer or other employed under me. All are indiscriminately warned to attend. I have applied, as directed, to Genl. Ten Broek who is still inflexibly of opinion that the Right of granting Exemptions is nowhere but in yourself. I must, therefore, request your Excellency will grant me Exemptions for the following Persons: Thomas Sickels, A. D. Q. M. G.; Tennis J. Van Vechten, Do; Volkert A. Donw, Do; John Fonda, Clerk; Ephraim Van Vechten, D. W. M. G.; Francis Winne, A. D. W. M. G.; John Visscher, Do; John Wendell, Stabler; Martin Mynderts, Master Smith; Zach's Sickels, Store Keeper; Edward S. Willet, Forrage Master.

And such Persons as may be employed on board of public Sloops or as artificers in public Service provided there shall be an absolute necessity for their Services.

If you have any Intelligence which can be communicated, excuse me if I request it in Compliance with your Promise. I am with Esteem & Respect your Excellency's most Obe't Serv't

Mor'n Lewis.

His Excell'y Geo. Clinton.

[No. 2899.]

Hastening the Levies to Their Posts of Duty.

Kingston 20th May 1780.

Sir, I have just rec'd your Letter of yesterday with its Inclosures. I set out this Minute to Pokepsie with a View of hastening the March of the Levies from Dutchess who are intended for Schohary. Let me intreat you to use your Influence with the Militia Officers of Genl. Ten Broeck's Brigade to forward theirs to the Stations assigned them with the least possible Delay: there is motive to excite them to it the Safety of their Country in some measures depends on their Exertions.

Your Letter shall be forwarded to Colo. Hay with Directions to send it by Express to Genl. Washington. I am &c.

[G. C.]

To Colo. Van Schaick.

[No. 2900.]

Commissary and Quartermaster Officers and Subordinates Exempted from Field Duty.

Kingston 20th May 1780.

Dear Sir, I have this Moment rec'd Letters from Jacob Cuyler, Esqr. & Colo. Lewis, informing me that they are ordered out with the Militia & requesting Exemptions for themselves & such as are actually employed in the public Service under them. I have, therefore, to request that you will accordingly exempt the Principals of those Departments & such other Persons employed under them, whose Services for the management of the public Business you shall conceive necessary, agreeable to the Recommendation of Congress & Return their Names to me. I am, your Most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

Genl. Ten Broeck.

[No. 2901.]

*For the Filling of Vacancies of Officers in the State Regiments.*Kingston, 20th May 1780

Sir, I yesterday rec'd your Letter of the 11 Inst. I had wrote to my Brother on the 12th inform'g him that it was impossible for the Council upon partial Returns to fill up the vacancies in our State Regts., with any Certainty of doing general Justice. I, therefore, requested his general Return of the vacancies in the five state Regts., and of the Gentlemen who of Right ought to fill them and agreeable to an act of Congress of the 21st March, a Copy of which is inclosed, to have annexed to the Return a Certificate from his Excellency Genl. Washington that such appointments are necessary. As soon as I am furnished with such Returns & Certificate I shall lay it before the Council, and I wish to do this before their Rising, that the Business may be compleated without farther Delay. I'll be obliged to you for a Copy of the state arrangement, which I presume to be in the Hands of my Brother or some of the Field officers of the Regts, the original being mislaid in the secretary's office. I am &c.

[G. C.]

[To Lieut. Col. Weissenfels.]

[No. 2902.]

General Schuyler Reports That Dubois' Regiment Should be Reduced by Direction of Congress.

Morristown, May 20th 1780.

Dear Sir, General Washington Informs me that he has wrote you on the Subject I mentioned in my last by Letters from Philadelphia. I am Informed that Congress has appointed a committee, Livingston of New York, Jones of Virginia and Elsworth

of Connecticut, to lay before the States the Intentions of the King of France and to make such requisitions as may be necessary.

The committee of which I am one, have reported that the Regiment late Du Bois's, should be reduced, that the officers should retire on full pay during the war, and be Entitled to the Emoluments heretofore promised by Congress. I mention this that if your Excellency & the Legislature should wish to have the regiment kept up (as it will be of little extra expence to the State) their pleasure may be signified that I may take the proper measures.

The president of Congress in a letter of his of the 18th says "we have in town some favorable reports from Charles Town but I dare not yet communicate them as true;" From New York we learn that the Betts on Thursday last were three to two that Charlestown would not be taken. The French West India fleet under Count De Guichen* is out, some say for the American Coast.

I have the honor to be, with great respect & Esteem your Excellency's most Obedient Serv't

Ph: Schuyler.

His Ex: Gov: Clinton &c.

*Guichen (Louis-Urbain du Bouëxic), Count de, born at Fougères in 1712, died at Morlaix in 1790. He entered the navy in 1730 as guard, and went through all the ranks. Appointed naval captain in 1756. The following year he commanded the *Atalante*, and captured four English privateers and nine merchantmen. In 1778 chief of squadron and commander of Saint-Louis. He was present on the 27th of July, 1778, at the battle of Ouessant, where he took the place of Count Du Chaffault de Besné, who was wounded while commanding the rearguard. In 1779 he became lieutenant-general, and the following year he left Brest with fifteen vessels to replace d'Estaing in the Antilles. He escorted a fleet of merchantmen, and arrived safely in March, 1780, at the Martinique. The 17th he met Admiral Rodney and fought a successful naval action with him near Dominica, another on the 15th of May following, and a third on the 19th. Rodney abandoned the town after the loss of the *Cormorant*, of seventy-four guns. But the English have always held that Rodney won the victory.

In 1781 he was made grand cross of Saint-Louis, and left Brest on the 10th of December with nineteen war vessels and many merchantmen, some of which the English Admiral, Kempenfeld, captured.—From "The French in America."

[No. 2903.]

Dr. Treat Requests the Exemption of His Staff from Field Duty.

Alb'y, May 20th 1780.

Sir, There are in the general Hospital now in Albany a Commissary, a Steward and a Clerk—Persons every Day employ'd by me, and necessary for the various Buisnesses of the Hospital. The Clerk is now call'd upon to go out with the militia, altho' no man can be more constantly employ'd than he is—whatever the Letter of the Law may be, the Spirit cannot design to oblige Persons to Serve the public in two Capacities at one & the Same Time—if he goes out with the Militia, he forfeits his commission from Congress. I am in a Dilemma. I wish your Excellency would extricate both him & me out of it by giving him a permit to stay in the Genl. Hosp'l and attend upon the Business of his office; I am Inform'd your Excellency has granted such Permissions, and if you will be pleas'd to release Benjamin Egberts, Clerk of the Genl. Hospital from militia Duty, as he is actually and constantly employ'd by me in the Service of the Continent, you will much oblige the general Service and Hosp'l in particular.

The Commissary is James Lamb, Steward, William Dunean. I am your Excellency's most obedient serv't

M. Treat.

His Excellency George Clinton.

[No. 2904.]

For the Immediate Defence of the More Westerly and Northerly Frontiers.

Pokepsie May 20th 1780.

Sir, Capt. Williams of Lieut. Colo. Pawling's Regt., of Levies for the Defence of the frontiers will deliver you this Letter. He

takes up with him his Company, consist'g of part of the Levies of this County: this Company with another small Company from this County is intended to be stationed at Schoharie & its vicinity: so that all the Levies from Albany, Tryon & Charlotte may be disposed of for the immediate Defence of the more westerly & northerly frontiers. But as the present Situation of affairs in Tryon appear to call for immediate & spirited Exertions, Capt. Wms. will in the first Instance march his Company to such Place as you may conceive most necessary & for this Purpose he has my Directions to obey your Orders. Capt. Wms. is an Officer of Spirit & in whom I Place great Confidence: if, therefore, he should go into Tryon County, you will be pleased to recommend him to such Persons there whose attachm't to the Country may be depended on. Permit me to repeat my Request, that you use your utmost Influence with the militia officers to forw'd on their men: it is disgraceful to them that these Troops are not already in the field when Services are so much required. Capt. Allen of Kings District is to command one of the Companies of Levies to be raised in that quarter & to be stationed in Tryon County.

I am &c. G. Clinton.

Colo. Van Schaick,

[No. 2905.]

Returns of Militia at Fort George.

Fort George 20th May 1780.

A Return of Colo. Schoenhoven Regt.

Volunteers	36
Remainder	28
	<hr style="width: 10%; margin: 0 auto;"/>
Total	64

[No. 2906.]
Goshen Regiment Return.
 Return of Colonel Allison's Regiment Commanded By Major Moses
 Hetfield, May 21st 1780.

COMPANIES	Arms & Ammunition Wanting																
	Colone	Lt. Colonel	Major	Captains	Adjutant	Quartermaster	Lieutenants	Ensigns	Sergants	Corporals	Drums & Fifes	Privates	Guns	Cartridg Boxes	Bayonets	Powder	lbs. Lead
Field & Staff			1	1	1	1	2	1	4	3	1	56	7				119
Captain David Swartzes								1	3	3	1	56	7				124
Capt. Samuel Jones							2	1	3	3	1	56	7				124
Capt. John Jackson							2	1	4	1	2	10	10				130
Capt. John Little							2	1	4	1	2	10	10				136
Capt. Moses Kortright							2	1	4	1	2	21	12				131
Capt. Samuel Cole							1	1	4	4	4	31	12				89
Total			1	2	1	1	10	5	21	20	8	207	46				733

Moses Hetfield, Major.

[No. 2907.]

Governor Clinton Assures Washington That the Levies Are All Raised and That the Utmost Industry Will Be Used in Collecting Supplies.

Poukeepsie 21st May* 1780.

Dear Sir, I am this Moment honored with your Excellency's Letter of the 18th Instant, and I shall not loose a Moment's Time in forwarding to Fort Schuyler with all possible Expedition; the Number of Men directed to Garrison that Post tho' I am apprehensive that the Accounts which your Excellency will herewith receive from Colo. Van Schaick of Preparations making by the Enemy to invest that Fortress, may induce you to continue the present Garrison untill the Strength & Designs of the Enemy in that Quarter can be better ascertained. There are certainly

*May 20. [1780]—Yesterday we were visited by a most unusual and uncomfortable phenomenon. As early as ten o'clock in the morning, a thick darkness came over the face of the country, so that it was impossible to move about the house without the assistance of a candle. Many persons were much frightened at the sudden darkness, and some thought that judgment-day had come. The cause of this strange appearance is now explained.

A writer in the Boston Country Journal gives the following particular account of the phenomenon:—"As the darkness which happened on last Friday was unusual, and to many people surprising, it will no doubt gratify the public to have the observations which have been made in various parts, communicated. In this way we may learn the extent, and perhaps ascertain the cause, of so remarkable a phenomenon. With these views I send you the enclosed.

"The observations from the first coming on of the darkness to four o'clock P. M., were made by several gentlemen of liberal education, at the house of the Rev. Mr. Cutler, of Ipswich Hamlet. There are some things worth noticing before and after this time. The hemisphere for several days had been greatly obscured with smoke and vapor, so that the sun and moon appeared unusually red. On Thursday afternoon and in the evening, a thick cloud lay along at the south and south-west, the wind small. Friday morning early, the sun appeared as it had done for several days before, the wind about southwest, a light breeze, and the clouds from the southwest came over between eight and nine o'clock; the sun was quite shut in, and it began to shower, the clouds continuing to rise from the south-west, and thicken from the thickness of the clouds, and the confusion which attended their motions. We expected a violent gust of wind and rain; the wind, however, near the earth, continued small, and it rained but little. About eleven o'clock the darkness was such as to demand our attention, and put us upon making observations. At half-past eleven, in a room with three windows, twenty-four panes each, all opened towards the south-east and south, large print could not be read by persons of good eyes. About twelve o'clock, the windows being still open, a candle cast a shade so well defined on the wall, as that profiles were taken with as much ease as they could have been in the night. About one o'clock, a glimpse of light which had continued till this time in the east, shut in, and the darkness was greater than it had been for any time before. Between one and two o'clock, the wind at the west freshened a little, and a glimpse of light appeared in that quarter. We dined about two, the windows all open, and two candles burning on the table.

many concurring Circumstances which corroborate the Intelligence transmitted by Colo. Van Schaick, & I believe it is beyond a Doubt that an Attempt ag't that Post was intended last Fall had not the Cold Weather which set in uncommonly early obliged the Enemy to return from Oswego, where a considerable Force under Sir John Johnson had arived. It may be their present Movements are calculated to divide your Excellency's Force & prevent the Effects of the intended combined operation.

The Levies directed to be raised for the Defence of this State, I have reason to believe are completed, but they are not yet all arrived at the Places of Rendevonz; as soon as this is the Case I will cause a Return of them to be made to your Excellency & point out the particular Places at which they are distributed.

In this time of the greatest darkness, some of the dunghill fowls went to their roost; cocks crowed in answer to each other, as they commonly do in the night; wood-cocks, which are night birds, whistled as they do only in the dark; frogs peeped; in short, there was the appearance of midnight at noon-day. About three o'clock the light in the west increased, the motion of the clouds more thick, their color higher and more brassy than at any time before; there appeared to be quick flashes or coruscations, not unlike the aurora borealis. Between three and four o'clock we were out and perceived a strong, sooty smell; some of the company were confident a chimney in the neighborhood must be burning; others conjectured the smell was more like that of burned leaves. About half-past four, our company, which had passed an unexpected night very cheerfully together, broke up. I will now give you what I noticed afterwards. I found the people at the tavern near by much agitated. Among other things which gave them much surprise, they mentioned the strange appearance and smell of the rain water, which they had saved in tubs. Upon examining the water, I found a slight scum over it, which, rubbing between my thumb and finger, I found to be nothing but the black ashes of burnt leaves. The water gave the same black, sooty smell which we had observed in the air, and confirmed me in my opinion that the smell mentioned above was occasioned by the smoke, or very small particles of burnt leaves, which had obscured the hemisphere for several days past, and were now brought down by the rain. The appearance last mentioned served to confirm the hypothesis on which we had endeavored to account for the unusual darkness. The vast body of smoke from the woods, which had been burning for many days, mixing with the common exhalations from the earth and water, and condensed by the action of winds from opposite points, may perhaps be sufficient causes to produce the surprising darkness.

"The wind in the evening passed round further north, where a black cloud lay, and gave us reason to expect a sudden gust from that quarter. The wind brought that body of smoke and vapor over us in the evening, (at Salem, Massachusetts,) and perhaps it never was darker since the children of Israel left the house of bondage. This gross darkness held till about one o'clock, although the moon had full'd but the day before.

"Between one and two, the wind freshened up at north-east, and drove the smoke and clouds away, which had given distress to thousands, and alarmed the brute creation."—"Viator," in the Country Journal, May 21, and New Jersey Gazette, June 21.—Moore's Diary of the Revolution.

I expect the Legislature will form a Quorum Tomorrow & proceed on Business, when I shall with every proper Caution make that use of the very agreeable Intelligence communicated by your Excellency for which it was intended; and I cannot entertain a Doubt but every measure will be chearfully adopted which may be necessary for giving Success to the Operations of the present Campaign. I am perswaded if an additional number of Men should be wanted, the Legislature will readily provide for raising them, which can be easily accomplished on this Occassion, and they will be more strongly inclined to this from a Consideration that it may prevent a Diminution of the Garrison of Fort Schuyler, in the safety of which Post they conceive themselves peculiarly interested. I may venture to assure your Excellency, that utmost Industry will be continued in collecting Supplies for the Army, tho' our prospect is far from encouraging before the new Crops are gathered in. I have the Honor to be &c.

[G. C.]

I shall return to Kingston Tomorrow where your Excellency will please to direct any new Commands.

[To Gen. Washington.]

[No. 2908.]

DESTRUCTION OF CAUGHINAWAGA.

Sir John Johnson's Appalling Raid in Tryon County—Gathering of the Militia—Hampered for Want of Ammunition and Provisions.

Albany, May 22d 1780. 6 O'Clock P. M.

Sir, I am directed by General Ten Broeck to forward a Copy of Collo. Harper's Letter to your Excellency (which I here inclose). I am farther directed to inform your Excellency that in

Consequence of the inclosed and other Intelligence, the General has ordered out Five full Regiments from his Brigade to Caughnawaga and the one half of the lower Regiments to Schohary not knowing but the Enemy may take a Rout that way. Collo. Van Schaick went on from Intelligence he received by Express from Collo. Wemple about an Hour ago to Schohary. I am, Sir, your humble Serv't

Jer'h Lansingh, M. B.

His Excellency George Clinton.

Johns Town, May 22d 1780.

Sir, By this I acquaint you of the unhappy Sight of Caughnawaga which is in ashes as well as many Lives lost.

This Morning at break of Day, Sir John with 400 white Men and 200 Indians fell in on the River at Jacob Putman's, burnt the House and proceeded up the River. I happened to be in Fort Hunter when this bloody Scene began, where I got a small party and proceeded up the River as far as Van Eps Block House, where I halted and dispatched Expresses to collect the Militia who came to the amount of 150 at about 2 O'Clock. By four I had them over the River, and proceeded towards Johns Town, where we were reinforced with one hundred Volunteers, from Stone Arabia whose activity deserves their Country's Thanks. With this Party I arrived safe at Johns Town & found Capt. Vroman with Thirty Men who arrived yesterday & kept the Fort. Capt. Vroman says, altho he fired the Cannon to alarm the Inhabitants, they could not understand it. Sir John was at Johns Town with his Party when I arrived & my Men were eager to fight, but the ammunition being all in the Gaol, I thought it improper & with much ado prevailed on them to repair to the Fort.

Sir John thought proper to decamp last Evening before Sunset, though his Intentions is unknown to us; but I think it would be well if you could cut off their Retreat. As I am out Provision beg you will forward some as fast as possible or it will be out of my power to keep the People together.

Collo. Fisher is mortally wounded, & his two Brothers killed, old Mr. Douw Fonda with seven others. The Number of Prisoners I cannot Inform you of. The Block House is yet safe. I am with great Esteem &c.

John Harper, Collo.

Collo. Van Schaick, Schonectady.

P. S. Sir John was heard to say that Butler was coming down the River; this comes by some of the Prisoners who are returned.

Copy.

Albany, 6 O'Clock P. M. 23d May 1780.

Sir, The foregoing General Ten Broeck has received about an Hour ago & in consequence thereof has ordered the upper Militia to Jessups Patent.

By Order of the General.

J. Lansingh, M. B.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 2909.]

John Johnson Paroles Messrs. Sammons and Fonda.

I do Certify that Messrs. Sampson Sammons and John Fonda, are permitted to return to their respective Homes at their own request; they having first engaged to protect the Loyalists in the County of Tryon, in the peaceable possession of their Prop-

erty; for the performance of which the remainder of the Prisoners will be detained as Hostages.

Given under my hand at Kingsborough this 23d May 1780.

John Johnson, Lieut. Col. Command't Kings Roy'l Rejt. New York.

[No. 2910.]

Colonel Klock Urges Sending Forward Reinforcements With all Possible Despatch.

Fort Paris, 23d May 1780 12 O'clock P. M.

Sir, With the greatest mortification must inform you, that Sir John Johnson with a body of Indians and Whites attacked and burnt Caughnawaga District from below Tripes Hill to the Nose, except a few Tory Houses. About 300 men from my and Coll. Fisher's Regiment followed them as far as Johnstown, but finding by the most authentic accounts that the Enemy was at least double their number, and besides were Joined by large numbers of the disaffected, thought it prudent not to pursue them any farther, my men returned to this place. From the information I received by letters from His Excellency, the Governor, which informed that you were desired to send me such reinforcement, as might be thought requisite in your power to afford and some others, I was led to hope that we should be supported by a sufficient number of men, but alas find that we are left in the midst of our relentless Enemies to shift for ourselves. I have learned that Coll. Wemp from Schenectady had been up as far as Johnstown, and had returned immediately which is the most astonishing circumstance I almost ever met with. By the most undoubted intelligence they are yet in Johnstown Bush, have been joined by such number that they are near 1000 men

strong and are determined to destroy this place. Brant and Butler are to attack on the South side of the River; there has been a party discovered at Snells Bush this day; spies have been seen on the south side of the River about an hour before night; permit, Sir, in this distressed situation to entreat you to send us all possible support with the greatest dispatch possible, as we momentarily expect to see all in flames, you will communicate this to Coll. Van Schaick. I am, Sir, your Humble Serv't

Jacob J. Klock, Coll.

P. S. You will please to send the inclosed letter by Express immediately.

To Genl. Ten Broeck. . .

[No. 2911.]

FEARS FOR STONE ARABIA.

Colonel Klock Reports the Attack on Caughnawaga to Governor Clinton and Appeals for Assistance.

Fort Stone Arabia, May 23d 1780.

Sir, I received yours of the 15th Instant, an answer to mine of the 13th, wherein I gave you a Particular Account of the Enemy's design, and find also that Genl. Tenbroeck had his orders to cooperate with & furnish me with as much aid from his Brigade as may appear requisite & in his Power to give, & I also Requested assistance of him, but have not seen a man yet, nor heard that they was on their march to our assistance; all the assistance I get of him is by fair Promises by Paper and Ink, but not a man.

Sir, I must inform you to my Sorrow, that Sir John Johnson with 400 wight and 200 Indians made an Approach & attacted the Mohock District in our County the 22d Instant, & have Burnt all the houses & Barns from below Tripes-hill to Anthony's Nose,

excepting a few Tories Houses, being about 12 or 13 Miles the Number of Houses. I can give no Account at Present; all the Acc't I can give you, at Present of Killed & taken is 9 Killed & 33 Prisoners, amongst which Colo. Fisher's two Brothers are Killed, & he himself Scalp'd & badly wounded. Major Fonda's Father is killed.

Immediately on Receiving Intelligence from the Enemies approach, I ordered all the young men out & left the old men in the Forts; also Colo. Clyde Turned out with his young men; we mustered about 300 men and followed the Enemy to Johns-Town, where they came in sight of them, but finding themselves too weak to attack or pursue them, they Returned to this Place again, where we are together in a miserable Circumstances, the Enemy is at Johns-Town yet & the Tories joining them very fast. I expect every minute this Place will be attacked. We have Intelligence that Joseph Brant with a Strong party would attack the South Side of the River this day & would make a sweep of it if he could.

Just as I was writing this Letter I discovered a Great Smoke on the South side of the River towards Cowels Kill [Cobleskill] & Turlag [Durlach]. Colo. Clyde was with me just now, and when he discovered the smoke above mentioned he returned to Fort-Plank with his men, so it seems we can no longer assist each other; therefore, I beseech you would afford as soon as possible all the assistance you can, otherwise we shall be left a meal to our Cruel Enemy. I am your Excellencies most obedient Servent

Jacob Klock, Coll.

His Excellency Geo. Clinton, Esqr.

Since this letter was wrote a man arrived here that made his escape from the enemy, who informs that he left them about

Eleven O'Clock this day, about 4 miles from Johns-Town; that they spoke of attacking this Place & that they were about 700 Strong.

Also an Express arrived by which I learn that another Party have appeared at Snell's Bush about 13 Miles up the River.

J. K.

[No. 2912.]

A Report That Brant Is Marching to Make a Junction With Sir John Johnson.

Fort Hunter May 23d 1780 7 o'Clock P. M.

Sir, We have just been alarmed; two Indians have been Seen on the South Side of the River which I judge are Spies. John Fonda & Abram Veeder are Returned, from the Enemy about 5 o'Clock in the afternoon, who Inform that S'r John was Incamped Six miles from Johnstown, & was Killing Cattle to-day, & by what they Could learn he was not determined to push off. I have Stop'd all the militia that was nigh hand & shall Collect all I Can; & shall remain at this place until I receive orders from you how to act; the Inhabitants are all flying down, on this Side the River with great precipitation. Fonda & Veeder informs also that they were Informed in Sir John's Camp, that Brandt was on his march, to this Country with a Strong party, and they was Coming home, by the Smoke they Say judged, the Enemy was burning at Bowmans Kill & think S'r John waits to assist them. I fear they will distroy the whole unless assistance Sent, & that Speedily; remember we have no provision, our men are Intirely out at present. I am, Sir, in haste yours &c.

Myndert M. Wemple, Maj.

Coll. Vanschaeck in his absence to the Commanding officer in Schenectady.

Copy.

[No 2913.]

Colonel Morgan Lewis Reports Sir John Johnson Commands in Person.

Albany, 23d May 1780.

D^r Sir; I last Evening returned from Schenectady where we received by several Expresses the following Information: that the Enemy at Daybreak yesterday Morning made a Descent upon the Mohock's River at Tripes Hill from whence they proceeded westward, burning the Houses and Barns of the Inhabitants and putting to Death every Male capable of bearing arms. It does not appear they have offered any violence to women or Children. Many Lives are lost; among whom I recollect are the Father & three Brothers of Major Fonda, a Mr. Hansen, and last Evening Colo. Visscher [Fisher] was brought into Schenectady miserably wounded and scalped, but not dead. By Express this Morning from Colo: Van Schaick, we are informed they last Night rendezvoused at Johnston Hall, where S^r John commands in Person. Accounts of their Numbers are from five to eight hundred, mostly Savages. They shew a Disposition, 'tis said, to fight; and the Militia under Colonels Wemple and Harper consisting of about four hundred & fifty are determined to fight them. The Militia of this Place are moving on, but I am afraid will be too late for action. I am, most respectfully your Excellency's very hum. Serv.

Mor'n Lewis.

His Excell'y Geo. Clinton.

[No. 2914.]

General Swartwout's Returns of Levies Raised in His Brigade.

A Return of Levies to be Raised in Brig'r Genl. Jacobus Swartwout's Brigade of Militia of the County of Dutchess Agreeable to an Act of the Legislature of this State, for the Defence of the

Frontiers of said State. Also of the Number of said Levies Delivered by Each Regt. and Received by the officers for that purpose appointed agreeable to their Returns of this Day, together with the Number of said Levies Deficient.

Regiments	No. Levies to be raised.	No. Levies Delivered	No. Levies Deficient.
Colo. Roswell Hopkins,	29	12	17
Colo. John Frear,	24	17	7
Colo. Abraham Erickerhoff,	25	25	3
Colo. James Van Der Burgh,	16	10	6
Colo. Henry Ludenton,	19	12	7
Colo. John Field,	22	13	9
Total,	133	89	49
Add Colo. Graham's,	30		
	163		

Jacob's Swartwout.

Fishkill May 23rd 1780.

N. B. Colo. Graham's Regt. is omitted in the within Return as the Levies to be Raised in that Regt. were to Rendevous at Shendecken, agreeable to Genl. Orders. I have Rec'd no Return from that Regt. Either of the No. Levies they were to Raise, or the Number which have been Deliv'd only have been Informed by the Lieut. Colo. of said Regt. that they would Raise about 30 Men.

[No. 2915.]

MORE TROUBLE FEARED.

John Tayler Forwards to Governor Clinton a Succinct Report of Johnson's Latest Raid.

7 o'Clock P. M. Schenectady, 23d May 1780.

D'r Sir, You doubtless have been Informed of the misfortune that has befel Tryon County; those who are nigher the Scene of distress, I Imagine, feel it more forcibly than [those] at a distance. The Enemy yesterday morning began at the foot of

Tripes Hill & burned before them to Anthony's Nose, they finish'd at the Widow Eekers', a few houses only are Saved; a Negro just came in who Informs that he belonged to John Fonda; was taken with his master & left the Enemy at four o'Clock this morning two miles back of Johnstown; he Says, that there are about forty white men prisoners; a great number of Blacks are gone off with S'r John; that being with his master John Fonda, he heard much discourse between him & S'r John; that S'r John upbraided him with the part he had acted, & observ'd that if he had taken his, S'r John's, advice, Fonda would have avoided all the Calamities that had now befallen him; he further mention'd that Brandt was to be down & Burn the South Side of the Mohawk River, & that the Country would all be laid waste & wonderd what kept him; he likewise Say that a great number of disaffected Came to S'r John & took protection; old Mr. Fonda is killed, two of Collo. Fisher's Brothers, himself Scalped & Badly wounded. The Schenectady militia march'd on the first alarm. Several are Returned for want of provision; the militia of Albany march'd two hours ago from this place, a few Excepted who have horses. I am Induced to believe that S'r John Intends to Remain where he is in order to Cooperate with Brandt; the Negroes who are with him are all armed; about thirty, nine months men, are in the fort at Johnstown; this place the Enemy did not dare attack; their force from the best Information Consists of about five hundred; a Company of British, a Number of Hessian Yagers, part of S'r John's Regiments & between two & three hundred Indians.

24th May 5 o'Clock M. An Express arrived & brought the Inclosed account. I believe we are about three hundred the greater part Six miles above, this may be at Johnstown by two

o'clock. I hope our party may have force Sufficient to attack them. It is impossible to paint the distress the Country is in. Coll. Vanschaick is with the militia. I am in haste, D'r Sir, your Excellency's most obdt. Serv't

John Tayler.

Gov. Clinton.

[No. 2916.]

Strength of the Johnson Party Placed at Five Hundred.

Albany May 24th 12 O'Clock P. M. 1780.

Sir, The inclosed General Ten Broeck has just now received and which he has directed me to forward to your Excellency. I have wrote to the Officers commanding in the Westward that there is 300 Barrels of Provision of the Beef kind at Richmond about 36 Miles from here, as I am informed, some of which I am informed by Collo. R. V:R. may be in to Morrow here, when I shall see it carried on with the greatest Expedition. We are now preparing to send to the Grants to advise them to proceed to Jessups Pattent* to impede their Retreat if they should go that way.

By order of Genl. Commanding, Ten Broeck.

Jer'h Lausingh, M. B.

His Excellency George Clinton.

Sir, By Information received from John Funda and Ab'm Veeder, who have been Prisoners with the Enemy and sent back yesterday Afternoon. they are at Mayfield ab't 10 Miles from Johns Town where they are encamped. The gentlemen say that they could not learn when they meant to [move] off. They

*See Document 2918, page 750.

learnt also that a strong party under the Command of Brandt is expected and will break out on the South side of the River. The Party with Sr John is 500 strong. I have put Colo. Vroman of Schohary on his Guard & sent off this Morning an Express to Johns Town and mean to proceed on with the Militia unless I receive certain Information that the Enemy are gone off. From, Sir, your humble Serv't

G. V: Schaick.

Ryers Wemp's 24th May 1780.

[To Gen. Ten Broeck.]

Copy.

[No. 2917.]

Washington Pictures the Impoverished Condition of the Continental Army.

Head Quarters Morris Town, 23d May 1780.

Dear Sir, I am exceedingly sorry to learn, by your fav'r of the 19th the distressed situation of your Frontier, more especially at a time, when our attention will in all probability be called, in a great measure, to the operations upon the Coast. My confidential letter of the 18th will explain my meaning. By that you will perceive the impossibility, under present appearances and circumstances, of sparing any further force from the Continental army, to act in conjunction with the militia. I imagine it will scarcely be deemed prudent to withdraw Colo. Van Schaick's Regiment from Fort Schuyler, except matters take an unexpected turn in that quarter, altho' the addition of so respectable a Corps would be very essential, should the measures for which we are preparing be carried into execution. From the state of our magazines here, and from your representation of the

situation of matters above, I do not see how troops would be subsisted, supposing they could be spared. We are now upon half allowance of meat, and every now and then the troops are intirely without. Whether the emergency of the occasion, and the flattering prospect of putting an end to the War by one vigorous effort, will induce the states to throw in extraordinary aids and supplies, I cannot tell; but if such effects are not produced, or some means can be fallen upon to enable the Commissaries and Quarter Masters to provide in the common mode, I do not know what may be the consequences. I have thought, that as the peace of the whole Northern Frontier in a great measure depends upon checking the most dangerous Body of the enemy, which will act upon the Mohawk River, it might not be amiss for the Legislature of your State to call upon that of Massachusetts, for an aid of men from their Western Counties. They will shortly be informed of the necessity of assembling our whole Continental force to a point, and will, therefore, perhaps more readily come into the measure.

I am happy in knowing that your Excellency will attribute my refusal of your request to the true cause—inability. It is certainly to be lamented that we cannot oppose a sufficient force to every point upon which we are attacked; but that not being the case, prudence and policy both dictate the expediency of directing our efforts against the source from whence all our difficulties springs.

24th May. Since writing the foregoing, I have been fav'd with your Excellency's letter of the 21st. I at the same time received one from Colonel Van Schaick, in which he mentions the critical situation of Fort Schuyler for want of provision, there not being more, as he informs me, than one month's supply in

the Garrison by the last Return. This is a matter of so much importance that every measure ought to be fallen upon to give relief. General Schuyler informs me of a parcel of Corn in the possession of Colo. Lewis. I shall direct Col. Van Schaick to endeavour to get it thrown into the Fort. As to salt meat, which is the only kind which is proper, I know not from whence it is to come. We have so totally exhausted the Continental stock, that the Commissary General has been obliged to borrow three hundred Barrels from private Gentlemen in Philadelphia to endeavour to support the army until Grass Cattle can be brought from New England. The Garrison at West Point are, if possible, in a worse situation than we are here.

I am confident that your Excellency and the Legislature will, considering the importance of Fort Schuyler, and the inability to afford any present relief from the Continental magazines, take every possible step to throw in a supply.

I shall not draw down Van Schaick's Regt. untill we see further into the state of matters to the Westward.

I am infinitely obliged by your ready promise to concur with any requisitions which may be made to your State, should our expected cooperation be carried into execution. A Committee of Congress, appointed for the purpose of calling upon the States for what supplies may be deemed necessary upon such an occasion, are now in Camp. You may, therefore, expect to hear from them upon the subject in a few days. I have the honor to be with very sincere Esteem Dear Sir yr. Excellency's most obt. Serv't

Go. Washington.

Gov. Clinton.

[No. 2918.]

Tories Gathered on Jessup's Patent Meditating Mischief.

*A man of undoubted Credit informed the Subscriber that Last Night he Returned home being one of a Scout, that had been out beyond Seratoga Lake, that he had Feigned himself a Tory & had been with a large party of Torys who has Collected themselves together on Jessups Patent; they Consist of persons from Massachusetts, R. Island, Connecticut & this State as far down as Kenderhook; that he met in one party 18 going to join them; that they Intend a Descent on Stillwater; that the men who has been gone off some time past is with them; that the Number is Some Hundreds; that the Torys that way have been Collecting provisions Ever Since Last fall; that Esqr. Palmer is one they Intend to Destroy; that Direk Swart—Briant—Jeffers & a number others whose names I dont Recollect is to be Saved; that they Informed him that the Torys in general was to Rise at once.

Comfort Sands.

Albany, 24 May 1780.

[No. 2919.]

American Officers, Prisoners on Long Island, Petition for Relief After Nearly Three Years of Captivity.

To His Excellency the Governor and The Honourable the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New York.

The Memorial of the Officers prisoners of War of the said State Humbly sheweth, That your memorialists have endured a long, tedious and irksome confinement, subject not only to those disagreeable and humiliating sensations inseperable from a state of captivity; but finally find ourselves unfortunately left to

*See Document 2916, page 746, in which the subject matter contained in this document is no doubt alluded to.—STATE HISTORIAN.

struggle with all the calamities of indigency and want. A whole year has now elaps'd since we have received the smallest supply or our board paid; with the rest of our fellow prisoners in general, and the small sum then handed us was barely sufficient to pay our debts, and furnish us with the then necessary articles of Cloathing.

We have made repeated applications to the Honourable the Continental Congress for relief; without having receivd any redress—and in our last, we were informed they had no specie in the Treasury nor could they devise any mode to support or provide for us. Thus circumstanced, your unfortunate captive officers Inhabitants of the State of New York find ourselves under the necessity of laying our unhappy situation before you, and beg leave to acquaint you of our uneasiness and anxiety at the painfull and tedious length of our almost three years' captivity which many of us have endured. Tho' we cannot say but we have several times been flatter'd with the hopes of a general exchange taking place which would restore us to our Country, friends and connections; but all hopes of that much wish'd for event are at end. We, therefore, relying on your justice, wisdom and humanity, humbly wish that some mode may be adopted to relieve us at present and secure us from want hereafter.

We at the same time beg leave to represent that notwithstanding the melancholy reflection yet we would not wish to be liberated untill it can be procured on terms mutually advantageous and Honourable.

We trust we have hitherto supported ourselves with a patience and perseverance becoming the soldier and Citizen, and that the same line of conduct will still continue to mark our character.

We have the honor to be with great Esteem and respect to you and the most firm attachment and duty to our Country your most Obedient Servants

Wm. Allison, Colo.

Jac's Bruyn, Lt. Colo.

James McClaghry, Lt. Colo.

Jamse Hamman, Lt. coll.

Saml. Logan, Major

Henry Godwin, Capt.

James Teller, Capt.

Neh. Carpenter, Qr. Master.

Adam Gilchrist, A. C. G. F.

Henry Brewster, Lieut.

Solomon Pendleton, Lieut.

John McClaughry, Ensign

John Hunter, Lieut.

James Humphrey, Capt.

Patten Jackson, Lieut.

Long Island, May 24th 1780.

Benjamin Hallsted, Lieut.

Henry Pawling, Lieut,

Henry Swartwout, Ensign,

John Furman, Lieut.,

James Kronkhite, Capt.,

Alex'r McArthur, Lieut.,

Ebenezer Mott, Lieut.,

Isaac Keeler, Lieut.

Corn's Swartwout, Capt. Lt. ar-
tillery

Jacob Van Tassell, Lieut.

Nathaniel Reynolds, Lieut.

Isaac Crane, Adjt.

Samuel Dodge, Jr., Lieut.

[No. 2920.]

Washington Orders 250 Levies to Fort Schuyler.

Kingston 24th May 1780.

Sir, I am directed by his Excellency Genl. Washington to order into Fort Schuyler 250 Men of the Levies raised for the Defence of the Frontiers to relieve that Garrison, and tho' I think his Excellency, from the Representations I have made to him on the subject, and the disagreeable Intelligence he must soon receive from that Quarter, he may alter his Intentions, yet I conceived it my Duty (as these Troops are by Law subject to

his Excellency's Command) to give Colo. Harpur, who is appointed to a Regt., of them to detach those from Dutchess County, with such additional Number as will compleat those required for this service, and I have to request, that as soon as they shall be ready, & it is practicable for them to march, you will cause them to be furnished with the means of Conveyance to the Fort and such Supply of Provision as shall be necessary. I am, &c.

[G. C.]

[To Colonel Van Schaick.]

[No. 2921.]

Return of Men Exempted for Mr. Livingston's Iron Works.

A List of the men that are necessarily Employed in the Iron work of Robert Livingston Esqr. at Ancram & at Maryburgh.

John Van Buren, Michel Elliott, Clerks; Hugh Larman, John Hay, Peter Camer, Carpenters; Zachariah Curtis, Caleb Winchel, John Adams, Jun., Jonas Myers, Dudly Moor, Gilbert Clap, Ore Carters; Will'm Hamelton, Duncan MacCarty, Murphy MacIntire, Will'm Osburn, Cor's Dragherty, Giles Loomis, Rubin Loomis, Timoty Loomis, Jacob Treble, David Karl, Colliers; James Tomson, Allin Tomson, Stephen Norwood, Jun., George Rohrbarkr, Jacob Ditto, Jacob J. Shaver, James Karl, Coal Carters Two more wanting; John Hurly, David Phelps, Abner Phelps, Myners; Elias Tocker, John MacCarty, John Wintworth, David Wintworth, John Trafford, John Phillips, William Phillips, Jacob Limney, Solomon Limney, Caleb Keephart, Rulif Kidney, Saml. Tocker, Edward Waleing, Saml. Murphy, James Wintworth, Forge men, two more wanting; Thomas Trafford, Founder; William Elliot, Peter N. McArthur, Keepars; Johanis Hagedorn, John Semons, Patrick Rigenz, Jobbers.

The within fifty two persons (with four others) are exempted from Militia Duty while actually employed manufacturing Iron at Colo. Livingston's works untill farther order.

Geo. Clinton

25 May 1780.

A true Copy by Jno. A. Fonda.

[No. 2922.]

Governor Clinton Submits the Frontier Danger to General Schuyler and Requests His Cooperation.

Kingston, 25th May 1780.

Dr Sir; Two Days since I rece'd your Letter of the 15th May & have to thank you for the Intelligence it communicates; the Legislature have not yet formed a Quorum, tho' I think they will to-day, so that there is no great Danger of their rising suddenly, unless the disagreeable Intelligence we continue daily to receive from the northern & western Frontier Settlements, should oblige them to adjourn, which there is too much Reason to apprehend will be the Case. I now inclose you Extracts & Copies of the different accts. I have rec'd from Tryon County, which I must beg you to communicate to his Excellency Genl. Washington and to Congress.

The moment I can lay before the Legislature the Business which called for their immediate attention—and this I have Reason to expect will be done to-day—I mean to set out for Albany, where considering Genl. Ten Broeck's Indisposition, I fear my Presence is but too much wanted. Were Sir John's operations all we had to guard against, I should even under our present Circumstances not despair of being able soon to drive him out of the Country; but, Sir, when you are informed

that he has with the appearance of Security encamped his Troops near Johnstown, when you compare this Circumstance with the acct's from Montreal of the Preparations that were making to invest Fort Schuyler, there is every Reason to expect that Place is actually besieged by a considerable Force, for, unless this is the Case we must suppose Sir John a Madman to set down & by unnecessary Delay leave it in our Power to cut off his Retreat.

The Persons who bro't the former acct's, transmitted to his Ex'cy Genl. Washington by Colo. V. Schaick & of w'ch I now enclose you Copies, upon being further ex'd inform that the Force designed ag't Fort Schuyler, was to be commanded by Genl. McLean, and that it was to consist of 5000 men; that Sir John was to be with him but not to have the chief Command.

If the important Business you are engaged in at Camp will admit of your absence, I sho'd be happy to see you here without Delay, as I am persuaded the Information & assistance you can afford the Legislature will be of essential service and your Presence extremely agreeable to the members as well as to, D'r Sir, yours &c.

[G. C.]

[To Genl. Schuyler.]

[No. 2923]

Washington Favors a Draft to Fill up Depleted Battalions.

Morris Town,* May 25th 1780.

Gentlemen; I have attentively considered the circular letter to the different States which you did me the honor to communicate for my perusal, and I am happy to find, that my ideas perfectly correspond with those of the committee.

*This letter of Washington's, marked "copy" in the Clinton papers varies in several instances from the original with which it has been compared. The text of the original has been followed.—STATE HISTORIAN.

The view they have given of our situation is just, full and explicit. The measures they have recommended are well adapted to the emergency and of indispensable necessity. I very freely give it as my opinion that unless they are carried into execution in the fullest extent, and with the greatest decision and rapidity, it will be impossible for us to undertake the intended cooperation with any reasonable prospect of success.

The consequences you have well delineated. The succour designed for our benefit will prove a serious misfortune; and instead of rescuing us from the embarrassments we experience and from the danger with which we are threatened will, in all probability precipitate our ruin. Drained and weakened as we already are, the exertions we shall make, though they may be too imperfect to secure success, will at any rate be such as to leave us in a state of relaxation and debility, from which it will be difficult if not impracticable to recover—the Country exhausted—the People dispirited—the consequence and reputation of these States in Europe sunk—our friends chagrined and discouraged—our Enemies deriving new credit new confidence and new resources.

We have not nor ought we to wish an alternative. The court of France has done so much for us, that we must make a decisive effort on our part. Our situation demands it—tis expected. We have the means of success, and it only remains to employ them. But the conjuncture requires all our wisdom and all our energy. Such is the present state of this country—that the utmost exertion of its resources, though equal, is not more than equal to the object and our measures must be so taken as to call them into immediate and full effect.

There is only one thing which I should have been happy the com-

mittee had thought proper to take up on a larger scale. I mean the supply of men by draft. Instead of completing the deficiencies of the quotas assigned by the resolution of Congress of the 9th of February last, it would, in my apprehension, be of the greatest importance, that the respective States should fill their Battalions to their complement of five hundred and four rank and file, considering the different possible dispositions of the enemy, and the different possible operations on our part, we ought not to have less than Twenty Thousand Continental efficient Troops. The whole number of Battalions, from New Hampshire to Pennsylvania inclusive, if compleat would not amount to this force. The total would be 23,184, rank and File, from which the customary deductions being made, there will not remain more than about 18,000 fit for the service of the field. To this may be added the remainder of the 16 regiments amounting to about 1,000.

Unless the principal part of the force be composed of men regularly organized and on the continuance of whose services we can rely, nothing decisive can be attempted. The militia are too precarious a dependence to justify such an attempt, where they form a material part of the plan. Militia cannot have the necessary habits nor the consistency either for an assault or a siege. In employing them, essentially, we should run a risk of being abandoned in the most critical moments. The expence and the consumption of provisions and stores (which we are bound by every motive to oeconomise) will be very considerably increased. As we should not be able to keep the same body in the field during the whole campaign, we should a great part of the time have a double set of men to pay and feed—those in actual service and those on the march to relieve them or returning home when relieved. The operations of Husbandry will suffer in proportion.

The mode by a Draft is, I am persuaded, the only efficacious one to obtain the men—it appears to me certain that it is the only one to obtain them in time—nor can the period you have appointed for bringing them into the field be delayed without defeating the object. I have little doubt that at any time, and much less at the present juncture, the powers of Government exerted with confidence will be equal to the purpose of drafting. The hopes of the People elevated by the prospects before them, will induce a cheerful compliance with this and all the other measures of vigor which have been recommended and which the exigency requires.

Notwithstanding the extention of the draft, which I have taken the liberty to advise, occasional aids of militia will be still wanted, but in much less number in this case, than in the other.

I have entire confidence that the respective Legislatures will be fully impressed with the importance and delicacy of the present juncture, and will second the views of the committee by the most speedy and vigorous efforts. With every sentiment of respect and esteem, I have the honor to be, Gentlemen yr. most obe't hum. Serv't,

G. Washington.

To Philip Schuyler,

John Mathews,

and Nathaniel Peabody, a committee from Congress.

[No. 2924.]

The New York Legislature Act Promptly and Patriotically.

State of New York. In Senate May 26th 1780.

Whereas, upon the present Emergency of an Invasion of the Frontiers, it may be necessary immediately, and before a Law for

the Purpose can be passed, with the requisite formalities, to impress or purchase Provisions and ammunition.

Resolved, that his Excellency the Governor, be requested to direct the impressing and purchasing of such quantities of Provision and ammunition, as he shall judge proper, and that the Legislature will by Law, justify the impress and provide for the payment of such Provision and ammunition as shall be procured.

Ordered, that Mr. Yates carry a Copy of the foregoing Resolution to the hon'ble the House of Assembly for concurrence.

Extract from the Minutes.

Robt. Benson, Clk.

State of New York—In Assembly May 26th 1780.

Resolved that this House do agree with the Honorable the Senate in the said Resolution.

Ordered, that Mr. Othoudt and Mr. Townsend carry a copy of the above Resolution to the Honorable the Senate.

Extract from the Minutes.

John McKesson, Clk.

[No. 2925.]

General Schuyler Reports a Connecticut Regiment in Mutiny Because of Provision Famine.

Morris Town, May 26th 1780.

D'r Sir, Should the State agreable to General Washington's Request compleat the regiments to 504, I conceive it will Suffice instead of a new draft, to Convert the 800 men now raising to that purpose, tho probably the Situation of affairs will require they should remain to the Northward. If so—I would advise the State to inform the general of it, as I shall be on the Spot & will try to remove any difficulty which might arise.

Letters from Philadelphia announce a Naval engagement in the West Indies between the two capital fleets in that quarter, in which the French Flag was triumphant and drove the British into port. The particulars are not Stated; corroborating advices have also been received from the Eastward, and both wear the Complexion of truth.

A Dangerous mutiny* has taken place in a Connecticut Brigade; the Soldiery insist on returning home. It is for the present quelled, but we have too much reason to apprehend that it will

*From Morristown, under date May 27, 1780, Washington wrote to the President of Congress:

"It is with infinite pain I inform Congress, that we are reduced again to a situation of extremity for want of meat. On several days of late, the troops have been entirely destitute of any, and for a considerable time past they have been at best, at half, a quarter, an eighth allowance of this essential article of provision. The men have borne their distress in general with a firmness and patience never exceeded, and every commendation is due the officers for encouraging them to it, by exhortation and by example. They have suffered equally with the men, and, their relative situations considered, rather more. But such reiterated, constant instances of want are too much for the soldiery, and cannot but lead to alarming consequences. Accordingly two regiments of the Connecticut line mutinied, and got under arms on Thursday night. Had it not been for the timely exertions of some of their officers, who obtained notice of it, the same might have been the case with the whole, with a determination to return home, or at best to gain subsistence at the point of the bayonet. After a good deal of expostulation by their officers and some of the Pennsylvania line, who had come to their assistance, and after parading their regiments upon the occasion, the men were prevailed upon to go to their huts; but a few nevertheless turned out again with their packs, who are now confined. Colonel Meigs, who acted with great propriety in endeavouring to suppress the mutiny, was struck by one of the soldiers. I wish our situation with respect to provision was better in other quarters, but it is not. They are in as great distress at West Point; and, by a letter from Colonel Van Schaick at Albany, he informs me, that the garrison of Fort Schuyler had then only a month's supply on hand, and that there were no more provisions to send them. From this detail Congress will see how distressing our situation is; but there are other matters which still continue to render it more alarming.

Nothing is farther from my wishes, than to add in the smallest degree to the distresses or embarrassments of Congress upon any occasion, and more particularly on one where I have every reason to fear they have it not in their power to administer the least relief. Duty however compels me to add one matter more to those I have already detailed. I have been informed by the two colonels of the Pennsylvania line, in whom I have the utmost confidence, who were called to assist Colonel Meigs to suppress the mutiny on Thursday night, that in the course of their expostulations the troops very pointedly mentioned, besides their distresses for provision, their not being paid for five months; and, what is of a still more serious and delicate nature in our present circumstances, they mentioned the great depreciation of the money, it being of little or no value at all, and yet, if they should be paid, that it would be in this way, and according to the usual amount, without an adequate allowance for the depreciation. They were reasoned with, and every argument used that these gentlemen and Colonel Meigs could devise, either to interest their pride or their passions; they were reminded of their past good conduct; of the late assurances of Congress; of the objects for which they were contending; but their answer was, that their sufferings were too great, and that they wanted present relief, and some present substantial recompense for their services. This matter, I confess, though I have heard of no

shew itself soon and more seriously unless provisions arrive. The Officers live chiefly on bread & water to give the men all they can, and the latter have for ten days past much oftener been without than with any and at no time when that period have they had more than half allowance. Our greatest distress is in the article of meat. I have the honor to be, Dear Sir, most Sincerely your Excellency's Obedient Humble Serv't

His Excellency Governor Clinton &c.

Ph: Schuyler.

[No. 2926.]

John Johnson Moves Away Undisturbed, the Militia Panic Stricken, too Weak to Advance and Colonel Van Schaick Returns to Albany.

Fort Hunter, May 27th 1780.

Sir; I am favoured with your Excellency's letter of yesterday. I feel myself unhappy that I have not been able to pursue the Enemy previous to the receipt of your letter. I expected when I left Albany to have been able to Collect a Considerable force at this place, but on my Arrival, which was on Wednesday the 24th, I could not muster more than One Hundred & Eighty men; Thursday 250, & on Friday 500; while I was Stimulating the militia to Join me, I received repeated accounts that Sir John continued his Camp at a Settlement called Mayfield; my Scouts which I kept constantly out returned on Thursday & brought me

further uneasiness among the men, has given me infinitely more concern, than any thing that has ever happened, and strikes me as the most important, because we have no means at this time, that I know of, for paying the troops, except in Continental money; and as it is evidently impracticable, from the immense quantity it would require, to pay them as much as would make up the depreciation. Every possible means in my power will be directed on this and all occasions, as they ever have been, to preserve order and promote the public service; but in such an accumulation of distresses, amidst such a variety of embarrassments, which surround us on all sides, this will be found at least extremely difficult. If the troops could only be comfortably supplied with provisions, it would be a great point, and such as would with the event we expect soon to take place, the arrival of the armament from France to our succour, make them forget or at least forego many matters, which make a part of their anxieties and present complaints. I am, &c."

an account that Sir John had Decamped from Mayfield, on Tuesday, being the day after the Devestations at Caughnawaga were Committed, & had proceeded about seven miles & the day following he had proceeded on; the Scout pursued them fourteen miles further but could not overtake them, Sir John directed his Course high up the Country, by a back rout that leads towards Crown Point; when I had Collected a force Sufficient to pursue I could not furnish the Men with more than two days' provision. Continued to receive Constant & alarming accounts from Colo. Klock at Stone Arabia & Colo. Clyde at Fort Plank; those gentlemen pointed out to me the Hour that they were Severally to be attacked and requested in the most pressing Terms, that I would march to their assistance, alledging that Brandt was on the South side of the river with a strong party, & Butler on the North Side; this report was so Industriously spread by the Disaffected, that it kept the Country in a Constant alarm; in this Situation it was Judged not advisable to pursue. Neither was it practicable to overtake Sir John unless he made long halts, and I Judged that party for this purpose ought to have been furnished with provisions sufficient to Carry them to Fort Edward or George, having at present only provisions for one day & cannot obtain more than from hand to mouth, disenables me from prosecuting the measure your Excellency has adopted, which gives me great pain, I shall remain here till to-morrow & order a Detachment of 100 men to Fort Plank, then give the Command to Colo. Wemple, with Orders to remain in the present Situation untill he receives your further Orders. Public Matters require my Immediate attention at Schonectady & Albany. I am, with perfect Esteem your Excellency's most Obedient Humble Serv't

G. V. Schaick.

[To G. C.]

[No. 2927.]

*Governor Clinton Adopts Vigorous Measures to Intercept the
Retreating Enemy.*

Copy.

Saratoga, 27th May 1780.

D'r Sir, His Excellency has determined, with all the Forces that can be collected in this part of the Country, to attempt by a forced march to intercept the Enemy in their Retreat. Six hundred Men will immediately be embodied for the purpose, and will march without delay to Fort Edward. He, therefore, most earnestly entreats you will immediately send on to Fort Edward fifteen thousand Cartridges or powder and Ball equivalent thereto. If they can possibly be sent by Horsemen it will be by far the most Expeditious method. Let them be, if possibly, at Fort Edward by 12 O'Clock to-morrow. By order of His Excellency, I am D'r Sir your most Obed't Servant

Mor'n Lewis.

Ph: Rensselaer Esq.

[No. 2928.]

Colonel Morgan Lewis Orders a Supply of Rum for the March.

Copy.

Saratoga 27th May 1780.

D'r Sir, His Excellency has determined with Six hundred Men to march immediately into Jessups Patent, and intercept the Enemy on their Retreat. The Troops seem much dispirited on account of our being destitute of Rum. He, therefore, earnestly begs you will immediately, if you have not got it, purchase or borrow five Barrels of Rum in addition to the five already sent, and forward them on by Waggons immediately to Fort Edward. I am, Sir, By Order of His Excellency, your most Obed't Serv't

Mor'n Lewis.

Jacob Cuyler.

[No. 2929.]

An American Officer in Captivity on Long Island Complains of the Neglect Imposed Upon Him and His Fellow Prisoners.

Long Island 27th May 1780.

May it please your Excellency. Should I, as an individual be able in this way to through out some hints, worthy of your Excellencies and my Countries notice, and that might be improved in such a way as to anticipate a more Disagreeable task, I shall think my time well employ'd, and while I am pening my own thoughts respecting this matter, I presume I am Breathing the Sentiments, of by far the majority of my fellow sufferers, and whether I am right, our misfortunes in not being Exchang'd and time only will Determine.

That an Exchange of prisoners Could not on former negotiations Be obtaind on terms Honorable and mutually advantageous to both parties, I have untill very lately firmly believed. I find in the report of the American Commissioners, after their meeting with Commissioners on the part of the British at Amboy, in April, 1779, that the authority of the latter was questioned, and, however, just the query may be with respect to a standing Cartel, where the execution depends on the will of a succeeding Commander in Chief, I will not pretend to say, but in an immediate exchange where there is Quid pro quo appears to me without weight.

Your Excellency Doubtless have been inform'd that the late negotiation Took its rise from a set of propositions formed by General Philips of the Convention Army and some of the American prisoners, which, after receiving his Excellency General Sir Henry Clinton's approbation, was by the officers on our part, presented to His Excellency General Washington, and after being

Considered and approv'd of by him, to Congress, who appeared hartily to concur with the Commander in Chief of our army, nor did they hisitate to vest him with full and ample powers (as they Call'd it) to carry so Desirable and humane a purpose into immediate execution; almost every member professing to see it their interest to exchange on the present plan, and even applauding and thanking the officers presenting it, for the part they had taken upon the occasion, no Difficulties started no want of power in Genl. Clinton untill those gentlemen were again returnd into Captivity.

Permit me on the present occasion, to ask your Excellency and the world, or at least every good man in it, how our feelings as gentlemen and as officers, who Stept early in our Countries Cause and risked our Lives and fortunes in its Defence, must be hurt, when after near three and many, near four years Captivity, by Casting an Eye east and west, find the officers Captured long since at Road Island and Georgia, all exchange'd and that after all our sufferings, Congress should be Dispos'd to deceive us, and quibble about General Clinton's power, and, what appears to us still more alarming is, that near three Hundred of us have been detained here untill the Convention Army for whome we expected to be exchange'd are reduced to about one fourth part of their former number by Desertion!

While my feelings are exercis'd on this occasion, I Cannot forbear mentioning that I have thought it exceeding hard, that many married men should be prisoners for years together, without being able to obtain a single visite from their wives, but was always willing to Charge it to the account of our Enemy, until Shock'd by a late instance of a Lady, peculiarly Situated, applying to the Board of War, for permission to visite her Husband,

long a prisoner with us; when she was Laughed at and told she might be as well served in Philadelphia, or otherwise, in words implying what modesty forbids me to mention, an indignity generally felt here, and I trust will not pass unnoticed by your friends in the American Lines, untill we are put into a Capacity of speaking and acting for ourselves.

Notwithstanding what has been said, your Excellency may rest assured, that the fortitude and perseverance of the great number of officers Prisoners on this Island, has almost astonished our enemy, and that nothing will hurt them more than to be Drove at last, publicly to Clamer against their Rulers, and you will (perhaps) not be surprized, to find them ear Long, applying to the Legeslature of the Different states to which they belong, to interfere in their behalfs or it may be to the army and people at Large.

After submitting the use proper to be made of this to your Excellencies superior Wisdom, Conclude with Humble Confidence, that I shall receive your Excellencies pardon for Concealing my name and hand at the present. And have the Honor to be, with Due Respect, your Excellencies Most obed't and most Humble Serv't

D.

His Excellency George Clinton, Esqr.

[No. 2930.]

The Governor Desirous of Restoring the Confidence of Frontier Settlers and of Reanimating the Militia.

Saratoga 28th May 1780.

Sir; Yours of yesterday's Date Pr. Express, I have received and sincerely lament with you the many Impediments which have

conspired to prevent our giving Sir John & his Party such Chastisement as his Insolence and Temerity deserved. A Scarcity of Provision hath prevented so great a Number of the Militia of this Country from assembling as I expected when I last wrote you, which may render my first Plan of Operation impracticable. It will, however, be necessary to attempt something which may give Confidence to the Inhabitants who are now deserting their Settlements and reanimate the Militia who seem to have lost their fine spirits. I hope you will pay every attention to putting the Country in such posture of Defence and leave such garrisons at the respective Posts on the western Communication, as shall afford Security to the Inhabitants against future Incursions, until I can return to Albany when I shall make the necessary arrangements in the Militia for this Service.

[G. C.]

[To Colonel Van Schaick.]

[No. 2931.]

General James Clinton's Brigade Ordered from Morristown to Albany via New Windsor.

Morristown, May 28th 1780.

Dear Sir, Your Excellency's favor of the 25th Instant with the papers which were Inclosed, I had the honor to receive at five yesterday afternoon; I was with the Commander in chief when it came to hand, and afforded him an Immediate perusal of it; he did me the honor to Intreat my opinion on the possibility of Subsisting any troops he might detatch to the northward during their rout and after their arrival at the point of Operation; I did not hesitate to decide that they could be, relying on your Excellency's usual Exertion, and on that of a Legislature pervaded

with Spirit and decission as ours is; General Clinton's brigade will in Consequence march for New Windsor to-morrow morning; a want of Carriage induces a delay of this day.

I have promised General Washington to point out the necessary arrangements to move and supply the troops from Windsor, whence they must proceed in Sloops, but as of these, the number there will be inadequate to Embark one thousand one hundred men (the amount of the Brigade). I have to Intreat that measures be adopted to hasten from Esopus and its vicinity whatever water Craft may be proper on the occasion to rendezvous at Windsor with every degree of dispatch possible; The necessity of sending live stock or salted meat on board of the vessels for the Subsistance of the troops at least for the voyage to Albany, as well as flour will appear evident, when I Inform you that the army has been on Quarter allowance of meat for many days past, that the last is Issued, and that General Clinton's Brigade will march without any. There are times and Exegencys, Sir, when it becomes the Patriot to risk the Judgment of his Country, and for the good of the whole to dare a deviation from strict Constitutional rules; this Exigency appeared to me now, and I have ventured to advise General Clinton to Impress what may be Indispensible for the subsistance of his troops and to accelerate their movements.

Altho engaged with little relaxation in the arduous task assigned the Committee of which I am one, I hope so to arrange matters as to be in a condition to commence a journey to Kingston in two or three days, to give that Information to the legislature which it is my duty to afford them as a servant of the state in Congress, and to Contribute every aid in my power in the present distresses of a country so dear to me.

I have the honor to be, with the most perfect sentiments of respect and Esteem, your Excellency's most obedient & most Humble Servant

Ph: Schuyler.

His Excellency Governor Clinton &c. &c.

[No. 2932.]

GOVERNOR CLINTON PUSHING FORWARD.

Directs the Commandant at Castleton to Join Him at Ticouderoga With Boats in His Purpose to Intercept Johnson.

Fort George, 29th May 1780.

Sir, A Body of the Enemy consisting of about 600 composed of British Troops Hessian Yaagers, & two hundred Indians, Comanded by Sir John Johnson, made their Appearance on Monday last on the Mohawk River in Tryon County & desolated the Settlement of Caghnewaga committing many Acts of Cruelty on its defenceless Inhabitants. They proceeded from thence to Johnstown, where there is a small Picketted Work garrisoned by thirty men, which they declined attacking—after continuing in the Vicinity of that Post that Evening, finding the Militia assembling tho' far Inferior to their Force, they decamped & marched to a very strong situation about 4 Miles distant. The next Day the[y] moved again 6 Miles, and the next, finding the Militia preparing to pursue & attack them, they forced a March of upwards of fourteen Miles by an unexpected Route, inclining much more to the Northward than that by which they came. They were by accounts, we received from Persons of Veracity (who were made Prisoners & afterwards escaped) much beat out & many of them lamed by their long March add to this they have taken with them much Plunder, many Women Wives

to Persons who formerly joined the Enemy & their Children, so that it is likely their March will be very slow & dilatory after they have advanced as far as to consider themselves in a state of Security, which they will naturally conceive to be the Case after their last above mentioned Days march. The Moment I received an account of this Event, which was on Thursday last, at Kingston, I conceived the most probable Means for destroying this Party woud be by intercepting their Retreat in the Neighbourhood of Crown Point, & for this Purpose I have a Detachment of the Militia now at this Place, which with Colo. Warner's Regt. woud be more than sufficient for the Purpose, but we find ourselves under insurmountable Difficulties for want of Boats to convey them across the Lake, there not being a Number sufficient at this Place after bringing up all those in the North River as far down as Stillwater to transport more than one half our Number & these much out of Repair. This being the Case, I have to request your Assistance with the Militia collected at Castletown & its vicinity, & that you will meet us at Ticonderoga on Wednesday next. Shoud you not be able to cross the Lake in Rafts or Boats you will wait at Mount Independance and we will bring you over in our Boats. I have only to add that this Business ought & I doubt not you will conduct it with as much Secrecy as possible, least the Enemy may have Vessels at Crown Point who may fire alarm guns & on Sir John's approach alter Route. I am lead to hope that no Considerations of a Private Nature will prevent our uniting in the most vigorous Efforts ag't the Common Enemy. I am, Sir, your most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

The Officer commanding the Militia at Castletown & its vicinity.

[No. 2933.]

Robert Benson Reports to the Governor the Receipts of Several Communications.

Monday morning, May 29th 1780.

Respected Sir; The enclosed Letters were delivered to me last Even'g. That from Congress enclosed the Letter from Mr. Jay, in the Cover of which was inclosed one for the Chancellor & another for Genl. Schuyler; which I have detained here to forward to those Gentlemen when a proper opportunity offers. I determined to send the Letters directed to your Excellency by Express this morning; but by the advice of my Brother (as Jno. McClean will probably return from Headqrs. this Evening with Genl. Schuyler's answer to your Letter) I have made a Copy of the circular Letter & Resolutions of Congress for the use of the Legislature. They mean to take them into Consideration (for the sake of Dispatch) & put the Business in Train that no Time may be lost after receiving them by formal message. The moment McClean arrives an Express will be forwarded to your Excellency.

Since writing the above an Express going to Albany arrived with the Dispatches from Headqrs. which I have enclosed; among the Dispatches there was one from the Committee of Congress at Headqrs. to your Excellency on the subject of the Act of Congress of the 19th Inst. This my brother thought necessary should be detained here for the immediate use of the Legislature when on that Subject. They were too long to Copy & send the Original on by this Express.

Squire Ferris was imposed on with the Information of the Enemy's having been in Jersey & getting drubbed; no such Thing

has happened. Major Lawrence is just arrived from Pokeepsie; he saw Mrs. Clinton this morning, she & the family are well. I am most respectfully &c.

Robt. Benson.

[To G. C.]

[No. 2934.]

Congress Among Other Things Prepares to Equip the Navy for Sea Duty.

(Circular.)

Philadelphia, May 29, 1780.

Sir, Your Excellency will receive herewith enclosed two Acts of Congress of the 26th & 27th Instant. The former recommending to those of the States where Debts are due to their Inhabitants, from the quartermasters & Commissary's Department, by notes or Certificates given as mentioned in the Act; to make provision for discounting and discharging such Debts, by empowering the Collectors to receive them in Payment of the Taxes due to the first of March last, in the Manner prescribed in the Act.

It is hoped this mode may prove beneficial in those States where considerable Debts are due, under the Circumstances before mentioned, and in those States only can the Act be properly applied.

By the other Act of the 27th, you will be informed of the Measure adopted by Congress, to equip for Sea, the naval Force of the United States with the utmost Expedition, as also their recommendation to the several States to adopt the necessary Measures for promoting Harmony, and forwarding the common views of France and America as expressed in the resolution enclosed; which it is not to be doubted will meet with due Con-

sideration and Attention from the several States, and receive the necessary Aid of the Legislatures to carry the same into Execution as speedily as the Nature of the Case will admit.

I have the honour to be with the greatest respect your Excellency's obed^t hble. servant

Sam. Huntington, President.

His Ex^{cy} Gov. Clinton.

[No. 2935.]

Return of Colonel McCrea's Regiment.

Fort George 29 May 1780.

A Return of Colonel McCrea's Regt. Commanded by Col. Van

Wectin in Number officers Included 120

Volunteers 39

Total 159

Elisha Andrus, Adj^t.

[No. 2936.]

Return of Colonel Yates' Regiment.

Fort George, May 30 1780.

A Return of the Detachment of Collo. Yates Regt. of Melitia.

Collo.	Lieut. Collo.	Major.	Capts.	Subs.	Adj ^t .	Q. M.	Sarjts.	Rank & file.	Tot ^l
1	1	1	7	4	1	1	21	188	225

Volunteers 57

Remainder 158

Jacob Van Valkenburgh, Adj^t.

[No. 2937.]

Estimate of Levies to Reinforce the Army.

Estimate of Levies to reinforce the Army.

Dutchess County Now on Frontiers	168	
To be raised double to wit every 15th Man	336	
	<hr/>	
	504	504
Orange County—On Frontiers at Tappen	28	
To be raised	152	
	<hr/>	
	180	180
Ulster to be raised after relieving Detachment from Dutchess now on Frontiers		172
West Chester now on Frontiers	60	
To be raised	120	
	<hr/>	
	180	180
		<hr/>

Return of the Men orderd by Coll. Cooper.

Onderdonk's	Company	4 Men now Raiseing some procurd.
Terneure	Do	4 on the point of being raisd perhaps raisd.
Gardner's	do	4 three of which on the Ground the other expected this day.
Blauvelt	do	2 Men the Capt. partly afraid. I be- lieve men not Classed.
Bell's	do	2 Capt. Refuses to Comply with orders.
Smith	do	3 do Refuses
Eckerson's	do	5 Raisd & Expected this day.
Hoghencamp's	do	2 Capt. very dillatory pays no attention to orders.
Asler	do	2 Raisd & Expected.

Memorandum of the men wanting for the fronteers in the following Regiments.

Coll. Brinkroff's	4
Do Field's	8
Do Frear's	3
Do Hopkins'	15
Do Luttenton's	2
	29

[No. 2938.]

*Henry Schoonmaker's Petition Praying to Be Discharged from
Colonel Cortlandt's Regiment.*

To His Excellency George Clinton Esquire Governor and Commander in Chief in and over the State of New York. The Petition of Hendricus Schoonmaker late of the Town of Kingston in the County of Ulster now a Soldiery in the Service of the United States in the Regiment commanded by Colo. Cortlandt. Humbly Sheweth, That your Petitioner enlisted on the 24th of May 1777 and was immediately appointed a Serjant in Capt. Goodwin's Company in which Office your Petitioner has served until the 24th of February last; that about three months after your Petitioner's enlistment your Petitioner's Father, came to Fort Montgomery with a Substitute in your Petitioner's stead; that your Petitioner's Father as well as himself were then prevailed on to continue in the Service, in consideration of an Engagement made by Collo. Du Bois, who then commanded the Regiment, to which your Petitioner belonged; that your Petitioner would be promoted to the Office of an Ensign the first vacancy that should offer; that your Petitioner at the time the New York Regiments were reduced was detached to the Regt. in which he now belongs; that the winter before last your Petitioner's Father discouraged with the promises which had been made, procured at great Expence an other able-Bodied man as a Substitute in my Room; that Collo. Cortlandt then rejected the said Substitute on the principals of the President, which it would introduce in his Regt., that he would of course be obliged to grant the like indulgencies to others, which was Obvious and satisfactory to your Petitioner, notwithstanding his inclination to be discharged from the Service. That Collo. Cortlandt has since in a Number of Instances broke through that Rule and accepted of Substitutes. That your Petitioner is still continued in a Service contrary to his inclination, not from a disgust to the Cause in which he so Early Embark'd, but from a neglect of the promises made to your petitioner which he conceives his Services, Conduct and Character, would have intitled him to. Your petitioner, therefore, prays that your Excellency will be so kind as to interceed with Colo. Cortlandt for his discharge (provided your Petitioner procure a Substitute in his room) and your Petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray.

Henry Schoonmaker.

[No. 2939.]

Mrs. Godwin's Letter Soliciting Her Husband's Exchange.

Great Falls N. Jersey June 1st 1780.

Dear Sir, It is Nothing But Distress that Induces me to Write or to give your honour any Trouble upon my account. I had Settled myself very Contented in Hackensack when all of a sudden the Town was surpris'd with the Enemy who burnt three or four houses and Plundered the Inhabitants of Chief they had in the world amongst whome I shared the same fate otherwise I should not Trouble you whith that which Distress of Times Induces me to do. I have spoke to some of the officers of the arney who tell me they think that it is in your Power as it is not likely that my husband will be Exchanged soon to get some British officer to Exchange for him for a Term of Time in which time he will be able to settle me and my little Children in some Part of the Countrey where I shall live Contented untill his Return from Confinement.

Shall Conclude beseeching yor honour to do all that lies in your Power to Relieve as I may say a helpless woman and Child.

Catherine Godwin.

N. B. my Respects to Mrs. Clinton. Capt. Dubois has been here who told me he thought the Governor would do it if it were in his Power.

George Clinton, Govenor. _____

[No. 2940.]

Major Allen Unable to Cross Lake Champlain, Lacking Boats.

Mount Independence, June 1st 1780.

Sir, In Consequence of your letter which I Rec'd the day before yesterday at 12 o'Clock I immediately Marched my detach-

ment and arrived on this Ground yesterday Morning with about 200 Men. Expect about Noon this day 100 Militia who encamped about 20 Mile from here last Night. For want of a Boat I cannot Cross. Your Excellency, therefore, wil Please to order a Boat as Soon as Convenient. Expect your Excellency's further directions by the Bearer, Sergt. Blanchard, as soon as may be and Remain, Sir, your obedient & humble serv't,

Ebenez'r Allen, Maj'r Comdt.

His Excellency Gov. Clinton.

[No. 2941.]

Members of Congress Request a More Liberal Allowance for Their Expenses.

Philadelphia, 2d June, 1780.

Dear Sir, The want of a competent Representation in Congress to decide on the Business of the Vermonters still continues: we wish however for some intermediate act to check their Career, and it is in the Expectation of such a Measure that Major Hunt is prevailed on to delay his Journey a few days longer.

We had the Honour of writing to your Excellency on the 21st Instant by the post; among other things we mentioned the necessity of our Legislature's providing some fund for the support of their delegates, and of a speedy remittance to disincumber us from the debts we have already contracted for our Subsistance. Lest that Letter may have miscarried we beg leave to repeat that the Inconvenience of permitting members to draw money out of the publick treasury at their pleasure called for a Check: it was not less improper with respect to the Community than indelicate as it regarded the Applicant. It is true that we gave into the practice but it was not that it ever had our Approbation: general

acquiescence only gave it Sanction. At present the publick Exigencies are such as to close the Treasury against the private wants of even the members of Congress, and we must entreat your Excellency to recommend a suiteable Provision for us without Loss of time. They demand from us £270 Cont. money a week for a gentleman & Servant exclusive even of Table beer, every thing else is in proportion, and exchange 60 for one. We take it for granted that it is the Intention of the Legislature that our Expences should be defrayed and we wish for no more. If we should be asked for an Estimate it is our opinion that the value of six dollars a day specie will be no more than sufficient. It is indeed a third more than the original allowance to the delegates of our state; but it must be observed that every article of Expence to which we are exposed is raised to double its former price.

We enclose your Excellency a Resolution of Congress to establish the post you recommend;* and we hope that it is expressed in the manner you wish and that it will answer the Ends you propose. The general Measures pursued at Head Quarters to oppose the Irruptions of the Indians and British into our distressed state cannot but meet with approbation and produce salutary Effects: But horror and devastation will always mark the footsteps of those dastardly foes; and while no adequate defence can be provided against the Assassin & Incendiary we must be exposed to feel with inexpressible Solicitude and regret the reiterated sufferings of our frontier Fellow Citizens.

We are still anxious for the Fate of South Carolina. Rivington by a handbill has made a present of it to Sir Henry Clinton: but the sale is not credited.

*At Shokan. See page 794.—STATE HISTORIAN.

We shall have the pleasure of writing again to your Excellency by Major Hunt, probably in a day or two. And remain with the highest respect, Sir, your Excellency's most Obedient humble Servant

Jas. Duane,

Jno. Morin Scott,

P. S. Neither of us have as yet received one Shilling from the Treasury. J. M. Scott has attended ever since the 18th Feb'y last.

J. Duane,

His Excellency, The Governour of New York.

[No. 2942.]

*General Washington's Circular Letter for Militia Reinforcements
Amounting to Three Regiments from Each State.*

N. York (Circular)

Head Qrs. Morris Town, June 2d 1780.

Sir, By the Letter from the Hon'ble the Committee of Congress at Morris Town, which accompanies this, your Excellency will find, that these Gentlemen and myself, after maturely considering the matter, deem it essential to the success of the measures in contemplation to be carried on against the Enemy, to call on the States for certain aids of militia, in addition to the requisitions for men already made; and that they should be at places of Rendezvons appointed by me, by the 15th day of next month. The aid requested in this instance of your State, is founded on a principle of apportionment common to all the States, from New Hampshire to Maryland inclusive (the others on account of their distance and the operations in the southern quarter not being now called on) and is stated at Fifteen Hundred and Seventy

five rank & file. This number well armed, and equipped in every other respect for the Field in the best manner circumstances will admit, under proper officers, I wish to be at Fish Kill at the time mentioned by the Committee, which appears to me a suitable place for their rendezvousing at in the first instance, and from whence they will proceed on my orders, as occasion may require. It will also be material, on account of disciplining and organizing the men, as well as on account of public oeconomy, that they should be formed into full Regiments. If this is not done, it will render our arrangements extremely difficult & irregular, and will add, by greatly increasing the number of Officers, very considerably to the public expence. I would beg leave to observe, that I think the whole number of militia requested from your state, should be comprised in three Regiments, about the same size, which would make them nearly equal to the establishment fixed for those of the continental line. This additional aid will not I trust & earnestly entreat, impede in the smallest degree, the filling up the Regiments of the State by Drafts to their full complement, as requested by the Hon'ble the Committee in their Letters of the 25th ulto. This is a point of such great importance, so absolutely essential to give the least prospect of success to our operations, and indeed on which they depend, that I could not forbear mentioning it. If the Regiments are completed by Drafts, it is possible our demands for militia may be a good deal diminished; but this must be governed by events and therefore, for Objects so very interesting, so important as those to which we at present look, we should provide whatever may be possibly requisite. I have the Honor to be, with great respect & esteem,

Sir, yr. most Obed't servant, Go. Washington.

His Excell'y Gov. Clinton.

[No. 2943.]

SUPPLIES FOR THE CAMPAIGN.

*The Committee of Congress Makes an Urgent Appeal to the States
for Provisions and Men.*

(New-York)

In Committee of Congress, Morristown, 2d June, 1780.

Sir, In a letter of the 31st ult: from the commander in chief, which we had the honor to receive on the same day, his Excellency observes, that “in the expected co-operation with the force of our ally, against that of the common Enemy, it is of great moment that we should proceed with circumspection, and on the surest ground. Before we can determine what ought to be undertaken we should be able to appreciate the means we shall have it in our power to employ, on some precise scale. To begin an enterprise against any point in possession of the Enemy, on a general presumption of sufficient resources in the Country, and proportionable exertions in the respective Governments to bring them forth, would hardly be justified by success—could never be defended in case of misfortune, to say nothing of the fatal consequences that might ensue. It appears to me necessary to ascertain the number of men, and the quantity of supplies which the states are capable of furnishing in a given time, and to obtain assurances from them, founded on experience of their continuing supplies in the same proportion. I esteem the plan adopted by the Committee in their circular letter, an extremely good preparatory one: but I think it of indispensable importance, in the next place, to come to something fixed and determinate. I, therefore, take the liberty to submit to the Committee the necessity and propriety of calling immediately upon

the states, for specific aids of men, provisions, forrage, and the means of transportation.”*

His Excellency next states the Enemies number, and position—mentions the points against which the combined arms will probably be directed, and furnishes us with an estimate of the force which America ought to draw into the field, with others, exhibiting a state of the provisions, horses, carriages, and a variety of other articles indispensibly necessary to give vigor and a probably prospect of success to our operations. Duty and inclination equally impelled us to a conference with the General, and to the most serious consideration of the subject. The result was a determination, specifically to apportion to, and request from the states referred to in the resolutions of Congress of the 19th ult. to furnish the requisite supplies by the first day of July. In estimating these, we have paid all possible regard to the prob-

*The remainder of Washington's letter is as follows:

To enable them to judge of the number of men we shall want the following observations may be of use.

Our arrangements should be made on the principle of the greatest enterprise we can undertake and against the whole force of the enemy united—that is an enterprize against N. York with the Troops acting to the Southward added to its present garrison.

The enemy's force at New York on this supposition cannot be estimated lower than undertake and against the whole force of the enemy united—that is an enterprize against to four or five thousand, but let the whole be estimated at 17,500.

Double this number is the least we can ask to operate against it—that is 35,000 effective men, besides two small Corps, the one at Westpoint, the other in the Jerseys for Covering our Communications and attacking Powles Hook, if the enemy retain possession of that Post—In Europe to besiege Troops in fortified places, the proportion of men necessary is computed at six to one in favor of the besiegers. We cannot ask less than two to one against N. York—allowing us the command of the water which will be a material advantage.

The Corps of French Troops will probably not exceed on their arrival five thousand effective men—the residue of 30,000 must be furnished by us, together with about fifteen hundred for the two detachments above mentioned.

To have this effective force our total at the lowest calculation cannot be less than 40,000 rank and file.

The Battalions in this quarter completed by drafts as recommended by the Committee in their circular letter, will amount to 22,680—the Balance of 17,320 must consist of Militia.

These must be furnished by the States from New Hampshire to Maryland inclusive according to the proximity and ability of each. It is proposed that they be assembled at appointed places of rendezvous by the last of June—to serve for three, or at least two months after joining the Army.

I have had estimates formed, which are inclosed for the consideration of the Committee, of the Quantity of provisions requisite for the supply of an Army of 40,000 men for a month—of forage for the same period—and of horses and waggons for the Campaign

able resources of each, and to their relative position to those scenes of operation, which are at present in contemplation. We shall accordingly annex the kind and quantum of Supplies which are monthly expected from your state; and we have to intreat, that you will fully comply with the requisitions we have the honor to make, and that they will be kept up, in the same proportion until the last of November, if necessity should induce us to continue the application to that period, even although any of the articles now called for, should exceed the quota assigned you by the act of Congress of the 25th February last; and you will please Sir, to signify to us, without delay, the determination of your state on this important subject.

Here it becomes our duty to advise you, as upon examination you will perceive, that we have stated your quota p month, in some articles, beyond what it would have been, could we have

attached to the Army; other estimates are annexed apportioning these to the States from New Hampshire to Virginia inclusive having regard to the resources of each and their relative position to the probable scene of our operations.

My idea is to call upon those States to furnish their Quotas by the last of June and to give explicit information how far it will be in their power to keep up the supply in the same proportion to the last of November.

This brings the business to a point. The States must either give us what we want in the time required—or manifest their inability to do it, and we can take our measures accordingly—Particular commonly make a livelier impression than general ideas—If we only urge the States to adopt a plan for bringing forth all its resources, they may proceed on some vague notion of the extent of our wants and satisfy themselves with arrangement which though ample enough to be plausible may yet fall far short of the object—If we make a demand of definite aids, they will have a fixed point to regulate themselves by and their measures will be equal to it, if they are in a condition to command the means. In my opinion requisitions of this nature will at once serve to guide and stimulate. At any rate their operation will inform us what we have to expect and what we ought to do.

I have one doubt of the expediency of immediately calling for the Militia, which is that it may possibly operate to the prejudice of the proposed draft for the Continental Battalions—but there is in all probability so little space between this and the execution of our projects that we seem to have not a moment to lose—I am clear in the expediency of asking specific supplies.

It appears to me essential that there should be a perfect understanding on all hands—that the States should know our wants—what is expected by us—that we should know their abilities—and what we may expect from them. I should not fear to discourage by alarming them with the largeness of our demands, if it could be supposed they would not bear the knowledge of our wants, we could not flatter ourselves they would supply them. But their wisdom and patriotism will certainly do everything their resources will permit.

If the Committee should desire a conference on these subjects, I shall do myself the honor to attend them whenever and wherever they please. With perfect respect, &c.

strictly adhered to the proportion on which the allotments made by the act of the 25th February last, were adjusted; but this was found impracticable, because of the exhausted condition of some of the States, in which the army and its principal detachment have wintered. But as these, in the course of the campaign will be enabled to afford more than they can at present, your quota as now stated, will of course diminish. The requisition, Sir, is large, but it is barely competent. It is the least adequate to the intended operations, as it is calculated on the most limited expenditures, without the smallest allowance for accidental losses, or extra consumption.

Having given the States a fixed point to regulate themselves by, their measures will be equal to it, and their exertions competent to the magnitude of the object. In matters of such high import, it appeared to the General and to us, essential that there should be a proper understanding on all hands. That the states should know the wants of the army, and what is expected for it. That the General and the Committee should be clearly and explicitly advised of their abilities, both individually and collectively, and to have determined with precision, what may be expected. We do not fear to discourage by the largeness of the demand, as we conceive it impossible they should not bear with the knowledge of the wants of their army, and because knowing them, we are perswaded their wisdom and patriotism will impel them to every exertion fully to afford the supplies.*

The supplies allotted to be furnished by your state are, 71675 pounds of Beef p month, 140 Bbbs. of Flour p month and 2285 Bushels of grain for forrage p month, the two former to be transported to and delivered at Albany, and the latter, as the quartermaster general shall direct, also 600 draft horses to be attached to the army, and to be delivered as last aforesaid, and on or

*Thus far circular.

before the first day of July next. The first monthly quota of supplies to be delivered by the first day of July next, and the subsequent ones monthly, within the month succeeding as the quartermaster or commissary General may direct. The horses are an additional article to those stated in the act of Congress of the 25th February last, but the requisition on your state, as on others, for extra supplies cannot be dispensed with, and the amount thereof, together with the transportation of any, must be charged in account with the United States. We believe it would be advantageous to the states in general, that the horses should be procured by hire in preference to purchase, as the drivers who will then accompany them will be more careful of the cattle; should your state adopt that mode, we recommend that the contracts be made payable in specie, or in paper money equivalent, and that their value should be appraised on oath, and a return of the appraisement be made to the quarter master general. As the object, against which the military operations will be directed cannot be positively ascertained, we have it not in our power to call on you for a determinate quantum of transportation, but believe it will be considerable.

*The continental troops already engaged and with the army, together with the addition requested by the General's letter of the 25th ult; to compleat the battalions to five hundred and five rank and file, will still in his opinion and in our own be inadequate to insure success in the intended operations.† In our

*Circular from hence excepting as to the number of militia requested of each state.

†The quotas for each State, and the places in which they were to rendezvous, were specified as follows:

States	Quotas	Regiments	Place of Rendezvous.
New Hampshire	915	2	Claverac
Massachusetts	4725	9	Claverac
Rhode Island	630	1	Providence
Connecticut	2520	5	Danbury
New York	1575	3	Fishkill
New Jersey	945	2	Morristown
Pennsylvania	3465	7	Easton and Trenton
Delaware	315	1	Wilmington
Maryland	2305	4	Head of Elk

The quotas from the other States were intended for the southern army and were subject to the orders of the commander in that department.

ircular letter of the 25th ult: we intreated your legislature to adopt measures for drawing forth your militia on the shortest notice: we have now to request that such arrangements may be made, as that your quota of Militia, which, with the concurrence of the commander in chief we state at 1575 rank and file shall rendezvous at the army, or at such posts and places as the General shall direct, by the fifteenth day of July next at farthest, and to continue in service for the term of three months, computing from the day of their arrival at such rendezvous as aforesaid.

Your quota of Flour and beef as now apportioned, is short of what it should be in consideration of the exhausted condition of the state; when it shall be in a condition to afford more ample supplies, additional requisitions will be made.

Such of the supplies herein required as make part of the quota assigned to your state, by the act of Congress of the 25th February last, and which it is requested you will transport to, and deliver where the quarter master General or Commissary General shall direct, will be receipted for by Continental officers appointed for that purpose, before either they or your agents convey or transport the same beyond the limits of your state. If however such Continental officer should not be present, you will give directions that the weight or quantity of the articles may be estimated, and an account or invoice be transmitted with each parcel. We have to observe, that in the beef requested, hides and tallow are not included, allowance must therefore be made for those when cattle are sent to the army. If drivers are sent with the draft horses and cattle, requested of your state, we wish to have one for every four horses or oxen. We

have the honor to be with great respect and esteem your Excellency's most obedient Humble Servants

Ph: Schuyler

Jno. Matthews

Nath'l Peabody.

His Excellency Governor Clinton &c.

P. S. We do most earnestly intreat, that the requisition now made on your state, for the quota of Militia, may not be suffered, on any consideration whatever, to retard the completion of the continental battalions, as recommended in our second circular letter of the 25th ult: the necessity of that measure becoming daily more striking and important.

[No. 2944.]

Colonel Safford Notifies Morgan Lewis of His Progress in Forwarding Supplies.

Fort George, 2d June 1780.

Bear Sir, Recvd. yours by Capt. Yates at 4 this Morning; the Provision from Albany has arive. I send Bread and Beef in this Boat, shall send another on the moment it arives, and so continue till they are all over; ther is 30 Bls. Beef & 30 of flower, and four of Rum. Shall send by the next Boats (with what comes in this) 20 Barrils of Beef with flower and Bread equivalent, and four of Rmm, if more is wanted, the first information from you it shall be forwarded on. Wishing you Prosperity, am, sir, your obedient Ser't

Saml. Safford.

Col. Morgan Lewis.

P. S. We have glorious news from the southward, as you will be informed by the Bairer of his Excellencies Dispatches.

[Nos. 2945, 2946.]

Major Allen Discovers Signs of the Enemy.

Dear Sir, I herewith send you an acc't I have this Moment from Collo. Allen; we were upon our March to join you, and have halted the detachment to know how to act. The Provision you was pleased to send us yesterday was all consumed last Night, and the Enemy may probably not return to that place in two or three days, and by your acc't we have no great reason to expect any great supply of Provision. It mortifies me much to think when we have a probability of meeting the Enemy that we should be obliged to return for want of provision. I am, Dear Sir, your most obed't &c.

Robt. V'n Rensselaer.

His Excellency, Gov'r Clinton.

2 mils South of Crown Point, half past 7 o'Clock.

Sir, This moment my Scout under Capt. Clark return'd and brings Intelligence that they have discovered Signs of the Enemy on the west side of the west Bay, near Cr. Point; they found the Path by which the Enemy went out to the westward and report that but a small party and 12 Horses are Returned, Supposed to have return'd two days ago so that the main Body are still behind, who by the Signs they made are full as many in Number as we are or more. I have made a halt here and Expect your Directions with all Dispatch, as I shall not move from the ground till I have returns from you. Am, Sir, yours

Ebenez'r Allen, Maj'r Comdt.

Col. Ranselaer.

P. S. the Path by which the Enemy went out is about three miles from where you left us yesterday.



John Stow

[No. 2947.]

Governor Clinton's Instructions and Words of Caution to Colonel Van Rensselaer.

Dear Sir, This Moment I received your Letter without Date by Express. Proviſsion has arriv'd this Morning ſufficient for about four Days for the whole Party. There is more at Fort George which on the Receipt of your Letter laſt Night dated at Bull Wagen Bay (by which as I had reaſon to expect your Return here this Forenoon I directed not to be forwarded) but if neceſſary I can yet have brought on; I now ſend you a Detachment of upwards 70 Men under ————— with as much Proviſsion as they can carry for your uſe. This Party is not only intended to carry you Proviſsion but as a Reinforcem't to your detachm't. It is my earneſt deſire to intercept the Enemy & I ſhould equally with you, regret any thing that might defeat our Intentions, eſpecially as from Major Allen's account appears to be a proſpect.

I wiſh, therefore, every Measure may be purſued for this Purpoſe which can be done conſiſtent with Prudence taking into Conſideration the Strength of our Party, our Situation and Reſources; relying much on your Prudence Zeal and activity I am,
D'r Sir, your Moſt Obed't Serv't [G. C.]

[To Col. Robert Van Rensselaer.]

While we are endeavouring to cut off the Retreat of the Enemy, Prudence will dictate to you the neceſſity of defeating any attempt of them to intercept yours to this Place. As our Party is now greatly diminished by this Detachm't I ſhall move them with the Boats to Hoſpital Iſland to prevent the Troops ſtragling keeping a Party at this Place.

[No. 2948.]

Military Operations in the North Delayed by Lack of Provisions.

Putnam's Creek, June 3d, 1780.

Dear Sir, We have just received the inclosed from Major Allen; you'll send him a supply if possible. As both Officers and Men seem desirous of intercepting the Enemy, we march by daylight in the morning, therefore, must beg you will send your answer to this Express as soon as possible. Capt'n Browne with his Party left us this morning without any Orders to go, on the contrary I ordered him to halt. I am, D Sir, yours

[Robt Van Rensselaer.]

P. S. Capt'n Brown belongs to Coll. Yates' Regt. A Centry will hail your Boat North of Putnam's Point.

McCalpin's House, June 3d, 6 o'Clock P. M.

Dr Sir, I Rec'd yours informing that you Expect Some Provisions on Presently. I Immediately Dispatched a Scout to the Road with orders to watch the Enemy's movements; another Scout which I ordered on to Cr. Point this morning to observe the motion of the Shipping is just returned but brings no Intelligence. But beg leave to inform you that I can advance no further, without a Supply of Provisions for the Men with me, and am under necessity to march back to my Station, to morrow Mornieg, unless I am Supplied by that Time; the Scout that is just now gone out was Supplied by fragments from those that Stay behind. Should be glad if any Provisions are Sent on; they may be Sent in Boats as the easiest method to Transport them, besides this, Boats will be Necessary for the Reception and Transportation of the wounded if we Should Come to action; if

a little Rum Could be Spared to animate the Spirits of my Men under their fatiguing Situation, it would answer a very good Purpose. I am, Dear Sir, your obedient humble Serv't

Ebenezer Allen, Maj'r.

Col. van Rensselaer.

[No. 2949.]

Governor Clinton Forwards Provisions to Colonel Van Rensselaer.

Hospital Island, 3d June 10 O'Clock P. M.

Dear Sir, I rec'd yours of this Date by Mons. [ms. illegible] this Moment; about an Hour ago I wrote you by [ms. illegible] informing you that 2 Bils. Beef, 600 Ct., 60 lb. Bread, 1 Bil. of Rum was forwarding to Crown Point for your Troops. The utmost Expedition will be used to get it on. A Strong Party is now employed carrying it across & the Batteaux at Mount Independence is sent for to carry it up. Doct'r Williams has undertaken this Difficult Job & I am sure he will accomplish it. I can send you more if it is necessary & you only point out the safest & best mode of conveyance. I woud most almost submit to any thing or undergo any Trouble to intercept the Villians. When I speak of your Troops I mean to include Maj'r Allen's. I have Provisiion plenty,—has just now arrived. Yours Sincerely,

Geo. Clinton.

[To Col. Robert Van Rensselaer.]

[No. 2950.]

Lieutenant Martin in Disgrace.

Putnam's Creeck, June 3d, 1780.

D Sir, The Bearer hereof Lieut't Martin belonging to Colo. Webster's Regt., is now sent to you, for leaving his Gaurd before

relieved or Paraded. Our Situation is such as to render it inconvenient to putt an Officer under an Arrest or try him; therefore, must transmit him to better Hands. I am, Sir, your Obedient Serv't

(By Order) Lewis R. Morris.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 2951.]

Orders for the Troops.

Camp, Lake George Landing, 2d June 1780.

Parole _____

Countersign _____

Officer of the Day—Colo. Webster.

No Person is to be absent from the Camp without Leave. Nor to pass the Sentries after Dusk unless on Command. In Case of an Alarm the Troops are immediately to parade in the old Fort. The Guard to oppose the Enemy in the first Instance. The greatest Care is to be taken to preserve order, & to prevent Confusion. Silence is to be observed & no Person but the proper Officers is to presume to speak or give orders. The Troops are to parade at the usual Place at 8 O'Clock Tomorrow Morning. Detail for the Guard: _____.

Colo. Yates.

Camp Hospital Island, 3d June, 1780.

General orders.

Parole _____

Countersign _____

Officer of the Day.

His Excellency desireous of having an exact Return of all the Troops present fit for Duty, that the real Strength of the Camp

may be accurately ascertained and he thereby enabled to make the necessary Detachments without hazarding the Safety of the Residue, Orders that Returns be immediately made & the Troops be paraded at 7 O'Clock this Evening & accounted for on the Ground. The Boats in the Water, the Commissary's excepted, are all to be drawn up at one Place, a Centry to be placed over them & another at the Commissary's Boats; no Person to take a Boat or be absent from Camp without leave from the Officer of the Day. * * * * When the Guards are detailed, 1 Capt. 2 Subs. & 50 non Commissioned Officers & Privates are to be detailed for Duty who are to hold themselves in readiness to march by Daybreak. Detach for guard for Duty.

[No. 2952.]

President Huntington to Governor Clinton Relative to the Post at Shohocken [Shokan].

Philadelphia, June 3, 1780.

Sir, By the enclosed Act of Congress of the first Instant your Excellency will be informed, they have directed a Post to be established at Shohocken, and maintained at the Expence of the United States, the Garrison to be under your particular Direction and Superintendance, subject however to the Orders of the Commander in Chief; and to consist of those Troops already voted by Congress for the Defence of the Frontiers of New York, if they can be spared; otherwise by Militia embodied for that Purpose.

As the establishing of this Post is under your immediate Inspection, it is needless to suggest the necessity & Propriety under our present Circumstances, of saving Expence in erecting

& establishing this Post as far as possible, consistent with its answering the Purpose intended, which is referred to your Prudence and Discretion. I have the honor to be with the highest respect your Excellys obed't hbble. servant

Sam Huntington, President.

His Excell'y Governor Clinton.

In Congress, June 1st, 1780.

Resolved. That a post be established at Shoheken, in the county of Ulster, in the State of New York, and maintained at the expence of the United States,

That the said garrison be under the particular direction and superintendence of his excellency Gov'r Clinton, subject however to the orders of the commander in chief of the continental army.

That if the number of troops necessary to garrison this post cannot be conveniently spared out of those already voted by Congress for the defence of the frontiers of the State of New York: Congress approve of the employing from time to time at the expence of the United States such number of militia as may be sufficient for that purpose so as that the whole employed in this service do not exceed one hundred & fifty men with the proper proportion of officers.

Extract from the minutes.

Chas. Thomson, secy.

[No. 2953.]

Colonel Van Rensselaer Closely Observing the Movements of the Enemy.

Putnam's Creeck, 4th June daybreak.

D Sir, We have just received yours of 9 & 10 O'Clock last Evening in which you desire me to write verry particularry. I can give you no farther information at present. Scouts are now

out and on their return shall be able to give your Excellency better intelligence; at the same time, shall be able to say whether any more Provision need be sent and the mode of Conveyance; for I much fear the Party discovered is only that party which our Scouts saw going through Jessups Patent if no probability offers of intercepting the Enemy shall return to morrow. Donald Cameron, of the Continental Troops deserted from us the first Day, and we think he is gone to the Enemy, and will give them such information as may alter their Rout. I am, D Sir, your very Humble Servant

Robt. Van Rensselaer.

P. S. A number of our Men living in the Eastern parts of our State are desirous of returning by the way of the Grants on our Return; your Opinion on this Subject.

His Excellency The Governor.

[No. 2954.]

Colonel Van Rensselaer Hears from His Scouts.

McKalpin's House near Crown Point half past Eight O'Clock.

[June 4, 1780.]

Dear Sir, Our Scout is this moment returned and brings us an account of the Track of Eight and Twenty Horses, and a number of men; they are advanced as far as the Lake. Our Scout left them about an hour and a half ago. He heard them fire and Chop Wood. The Provision is just come; it will be divided presently, and hope before to morrow morning to give your Excellency a pleasing account of Sir John and his Motly Crew. I am, D Sir, your very Humble Servant

Robt. Van Rensselaer.

His Excellency Govenor Clinton.

Dear Sir, I have this Moment rec'd your Note of half past with the very [] acc't of the Prospects you have of falling in with the Enemy; while I have the fullest Perswasion that on such event the Troops under your Command will do their Duty & I have the highest Confidence in the Conduct of the Officers, I wish to augment your strength as much as in my Power & have, therefore, this Moment ordered a considerable Detachment from this Place under the command of Major Dickinson to join you. Tho they will march instantly, they may not be up with you in Season to join in the attack & it might be Imprudent to miss a favourable opportunity waiting for them yet they will be at Hand to support you in Case of necessity & they will give Confidence to your Men. Success attend you & believe me, yours Sincerely [G. C.]

Hospital Island, one o'Clock P. M. Sunday 4th June, 1780.

Colo. Robt. Renselaer.

Major Dickenson is directed on his arrival at McCalpin's house to dispatch a messenger to bring your orders. Mr. Swart was a voluntier with this party & when he joins will assist you as an additional Brigade Major.

[No. 2955.]

Return of Levies from Albany Militia to Be Under the Command of Colonel Harper.

A Return of the number of men out of General Ten Broeck's Brigade Furnish as Draughts for the New Levies together with the names of the Several Colonels. Albany 4th June 1780; to be Emboided under the command of Colonel John Harper.

Regiments	Colonel names	No. of men	What County	under whose Command
1	Abraham Wemple	14	Albany	Walter Vroman at Johnstown
2	Peter Van Ness	18	do	ditto
3	Peter Livingston's	8	do=5 on Command	ditto
4	Abraham Van Alstyn	14	do	ditto
5	Abraham Cuyler	13	do	Isaac Bogart at Schoharj
6	Rober Van Kenselaer	14	do	ditto ditto
7	Peter Vroman's	11	do	ditto ditto
8	Anthony Van Bergen's	13	do	ditto ditto
9	Phillip Schuyler's	8	do	ditto ditto
10	Hendrick Quackenbush	8	do	ditto ditto
11	B. Whiting's	26	do	Allen ditto
		18.		
	Jacob Clock	11	Tryon County	Gerret Putman Fort Plank
	Frederick Visscher	26	ditto	ditto
	Samuel Campbell's	12	ditto	ditto
	Peter Pellinger	6	ditto	ditto
		39	Dutchess County,	Lieut. Odell, to Fort Schuyler

[No. 2956.]

The English Capture Charleston, but Lose Mobile.

Philadelphia 5 June 1780.

Sir, The Resolutions of Congress of Fryday* last respecting the controverted district of our state were this morning read and have now all the necessary Solemnity for their authentication.

*Friday, June 2, 1780, Congress resumed the consideration of the report of the committee on sundry papers respecting the New Hampshire Grants and thereupon passed the following resolutions:

Whereas it is represented to Congress, and by authentic evidence had thereunto, that it appears, that the people inhabiting the district of country, commonly called the name of the New Hampshire Grants, and claiming to be an independent state, notwithstanding the resolutions of Congress of the 24th of September and the 2d of October, proceeded as a separate government to make grants of lands and offices, and to have them declared forfeited and confiscated; and have also, in divers instances, assumed civil and military authority over the persons and effects of sundry persons residing in the said district, who profess themselves to be citizens of and to owe allegiance to the state of New York.

RESOLVED, That the acts and proceedings of the people inhabiting the said district, and claiming to be an independent state as aforesaid, and the intentions and intentions of the said resolutions of the 24th of September and the 2d of October last, are highly unwarrantable, subversive of the peace and welfare of the United States.

That the people inhabiting the said district, and claiming to be an independent state as aforesaid, be and they hereby are strictly required to forbear and abstain from all acts of authority, civil or military, over the inhabitants of any town or district who add themselves to be subjects of and to owe allegiance to any of the states, claiming the jurisdiction of the said territory, in whole or in part, until the decisions and determinations in the resolution afore mentioned shall be made.

And whereas the states of New Hampshire and New York have complied with the said resolutions of the 24th of September and the 2d of October last, and by their agents

We thought it advisable to have some Copies printed in order to their being certified by the Secretary and circulated in such manner as your Excellency and the Legislature may judge best. Maryland and Delaware continue to be unrepresented which retards a final determination on the Claim of independent Jurisdiction assumed by the Vermontees. We cannot, however, entertain the least doubt but that Congress will decide against a usurpation which both in its principles and its consequences has the most dangerous and alarming Tendency. We need not reassure your Excellency that we shall embrace the earliest opportunity to urge forward a hearing: for we have nothing more at Heart than to put an End to this pernicious Contest.

The Fate of Charles Town is still suspended. Governour Rutledge in a Letter to Governour Nash of North Carolina of the 16th of May* last uses these Expressions: "We have accounts so certain that I think they cannot be doubted that on Fryday last Charles Town surrendered; as yet I have received no authentic Intelligence of the Terms of Capitulation." Mr. Rutledge then resided at Cambden about 60 miles from Charles Town. This disagreeable Report seems to be corroborated by Rivington's

and delegates in Congress declared themselves ready to proceed in supporting their respective rights to the jurisdiction of the district aforesaid, in whole or in part, according to their several claims, and in the mode prescribed in the said resolutions: and whereas Congress, by their order of the 21st of March last, did postpone the consideration of the subject of the said resolutions, nine states exclusive of those who were parties to the question not being represented; and by their order of the 17th of May last have directed that letters be written to the states not represented, requesting them immediately to send forward a representation.

RESOLVED, That the Congress will, as soon as nine states exclusive of those who are parties to the controversy shall be represented, proceed to hear and examine into and finally determine the disputes and differences relative to jurisdiction between the three states of New Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay and New York, respectively, or such of them as shall have passed such laws as are mentioned in the said resolutions of the 24th of September and the 2d of October last, on the one part, and the people of the district aforesaid, who claim to be a separate jurisdiction on the other, in the mode prescribed in and by the said resolutions.

On June 9th Congress assigned the second Tuesday in September finally to hear and determine the disputes and differences relative to jurisdiction between the free states of New Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay and New York.

*Charleston capitulated May 12th, 1780.—STATE HISTORIAN.

hand bill; but the total want of official Information or even private Letters from Friends or Foes, on so important an Event and after near a Month from the time it is supposed to have happened stamps it with strong marks of Suspicion. It is only supposing that the Enemy at the time the Iris sailed from Charles Town which was the 17th of May thought it for their advantage to spread a Report of the Surrender, and we can as easily account for its passing from their Lines thro' the adjacent Country to the Ears of Governour Rutledge, as for its being propagated thro' that Channel of Misrepresentation, Rivington's Gazette.

We have the pleasure to inform your Excellency that the Expedition of Don Bernardo de Galvez, the Spanish Governour* of Louisiana, against Mobile has proved Successful. The Garrison of Fort Charlotte of Mobile consisting of 800 regular Troops under the Command of Lieut. Governour Durnford surrendered prisoners of war the 8th of May. It is not to be doubted but that the Conquest of Florida will be pursued with vigour and while the British are gratifying their vengeance against the feeble parts of our Country without the most remote Hope of advancing their Interest or their Honour effectual Measures will be taken for forever annexing that valuable Country to the Crown of Spain.

We have the Honour to be, with the utmost Respect Sir your Excellency's most obedient & most humble servants

Jas. Duane,

Jno. Morin Scott.

His Excellency Governour Clinton.

*Don Bernardo de Galvez, who was appointed Spanish governor of Louisiana, February 1, 1777, captured Mobile from the British March 14, 1780. Spain having declared war against Great Britain, May 8th, 1779.—STATE HISTORIAN.

[No. 2957.]

Andrew Bostwick's Return of Forage.

A Return of Forage furnished the Continental Army by Andrew Bostwick, D. C. G. Forage for the District of the State of New York, from August 1st 1779 to April 1st 1780.

From What Post	Tons Hay	Bush. Rye	Bush. Corn	Bush. Oats	Bushels of Buck-wheat	Total Bushels
Nine Partners	352	158	1454	1362	1580	4854
Red Hook & Livings's Manor	441	257	589	279	250	1355
Rhinebeck	222	115	741	440	336	1632
Fish Kill	300	72	908	3516	1258	5784
Fredericksburgh	214	31	682	934	196	1843
Continental Village	120	30	360	1400	510	2300
Bedford	532	39	820	5223	49	6131
Kings Ferry	220	200	720	580	500	2000
Ramepough	222	160	760	650	430	2000
Chester	436	380	1460	1250	980	4070
New Burgh (Ulster County)	850	740	2900	2450	1910	8000
	3909	2182	11394	18084	8339	39999

Kingston, 6th June, 1780.

The above Estimate was taken from actual Returns, Except the four last Quantities, as I was not yet Possessed of those Returns I have Estimated the Quantities in proportion to the demads made for money to settle those accounts within the several districts. I was something at a Loss how to proportion the supplies since the first of Dec'r as the army was in this state in the time of Hay Harvest, it occasioned them to take the greatest part of the Forage as soon as it was cutt, which of Course will make the supplies furnished since the 1t Dec'r very Inconsiderable. I wish this Return may answer the Purposes Intended by the Hon'ble Senate and am with the greatest Esteem & Respect their most obt. & very hble. Serv't

And. Bostwick.

The Hon'ble the Senate of the State of New York.

[No. 2958.]

General Robert Howe Believes the Enemy in New York Is Preparing for Some Sinister Enterprize.

Highlands, June 6th, 1780.

Dear Sir, Colo. Drake did me the favor of calling upon me, and I embrace the opportunity of hurrying over a few Lines, as I doubt not it may be satisfactory to both you, and the Hon'ble Assembly, to have a short Detail of matters this way.

The reduction of Charles-Town tho' Boasted of in Mr. Rivington's hand Bill, appears by no means to be authentic; indeed I think I might venture to add it is untrue, at least as to its being reduced at the time he says. It was safe on the 10th of May, the Garrison in high Spirits, and not at that time in any immediate apparent Danger, and to surrender on the 12th is almost impossible, as it would certainly take more time than two days even to adjust the necessary preliminaries; added to this he says that the Iris who brought the account, sail'd on the 17th and yet the particulars came not by her, but were to be sent two days after. I have had trusty characters in New York who assure me it was not believed there, but so far from it, that they were anxious for intelligence from the Southward, not having recently had any. These circumstances militate strongly against the Subduction of Charles-Town on the 12th of May, tho' from its very extensive lines of defence, by their being masters of the water, I have my apprehensions for its future security. Be, however the event of Charles-Town what it may, the result as to us will be just the same as far, however, as the Enemies attempts can make them so, for should they return flush'd and exulting with success, a thirst for future conquest will urge them forward; if otherwise they will be compelled to Hazzard every thing in order

to redeem lost reputation, and support a cause which must totter to its Base, without something is achieved to sustain it. I am confirmed in this opinion by the informations given me by my Emissaries, who all say, that tho' their apprehensions of a French Fleet have induced them to hasten on every Defensive measure, yet their proceedings wear a duplicate aspect and they are at all points preparing for offensive operations also.

Horses and waggons for land Service, and vessels and Boats calculated only for river movements are collected and collecting, and this probably with intention to be ready to act with Sir Henry Clinton who perhaps should this be the case will upon his arrival make no Halt. It behoves us, therefore, to be prepar'd every where, and by every provident and Spirited means to be in a situation to counteract their designs, and ever to offend, if defence is not necessary.

I am Sorry, Sir, to say that notwithstanding the exertions of your truly Patriotic State,* and that to a Degree as Honorary to them as it has been truly serviceable to the common cause, this important Post without some further assistance to our Quarter masters, and commissaries to procure and bring up Supplies will inevitably be endanger'd as Colo. Hay, who I hear is attending you, can further explain. I beg of you, Sir, to believe that the assistance & support the army under my command has received from your Legislature and the conduct of its Inhabitants, do them in my opinion the highest Honor, and have render'd the common cause the most Signal Service. The particular attention

*May 31, 1780, Congress ordered: That a warrant issue on Gerard Bancker, treasurer of the state of New York, in favour of Charles Pettit, assistant-quartermaster-general, on account of Nathanael Greene, quartermaster general, for 110,000 dollars (part of the monies raised in the said state for the use of the United States), for the purpose of paying three months pay to the batteau-men who are engaged at Albany, to serve for the campaign; and for which the said Nathanael Greene is to be accountable.

shewn from time to time to my applications, by the executive authority of this State, has endear'd it to me, and I shall ever think, and Speak of it with respect and regard.

The Enemy by their proceedings seem to mean some Heavy Forage. I am taking measures to prevent their operations, or to make them smart for them if possible, and you Sir may assure yourself of my every exertion to serve this State in particular, and the cause of America in Genl. I have the Honor to be, with the greatest Respect, D^r Sir, yr. Most obt. Hum. ser^t

Robt. Howe.

[To Governor Clinton.]

[No. 2959.]

Brigade Return of Levies and Militia Under the Command of General Van Rensselaer.

A Return of the Militia of Tyron County annexed to General Rensselaer's Brigade; and such of the Associated Exempts, as made Returns. Stone Arabia, Fort Paris 9th July 1780.

Regiments	Commiss'd officers					Staff			Non Commiss'd officers				Rank & File			Now on Command and where						
	Colonel	Lieut' Colonel	Majors	Captains	Leutenants	Ensigns	Adjutant	Quar' Master	Surgeon	Serjt. Major	Q. Master Serjt.	Fire Major	Drum Major	Serjants	Drum & File	Corporals	Privates	Total	Subalterns	Serjants	Privates	
Colonel Klock's	1	1	1	6	11	6	1			1				24	6	23	183	206	1	3	28	Port Paris
Colonel Fisher's	1	1	1	8	9	9	1	1		1				30	6	21	200	224	2	4	28	Johnstown
Lieut' Colonel Kildee		1	1	7	12	6	1	1	1		1			21		15	177	192	2	3	22	Port Blauck
Associated Exempts														4		4	41	48	5	10	78	Total
Captain Jellis Fonda				1	2	1								4		4	33	37				
Captain Ruff's				1	2	1								4		4	33	37				
Total	2	3	3	23	45	23	3	2	1	2	1			86	12	70	637	707				

Colonel Bellingger could not furnish a Return of his Regiment, but is ordered to send the Eight part of his Regiment to Forts Dayton, and Herkimer.
 Lewis R. Morris, M. B.

[No. 2960.]

James Clinton Makes Report of the Situation Along the Mohawk Valley.

Albany, June 10th, 1780.

Sir, I yesterday received a Letter from Captain Wandell (who had the Charge of the Provisions destined for Fort Schuyler, and whom I had ordered to halt at Fort Plank untill he was joined by Col. Gansevoort) mentioning that Major Yeates had returned from the Flatts and informed him that the late alarm had been occasion'd by a Party of twenty Indians, who had burnt the House of one Staring with one more and three Barns, they took Prisoners a certain Edick and a Girl of seven years of age. A Party from Fort Harkemer sallied out drove them off, and extinguished Orndorf's house which they had set on fire.

From this account it appears that this Party was only intended as a feint to divide our attention from Sir John. I have, however, ordered Col. Gansevoort to proceed with his Convoy up to the Garrison, and detatched the fifth Regiment to Caughnawaga, the fourth to Conojoharie, and the second to Fort Edward; whatever else material may come to my knowlege shall be communicated to you.

If Mr. Wiley should not yet have made his appearance at Esopus, surely his Neglect and the necessity of the Troops will justify his Supercedure. I have not consulted the Officers, but presume that one appointed by yourself, who would proceed on the Business immediately would not only be expedient but also highly agreeable to the Troops. Mr. Curtinins seems also to require a Stimulus. I am with the greatest affection, Yours &c.

James Clinton.

Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 2961.]

Return of Colonel Pawling's Regiment of Levies.

Return of the New Levies under the Command of Lieut. Colonel Albert Pawling and stationed on the Frontiers of Ulster and Orange Counties. Wawarsink June 10th 1780.

Officers commanding Companies	Commissioned Officers				Staff			Non Commiss'd				Rank & File				Deserted		
	Lt. Colonel	Major	Captains	Lieutenants	Adjutant	Qr. Master	Surgeon	Sergt. Major	Qr. Mr. Sergt.	Sergeants	Dr. & Fire	Present ill for Duty	Sick present	Do absent	on Comm'd		on Furlough	Total
Captains Pawling De Witt Westfall	1	1	1 1 1	2 2 2	1	1				3 5 4		42 60 56	1				43 60 56	3 1 2
Total	1	1	3	6	1	1				12		158	1				159	6

Lieut. Connor on Comm'd acting as Qr. Master.

Lieut. Du Bois Do acting as Adjutant.

1 Sergt. on Comm'd with his Excellency the Governor.

A. Pawling Lt. Colo.

[Nos. 2962, 2963.]

KNYPHAUSEN'S NEW JERSEY RAID.

General Washington Approves That West Point is the Enemy's Objective.

Head Quarters near Springfield 10th June* 1780.

Sir, By accounts, tho' not official, I am informed that the party under the command of Sir John Johnston have made a

*The same day, Washington wrote to General Robert Howe:

You do well to consider the post of West Point as the capital object of your attention, and every other as secondary. This is peculiarly necessary at the present moment, as there are circumstances that authorize a suspicion of something being intended against that post. I would therefore have you by all means keep your force collected in such manner, that there may not be a possibility of your being found in a divided state, in case of a sudden movement of the enemy your way.¹

¹"In my letter of the 10th instant I urged you to collect all your force for the immediate defence of the posts of West Point and its dependencies. I hope it will be done before this reaches you; but, if any part of your force remains divided, you will instantly

precipitate retreat, upon the approach of His Excellency the Governor. Should this have been the case, I do not apprehend that there will be any occasion for General Clinton to advance with his Brigade beyond Albany.

Under present circumstances and appearances that force is

General Knipphausen, (we have reason to believe) with all the force that he could spare from New York, made an incursion into the Jerseys the night of the 6th instant, and proceeded early next morning towards Connecticut Farms, about five miles from Elizabeth Town. In the night of the 7th he retired to the point of his debarkation beyond Elizabeth Town, where he has remained ever since and has been crossing and recrossing his cavalry and baggage. His whole conduct is inexplicable, and begins to have much the air of an amusement. 'Tis probable Clinton, with the whole or a part of the troops under his command, is momentarily expected at New York; and the present movement may be intended to draw our attention this way, while, he on his arrival pushes immediately up the North River and attacks the forts, united with what troops still remain in New York.

The day Knipphausen moved out, he was very severely galled by an advanced corps of Continental troops, and the Jersey militia, who have turned out and acted with admirable spirit on this occasion. We conjectured at first, that his coming out was to forage or to draw us down into the plain and give us battle. But, as he did not pursue the first, and he must have seen that we shall not fight him but upon our own terms, we cannot see why he should remain in his present position so long. We are therefore led to the other conjecture respecting you. Use all possible vigilance and caution. It is not improbable Clinton's brigade may shortly reinforce you. The enemy have a good many cavalry, and we have none here. You will despatch immediately Moylan's Regiment to join us. Sheldon's will continue with you. His infantry on an emergency may be thrown into the garrison.¹

call it in, and keep yourself compact, whatever temptations may be thrown out to induce you to detach. If the enemy's designs should be against this army, you may be useful to us by making a demonstration in your quarter. I would therefore have you collect a number of boats at West Point, sufficient for two thousand men; put the garrison under moving orders with three days provisions; circulate ideas of having the militia ready for a sudden call; apply to Governor Trumbull for the advance of the Connecticut State regiments; and take such other steps as may make a noise, without overdoing the matter, and give the enemy some alarm.

"You can also send some emissary into New York with these particulars, so ordered as to give them the greatest likelihood of making the desired impression. You may instruct him to tell the enemy, that he was sent in to find out the general state and disposition of the force on the Island of New York; but that his inquiries were more particularly to be directed to the magazines at Fort Washington and other places accessible by water. If any movements of the enemy should come to your knowledge, wish to announce an immediate attempt upon your post, you will give notice to the Governor of Connecticut, and solicit succor from that State. I have despatched General Melburn to join you without delay."—Washington to Major-General Howe, 15 June, 1780.

"On Tuesday night the enemy landed at Elizabeth Town point with all the force they could draw from New York and its dependencies, under the command of General Knipphausen, and proceeded the next morning into the country about 7 miles, within half a mile of this place. At night they retired to the point of debarkation, where they have remained ever since. In their advance they were most spiritedly opposed by the Jersey troops, which lay in the neighborhood, and by such of the militia as had the opportunity, from their situation and the suddenness of the incursion, to put themselves there is reason to believe they were a good deal galled. Brigadier General Strong, it seems from good authority, was wounded in the thigh soon after he debarked by a rear picket. This movement of the enemy brought the army to its present Wednesday post. The cause which justifies this insulting manoeuvre on their part must depend upon the honor of the States—a vindication of which could not be attempted, if the preservation of the army, without most eminently hazarding the security of the latter, might depend upon the safety of the latter. Such is our wretched situation, that our character, our interest, our all that is dear, demand that we should march without the least delay fill their battalions according to their several establishments, if this is not done, we cannot cooperate with the force so generously coming from the States on any large scale, and (we) may, however flattering our views on this subject, be galled by many, easily become a ruined and undone people."—Washington to General Howe, doin, 14 June, 1780.

most essentially necessary at West Point. General Knyphausen with the greater part of the troops remaining at New York landed last Wednesday morning at Elizabeth Town, seemingly with an intention to penetrate the Country, but after advancing five or six miles, (in which distance he was warmly opposed by Maxwell's Brigade and the militia hastily assembled) he returned the same evening to Elizabeth Town Point, and the next day threw over his Waggon, part of his artillery and some of his Horse to Staten Island, from which we concluded he meant to return with his whole force to his former positions. But contrary to our expectations he still remains on Elizabeth Town Point, and has brought back some Cavalry, artillery and Stores.

It is difficult to determine with precision the intent of this manœuvre. By some it is conjectured, that it is meant to amuse us here, while the whole or part of the force from the southward is to return and operate against the posts upon the North River, the Garrisons of which are exceedingly reduced by the expiration of service of the men allotted to them. This carries with it the greater air of probability, as we have too much reason to think that Charlestown has fallen to Sir Henry Clinton. West Point, with the addition of General Clinton's Brigade would be tolerably secure against any Coup de main, and except it can be carried in that way, it may be relieved by reinforcements from the neighbouring States. From this short view of matters, you will see the necessity of bringing down the New York Brigade, unless the cause of sending it up should still exist. Should you therefore be of opinion that their service may be dispensed with at present, you will be pleased to forward the inclosed, by Express, to General Clinton, which contains an order for his return to West Point, and which I hope nothing short of the most urgent

occasion for his stay above will prevent being sent to him. I have the Honor to be with great Respect Sir Yr. most obt. Serv't
 Go. Washington.
 Hon'ble Lieut. Gov. Pierre Van Cortlandt.

(Copy of enclosure mentioned in Document No. 2962. Duplicate.)

Washington Orders James Clinton to Return to West Point.

Head Qrs. Springfield, 10th June 1780.

D'r Sir, From the accounts which I have received from the northward, I am in hopes, there will be no occasion for your advancing beyond Albany. I put this Letter under cover to the Lieut. Governor with a desire to forward it to you, in case the information he may have received of the retreat of the Enemy will justify your recall. In such case, you will return with the utmost expedition to West Point and put yourself under the command of Genl. Howe or General Heath, should he have arrived from Boston. From the present apprehensions of the designs of the Enemy, you will be pleased to use every exertion to reach West Point, should it be determined by the Legislature that you may come down the River. I am D'r Sir with great regard yr. most Obed't serv't
 Go. Washington.
 Brigad'r Genl. Clinton.

[No. 2964.]

Washington Believes the Time Has Come for All the States to Put Forth the Most Vigorous Efforts.

(Copy)

Head quarters, Springfield, June 11th, 1780.

Gentlemen, It appears to me to be a very eligible step at the present juncture, to reiterate our instances with the several

states, to engage them to press the measures recommended in your former letter. Not only the time is sliding away very fast, every moment of which ought to be improved for the intended cooperation but the movements of the enemy demand every exertion in our power for the purposes of defence. There can now remain no doubt that Charlestown and its garrison have fallen. There is every reason to believe, that Sir Henry Clinton with the whole or the greatest part of his force will shortly arrive at New York. The expectation of the French fleet and army will certainly determine the enemy to unite their force.

General Knyphausen still continues in the Jerseys with all the force which can be spared from New York; a force greatly superior to ours. Should Sir Henry join him the superiority will be decided, and equal to almost any thing the enemy may think proper to attempt. It is true, they are at this time inactive, but their continuance where they are, proves that they have some project of importance in contemplation—perhaps they are only waiting till the Militia grow tired, and return home, (which they are doing every hour) to prosecute their designs with less opposition. This would be a critical moment for us. Perhaps they are waiting the arrival of Sir Henry Clinton, either to push up the North river against the Highland posts, or to bend their whole force against this army, in either case, the most disastrous consequences are to be apprehended. You who are well acquainted with our situation need no arguments to evince the danger.

The Militia of this state have run to arms, and behaved with an ardor and spirit of which there are few examples. But perseverance in enduring the rigors of Military service is not to be expected from those who are not by profession obliged to it. The reverse of this opinion has been a great misfortune in our

affairs, and it is high time we should recover from an error of so pernicious a nature. We must absolutely have a force of a different composition, or we must relinquish the contest. In a few days we may expect to have to depend almost wholly on our Continental force, and this, from your own observation, is totally inadequate to our safety.

The exigency calls loudly upon the states to carry all the recommendations of the committee into the most vigorous and immediate execution, but more particularly that of completing our battalions by a draft, and with all the expedition possible.

I beg leave to advise, that these ideas be all clearly held up to the states. Whatever inconvenience there may be in diffusing the knowledge of our circumstances, delicate as they are, there is, in my opinion, more danger in concealing than disclosing them. I have the honor to be, with perfect respect and esteem, Gentlemen, Your most obedient & humble serv't

G. Washington.

Committee of Congress for Co-operation.

[No. 2965.]

Captain Chipman's Return of Troops at Fort Edward.

Return of the men at this post belonging Col. Harper's Regt. of Levis. Fort Edward June 11 1780.

	Capt.	Lt.	Sargt.	Cors.	drum & tife	rank and file	
Capt. Harrison Company Present fit for duty	1	1	4	1		56	2 Deserted
Capt. Chipman's Company present for duty			2	1	1	38	1 Deserted
Total	1	1	6	2	1	94	

John Chipman, Capt.

[No. 2966.]

The Commander-in-Chief Urges the Filling Up of Battalions to the Limit.

Head quarters, Springfield, June 12th 1780.

Gentlemen, I have received information which though not official, I deem authentic, that some of the states have taken up the measure of augmenting their battalions by a draft on a less extensive footing than was urged in your circular letter of the 25th May. Though I wish to pay in every instance implicit deference to the determination of the respective states, I think it my duty in the present crisis once more to declare with freedom, that I conceive the measure of filling our battalions to their full complement fundamental to a co-operation upon a large scale. That any thing short of this will infallibly compel us to confine ourselves to a mere defensive plan, except as to some little partial indecisive enterprizes against remote points, and will of course disappoint the expectations of our allies and protract the War. The force which has been stated as necessary, is as small as can give us any prospect of a decisive effort. If it is not furnished, we must renounce every hope of this kind. It remains with the states to realize the consequences. I have the honor to be, with the greatest respect and esteem, Gentlemen, Your most Obt. serv't

Go. Washington.

The Committee of co-operation.

(Copy)

[No. 2967.]

Patrick Barber Wishes to Send Two Women to New York.

Hanover June 12th, 1780.

Dear Sir. These two women that will hand you this, has been to N. York as you'l see by the Permit they have from Genl. Pater-

son; they have urged me for a Letter to you Requesting you to let them go with their Children. I am very shure they cannot be of any service to us as they are now in Distress, not able to subsist their fambleys; the deteaning them hear prepares the way for their runing in and out of N. York. We cannot imprison them or their Children; they is to be kept at the Expence of the Precinct. I should be very glad were it consistan with your duty, that they might be admitted by you to pass, as indeed they are but a Burthen to us whilst they are hear. I am, with esteem,
 your Hum. serv't

Patrick Barber.

His Excelency George Clinton, Esqr.

[No. 2968.]

The Subject of Supplies of Provisions and of Troops the Most Important Before the People.

(Circular)

In Committee of Congress

Morris Town June 12, 1780.

Sir, We have the honor to inclose you a copy of a Letter addressed to us, by the Commander in Chief. The contents will advise you to what an alarming crisis our affairs are reduced. The General observes with great propriety that this committee " need no arguments to evince the danger." Indeed we do not, our own observations have led to the fullest conviction, that unless the force stated in our second letter of the 25th ult. is drawn into the field with a celerity equal to the urgency of the occasion, that the period which is to end our Liberty and commence the most disgraceful state of Slavery which human nature has ever experienced is not far distant; But dark and gloomy as the prospect is, America has it in her power to dispel the Cloud

by those exertions of which she is abundantly capable, and to which it is her duty to rouse from every consideration which can affect the human heart. We are most indubitably possessed of the means, wherewith to expel the Enemy from every part of the continent, but it requires a display of that virtue which distinguished the citizens of Rome when their state was, as ours now is, on the brink of ruin, and we trust Americans impressed with a proper sense of the blessings of peace, Liberty & Independance will follow the bright example, and evince to future ages what great minds are capable of when driven to the extremity of distress.

We dare not suppose, Sir, that Efficient measures have not been adopted by your State to compleat your battallions to the Establishment recommended in the letter above referred to, on the contrary we believe that the men are raised or raising, but we have to conjure you to hasten them on to the army without a moment's delay; we intreat you likewise, to give the most pointed direction, to induce an unremitting attention to forward the supplies allotted to your State to be furnished, as specified in our letter of the 2d Instant.

Had the Enemy on Wednesday last pursued what was generally believed to be their object, our heavy Cannon and stores would inevitably have fallen into their hands, as our military force was incompetent to their protection, and the means of conveying them to places more distant, for want of Horses & Carriages out of our power.

Since writing the above a second letter from the General has been handed us, a copy whereof we inclose. Previous to our recommendation to compleat the Battallions to 504 Rank & file, we had a conference with the General on the subject, in which

the matter was thoroughly canvassed, and the necessity of the augmentation clearly evinced. The reduction of Charles Town was then problematical; we had even hopes that it would have been saved, and the Maryland & Delaware lines have returned to this army, which then with the quota requested of the states would have amounted to about 25,000 men, the number which Congress had promised our Illustrious ally, should be brought into the field to Co-operate with his troops. It is now believed that Charles Town is reduced and the Troops which defended it prisoners, consequently we shall not have the Maryland & Delaware troops; hence those in this quarter will be less by nearly three thousand men than our Estimate, we therefore most earnestly intreat that no deduction may be made from the numbers we have stated as necessary. We are with the greatest respect & Esteem Your most Obed't & Very Humble servants

Ph: Schuyler,

Jno. Mathews,

Nath. Peabody.

To the Governor of the state of New York.

[No. 2969.]

General Schuyler Urges Governor Clinton to Push Forward a Supply of Flour Without Delay.

Morristown, June 12 1780.

D'r Sir, The Enemy still retain the position they took on Thursday last at Elizabeth Town Point; various are the Conjectures on what operations they have in contemplation, the most prevalent is, a rapid movement to attempt our posts in the Highlands, as soon as they shall be reinforced by the troops from Carolina, which are hourly expected. The Commander in Chief

apprehends it, and has intreated the Committee most earnestly to press the States of Pennsylvania, Delaware and Maryland, for a supply of flour, without which he conceives it would be a dangerous manoeuvre to move the army to the Highlands, as they might risk being starved; we have already forwarded dispatches to the Governors of the above mentioned states and this conveyance carries one to Governor Trumbull on the same Subject. If your Excellency or the legislature can possibly Procure a quantity of flour I intreat no time may be lost in forwarding it to the garrison; permitt me also to suggest the necessity of holding the militia in readiness to reinforce the garrison.

I have intreated my colleagues in Congress to hasten on the new bills designed for our state, perhaps they are already expedited; The moment I am advised of any movement of the Enemy which may point to our state I shall advise you thereof by Express. I am Dear Sir, with every Sentiment of respect and Esteem Your Excellency's most obedient Humble Servant

Ph: Schuyler.

His Excellency Governor Clinton &c. &c.

[No. 2970.]

THE PURSUIT OF SIR JOHN JOHNSON.

Governor Clinton Reports the Failure of the Expedition to General Washington—Dispositions of James Clinton's Brigade.

Kingston, 13th June 1780.

Dear Sir. Your Excellency's Letter of the 10th Instant addressed to Lieut. Gov'r Cortlandt was delivered to me yesterday Evening. I immediately forwarded by Express your Letter to Brig'r Genl. James Clinton & urged him to the utmost Expedition in his March to West Point. I inclose your Excellency a Copy

of a Letter from my Brother of the 10th Instant, giving the particular Dispo[sition] of the Regts. of his Brigade; by which it appears that Colo. Gaansevoort's was employed in escorting a Supply of Provision to Fort Schuyler; as this appeared to me to be a Business of too much Importance to admit of Delay or be entrusted to the Care of a Weak Party, I have, therefore, taken the Liberty of advising him to continue the Regt. in that Service until it shall be accomplished, which I hope will meet your Excellency's approbation.

I am apprehensive that the other three Regiments (they having previous to the Receipt of your Excellency's order marched to their respective Stations mentioned in my Brother's Letter) will not be able to reach West Point on as early a Day as might have been expected.

The Militia in the Vicinity of the Posts of the Highlands were, before I left Pokeepsie, put under orders to hold themselves in constant Readiness to take the Field on the shortest Notice and on the Signals of an alarm being given, those on the West Side of the River are to repair to West Point, & those on the East Side are to rendezvous at Fishkill, & there wait for further orders: of this I apprized Genl. Howe at the Time, & I now write to him on the Subject, & if it should be thought necessary by your Excellency, I will immediately order such Part of them to West Point as your Excellency or Genl. Howe may direct until the arrival of Genl. Clinton's Brigade.

Your Excellency's several Letters of the 23d & 28th Ultio, & 2d Inst. were received & opened by Lieut. Gov'r Cortlandt in my absence, & such of them as were proper to be communicated to the Legislature with the Letter from the Committee of Congress of the 25th (?) Ultimo were laid before them, & I am happy in

being able to assure your Excellency that they give me reason to hope that they will Comply with the Requisitions made of this State on this important Occassion, except in the article of Forage of which this State is intirely exhausted.

The moment I closed my last Letter to Genl. Schuyler, which has been communicated to your Excellency, I embarked for Albany with an Intention to intercept the Enemy under Sir John Johnson in their Retreat from Tryon County, or to succour Fort Schuyler if invested, as I then apprehended might have been the Case; on my arival at Albany, I soon had Reason to believe that the Reports of a Force having marched ag't that Post were calculated to favour Sir John's Incursion, & as the Militia had collected, he had retired about 6 Miles from Johnstown & was preparing to return to Canada by a Route more Northward than that by which he entered the Country. I, therefore, directed Colo. Van Schaick, who was at Fort Hunter to move forward & hang close upon & harrass his Rear, to afford Time for me to gain his Front, with the Militia to the North of Albany, which I expected to have been able to effect, by striking into Jessups Patent from Fort Edward; But before my Letter reached Colo. Van Schaick, the Militia in that Quarter being out of Provision, & finding Sir John retiring, were returning Home which was also the Case with those who had assembled & I expected to have found at Fort Edward. Under these Circumstances, I found it necessary to alter my Plan to that of passing Lake George, & meeting the Enemy on the Border of Lake Champlain, which as the Enemy appeared to be much Fateigued by their long March, & it was to be presumed woud move slow as soon as they were advanced such a Distance as to conceive themselves out of Danger I conceived might still be practicable. I accordingly reassembled the Militia, & with the Levies stationed at Fort

Edward, and a Detachment of Warner's Regt., crossed Lake George, but tho' I had a Force superior to that of the Enemy, advanced as far as Bull Wagers Bay, the Place at which the Enemy embarked below Crown Point, within Eight Days after my leaving this Place, I was so unfortunate as to find, judging by the Information of our Scouts, & by the appearance of the Bushes & bark, the Enemy had prepared to hut themselves but did not put up, & by other marks as well as the Sailing of their Vessels, we were not more than Six Hours too late. I woud fain hope, however, that the attempt tho' unsuccessful, may be attended with the good Effect of deterring the Enemy from a similar Enterprize, as it will at least discover to them the Danger which may attend it.

I think it my Duty to inform your Excellency, that on my Request, I was joined by a Party of 240 of the Militia of the Grants under Colo. Warren & Major Allen, whose Behaviour on this Occassion in every Respect was very agreable to me.

I beg your Excellency will pardon me in troubling you with this long Detail, as I wish it only to be received as an appology for not succeed'g in an attempt which I gave you Reason to believe was practicable & which undoubtedly might have been effected, had I found matters in the Train I had reason to have expected. I have the Honor to be, with the greatest Respect & Esteem, D'r Sir, your most Obed't Serv't
[G. C.]
His Excellency Genl. Washington.

[No. 2971.]

Another Indian Raid in the Mohawk Valley.

(Copy)

Schohary, Middle Fort, June the 14th, 1780.

D'r Genl, This morning I am informed a party of Indians came to the House of William Bonek, two Miles above the Upper

FORT: took him a young Woman and four Blacks Prisoners; they were seen at Hendrick Mattices in the Breackebeen this morning.

Lieut. Harper and Lieut. Vroman with Forty Men are in pursuit of them: expect I will be able to give you a better account by to morrow. We have a Scout out for Yunadella who left this last Saturday and do not expect them in before the latter End of this or the beginning of next week. I would have writ you sooner but first wanted to know the certainty of it and what Course they had taken. I am, D^r General, your humble Ser^t

B. Genl. Ten Broeck,

Peter Vroman.

[No. 2972.]

New York Troops Along the Lower Hudson Under Orders to Take the Field on the Shortest Notice.

Kingston, 14th June, 1780.

Dear Sir, Your Favour of the 6th Instant did not come to my Hands until after my Return from the northward or it should have been earlier answered. I with great Difficulty got on a Force superior to Sr John's Party, but was not able to head him or gain his Place of Embarkation, (at Bullwagers Bay about 3 Miles West of Crown Point) untill about Six Hours after he left it.

The late Movements of the Enemy towards New Jersey has induced his Excellency Genl. Washington to order my Brother's Brigade to West Point of which I presume you are apprized. But I fear from their rapid march up, they will not return so soon as could be wished, or his Excellency the Genl. may be lead to expect as one Divission of them were marched for Tryon County & the other for Fort Edward, before the orders could possibly reach them

and one of the Regiments was detached as an Escort to a Supply of Provision for Fort Schuyler.

Before I left Ponkeepsie to attend the Legislature at this Place, I put the Militia of the South End of Ulster, North End of Orange County & of the whole of Dutchess County, under orders to hold themselves in constant Readiness to take the Field on the shortest notice. On the Signal of an alarm being given, those of Ulster & Orange were immediately to repair to West Point & those of Dutchess to rendezvous at Fishkill & there wait for further orders. If I recollect Right I advised you of this at the Time but least I may be mistaken I now mention it that on any Sudden Emergency before the arrival of my Brother's Brigade, the necessary Steps may be taken to avail yourself of their assistance.

Your approbation of the Conduct of this State gives me particular Pleasure, and I am happy, Sir, to be able to assure you that the agreeable manner in which you have exercised your Command, has greatly facilitated their Exertions to serve the Army & advance the common Interest. I have the Honor to be, my D^r Sir, with the sincerest Sentiments of Respect & Esteem, your most Obed^t Serv^t

[G. C.]

Genl. Howe.

[No. 2973.]

The Governor to the New York Delegates in Congress on Current Topics.

Kingston, June 14th 1780.

Gent'n, I am favoured with your respective Letters of the 25th of May last & the 2d & 3d of June instant, and the Resolutions of Congress therein inclosed. My absence on the frontiers of this State with the Militia in an attempt to intercept Sir John

upon his retreat to Canada prevented me from answering you sooner. The many difficulties I had to encounter with, in furnishing Battoes & provisions, for the Transportation & subsistence of the militia across Lake George unavoidably retarded my progress, so as to frustrate my object. Sir John had embarked on Lake Camplain about six hours before my arrival (which was on the 8th Day after I left this Place) with a superior force at Bullwagers Bay about three miles west of Crown Point.

I have the pleasure to assure you that the militia on this occasion turned out with greatest alacrity, and I have every reason to conclude could they have been brought to action, they would have behaved with spirit.

Previous to my crossing the Lake I had requested Coll. Warren and Major Allen, to join me at Ticonderoga, with such of the militia as they could collect on the Grants, and their punctuality, and readiness in complying with my request with about 240 men does them great honor.

I most sensibly feel the disagreeable situation in which you are left at Philadelphia in the Service of your Country & our Letters on this Subject are now before the Legislature & my endeavours shall not be wanting to procure you an adequate compensation.

I am happy in the receipt of the Resolution of Congress reprobating the conduct of some of the Inhabitants on the Grants, and requiring them to abstain from farther acts of power as a separate and Independant state. It may possibly check a spirit amongst them, which I have every convincing proof actuates them farther to extend their assumed Jurisdiction, and to inforce implicit obedience to their authority.

Major Hunt waits at this place for printed Copies of the Resolution which Genl. Scott transmitted to me.

Tho' I am still of opinion that the Establishment of a post at Shehokunk agreeable to the Resolution of Congress will greatly contribute to the security of several of the Frontier Settlements, yet considering the exhausted state of our Treasury and the variety of other Business, which at this Important Crisis will necessarily engage my attention, I fear I shall not be able to enter upon that Business at least untill the rising of the Legislature & untill the Measures which we have now in meditation for enabling us to Cooperate with our allies, are fully carried into Execution.

Since the departure of Sir John, about 20 Savages made their appearance at the German Flatts and burnt two Houses and three barns. Part of the small militia Garrison at Fort Herkemar sallyed out and drove them off. This account I received from Genl. Clinton, who is now at Albany and he supposes, they were a detachment of Sir John's army who meant by this means to make a diversion to favour his retreat.

The latest accounts from New York, are truly disagreeable. They carry the appearance of Truth, and if so, Charles Town is no more ours; this will possibly encourage them to farther attempts, and I am not without apprehensions of having a visit from them this way.

I shall always be happy to hear from you either collectively or individually, privately or officially, but the urgent calls on me to attend the session of the Legislature, and the militia I am afraid, will prevent me from being punctual in my answers. I have the Honor to be, Gentlemen, with the most perfect Respect & Esteem &c. your most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

The Honorable The Delegates of the State of New York.

[Nos. 2974, 2975.]

Sergeant-Major Wilson Makes a Return of Dutchess County Levies.

Fishkil June 14th 1780.

Your Exceelency will Pardon my Boaldness, but I think it my Duty to wright to you, to Inform you that I was left by order of Capt. Daniel Williams, to Bring on the Reere of the New Leves Raised in the County of Dutches State of New York, which the Enclosed is a Return of the Saim, that has Been Recev'd at this Place, from the Diffrent Ridgments. Your Honner will Pleas to Examin it; and, Sir, I have Sent to the Several Colos. that has not sent their Quoto Diffrent times but Receive nither answer nor men. Since Livt. Dyckman left me, I have maid a General Return of those that has gon from this Place at Several Times to Esopus.

Your Honner Pleases Should be glad to Know what I must doe in Respect of waiting for the Delinquents.

The Place of Randivoze is at Mr. Obediah Copers. I am your Honers most obedient Humbel Servent,

Jesse Wilson, S. M. [Sergeant major].

George Clinton, Esqr.

Kingston 16th June 1780.

Sir, I have rec'd your Letter of the 14th Instant with the Return of the Levies it inclosed. I have directed Genl. Swarthoudt to cause the Deficiences to be made up immediately & you are to continue at the Place of Rendevouz to receive them until my further orders making Report to me by every Opportunity of the numbers which arive & are under your Charge. I am &c.

G. C.

Sergt. Jesse Willson.

[No. 2975.]

Sergeant Wilson's Roll of Levies Received at Fishkill, June 14, 1780.

A General Return of all the New Levies Raised and Recev'd in the County of Dutches State of New York and out of the Diffrent Ridgments there Coto of Men and the Delinquents of each Ridgment June 14, 1780.

Colo. Brinkerhoff's Ridgmt 28 men	Colo. Vancheburah's 16 men	Colo. Field's 22 men	Colo. Fraer's 24 men	Colo. Hopkins 29 men	Colo. Ludington's 19 men
Samuel Fordon Stephen Doeksey Jerry Miller Ezrah Hoag Peter Emery Aaron Kniff Isaac David Elias Dawdy John Ludwy David Jones James Baker John Dewit Jacob Ludlows William King John Farly John Pell James Coltr James Norstrandler Arendah Lugin James Garfield Thos. Furlon Abraham Pramer Jads Crandell, Deserted Henry Barzados Nieklos Demurray Aaron Coal	David Huff James Newcomb John Seward Elijah Curry William Moore Robert Moore Thos. Moore Mathew Moon John Young Nathl. Sweet Robert Sweet John Montross James Conner James Gray	Elias Concklin Thos. Kinley Jacob Ellison Darius Coeok John Pennyp Rahm Barber Ezrah Trinn Polag Sharw Thos. Warking Stephen Brosset William Dumar Joshua Delley Griffin Kinyon John Heidecock	Frances Mason Glean Barnes Olaver Dalley William Edwards James Trever Sebousah Avery Deanis Dunavth Jesse Wilson John Adams Saml Mills Derek Amberman Richard Baker Aaron Romer Ceser Basset John Cragare Garret Simpson Galep Cornhill Bades Herring John Chamberliah James Renolds Daniel Mears William McNamar John Miller, Deserted William Scott Absalem Stillwell, Deserted	James Knip William Cushman Ambler Swaff Robert Lewis Silas Vines Elihuah Welch James Wilks Wikel Murreu Charles Day Elijah Renolds Asaph Baker David Hunt James Berry Lewis Northcliam	Joseph Hadley James Yonnis Ely Hopkins Jonathan Sturdivent Isack Shandy Isack Smith Magor Adams Joshua Shaw Aaron Pluton Samuel Penskonter John Wilson Jeremiah Bowdy Denis Conckright Jonathan Day Elijah Chase Isack Caton Henry Pucher Samuel Jowton George Jackson

Jesse Wilson, S. M. L.

To His Excellency George Clinton, Esqr.

[No. 2976.]

General Howe Expresses Apprehension of the Enemy's Movements.

Highlands, 15th June, 1780.

Dear Sir, The movements of the Enemy in the Jerseys wearing so much the aspect of amusing us, & seeming to be so calculated to disguise their real Designs, I have been led to exert myself to discover their Intentions if possible. From Emissaries very intelligent & trusty, who I have employ'd upon this occasion, I learn that they keep their Vessels & Boats all ready—that on Board of some of them are a number of Battering cannon & mortars, with the necessary ammunition, a large Quantity of Intrenching Tools, & other Field Implements, & with every other apparatus requisite to a Siege, or to Field action—that it was thought, & that upon good grounds, they would be reinforced from Charles Town, & that this Post was their Object, & of which they made themselves certain, having an Idea that our Battalions were so diminished we should be an easy conquest—in short ev'ry Information of my own makes it probable that they mean to attack this Post, & that soon— & Genl. Washington is so impress'd with the Idea, that he has written me in strong terms to be prepared at all Points, & seems to think that it is likely to be necessary. I thought it proper to give your Excellency this Information, that you may also pursue such measures as you think proper & tho' I would not wish the militia to be call'd forth until the Necessity for it becomes absolute, yet that they should hold themselves prepared to act upon the shortest Notice will, I am persuaded, appear proper. I am concerned to inform you how disproportion'd my Numbers are to the Importance of this Post, but it is necessary you should know it, & therefore, I trouble you with it that in case of actual Service your Excellency

may govern yourself accordingly. I sincerely wish the Necessity of Service would have admitted the Brigade of your State to have remain'd here, where their Services would have been essential.

I have obtain'd an exact Detail of the Enemy's Regiments & the Number of them now in Jersey, of which I inclose your Excellency a copy, & upon which you may rely. I should be happy to hear from you & am with every Sentiment of Esteem & Respect, Dear Sir, your Excellency's most obedient Humble Servant

Robert Howe.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

Troops with Genl. Knyphousin in the Jerseys.

37 Regt.	500	54th Regiment at Paulus Hook
57 do	300	
26 do	280	
43 do	400	
Yaugers	700	
2 Regiment of Ansp's	1000	
2 Hessians	1000	
Guards	200	
Artillery	200	
Pioneers	100	
Detachments	500	
42 Regiments	800	
Cavalry	120	
	<hr/>	
	6100	

Dr Sir, I have this moment received yours of the 15th inst.

On the 14th I had the hon'r of writing you fully on the Subject to which y'r letter relates, forwarded yesterday by Sir James Jay and to which I must beg leave to refer you. The militia have long since had my orders to hold themselves in readiness to take the field on the shortest notice; but these have been so often repeated, and no event occurring to call them out, I fear that when their services are wanted they may esteem my latest orders obsolete: to prevent this, I'm persuaded that a line from you, Sir, to Brigadier Genl. Swartwout, of Dutchess County, and to the officers commanding regiments on the west side of the River, on this occasion might be attended with the most salutary effects.

The intelligence you favour me with respecting the Enemy I am much obliged to you for and am, Sir, with great respect your most obdt. serv't

G. C.

[To Gen. Robert Howe.]

[No. 2977.]

The United Force of America Needed at This Crisis.

Circular.

Sir, Congress repeat their applications to your State. They would willingly hope that their former Representations have not been ineffectual, and that the States are persuing Measures to enable our armies to take the field, with a force superior to that of the Enemy, and with such ample Supplies of Provision as will not only maintain them in plenty, but enable the commander in Chief, if necessary, on any extraordinary occasion to avail himself of the aid of the militia. But upon these Hopes Congress dare not rely. Every moment presses. It is necessary they should have the most explicit assurances not only that their Requisitions

will be complied with, but that such Compliance will be as immediate as the public wants are urgent. The Letters from our Committee at Head Quarters to you, state those wants without Exaggeration. They state some facts and leave to your Judgments to supply others which it would have been improper to commit to paper. The object of this address is only to enforce their requests, and to intreat you not to repose your Safety upon the Spirit & vigilence of others, while any means within your own power are left untried. The present occasion calls for the united force of America. It gives us great Consolation that, notwithstanding the Difficulties in which we are involved, the Resources of the States, if speedily applied, are sufficient to relieve us from them.

Every State in the union is bound by the strongest obligations to afford us their aid, and we trust that at this critical Emergency no present ease or convenience of Individuals will be put in competition with the lasting Happiness of millions. That the Rulers of States will not hesitate to exert their utmost authority, and that the people have too much understanding to refuse a temporary Submission to such vigorous Exertions as are necessary to secure them from continued oppression & established Tyranny.

A common Council involves the power of Direction. Let not our measures be checked or controuled by the negligence or partial views & Interests of seperate communities while they profess to be members of one Body. Too long have the dearest interests of America been sacrificed to present Ease. Too many of us have slept in false Security. Let us awake before the Season for successful Exertion is passed. Judge you whether the loss of Charlestown and the Situation of your Grand Army do not call for every spirited Effort. The object which claim your

immediate attention are clearly pointed out by the Requisitions of Congress & their committee at Head Quarters. Let them be complied with. Enable us to cooperate vigorously with the Fleets & armies of our allies. And we may reasonably hope through the Blessing of divine providence for a speedy and happy Determination of a Controversy which is to give Freedom & Independence to Millions.

By order of Congress.

Sam. Huntington, President.

Philadelphia 15th June 1780.

His Exc'y Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 2978.]

GOVERNOR CLINTON ACTS WITH PROMPTNESS.

In Response to an Appal from Washington, He Orders 800 Militia to Reinforce General Howe.

Headqrs. Springfield June 15 1780.

Dr Sir, I have the Honor to inclose your Excellency the copy of a Letter which I wrote the 10th to the Lieutenant Governor of your state, and the Duplicate of another transmitted in that for Brigadier General Clinton. The appearances here indicate more & more a serious design and encrease my apprehensions for West Point. I am, therefore, infinitely anxious that the New York Brigade should as speedily as possible reinforce that post, unless objects equally pressing and important demand their assistance on the Frontier. Your Excellency knows the immense value of West Point, and will determine as exigencies may require.

I have directed Major General Howe in case his force does not amount to a number sufficient for completely manning all the

works, to apply to you for such a number of militia as will make up the deficiency till the arrival of the New York Brigade. I entreat your Excellency to comply with his request. I have the Honor to be, with the greatest respect & regard, y^r Excellency's most obedt. s^t

Go. Washington.

His Excellency Gov. Clinton.

P. S. I request the favor of you to give General Howe such aid of transportation or otherwise as he may stand in need of for supplying the garrison.

GOVERNOR CLINTON'S RESPONSE.

Poukeepsie 17th June 1789.

D^r Sir, I am this Moment favoured with your Excellency's Dispatch of the 15th Inst. accompanied by a Letter from Major Genl. Howe, in Consequence of which I have ordered a Detachment of 800 of the Militia of this State, most contiguous to the Posts in the Highlands to march & join him with the utmost Expedition. I have also issued a Genl. Impress Warrant to Colo. Hay, for all the Teams in Dutchess & Ulster & the North End of Orange & in the Manor of Livingston in the County of Albany for forwarding the necessary Supplies of Provision & removing the public Stores if necessary.

Your Excellency's Letter of the 10th Instant addressed to Leut. Gov^r Cortland was handed to me on the 12th, and the order which it enclosed to Brig^r Genl. Clinton, was immediately forwarded to him by Express with Directions to make every possible Exertion to accelerate the March of his Brigade to West Point Gansevoort's Regt. which was detached as an Escort to Provision for Fort Schuyler excepted until that Service should be performed.

On the 16th Instant I did myself the Honor of writing to your Excellency, informing you of the above & inclosing a copy of a letter from my Brother dated the 14th acknowledging the Receipt of your Excellency's Orders &c. I have only to add that I was yesterday informed (tho not officially) by a gentleman who left Albany the Day before, that every effort was making to expedite the march of Genl. Clinton's Brigade to West Point & that even Gansevoort's Regt. which was at the greatest Distance, was expected woud arive at Schenectady last Night. I have the Honor to be with the most perfect Respect & Esteem, D'r Sir, your most Obed't Serv't

Geo. Clinton.

P. S. I return to Kingston on Monday.

[To Gen. Washington.]

[No. 2979.]

General Howe Strengthens His Position at West Point.

Highlands. 16th June 1780.

Dear Sir, Since my last letter acquainting you that my information gave me to think that the Enemy had a design against this post. I have had many circumstances to confirm me in this Opinion, and I believe I may add that it is out of doubt, my present situation as to strength makes it necessary to call on your Excellency to reinforce me without the least Delay with Eight Hundred Militia, and to add that not one moment should be lost; it also is my Duty to say, that the immediate return of the New York Brigade to this post would not only be eligible but is become absolutely necessary; as the safety of this post is so very essential to this state in particular, and the common cause in general that it ought in my opinion to precede almost every other Consideration.

Occasion calls for the utmost exertion to bring up our supplies and, therefore, I take the Liberty to solicit most earnestly, the assistance of your State to effect it, to whom I have never yet applied in vain, and upon which, upon this important Occasion, and in this critical point of time, I absolutely rely and assure myself I will not be disappointed. I am compel'd by necessity to call up the Detachment upon the lines, of which I inform you, Sir, that you may strengthen the Militia there, if you think it proper, though the Views of the Enemy are so much more important at this crisis, that puny enterprises will not I am persuaded claim their attention. I am, Dear sir, with great Respect and sincere esteem and Regard Your Excellency's most obt. Servant

Robert Howe.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 2980.]

General Howe Still Appeals for Reinforcements.

Highlands, 16th June 1780.

Dear Sir, Since mine of this morn'g, I am honor'd with yours of the 14th Inst. I am sorry your Enterprize had not all the success you wish'd. Success depends upon contingencies, but I am certain you deserved it. Informations this moment make it still more necessary to press on your Excellency the necessity of my being reinforced, & that instantly.

I am concerned to hear that the Brigade of your state is so remote. Believe me, Sir, they should be hastened down by every possible method & exertion.

The approbation you assure me my conduct has met with from your very respectable state, since I have been invested with this command, & your Polite method of informing me of it do me the

highest Honor, & lay me under great obligation. I shall express my gratitude by redoubled efforts to serve them. I am, Dear Sir, with the greatest Respect & Regard your Excellency's most obedient

Robert Howe.

[To G. C.]

[No. 2981.]

Governor Clinton Anxious to Recruit a Company in the Disputed District.

Kingston, June 16th 1780.

Sir, This is the first opportunity I have had of answering your Letters of the 11th of April & 2d of May. Immediately upon the Receipt of these Letters I transmitted Copies of them to the Delegates from this State in Congress by Major Hunt whom I dispatched to Philadelphia and to whom I must refer you for particulars. A Copy of my Letter to the Delegates upon this occasion you have inclosed.

The Resolutions of Congress* which you will receive by Major Hunt I trust will have the wished for Effect to preserve the Peace of the Country until the Dispute can be judicially determined and which I have every Reason to believe is deferred only for the Reasons set forth in the Resolutions, and that the Instant there is a full Representation in Congress and the public affairs are in such Situation as that they can with Propriety attend to this Business, it will be put in a Course of Decision. Should your neighbours notwithstanding in Contempt of the authority of Congress and at the Hazard of the welfare of the whole Confederation by embroiling its members in a civil war at this Crisis, still persevere in their Usurpations, I must recommend it to you,

*See page 797, footnote.

not to submit voluntarily but at the same time that in your Resistance you will be guided by Prudence, reflecting that the whole Force of all the States will not only be shortly called forth, but will be necessary to ensure Success to the great intended Operations against the Common Enemy, and consequently that, however, at another time it might be in our Power, and at all times my sincerest Desire, to relieve and Protect you, yet that in the present Conjuncture the Power of the State must be directed to another, and I feel assured your own Candor will induce you to admit, a more important object.

In a late Conversation, while at the northward, with several People from the Grants, they affect to complain of you, that you live totally exempt from public Burthens. Considering their own Conduct it is singular that they should make this Complaint against you, and altho' it is almost evidently without Cause, yet I could wish that even the appearance of a Cause might be removed, and, therefore, would recommend that a Company might be raised in the well affected Towns to serve for three months from the 15th of July next. These men I would attach to the Levies required of this State to serve with the Continental army in the intended operations against the Enemy in the Southern parts of the State. Many Reasons might be given to show the Propriety of this measure, which I have mentioned to Major Hunt and desired him to communicate them to you. If it should be more agreeable to your People to remain in the neighbourhood, I will station them at Skeenesborough, but for certain Reasons (and for which I must also refer you to Major Hunt) I could rather wish they would consent to serve in the Southern parts of the State and that they would repair as soon as embodied to Fish Kill. The Post at Skeenesborough is supplied with Troops from

Dutchess County. which, however, I will remove if your People should incline to serve in that Quarter. I have only to add that the remaining Part of the State will furnish for the ensuing Campaign upwards of 2000 men exclusive of the Continental Battalions. I remain, with the sincerest wishes for your Peace and welfare your most obed't Serv't

Geo. Clinton.

Saml. Minott, Esqr., Brattleboro'.

Kingston June 16th 1780.

Sir, I have rec'd your Letter of the 2d Aug't last, & now transmit you inclosed Commissions for the Officers agreable to your then Return. It runs in my Mind that I have been favoured with a Letter from you of a later Date with a second Return of Officers. I must beg you will transmit a Duplicate, as the original if I rec'd any is mislaid & I have no hopes of finding it. I have this Day wrote to Samuel Minott, Esqr. Chairman of your Committee very fully, to this Letter & to the Bearer Major Hunt I must refer you for every Intelligence I am able to communicate. You will observe that it is proposed to raise a Company in your Regts. to join the other Militia of this State who are intended to cooperate with the Army or be stationed at Skeensburgh at their Option. The Reasons which induces this Measure are also fully explained in my Letter to Mr. Minott, & I have the fullest Confidence if this Measure is practicable that it will meet your best Exertions to carry it into prompt Execution. On this Subject I shall expect to hear from you by the first Opportunity & am, D'r Sir, with great Regard your most Obed't Serv't

Geo. Clinton.

Colo. Eleazer Patterson.

[No. 2982.]

The Delegates in Congress Regard the Situation as Extremely Critical.

Philadelphia, 16th June 1780.

Sir, We do ourselves the honour to enclose the last resolution of Congress relative to the New Hampshire Grants. We sincerely wish it had been in our power to proceed at an earlier day, but an ex parte hearing would have been of little use to us. And to have pushed it with too much warmth would have answered no other purpose than to expose us to the censure of wishing to take advantage of our antagonists, especially as New Hampshire which has hitherto gone with us, threw its whole weight against us.

The loss of Charlestown, & the great scarcity of supplies has rendered our situation extremely critical, and calls for the utmost exertion. Congress have endeavoured to rouse this by every means in their power, particularly by a circular Letter which you will receive with this. We feel for the situation of our state, threatned on one side & actually invaded on another. We submit it to the judgment of the Legislature whether they should not continue sitting till the storm is overblown.

We conceive that not a moment should be lost in sending forward the bill for the adoption of the resolution of Congress of the 18 of March last as considerable advantage may be derived both to the state & the continent from the sums that may be procured by the exchange of their bills. And as the preparing them is a matter which will take some time, & those who send on their laws are to have the preference, expedition becomes an object of some moment.

We have no account from the southward of the enemies having

yet embarked any part of their force; they have detached a body of them as far as Georgetown. The people of South Carolina will give them little opposition, tho' we have great hopes that the approach of the enemy will rouse N. Carolina to the exertions of which she is fully capable. We forgot to mention, that it would be proper to send up with our law, the name of some person who is to sign on the part of Congress, that we may recommend him so that no time may be lost on that account. This we presume will be the Loan officer but it may be well to have a second in case of accidents. We have the honor to be, with the greatest respect your Excellency's Most Obt. Hum. Serv'ts

Robt. R. Livingston,
Jno. Morin Scott,
Jas. Duane.

P. S. The Secretary informs us that the Resolutions above referred to are already dispatched.

His Excellency, Gov'r Clinton; to be opened in his absence by the Hon'ble P. Van Courtland, Esqr., Lieut. Gov'r.

[No. 2983.]

A Personal Letter from John Tayler—A False Report Concerning the Arrival of the French Army.

Dear Sir, I was favoured with yours by Coll. Wynkoop; the Proclamations that were Inclosed, are distributed agreeable to your wishes.

Coll. Lush has spoke to several young Gentlemen of this city, Respecting their entering in the Service; I imagine he will be able to mention some to you. I should have wrote you some time since, but waited an answer from John J. Bleecker, of Tomhanick.

I have received it; he is willing to Engage in the Service, provided he can have his Rank; he was a Captain & I believe will make an Exceeding good officer. Lt. Sherwood, that[^] was of Vanschaick's Regt. will also serve; he says you mention'd the matter to him; he was with us to the northward & a very good officer.

Yesterday, the news of the arrival of the French fleet at Rhode Island* was again bro't to this city; it carries with it an air of truth & notwithstanding the many former Reports, it is generally believed. I am happy to think that Coll. Lush is gone down. I am sure you must stand much in need of assistance.

Mr. Cuyler's friends seem much dissatisfied at Col. Hay's being appointed Purchasing Commissary, for this State. Cuyler believes the appointment to be through your means only.

General Rensselaer is much liked in Tryon County. I hope he is gone to solicit for a few more troops for the western frontiers, & that he may succeed; it is probable the Savages may attempt to distress the Inhabitants when they are busied in harvest.

We long to hear how Mrs. Clinton does & whether she has presented you with another heir; in your last you did not mention her name.

An old news paper or something to read would be very acceptable.

Mrs. Tayler is well & begs to be kindly remember'd to Mrs. Clinton yourself & family & believe me to be with due Esteem,
D^r Sir, your most obed^t Serv^t

John Tayler.

Albany, 17th June, 1780.

Gov. Clinton.

*This announcement was premature. Rochambeau with his army of 6,000 men arrived at Newport, July 10, 1780.—STATE HISTORIAN.

[No. 2984.]

Urgent Orders for Reinforcements for West Point.

Poukeepsie, 17th June 1780.

Dear Sir, I inclose you Letters to four Officers commanding Regiments of Militia in Ulster and Orange Counties. They contain Orders for Detachments of those Regiments to reinforce the Garrison at West Point. You must be sensible how essentially necessary Dispatch is on this important Occassion. I have, therefore, only to request that you will immediately forward these Letters by safe Hands to the Persons to whom they are directed without the least Delay. The Express who carries this is also charged with Letters to his Excellency Genl. Washington & Maj'r Genl. Howe, which you will also please to Cause to be forwarded. I am, Sir, with great Regard your most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

Colo. Udney Hay.

[No. 2985.]

Governor Clinton Heartily Cooperates With General Howe.

Poukeepsie, 17th June 1780 2 O'Clock P. M.

D'r Sir, Your Letters of yesterday was unfortunately carried to Kingston & missed me on my way to this Place so that I have but this Moment received them. By the Express which carries this, I have forwarded my Orders to Brig'r Genl. Swarthoudt & to several Officers commanding Regiments on the west side of the River to march to the Posts under your Command without loss of Time. I inclose you a Copy of the Letter containing my Orders on this Occassion, with the names of the Officers at the Bottom to whom they are directed; and if your Leisure, Sir, will

admit of it, a Line from you to them may answer the good Purpose of exciting them to Expedition in throwing in these Succours.

Yesterday I granted a Genl. Impress warrant to Colo. Hay, D. Q. M. Genl. for all the Teems in Ulster Dutchess, the north end of Orange, & Manor of Livingston, in Albany County, for the purpose of forwarding on Supplies of Provisions to the Posts in the Highlands & for removing the public stores if necessary, which I transmitted to him by his Returning Express. If there is any thing farther in my Power, which woud tend to promote or facilitate that Business, only point it out to me & you may rely on its being cheerfully complied with. I am happy to inform you that by a Letter I rec'd from B. Genl. Clinton, dated the 14th Instant, I find he was making every Exertion to accelerate the march of his Brigade to West Point & by accounts I received yesterday, tho not officially by Gentlemen from Albany, Colo. Gaansevoort's Regt. which being an Escort to Provisions for Fort Schuyler & of course at a greater Bistance than any other, was expected woud arive at Schenectady last night, so that there is every Reason to Hope if favourable Winds take Place, they will very speedily be with you. I wish it was in my Power to wait upon you personally, which if a more serious Hour shoud arrive no Business however urgent will prevent. I am, D'r Sir, with the greatest Regard & Esteem, your most obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

P. S. You will please to observe that I have ordered out 900 instead of 800 Militia; this is for fear of deficiencies which is too often the case with the Militia.

[To Gen. Robert Howe.]

[No. 2986.]

The Savages Who Captured the Boucks Again Escape.

(Copy)

Schohary, 17th June, 1780.

D^r Genl. I have the pleasure to inform you that on the fifteenth in the morning the Party came up with the Savages who had taken Bouck Prisoner. They were a sitting on a Cliff of Rocks mending their Shoes, when the Party first perceived them, who were then within twenty yards of them unperceived by the Enemy, but had no Chance to fire on them because they were all mixed together: immediately on their discovering our Party, they all jump'd down the Rocks and made their Escape, but left behind them every thing but their arms. Four men of the Party fell in with the Enemy about half an hour before they retook the Prisoners: they were lying behind a Logg Fence, when our Party coming out of the House where they were, sent for Provisions the Enemy fired on them, and wounded one man.

I have employed Doc^r Ward to attend the man, as there was no Continental Doctor in this Place. The Party have pursued them to the Dalaware which is computed at Forty Miles. We have Intelligence that the Tories who were with the Indians are gone to the Beaver Dam to fetch a Prisoner. As soon as Bouck arrives there (who is at the Upper Fort) and can inform myself what way they have taken, I hope we shall be able to give a good account of them.

My Militia are to remain constant on Duty a Reinforcement would be very necessary. I am informed that the Indians should have told a Tory that in Four weeks time they would be back to burn Schohary. I have received your Brigade orders for me to raise as many men as was raised this Spring, which I think is inadequate to guard this Settlement, and will be no relief to my militia. I am in haste, D^r General, your humble Ser^t

Peter Vroman.

Genl. Ten Broeck.

[No. 2987.]

The Petition of a Number of Tory Women for Permission to Go to Their Husbands in Canada.

Transmitted by Col. Harper 17th June 1780.

To His Excellency George Clinton, Esqr. Governour and General of the Maletia of the State of New Yorke, Admiral of the Navy &c the same. The Humble Petitioners of the parsons whose names are hereunto subscrib'd Humbly Sheweth, that your Petitioners are left by our Husbands and theirby render unable to seport our families among a pepople who looks on us as their Enemies, by Reason of the unmatral Conduct, of those that have left their families and joyned the Enemy of the United States of America, we, your Petitioners, do Humbly pray your Excellency may in your goodness grant us a Passport to Cannaday and your Petitioners as in Duty Bound shall ever pray

her	her	her	her
Peggy X McIntire	Nally X Cameron	Elizabeth X Cameron	Elizabeth X McDonald
mark	mark	mark	mark
her	her	her	her
Nally X Grant	Peggy X McDonald	Isabella X Grant	Florey X McDonald
mark	mark	mark	mark
her	her	her	her
Jane X Dickson	Flora X Grant	Mary X McDonald	Ginze X Arquath
mark	mark	mark	marke
her	her	her	her
Chrystian X Grant	Nancy X Grant	Margret X Camroon	Mary X McPharson
mark	mark	mark	mark
her	her	her	her
Isabaele X Grant	Jane X McGregor	Christine X Cameroon	Sarah X McDonald
mark	mark	mark	mark
her	her	her	her
Nancy X Ferguson	Nancy X Camroon	Gressa X Frazier	Esable X Ross
mark	mark	mark	marke
hur	hur	hur	hur
Elisibeth X McClean	Anna X McFaston	Cathrene X Camrin	Mary X Camrin
marke	marke	marke	marke
.....	her	her	her
.....	Catrin X McDonald	Nancy McDonald	Nancy McMillan
.....	mark		

[No. 2988.]

Colonel Morgan Lewis in a Quandary.—Appeals to the Governor.

Esopus, 17th June, 1780.

D'r Sir, I was in hopes I should have had the Pleasure of seeing you at this Place: but am informed you set out for Poughkeepsie this Morning. My Poverty has put me under a disagreeable Embarrasment, in which your advice will be most gratefully received. His Excellency Genl. Washington has ordered the Craft on the River to be repaired; Colo. Hay has written for a supply of Boards for the Purpose. I have made application to the Majistrates for Power to impress but they are unanimously of opinion they cannot, as the act now stands, grant warrants unless we pay the Money. Money I have not, & shall take it as a particular Favor you would advise me how to act. I shall be in Albany by Wednesday where should be happy to hear from you. I am, most respectfully your Excell'y's very hum. Serv.

Mor'n Lewis.

[To G. C.]

[No. 2989.]

Lewis R. Morris Volunteers His Services and Forwards a Belated Letter from General Ten Broeck to Colonel Williams.

Claverack 18th June 1780.

My dear Sir, Inclosed I transmitt you a Cobby of a Letter wrote by order of Brigadier General Ten Broeck to Colo. Williams, which I promised to send you, when I came from Albany; should have did myself the Honor of transmitting it, to your Excellency before, but an opportunity not offering, have detained it to send by my Father.

Great are the Expectations of our Countrymen from the approaching Campaign, and as you seem to think it will be the last,

I would wish a share; Therefore, must beg leave to trouble you to call me out, (should the Service of my Country require it,) in whatever Station you may think proper to place me, conscious that your Excellency's better judgement, will put me in a Situation most suited to my abilities, for I flatter myself it is a laudable ambition in wishing to have even a small share in finishing a war, the honorable End of which must be earnestly sought for, by every friend to his Country and by no Person more, than by your Excellency's Oblidged, and verry Humble Servant

Lewis R. Morris.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

Coppy.

Albany, May 24th 1780.

My dear Sir, By our last information from Colo. Van Schaick dated yesterday; Sir John Johnson was at Mayfeild ten miles North of Johnstown his numbers from our best Intelligence is betwixt five and Six hundred men. We must, therefore, most earnestly request you, to turn out as many of your militia as possible, with as much Provision as they can carry, and proceed to Jesups Patent, by which means Sir John's Retreat may be rendered verry difficult, if not impracticable; But least he should remain in his present Position, it would be adviseable that the militia which may go from your Quarter proceed to form a junction with those that will go by the way of Johnstown. The Services our Country may receive from a manauver like this, you must be fully sensible off. We are now collecting all the force we can, and flatter ourselves should the Enemy make any stay, may have an opportunity of giving a good account of the Party.

Our Country loudly calls for our assistance; therefore, must press for your utmost Exertions.

The Regiments of Schoonhoven, Van Wort's, Yates, and McCra's are ordered to Jesups patent, and they are hereby ordered to join you and act in concert with you. I am, Sir,
 Colo. Williams.

[No. 2990.]

Colonel Hay's Strenuous Efforts to Procure Pasturage.

Fishkill, 18 June 1780.

Sir, Some time agoe when at Esopus I tooke the liberty of mentioning to sundry Members of the Honorable, the Legislature of this State, the necessity there was of some new regulation being established by law, respecting the Delivery of hay & grain, particularly the former, which was purchased for public use, and recommended that the Seller of all Quantitys not exceeding Six Tons of hay, or Sixty Bushells of Grain, should be obligated to deliver the same (a generous price being allow'd for the risque and expence of Transportation) at any Magazine the purchaser should appoint not exceeding Ten Miles from where the said hay and grain lay at the time of purchase; The more I think of this mode, the more I am convinc'd of the expediency of having it put in execution, and, therefore, now take the Liberty to mention it to your Excellency, and at same time to request you will be pleased to lay the matter before the Legislature.

I must likewise beg leave to trouble your Excellency on the Subject of the necessary Pastures, wanted for the Horses and Oxen employ'd in public Service, in the lower part of this State, you well know, Sir, that a great number will undoubtedly be wanted, and you will see by Colo. Bostwick's Return to me, that scarce any are yet procured, and that his expectations of procuring more, at least any considerable quantity, are far from being

Sanguine; The army look up to me, Sir, for the Transportation of their Stores of every sort; without a Sufficient number of Pastures I cannot comply with their just Demands on that head; being, therefore, extremely interested not only on account of the Public but likewise of my own Character, I determined to leave no mode unessay'd that I thought could be in the smallest degree serviceable, and, therefore, wrote a Circular Letter to the Inhabitants in General, and another to some of the principal civil officers of the State in particular, requesting their Influence, by signing a recommendation drawn up for the purpose, though this was the only resource I could or yet can think of, I fear it will have but small effect without enforced by some law, or at least recommended by the Legislature, and, therefore, request your Excellency will take such steps towards obtaining the one or the other, as you think most proper.

Be pleased likewise to have the enclosed memorial on the Subject of Certificates presented to the Legislature, as I can have no view but the ease & Convenience of those employed in public Service, I am sure they will grant me whatever is right.

Be so good as Inform if the State Intend to purchase any horses on account of the public, as I would wish to be guided in my purchases accordingly. I have the honor to be, your Excellencies most Obedient & very humble Servant
 Udny Hay,
 Governor Clinton.

MR. BETTS TO COLONEL HAY.

Fishkill 15 June 1780.

Sir, Agreeable to your Desire I call'd on Capt'n Mitchell to know the quantity of Pastures he had procured for the army; he was not at home, but a person whom I understood was his

assistant Informed me, there was only two or three small Pastures engaged at Fredericksburgh, none at or near Dover, nor on the Road from thence to Fishkill; he likewise Informed that Capt'n Mitchell had been endeavouring to procure some at each of those places, but to no purpose. I am mo: respectfully, Sir,
 your most Obed't Serv't

Wm. M. Betts

Colo: Hay.

Copy.

COLONEL HAY TO THE SUPERVISORS, ASSESSORS AND JUSTICES OF
 THE PEACE.

Fishkill, June 1780.

Gentlemen, Notwithstanding every method the Forage Master has try'd to procure Pastures for the ensuing Season, scarce any have yet been obtain'd, as you will see by the Return made of them this day, which will be exhibited herewith: it is needless to mention to you, that without a Sufficient aid in that way, all the operations of the army must be at a Stand; I have wrote a Circular Letter to the Inhabitants, which the Bearer of this will shew you; likewise let me request the addition of your Influence thereto by signing a recommendation drawn up for the purpose. I am, respectfully, Gentlemen, your most Obed't & very humble Serv't

Udny Hay.

The Supervisors, assessors and Justices of the Peace, in the State of New York.

Colonel Hay to the Inhabitants on Both Sides of the Hudson River.

Fishkill, 14 June 1780.

Gentlemen, By a return this day made me from Colo: Bostwick's Office, I find there is not as yet as much Pasture procured as would maintain Twelve horses during the Course of this Sum-

mer; though the Officers employ'd in Obtaining them have had the most positive orders from General Howe to use every possible exertion in procuring a large number, especially on the Roads, that we must expect will be much frequented by our Teams, and I can have no reason to Suppose but those Officers have strictly comply'd with the Terms of their orders on the Subject.

You cannot but be sensible, Gentlemen, that there is the greatest probability of this Campaign being full of events favorable to American Freedom, as our great ally, who has already given the most ample proof of his real attachment to the welfare of these United States, has not only promised us the assistance of a Fleet, but of a Land army likewise, to cooperate with ours in the reduction of our Common Enemy, and the regaining of the Capital and other Important places of this State yet in their possession, you, therefore, are particularly Interested in the full and proper Support of the army and each of you will have opportunity offer'd him of shewing his Zeal in the Common Cause, as I shall, of pointing out to the world by every legal Means, the Man who has it in his power to give us the necessary assistance, and either from Sordid, selfish views, or real disaffection, obstinately withholds it; for this purpose the Bearer has orders to set down the name of every man who grants any Pasture upon this requisition, as well as of every Man who refuses, both of whom I shall take care Carefully to exhibit to Public view, with the necessary remarks annexed thereto and that no pretence may be left in favor of those, who can and will not spare us any, I hereby acquaint you that the Forage Master will agree for such Pasture, as can be procured at a reasonable price in hard Money, payable in the Current Currency of the Country that shall be equivalent thereto

in the Day of payment, which shall not exceed the first of October; no risque, therefore, can arise from Depreciation of Money.

For heaven's sake, Gentlemen, consider the magnitude of the Object now before us, and do not on so glorious an Occasion sully the reputation of a State which by its many former Patriotic exertions, has in a particular manner endeer'd itself to a virtuous patriotic and Spirited army.

To each Individual a Pasture may appear of very trifling Consequence to the good of an army, but upon a more serious Consideration, you will find they will ever be necessary, even to their very Existence, till at least you have learned them to fight without Power & Ball or any other Military Stores, and to Continue in your Service without Clothing Victuals and Drink.

I have lately been in several of your Sister States, and was made happy in hearing with what ardour every Individual determined to exert himself. Shall it then be said that the State of New York, so famous for its exertions in the day of our darkest Distress, was totally lost in languor when our prospects began to brighten? Tho' more nearly Interested in these prospects, than any other State on the Continent.

I shall only add, that a most respectable army will in all human probability be very soon collected, and that it will be my province to furnish them with the means of conveying every necessary that shall pass through this State, which it is impossible for me to do without your friendly assistance, and if not granted no alternative is left but tamely permitting our Country's Ruin at the very moment of approaching Success, or taking by force what you can, but will not voluntarily grant towards establishing its Compleat Happiness, by the long wished for blessings of Peace, freedom & Independence. Reduced to this disagreeable Situa-

tion, I shall not hesitate a Moment what part to act, whatever confusion may ensue thereby, or was I even Sure to answer the Consequences with my head.

Accept of my sincerest thanks, for the kind and ready assistance, most of you have hitherto on all occasions granted me in the execution of the Duties of my Station, and believe that I am most respectfully Gentlemen your most Obed't & very humble Serv't
Udny Hay.

The Inhabitants on both Sides the River in the State of New York.

Gentlemen, Having read Colonel Hay's Circular Letter to you of 14 June, on the Subject of pastures, and Considered the evil Consequences that must Infallibly ensue from a Sufficient number not being furnished, as well as the equitable Mode he proposes for the payment thereof, we request and recommend in the Strongest Terms, that every Freeman within this State, will not only Comply, as far as in their Power with Colonel Hay's Requisition, but that they will by their ready assistance to him and every other Public Officer in the execution of their Duty, in the clearest manner, Manifest to all the world, that at this Critical Period, they are determined to give the Strongest proofs of their being still endued with the same ardent Desire of establishing the Peace, Freedom, and Independence of America, for which they have hitherto been so remarkable.

And we shall be happy in having an opportunity of giving our farther approbation by being foremost in Sparing for the good of the Common Cause, whatever we possibly can upon Terms equally equitable with those propos'd for Obtaining Pastures.

Fishkill June 14th 1780.

Sir, Agreeable to your request I send you a Return of what Pastures have been taken for the use of the army by Robert Watson and John Sickles Assts. C. F. as to what is procured by Capt'n Mitchell at Fredericksburgh and Capt'n Brown at the Village, am not able to Inform you, as no returns have been made by them.

In behalf Colo. Bostwick, D. C. G. F. I am, Sir, your most Obed't Serv't
Henry Peckwell.

Colo. Udny Hay. Copy.

A Return of Pastures procured by Robt. Watson & Jno. Sickles Assts. Com'sy F. for the use of the Continental army 10 June 1780.

Direk Hooghland, Wappons Creek 5 Acres Meadow for the Season.

Peter Mesier Do pasture for 3 Horses during the Season.

Wm. Crawford's Pasture pr night & day at Wappons Creek.

Gorus Storm Hopewell 10 Acres for the season.

Jacob Covenhoven, Middle Bush, back of the Stone Church, Pasture pr Night or Day, pr head.

The above is all the Returns yet made to the Office.

Fishkill 14 June '80.

Henry Peckwell.

Copy.

[No. 2991.]

GENERAL FORMAN'S IMPORTANT NEWS.

Arrival of Sir Henry Clinton from the South—Washington Urges Activity and Vigilance.

Highlands, June 19th 1780.

Dear Sir, The inclosed copy of a letter from Genl. Foreman to his Excellency the Genl. and the extract I send you from the

Genl's letter to me, will convince you how demonstrable the enemies intention of attacking this post is become, especially when I add, that all my observations and the informations of my most confidential Emissaries unite to impress upon me the certainty, that this will be the case; indeed I conceive that had not the wind shifted yesterday we should have heard from them before now; their operations, Sir, will be sudden and in great Force, and without collateral aids, the fate of this important post, (however well Defended) will be more precarious than it ought; renew, therefore, Dear Sir, your applications to the militia order'd here, and to your Brother, the Genl. to come up without an instant loss of time, for the very first South wind will probably bring up our Foes, who will exert themselves to the utmost to effect their purposes before we can be supported, or if possible to cut off our communication with the country.

Your Reliefs of militia should come up with punctuality lest their impatience to get home, when their time expires, may expose us to inconveniences. I should wish your Excellency to give orders that their Horses should be sent home, or they will consume all the grass requisite to feed our beef, as well as team cattle.

I beg to repeat the propriety of again warning the militia at large, to be ready to turn out at the shortest notice. I am, my Dear Sir, with true Regard & Respect, y'r Excellency's Most Obt. Serv't

Robt. Howe.

Governor Clinton.

Copy.

GENERAL FORMAN'S LETTER.

Sir, Yesterday afternoon three Frigates arrived within Sandy Hook; in the evening a forth ship of war run in; the Tory Report

of this day is, that Admiral Arbuthnot was on board. This afternoon a large Fleet appeared standing for Sandy Hook. The air, my intelligencer says, was too foggy for good observation, but that before sun down, he counted sixty five sail of ships of war and transports distinctly, and saw a number more in the offing; that immediately they run within the Hook as they arrive. From their running immediately into the Hook as they arrive, it will not I presume admit of a doubt of their being British, and I think it is very likely from Carolina.

By day light, I will myself be on the Highlands of Middle Town;* from that place some time in the day (as early as possible) I will do myself the Honor to transmit to your Excellency, as exact an account of the Fleet as can be got from observation or information. I have the Honor to be y^r Excellency's most obt.

David Forman.

Saturday night 11 o'clock, 17th of June '80.

His Excellency Genl. Washington.

Extract from a letter of His Excellency General Washington.

June 18th 1780.

I inclose you a letter from General Forman which I have this moment received. He is intirely to be depended on. There can be no doubt that this is Sir Henry Clinton from the Southward.

All your exertions are necessary to be prepared for defence. Urge the application recommended to you, in mine of the 15th, to Governor Clinton for a succour of Militia. Address a request to the Governor of Connecticut to press forward to your aid the State Regiments, and include the Drafts for their Batallions. Write also to the Council of Massachusetts intreating them to

*Three miles south of Sandy Hook.—STATE HISTORIAN.

hasten on the reinforcements intended for their Battallions; put every thing in activity as far as may be in your power, and be well upon your guard. The movements of the Enemy will probably be rapid & a correspondant spirit of energy should animate our efforts.

(Sign'd) G. Washington.

[No. 2992.]

The Congressional Committee Issues Another Circular Appealing
(Circular) *for Supplies and Reinforcements.*

In committee of Congress, Morristown June 19th 1780.

Sir, We inclose you a copy of General Washington's letter to us of this day.

We have in our former letters dwelt so forcibly on the several matters contained in the General's letter, that it is now become almost unnecessary for us to say any thing more on them. But when we consider the season for operation wears fast away, the small force we have now in the field, being still fed in a scanty and uncertain manner, the hourly expectation of the fleet and army of our ally on our coast, and that the commander in chief as well as ourselves, are as yet totally uninformed what are to be our expectations on the subjects of our former letters. Be assured, Sir, we feel an anxiety congenial with his. You will, therefore, we are perswaded, pardon us for being thus solicitous, when we again intreat you, in the most earnest, in the most urgent manner to use every exertion in your power, to engage your state to a speedy, and decisive compliance with our former requisitions. The two points we would wish to impress most forcibly on yours, and the minds of the legislature of your state, are, the immediately forwarding your quota of troops necessary

to compleat your battalions in the Continental army, & of supplies of provisions agreeable to the estimate inclosed you in our letter of — Instant. At the same time we would not wish you to consider any part of our former requisitions, as become in the least degree unnecessary, on the contrary, we are more strongly convinced, that they are already as small as the important objects in view can possibly admit of. We only mention the two first, as the most immediately and indispensibly necessary. For, reinforced as the enemy now are, by the return of their troops from the reduction of Charlestown, we momentarily expect an attack will be made on our weak, and almost resistless army. Should this event happen, whilst in this state, we seriously dread the result. From the well known indefatigable attention of your state to the welfare of the United States, we cannot entertain a doubt of its exertions, at this interesting conjuncture. And we most earnestly intreat you, to give us the earliest information of the final determinations of your state on the subjects of this and our former Letters.

We are Sir, with the highest respect, Your most Obedient
Serv'ts

Jno. Mathews

Nath. Peabody.

His Excellency, George Clinton, Esqr. Governor of the State of
New York.

WASHINGTON UNABLE TO FORMULATE A PLAN FOR WANT OF
INFORMATION.

Head Quarters Springfield June 19, 1780.

Gentlemen, From the vast importance of the thing, I hoped that I should have been informed before this, of the measures which the several states meant to adopt, in consequence of your

late requisitions; but as I have not, I am certain you are unadvised yourselves, and have only to lament with you the delay. This is a point of primary consequence. We are now arrived at the period, when we may momentarily expect the Fleet from France. For want of information, it has been impossible for me to digest a system of co-operation. I have no data on which to proceed, and of course; were the armament to come, I should find myself in the most delicate, embarrassing, and cruel situation. The French Commanders, from the relation in which I stand, the instant they reach our Coast, will look to me for a plan of the measures to be pursued, and I ought, of right, to have one prepared: But I cannot even give them conjectures. The interest of the states, the reputation of their Councils, the Justice and gratitude due our allies, a regard for my own Character, all demand that I should, without delay, be enabled to ascertain and inform them what we can or cannot undertake. Besides, there is a point now to be determined, on which the success of all our future operations may turn, which for want of knowing our prospects I am altogether at a loss what to do in.

To avoid involving the Fleet and army of our allies in circumstances, which if not seconded by us, would expose them to material inconvenience and hazard; I shall be obliged to suspend a step, the delay of which may be fatal to our hopes. I therefore beg leave to suggest to the Committee the indispensable necessity of writing again to the different states, urging them to give immediate and precise information of the measures they have taken, the success they have had, and the probable result of them. I have the honor to be with great Respect & Esteem

Gentlemen Your most Obt. H^{ble} ser.

Go. Washington.

Hon^{ble} Committee of Cooperation.

(Copy)

[No. 2993.]

Reinforcements for General Robert Howe.

Kingston, 20th June, 1780.

Dr Sir, I am this Moment favoured with your Letter of yesterday. Three Regts of Genl. Clinton's Brigade must have reached West Point before this, as I meet them yesterday morning with a fair wind opposite Poukeepsie. My Brother who must be with you before this can reach you, can best inform you when his other Regt. may be expected. I have repeated my orders to the militia who are destined as a Reinforcement to the Posts under your Command, & to the militia at large to hold themselves in Readiness to take the Field on the shortest notice are now repeated. The Reliefs are directed to be punctual &c. I am, Sir, with the greatest Respect & Esteem your most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

To the Honorable Major Genl. Howe.*

*From Springfield June 26, 1780. Washington wrote to General Howe as follows:

I have recd. your favors of the 16th and 18th, two of each date. The Express who brought the last, left King's ferry yesterday at sunrise and informs me that the Vessels had gone down the river and were out of sight.

The posts of Stony and Verplanck's Points were established more with a view of preventing the communication from being interrupted by a vessel or two with a small body of men, than from an expectation that they would be able to stand a regular investigation or a serious attack in force. The officers, therefore, who command them, should be directed to govern themselves by appearances and circumstances. If the enemy come up in force, they will be under the necessity of making such demonstration, by the number of their Vessels and other preparations, as will evince their design. The officers are then to withdraw their Garrisons at all events, and Cannon and Stores if possible. To give them the better chance of effecting the latter, Boats should be constantly kept at each place, appropriated to that service only. There is a bare possibility, that the enemy may throw a force suddenly in the rear of each, and run a vessel above them. In such case the best defence that the places will admit of must be made; and, to provide for such a contingency, let ten or twelve days' provisions be kept in each post, and a supply of Ammunition equal to an expediture of that time. I would not wish the officers to set fire to the Works, if upon any occasion they should be obliged to leave them; because they may perhaps be induced to quit them upon appearances seemingly well grounded, and therefore, if left intire, they may return to them when the Alarm is over. If the officers at present commanding at Stony and Verplanck's Points are men of discretion, it will be best to let them remain, with directions not to disclose their instructions to any person whatever; because, should the enemy obtain a knowledge of them, they might by making feints, manœuvre them out of the posts.

[No. 2994.]

*Governor Clinton Discourteous Efforts in Behalf of Dr. Van Dyck,
of Albany.*

Long Island 11th April 1780.

Sir, We, the Subscribers, prisoners of war, beg leave to inform your Excellency, that for several Months past we have been intimately acquainted with Doctor Henry Vanduyke, late of the city of Albany, now on this Island & from the closest attention to his conduct & conversation, are firmly of Opinion, that whatever his political sentiments may have been, he is a gentleman of too much candour & good sense to act that insidious part against his Country which his banishment implies.

He informs us that he has taken an Oath in the year 1777, which he has never violated, and that he was sent from his Home and every thing near & dear on account of some conscientious Scruples against taking an Oath formed by Legislature for a certain description of persons under which he by no means fell.

Your Excellency must be the best Judge of this matter, and will probably be of Opinion with us, that there are persons within these lines from the different States, whose return would add weight to the American Scale, of which number we sincerely believe Doctor Vanduyke to be one, & that his Restoration to his Friends & property will be but Justice to himself & of real advantage to his Country. We have the Honour to be, with great Respect, your Excellency's most Obedt. Hble Servants

Robt. Magaw,

Wm. Allison,

James McClaghry,

His Excellency, Governor Geo. Clinton.

Fairfield June 20th 1780.

Sir, When I was about leaving Long Island, to return from my State of Captivity in the Latter End of April last, the foregoing Letter was intrusted to my Care open, to be brought out & forwarded. Should your Excellency think favourable of the Doctor, and of his proposed Return, I think from my Knowledge him, that you will be likely to receive a Tory really converted from his Political Heresy. The Doctor desired me when I got Home to endeavour to obtain Leave for him to return to this State, that he may be in Circumstances to take proper measures to make his Peace with & obtain Leave to return to his own State again. This I shall not attempt, till I can have the Honour to know your Excellency's Sentiments on the Subject. A Line in Answer to this will be esteemed a particular Favour by your Excellency's Most Obedient Humble Servant,

G. Selleck Silliman.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

 Kingston June 24th 1780.

Sir, I have rec'd your Letter of the 11th April in favor of Doctor Van Dyck. This gentleman's political Character is so fully established in the minds of the Inhabit's of the q'r of the Country in which he formerly resided, that (notwithstanding his pres't Pretentions) I am persuaded there is little Reason to expect that he will be received & restored to his former Privileges as a subject of this state. He is lately come out from N. York, & I am informed continues to reside in N. Jersey, which I imagine will render an application to y'r state in his favor unnecessary. Yrs. &c.

G. Clinton.

Brig'r Genl. Silleman, State of Connecticut.

[No. 2995.]

John Jay Writing from Spain Proposes a Novel Commercial Scheme.

Aranjuez 20 June 1780.

Dear Sir, A Letter from me to you is now on the Road to Cadiz from whence it will be sent by the first vessel to America. I have not yet had the Pleasure of hearing from you, and expect it with the more Impatience as your Letters will probably contain some account of affairs in our state, in whose welfare I feel myself, as usual, greatly interested.

General Schuyler I hear is among the number of your Delegates. I am pleased with the Legislature for making the appointment, and with him for accepting it. Your Delegation is a good one. I hope Livingston or Schuyler will be kept constantly at Congress. New York ought to value those gentlemen, they are worth much to her.

Where is Morris? Keep him up. It is a Pity that one so capable of serving his Country should be unemployed, but there are men who fear and envy his Talents and take ungenerous advantages of his Foibles.

Whether the war will continue another campaign is uncertain; if it should, an Importation of goods would I presume be very acceptable to you; by relieving the Distresses of the Inhabitants it would enable them to sustain their Burthens with spirit & alacrity. For this Purpose I submit to your Consideration whether the following Plan, to be executed under the authority of an act of the Legislature would not be eligible.

1. That Licence of Importation & Exportation to and from the Ports of Connecticut be obtained.

2. That in every County, one store be opened for the Reception of one barrel of merchantable Flour (neither more nor less)

from one Family—the storekeeper to be appointed by and accountable to the supervisors,—the master or mistress of the Family bringing or sending the flour to make oath that it is for the sole Benefit of his or her Family, & that they have not permitted their names to be used for the benefit of any other, and that they neither have or will use the name or names of any other for their benefit.

3. That one or more Persons be named in the act, and to account at the Treasury, to whose orders all the Flour so rec'd should be delivered. That they be jointly authorized to ship it where they pleased and import the net proceeds in Blankets, coarse Cloths coarse Linnens Salt &c.

4. That on the arrival of such Cargoe, it be divided among the Counties in Proportion to their Contributions, charging on each share, its Proportion of the common expenses, and the particular Charges of transporting the Flour from and the goods to, each County. The share of each County should be sent to the same storekeepers who rec'd the Flour, and by him equally divided share and share alike of every species, among the contributors, but no one's share to be delivered till the Expences due on it be first paid.

5. That a Loan be made by Government to the Directors to enable them in the first Instance to pay the charge of transportation &c. I think the Directors should be restrained from foreign Trade during the continuance of their appointments.

Be so kind as to forward the enclosed Letters and to present my Compliments to Mrs. Clinton and my Friends in your neighbourhood. I am, Dear Sir, your affectionate & obedient Servant

John Jay.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton. .

[No. 2996.]

The Board of Admiralty and Privateers.

(Circular)

Secretary's Office June 20th 1780.

Sir, The commissions to private armed vessels of war were heretofore ordered to be attested by the secretary of Congress. But upon establishing a board of admiralty* it was judged proper that they should issue from that board and be attested by their Secretary. Accordingly on the 2d May last having made some alterations in the form of the commission, bond & instructions for commanders of private armed vessels of war, Congress passed the following resolutions:

“Resolved, That the board of admiralty be empowered and directed to cause to be printed so many copies of the said forms as they shall judge necessary.

“That the President transmit to the Governors or Presidents of the respective States so many copies of the said forms as the board of Admiralty shall advise.”

You will therefore please for the future to apply to the board of Admiralty for the commissions bonds &c. which may be wanted in your State, and transmit to the said board the bonds given by the commanders to be lodged this Office. I have the honor to be Sir your obed^t h^{ble} Serv^t

Chas. Thomson.

His Excl^y George Clinton Esqr. Governor of the State of New York.

*Monday, July 3, 1780, Congress declared: It being of the utmost importance, more especially at this critical juncture, that the most speedy and accurate intelligence should be had of the movements of the enemy, by sea as well as by land; therefore,

RESOLVED, That the board of admiralty be and they are hereby directed to take the most effectual means in their power for obtaining, from time to time, certain intelligence of the arrival of the enemy's ships of war into any port or ports of North-America, the number of their guns, and the condition they may be in, together with such movements as they may make from one port to another, that this Congress may be duly and exactly informed of the naval strength and situation of the enemy and be able to communicate such information to our ally as the common welfare shall require; and the said board are particularly directed to obtain the earliest intelligence of the arrival of any ships of war in or near the port of New York.

[No. 2997.]

This document is missing from the MSS. The page of the index on which it should appear has also been removed.—STATE HISTORIAN.

[No. 2998.]

Colonel Hay Pressing Forward the Militia Drafts.

Fishkill, 20 June 1780.

Sir, Enclosed I take the liberty of transmitting to your Excellency the memorial referred to in my letter of yesterday.

I have taken the liberty, in consequence of General Howe's information, to request of General Swartout and the officers commanding the militia on the other side, to press on their draughts designed for the reinforcement of the Forts. This notice will reach them perhaps twenty four hours before your repeated order, should you think it necessary to send one.

If the militia are ordered to collect here, I hope we shall have the pleasure of seeing you; in the mean time, I am wth the greatest respect, & esteem your Excellencies, most obed^t & very humble ser^t,

Udny Hay.

Governour Clinton.

[No. 2999.]

PUSHING FORWARD THE LEVIES.

Lieutenant-Colonel Ferris Ordered in Arrest for Disobedience of Orders.

Fishkill, June 20th 1780.

Sir, I am Directed by Brig^r Genl. Swartwout to inform your Excellency, that the orders of the 17th inst. were Rec^d and

orders sent out accordingly early next morning, in the most positive and pressing manner by Expresses ordering 450 men officers included Completely armed and equipped from Colos. Frear, Brinckerhoff's, Van Der Burgh's and Ludenton's Regts. being the nearest in order to promote Dispatch, with Eight Days provisions, to march down immediately to the fort at West Point, and to be Received on the 27th instant by a like Number from Colo. Graham's, Hopkins and Field's Regts. with Eight Days provisions, unless they shall Receive Counter orders, and the whole Brigade to hold themselves in the most perfect Readiness to take the field at a moment's warning.

The Express sent to Colo. Ludenton's Regt. with the orders, Directed, "On public service, To Colo. Henry Ludenton," or in his absence to his next Commanding officer, were Carried in the absence of Colo. Ludenton to Reuben Ferris, Lieut. Colo. of s'd Regt; who told the Express that he had lost his pocket book with his Commission and, therefore, would neither Receive nor open the orders; the Express then Carried the orders to Major Robertson of s'd Regt. who Refused to Receive them so long as there was a superior officer of the Regt. present, the Express then Returned with the orders unopened, and not a man ordered out of s'd Regt. The General, therefore, has ordered Lieut. Colo. Ferris under arrest, and sent another Express this morning with the orders to Maj'r Robertson, Commanding him positively to Carry said orders, in the absence of Colo. Ludenton into full and immediate Execution without fail or loss of time.

Your Excellency's orders of the 16th instant, Respecting the Deficiencies of the Levies, were Rec'd and orders are sent again to the Colos. who are Deficient, in the most strongest [*sic*] and pointed terms, assuring them that such as shall be Deficient in

their Quotas by the 27th instant at farthest, shall be arrested, without Discrimination or Respect of Persons.

Serjt. Wilson who is left to receive the Levies, shewed me yesterday his Return, by which the Quotas from Colo. Frear, Van Der Burgh's and Ludenton's Regts. were Compleat; from Brinckerhoff's one lacking; Field's Eight, and Hopkins, Fifteen.

The men ordered into the fort at West Point are (from Brinckerhoff's Regt.) marching down this morning. I am, by order of Brig'r Genl. Swartwout with due respect Y'r Excellency's Most H'ble & Obdt. Serv't
Hend'k Wyckoff.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 3000.]

*Colonel Hay Believes Legislation Necessary to Secure Pasturage—
His Original Plan a Failure.*

Fishkill, 21 June 1780.

Sir, Informed (though not officially) that the Legislature are determined in passing the Supply Bill, to appoint an officer for the General Superintendance of the purchase of the Provisions and Forage required by Congress as the Quota of this State, and leave the Remainder to be procured by the public officer, whose province by the new arrangement in the Quarter Master's Department it may become. I think it my duty once more to represent through your Excellency, to the honorable the Legislature, the advantage that would arise from having the same officer, as far as respects the Forage Department, procure the whole of that article [MSS. torn] shall be wanted;* for what man

*Acting upon the suggestion of Colonel Hay, the Legislature passed an act, Chapter 74 of the Third Session of the Legislature, "to provide pasturage for the use of the army," under which it was provided that "upon application of the quarter masters general, or either of his deputies to any justice of the peace, or in case there shall be no

of Character will accept of [ms. torn] employ, where he knows that his reputation as an officer will suffer so severely, as it must, when the Comparison is drawn betwixt the regularity and dispatch of the state officer in obtaining his Quota, and the other in procuring a quantity either equal thereto, or such as the army will in all probability want; for there are few who will consider the advantages or disadvantages that attend either the one or the other in the Mode by which they are each directed or enabled to purchase; I freely confess, I would sooner quit the Service that risque the disgrace, I think I must meet with, by taking on myself the second Character; I hope, therefore, the State Officer will be obligated by Law to do the public Business in that Branch likewise; I am so convinced by my experience in the Department, of the bad Tendency which a contrary mode must have, that I fear not in the least Degree freely to give my Opinion on the Subject; Time will shew whether I am right or wrong.

I likewise beg leave to mention to your Excellency the necessity of adopting some mode for procuring Pasture. I formerly took the liberty of transmitting you the Copy of a letter I had wrote to the Inhabitants in general, and another to some of the principal Officers in the State with their recommendation on the Subject, the whole of which has proved totally abortive, as you will see by the enclosed from Mr. Taylor to me, who was sent on purpose to make the experiment.

justice, the supervisor, residing in any town manor district or precinct within this State for pasture for the purpose aforesaid, and at the same time acquainting him with the number of horses, or cattle for which pasture is required, the time when and how long the same will be wanted, it shall and may be lawful for such justice, or supervisor, as the case may be, and he is her-by authorized and required, forthwith to issue his warrant, or warrants, to any two reputable freeholders residing in such town manor, precinct, or district, to impress within the same, as many pastures, as they may judge sufficient, of and from such of its inhabitants, who in their judgment can or may with the least damage spare the same, and at the same time appraise the value of the use of the said pastures respectively, for the time that the same shall be impressed."

Your Excellency well knows that the public Transportation cannot be performed without Pastures are procured, and if a Law is not pass'd for the purpose, and the People will not let us have them voluntarily, we have no alternative left, but either to leave the army destitute of their necessary Supplies, or take the Pastures we want by force: the latter Mode, though perhaps the most Just and Patriotic, not only may, but probably would be productive of the ruin of him who adopted it: for Peace once established the benefit arising from such an act of arbitrary Power would be totally forgot, while the Illegality thereof would be Sounded with the utmost vehemence, and the passions of a Jury rais'd to almost a pitch of Frensy by the artful insinuations of some able man on the necessity of punishing in the bud such an act of Tyranny.

I would beg leave to mention to your Excellency that much of the business of Transportation in this State may probably come under my direction during the Campaign, which makes me particularly Interested in this Matter, and which I hope will plead my excuse for the Liberty I have now taken.

For farther particulars on both these Subjects I beg leave to refer you to Major Hale, who is so kind as to become the Bearer of this, and whose thorough acquaintance with the Department will enable him to give full and proper Information. I have the honor to be with [every] Sentiment of Respect, Your Excellencies most Obed't & very humble Serv't

Udny Hay.

Governor Clinton.

Fishkill 20 June 1780.

Dear Colonel, Agreeable to your Orders of 18 Inst. I proceeded from thence to Colo. Morehouses, Paulings Precinct, shewing your address to the Assessors, Justices &c., after read-

ing of which and the one to the Inhabitants in General, they immediately signed a Recommendation pointing out to every Inhabitant, the present Exigency and the evil Consequences that must ensue from their not furnishing the public with Pasture sufficient to support the Teams coming on with Provision for use of the army, with both of which I went round, and shewed them to every Inhabitant of whom there was the least probability of obtaining any, but all to no purpose: They would not part with a single acre. I am Respectfully, Dear Colo, Your most Obed't Serv't
 Colo, Uday Hay.

Geo. Taylor, Jun'r.

P. S. Enclosed you have a Memorandum of the Persons names who are possess'd of Large Quantities of Pasture and will not (except the one of whom Capt'n Thos: Mitchell has hired) part with any, if they possibly can avoid it.

Copy.

Memorandum of Persons who have Pasture.

Silas Boarman, Paulings Pree't possess'd of a Quantity

Capt'n Thos. Briss, Do Do

Wm. Spencer, Beekmans Pree't hired by Capt'n T. Mitchell.

Charles Arnold Do not at home but is said to have a quantity of Pasture to Spare.

[No. 3001.]

Mr. Heathcote Muirson Granted Permission to Remove His Property from Long Island.

The Bearer Mr. Heathcote Muirson, having from the Commencement of the present Warr manifested Sentiments favour-

able to the Cause of America, and by a Conduct different from that of the most of his Family is likely to sustain heavy Losses; And he having represented to me that he is possessed of some Property upon Long Island, for which his Excellency the Gov'r & the Hon'ble the Council of Connecticut are inclineable to grant him the necessary Passports to remove from thence across the Sound on my consenting to the same; In Consideration, therefore, of Mr. Muirson's peculiar Case, I do hereby consent to any Indulgence which his Excellency the Gov'r & Council of Connecticut may think proper to grant him in this Respect.

G. C.

Given at Kingston, this 21st June 1780.

[No. 3002.]

Colonel Hay Suggests Legislation to Seize Rum for the Troops.

Fishkill 21 June 1780.

Sir, We seem to have every thing now at the Fort but rum; there is plenty in the State: permitt me to hint to your Excellency that a law passed for seizing a sufficiency for the immediate use of the garrison, should it be attackd, might be of the utmost consequence to the general cause. You well know what effect it often has on a soldier's temper as well as on his spirits. I have the honour to be your Excellency's most obed't and very humble ser't

Udny Hay.

Gouverneur Clinton.

[No. 3003.]

Certificates of Good Behavior for Captain John McKillip.

Cambridge District, March 6th 1780:

The Depositions of Leut. Andrew Thomson, James McKillips, and Thomas Stark, relative to a conversation that happen'd

about ye beginning of November last between Capt. John McKillips & John Dunlop.

Lient. Thomson deposeth that he cannot remember to have heard Capt. John McKillips calling John Blair* or Major James Ashton, Rogues at the afores'd Conversation.

James McK. Deposeth that heath not heard Capt. John McKillips call Coll. John Blair or Major Ashton afors'd Rogues or any other thing worse than their own names at s'd Conversation.

Thom's Stark Deposeth that at said Conversation he hath not heard, as he remembers, the words rogue or rogues mentioned at all, and said Deponent farth say not.

Duly Sworn before me the Day & year above writ'n.

Edw. Rigg.

White Creek June the 21 1780.

I Dow hearby Sartify that Capt. John McCallips is a Trow frand [true friend] to the Countrey and to my knowledg has in Defens of Coa [country] aver axerted him self, sins he was a nofaser [an officer] in the millishay as [ms. obscure] we know; to houm Et may Consarn:

Alex'r Webster, Colo.

Gershom Woodworth, Left.

Joseph McCracken, Mgr.

Edward Long, Capt.

George Gillmore, Capt.

Andrew Thomson, Liet.

William Brown, Capt.

Hugh Thomson, Ensign

John McClung, Lt.

Cambredg 1780 June the 22: to whome it may concern: that John Meckeelp has Ben a capten in mey Regiment from the Beginning of our contest and so on and it has allwase Ben mey

*Of the Sixteenth Regiment, Albany County Militia.

apenyoun from hes Behavear that he is a good wege [Whig]
and frend of our contere, and am of the same appenyoun stell.

Leavis Vanwoert, Colonel.

Peter Yates, Coll.

[No. 3004.]

THE AUTHORITIES DISPLAY NERVOUSNESS.

*Lack of Public Spirit at a Crisis the Main Cause—General Wash-
ington's Views.*

(Circular.)

Philadelphia, June 22, 1780.

Sir, Your Excellency will herewith receive an Act of Congress
of the 21st Instant,* which will no doubt be duly attended to.

Those Parts of the Act in particular that relate to giving In-
formation to Congress & their Committee at Head Quarters, it
is most earnestly requested may be attended to with the utmost
Expedition and punctuality.

*The committee to whom was referred the note from the honourable the minister of
France, brought in a report Wednesday, June 21, 1780, which was read, and thereupon,

RESOLVED. That the minister of France be informed that Congress have used every
means in their power to fulfil their engagements of January last; that they have ap-
portioned the quotas of the several states, and called upon them most earnestly to com-
plete the same; that the surrender of Charlestown, and the diversion of our force to
the southern department, together with the heavy loss sustained by fatigue and deser-
tion in a long and toilsome march, have for the present considerably weakened the main
army; that Congress have endeavoured to replace these deficiencies, by demanding large
additional supplies of recruits and militia from the middle and eastern states, to take
the field by the first of July; that their requests have been frequently reiterated in the
strongest terms; that they have reason to believe that many of them are making great
efforts to comply with their demand; and that they are not without well grounded ex-
pectations that the importance of the occasion will awaken all to the most vigorous
exertions; that Congress have demanded from each State immediate information of the
measures they have adopted in consequence of their requisition; that they hope to be
thereby enabled more fully to satisfy the wishes of the minister of France, relative to
the matters contained in his memorial; that they do full justice to the solicitude of
the minister of France, for the advancement of the mutual interests of his most Christian
majesty and these United States, and see with pleasure, in the warmth with which he
urges measures evidently calculated for the immediate advantage of these states, the
intimacy of the union of the allied powers.

And whereas Congress did, in behalf of the United States, assure his most Christian
majesty, by their act of 31st of January last, that they would bring into the field 25,000
men exclusive of officers, and at the same time solicit a naval force to co-operate against
the common enemy; and whereas advice has been received from the court of France,
that his most Christian majesty, in compliance with the solicitations of Congress, hath
not only directed a considerable naval force to repair to North-America, but hath sub-
joined thereto a respectable body of land forces; and whereas Congress in consequence

The Time is come when we may hourly expect the arrival of the Forces of our ally, and the Plan of Operation ought to be completely formed & ready to be communicated upon their Arrival, which cannot be done for want of proper & certain Information, of the Number of Forces, quantity of Supplies &c. which the States will furnish.

Under these Circumstances you will easily perceive, that Congress and the Commander in Chief are placed in a most painful Situation, and that the Interest, Honor, & Safety of these States are too much affected to admit of the least Delay or Neglect of any & every Exertion which the present Situation of our affairs demand. I have the honor to be, with very great respect your Excellency's obed't servant

Sam. Huntington, President.

His Exc'y Gov. Clinton.

June 23. Since writing the foregoing I have received a Letter from his Exc'y Gen. Washington, an Extract of which is en-

of their engagements by their act of February last, did call on the several states to complete their quota of troops to the establishment mentioned in the said act; which quota they have since, from the disaster at Charlestown, found it necessary to decrease, and have accordingly approved the requisitions of their committee at head-quarters; and whereas none of the states, whose battalions were deficient, have yet sent on their recruits to complete the same, nor afforded any assurances that the requisitions of Congress, and their committee, will be complied with; and whereas the execution of the above requisition will be extremely hazardous and expensive, unless the further demands of Congress and their committee, for provision, are punctually complied with; therefore,

RESOLVED, That the said states be requested explicitly, and without the least delay, to inform Congress how far they may rely upon their furnishing the several supplies of men, money and provisions called for by Congress or their committee at head-quarters.

And whereas the legislatures of many of the United States are not now convened, though earnestly requested by Congress to continue their sessions, or to assemble, so as a person such powers as would enable them on the requisition of Congress or their committee, to draw forth the military resources of the state; and whereas Congress are not fully informed whether their magistrates are so empowered;

RESOLVED, That the supreme executive magistrate, in any state, where the Legislature is not now convened, be requested immediately to inform Congress what measures they have taken, or empowered to take, in compliance with the above requisitions of Congress, in order that Congress, whose duty it is, may provide that effectual measures be taken that every state in the union contribute their quota to the service, before the

RESOLVED, That the executive magistrate of every state be requested to report weekly with the committee of Congress at head-quarters, a list of the number of men and money actually taken from time to time in pursuance of the above requisitions of Congress and their committee.

closed together with an act of Congress of this Day, by which you will be further informed of the pressing Necessity of immediately forwarding on the Supplies of men & Provisions with the utmost Expedition & the repeated request of Congress to transmit to them & their Committee at Headquarters, the Proceedings of the State over which you have the honor to preside in such manner as the Commander in Chief may rely, & be enabled to regulate his future Operations thereon. I have the honor to be with the highest esteem your Ex'ys humble Servant

Sam. Huntington, President.

Extract of a Letter from Genl. Washington dated Head Quarters Springfield 20 June th 1780.

“The Hon'ble The Committee will have informed Congress from time to time of the measures which have been judged essential to be adopted for cooperating with the armament expected from France, and of their requisitions to the States in consequence. What the result of these has been, I cannot determine to my great anxiety, as no answers on the subjects of them have been yet received. The period is come when we have every reason to expect the fleet will arrive, and yet for want of this point of primary consequence, it is impossible for me to form or fix on a system of cooperation. I have no basis to act upon and of course were this generous succour of our ally now to arrive, I should find myself in the most aukward embarrassing and painful situation. The General and the Admiral from the relation in which I stand, as soon as they approach our coast, will require of me a plan of the measures to be pursued, and there ought of right to be one prepared: but circumstanced as

I am I cannot even give them conjectures. From these considerations, I have suggested to the committee, by a letter, I had the honor of addressing them yesterday, the indispensable necessity of their writing again to the States urging them to give immediate & precise information of the measures they have taken and of the result. The interest of the States, the honor and reputation of our councils, the justice and gratitude due our allies, a regard to myself, all require that I should without delay be enabled to ascertain and inform them what we can or cannot undertake. There is a point which ought now to be determined, on which the success of all our future operations may depend, which for want of knowing our prospects, I am altogether at a loss what to do in. For fear of involving the fleet and army of our allies in circumstances, which, if not seconded by us, would expose them to material inconvenience and hazard, I shall be compelled to suspend it, and the delay may be fatal to our hopes.

“Besides the embarrassments I have mentioned above and upon former occasions, there is another of a very painful and humiliating nature. We have no shirts from the best enquiries, I can make, to distribute to the troops when the whole are in great want and when a great part of them are absolutely destitute of any at all. Their situation too with respect to summer overalls I fear is not likely to be much better. There are a good many on hand at Springfield it is said, but so indifferent in their quality as to be scarcely worth the expence & trouble of transportation and delivery. For the troops to be without cloathing at any time is highly injurious to the service and distressing to our feelings but the want will be more peculiarly mortifying when they come to act with those of our allies. If it is possible

I have no doubt immediate measures will be taken to relieve their distress. It is also most sincerely to be wished that there could be some supplies of cloathing furnished for the officers. There are a great many whose condition is really miserable still and in some instances it is the case with almost whole State lines. It would be well for their own sakes, and for the public good, if they could be furnished. When our friends come to cooperate with us, they will not be able to go on the common routine of duty, and if they should, they must be held, from their appearance, in low estimation.**

*From Headquarters, Whippany, under date June 25, 1780. Washington wrote to the president of Congress: Since I had the honor of addressing Congress on the 20th, the following movements have taken place on the part of the Enemy and on our part. The conduct of the Enemy and our intelligence giving us reason to suspect a design against West Point, on the 21st the army, except two Brigades and the Horse (left under the command of General Greene to cover the country and our stores,) was put in motion to proceed slowly towards Pompton. On the 22d it arrived at Rockaway Bridge about eleven miles from Morris Town. The day following, the enemy moved in force from Elizabeth Town towards Springfield. They were opposed with great conduct and spirit by Major-Generals Greene and Dickinson, with the Continental Troops and such of the militia as were assembled; but, with their superiority of numbers, they of course gained Springfield, burnt the Village, and retired the same day to their former position. In the night they abandoned it, crossed over to Staten Island, and took up their bridge. I beg leave to refer Congress to General Greene's report for particulars.

The Enemy advanced on this occasion with so serious an aspect, that they were compelled to act upon the supposition of their menacing our stores. A Brigade was detached to fall in with their right flank, and the army moved back towards Morris Town five or six miles, to be more in supporting distance. On receiving intelligence of the Enemy's withdrawing from the Point, all the Troops were put under marching orders for the North River; but the weather prevented them from commencing their march before this morning.

The late movements of the Enemy seem to have no satisfactory solution but an enterprise against West Point. Our last advices look strongly to the same object, yet there are many powerful reasons against it. But as we are now in a great degree rid of the incumbrance of our stores by the measures taken to remove them, prudence demands that our dispositions should be principally relative to West Point.¹ We shall do everything in our power for its security; and, in spite of the peculiar embarassments of our situation, I hope not without success. The enemy have not made their incursions into this State without loss. Ours has been small. The militia deserve everything that can be said on both occasions. They flew to arms universally, and acted with a spirit equal to anything I have seen in the course of the war. With every sentiment of respect I have the honor to be, &c. * * *

¹ It will be seen by an extract from General Clinton's letter to Lord George Germain relating to this subject, that, so far from having any design against West Point, his object was to seek a place of security where he could give rest to his troops, just returned from the fatigues of a southern campaign.

"I arrived in New York from the south," he wrote, "on the 17th of June, and found that General Knyphausen had made a move with the army into Jersey. At my arrival they were between Elizabethtown Creek and Newark. Washington's army was at Chatham, and an advanced corps at Connecticut Farms. In the present circumstances I could not think of keeping the field in Jersey. Washington's retreat gave me a little time for deliberation. To avail myself, however, as much as I could, of our situation, I ordered, previously to quitting Jersey, a strong detachment under General Mathew, well

[No. 3005.]

Colonel A. Hawkes Hay, Reduced to Indigence, Appeals to Governor Clinton.

Fish Kill June 22d 1780.

Sir, Notwithstanding the repeated Losses & the consequent accumulation of domestic wants, which my principled & inexorable opposition to the claims of Britain on this, my country have involved me in—Notwithstanding the grinding extravagance of the Times, even to persons whose Fortunes have escaped the all consuming Depredations of a barbarous Foe, and the difficulty of maintaining a growing, actually numerous, helpless & yet expensive Family like mine, after having been despoiled, by fire, of house, bodily covering, furniture and food; yet I have, till now, unnoticed and alone, struggled thro' in the provision of a meer Subsistence for my pining charge. To a Man of tender Sensibility, like your Excellency, whose susceptible heart is made to sympathize with & yam to the woes of the Citizen, it would be needless to make known the delicacy of feeling and the pride of accustomed Independence which, for a long Time, deterred me from troubling you, in this Solemn manner, with a plaintive address: But present distress is too big & pinching for my Delicacy to oppose; it is such, my Dear Sir, as to give utterance to a stiff necked Pride that would otherwise be silent, and unlocks the Tongue of Shame and the bloated Heart, turning with affliction. More would be needless, to apologise to your Excellency for the trouble of this Letter.

supported by Knyphausen, to move to the last division of the rebel army and press it if possible, whilst I put the troops, just arrived from Carolina and already landed on Staten Island, afloat again, and repaired in person to Haverstraw Bay, the transports following me to Phillipsburg. I was thus in readiness to take advantage of any unguarded march the enemy might make to sueor the corps attacked; or, finding no enemy for offense (as was the event), to land the troops and give a camp of rest to an army, of which many corps had had an uninterrupted campaign of fourteen months. The attack of the rear of Washington's army was conducted with judgment and spirit. The enemy was forced from two strong positions, and the troops, after remaining some hours in Springfield, retired according to my orders, and that evening without molestation evacuated Jersey, bringing off the bridge of boats, which had been thrown across the Staten Island Sound." MS. Letter, July 4th.

Had this address been calculated for the individual consideration of your Excell'y alone, I should here cease in my narrative; it may fall under the Eye of the Legislature consisting of many Gentlemen who perhaps, never heard of me, nor of my sufferings.

In the autumn of Seventy seven, my House, Barn, and Stables at Haverstraw were burnt under the special and personal vindicative orders of Gov'r Tryon to his troops; not content with what they had then bereaved me of, British vengeance still pursued me; it overtook me in summer last, and made spoil of all that remained, which, perhaps, I could have saved, and been yet happy, had not the duties of my office as Colonel of the Haverstraw militia, and the bent of Personal principle, called me out at that Time, from every attention to the Interest of a Domestic or selfish nature.

The merciless Enemy then stripped my wife, my children and myself of every thing we possessed, but the apparel that covered us in our flight. I was bereft of money sufficient for the purposes even of a scanty support for a few months. My Farm is now almost a wilderness, having no hands to work it. My negroes have all been taken away; and the whole of my little stock has been, for some time past, expended. I am (tho inclined to serve my Country from principle, and drove to the request of being called to serve it and myself, at this Time, from want) in no way of Business to support my poor family, untaught, as your Excell'y well knows, in the drudgeries of hard Labour, I was, in the severity of the last winter, necessitated to fall, junk, and draw fire wood for my family. This, to a person who always lived in, and was brought up to a state of affluence, and of Ease was a stroke, the poignancy of which your Excellency must feel when you apply it to your own feelings.

It is a fact which I am compelled to assure your Excellency: that had it not been for the Quartering of some of the Hospital Surgeons at my House this Spring and Summer, my family must have starved, for the want of resources.

There is one thing which affects my feelings in a most tender manner. Duty and Inclination call upon me very loudly, at this season of threatened alarm, to be present with my Regiment at Haverstraw. My Pride revolts at the thought of disingenuity. Candour extorts the confession from me, in support of my Honor: that of money I have not, alas! as much as would defray the trifling expences I should be at, while going there, and among my men. I flatter myself, that there are few distresses in this state which better claim your Excell'y and the Legislature's notice, than those of myself and family; it will not, I hope be thought vanity in me, to affirm: that all my present misfortunes have originated from my having inviolably attached myself to the cause of America; why otherwise hath the whole of my property been ruined, and that of others in my vicinity left entire and untouched? I turned out as early in the American controversy, as the controversy itself, and I am perswaded your Excell'y will acknowledge: that nothing offered that could contribute to the public good, which I have not cheerfully embark'd in. I, therefore, think, that from the combined claims of Justice and Distress, I may foundedly invoke the united benevolence of your Excell'y and the Legislature in behalf of myself and family, should any office of advantage, within your gift be now open; you will not I am perswaded, deem it cumbersome and disagreeable to lend your voice, and Influence to obviate such distresses as mine, while providing for my family, I shall feel an Equal pleasure in holding some public office, whereby I could

do essential Service to my Country. I have the honor of being
your Excellency's Most Obt. Humble Serv't

[To G. C.]

A. Hawkes Hay.

[No. 3006.]

Peter Van Gasbeeck Reports a Trifling Engagement With the Enemy.
Cattskill, 23rd June 1780.

Sir, I have the Honor to Acquaint your Excellency that Agreeable to your Excellencies Orders, delivered by Colo. Snyder & Mr. Sudam, Capt. Salisbury, Messrs. Hasbrouck, Hoffman, & myself repair'd to this place from Sagerties on Wednesday Morning where we have remain'd since, during which time have made no discovery nor no Enemy has Appear'd.

The Guards of this place Amounting to 40 or 50 Men, Marched on Wednesday Evening to the westward.

This Morning a report prevails that the Albany Gnards, had on Wednesday last attacked the Enemy at a place called Basick lying between Freehold and the Hellebergh; in the Engagement, its said, six Indians were killed; as we were to remain here untill further Orders from Sudam & Homel, and not having as yet heard from them, presume they have not compleated the business; with perfect Esteem, I Remain Your Excellencies Most Obed't & Very H. Serv't

Peter Van Gaasbeek.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 3007.]

Scouting in Schoharie.

According to orders Received from your Excelancy, Directed to me I have done my Endeavour to fulfill as much as laid in my

power your Excellency's Command, and have sent out a scout of about Forty Trusty men or upwards for three or four Days, in order to see what they Can Discover of the Enemy, and then I expect them to return again and how to proceed further I do not know what will be Best. Therefore, I have Considered with some of our Best Neighbours to Inform your Excellency, that it is our opinion that we ought to have a Constant scout out for that purpose if not I do think that we are in great Dainger. Thearefore, I thought proper to acquaint your Excellency with my proceedings, and my opinion about the mater, and wish for your furdre orders respecting the same; part of our Regiment is gone up to Schoharry according to Generall Orders, and I should think that we are in great want of them at home to scout upon the frontiers, for by the Information of Cole it appears we are in great Danger, so I hope your honour will Cosider the matter as you shall think proper. And give us your furdre Instruction; for furdre particulars Inquire of the Bearer from your most humble serv't

Cornelius Dubois, Lt. Coll.

Catskill Landing, June 23, 1780.

To his Excellency Gorge Clinton, Esqr.

[No. 3008.]

Return of Levis (to Reinforce the Army) Raised in the City and County of Albany.

A Return of the Levis Raised out of the Different Regiments of Militia in the City and County of Albany to serve for Three months agreeable to an Act of the Legislature of the State of New York passed the 24th of June 1780, for the purpose of Reinforcing the Continental Army.

No. of Regiments.	by whom Commanded	No. of Classes in Each Regt.	No. of Men De- livered	Wanting to Compleat	No. entered in Continent'l Service
1	Coll. Abraham Cuyler's	27	27		
2	Do Peter Vroman	25		25	
3	Do Henry Quackenboss	25	7	18	
4	Do. John McCraw	36		36	
5	Do Lewis Van Woart	24	18	6	
6	Do Peter Yates				
7	Do Jacobus Schoonhoven	27	13	14	
8	Do Stephen J. Schuyler	20	7	13	
9	Do Phillip P. Schuyler	28	14	14	
10	Do Ab'm Wimple	29	19	10	
11	Do Killeon Van Rauslear	40	12	28	
	Total to be Delivered	251			
	Total Delivered		117		
	Total Wanting to Comp't			164	

[No. 3009.]

*The Oneidas Deliver a Speech Stamped With Fear and Incidentally
"Stand in Great Need of a Little Powder."*

Albany, June 24th 1780.

I have just received the enclosed Letter from Colonel Van Dyck with the speech of the Oneida Sechems. As they are of a public nature, I do myself the Honor to transmitt them to your Excellency and beg the favour after perusal you will please to direct them to be forwarded to General James Clinton.

I have reason to fear that if the Oneidas who are the only Indian nation in our interest in these parts don't soon receive some encouragement of protection, will leave their Castle, & move off to the Enemy.

Colonel Klock informs me that on Wednesday last a Women was killed, and her Husband taken prisoner by the Indians in the district of Stone Arabia in Tryon County. I am, most respectfully, your Excellencies most obedient servant

G. V. Schaick.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

A Speech of the Oneida Chiefs to Colo. Van Dyck Delivered Sunday Evening 18th June 1780.

Brother, Wee will now acquaint you with our Situation and request a judicious answer.

An Onondago Chief warrior called Wagondenaye, has lately come from Niagara & as he passed thro Kanaghserage prevailed on several families to move off for Niagara. Since which the whole Town have left their habitations & gone to the Enemy, also two families of the Oneidas, with all the Onondages who had joined us since the Capture of their Village; this strange suddent movement has alarmed us very much; we are informed by those who had an interview with Wagondenaye that he said the whole Oneida nation should be taken prisoners in a short time, except shuch as emediately Repaired to Niagara or Oswego. Brother, we are in great Consternation. Reports from various other Quarters Conferm the above account; we scarcely know who to trust among us in this Criticle situation; yesterday the last of the Kanaghserages and Onondagos left us & say that our Town must be destroyed to open the road to the Mohawk River and after the Onidas are secured, the enemy Intend to lay wast the Mohawk River so far as Schenectady or Albany.

Brother, our women are much terrified with the view of their approaching ruin; they have Concluded to move down into the Country and seek a place of safety among the Inhabitants of the United States; many of the warriors approve of their Determination; so soon as the women and Children are secured the warriors will Return to your garrison & be at your Command.

Brother, we now request your best advice if you approve of our going down the Country you will appoint out some place and make provision accordingly; we are not able to defend our

selves at Oneida against the force we are sure will come against us: what can be done for us; pray advise Genl. Schuyler and the officer commanding at Albany of our Situation.

The warriors stand in great need of a little powder.

Brother, this all we have to say.

Grasshopper,	} Chiefs
Aamko,	
Kekengo,	
Williamko,	

The above is a trew translation by Saml. Kirkland.

A trew Cobby for Genl. Clinton at Albany.

[No. 3010.]

Colonel Morgan Lewis Supplements Indian Rumors.

Albany 24th June 1780.

Upon the Faith of your Excellency's Promise, I have ventured to detain some Hands employed in repairing my House who, have been ordered on militia Duty, and am now to request your Exemption for Alex'r Forsyth, Thos. Easterly & Richard Van Zandt, Carpenters and John Van Imborough Mason.

Two Oneidas came to Town the Day before Yesterday, who inform that the Onandagos Tuscaroras & four of the principal Oneida Families have gone to the Enemy. The Idea of a general Invasion of our Frontiers and the Investure of Fort Schuyler, founded on Information I am unacquainted with, appears universal amongst the Knowing ones. Should it be the Case, I hope to have the Pleasure of accompanying you on another expedition. Interim I am, your Excellency's most Obe't very hum. serv.

Mor'n Lewis.

His Excellency George Clinton Esqr.

[No. 3011.]

Colonel Dubois Sends Two Deserters to Governor Clinton.

Catskill Landing June 24 1780.

To his Excellency George Clinton, Esqr.

Whereas according to orders I have sent out a scout of upwards of forty men under the Command of Capt. Dubois and in their way they took two men up supposed to be Deserters I, therefore, thought proper to send them down to your honner to be exammened and by the Returns of Capt. Dubois is as folows:

According to orders I have performed and as I was informd that there was two men at Frechole supposed to be deserters; in Consequence of that we went with the scout to that place; I took on men; Alexander Wilson he said he left West Point som time in Aprill and was permitted by Samuel Darby, major Comedand. I inquired for his pass; he said his Commerate had it; I inquired where he was; he tould me he was at the Eykeburgh, which we also took one William Johnson, at one Peters Plancks; he tould me that he and Alexander Wilson Came away at one time. Johnson says he left it in May last and further I made inquiring of the inhabetants, if there had been Enemy about that place to their Knowledge. Peter Plank said that the 14 of June last, that there Came three men at his house dressed in green Coats turned up with white; they demanded provition; Plank said he had none to spare; they tould him they whould have som, and Likewise took it; then Plank ask them if they had no Indians with them; they tould him no; Plank said I beleave you have, for I have seen one; then they Caled to the Indians and told them to com in; then they told Plank that they was a scout from Nigary sent by Coll. Bortoler, and that they was in great want of provition and that they was agoing to

Beasex but Plank says he thinks they are gone bak. There was three white men and two Indians; the inclosed is the pass the prisoners had with them wich I think is a fals pass and further they told that Coll. Snyder had seen their pass, when they Came from Sopis; whither the story is true I cannot tell; it seems not to be verry good; that they made such a long stay at such a place of the Contry, so if there Case is Cleare it is best for them selfs, and if in Case that they should be sent any further, I hope your honner will sand another gard with them, that these men may Com home, for I have part of that scout out yet and have ordered som men up to Releave the other to Ceep on till further orders.

The inclosed is the pass the prisoners had; from your most humble servant

Cornelius Dubois, Lut. Col.

[To G. C.]

[No. 3012.]

Relative to the Fort to Be Constructed at Scheneectady.

Kingston, June the 24th 1780.

Gent., An act of the Legislature passed yesterday enabling the Inhabitants to erect a fortress therein, a Copy of which will be transmitted to you by Mr. Vrooman.

By this law you will observe that the field officers and Justices of the peace or a majority of them to cause works of defence and security to be erected in such manner & form as the person ad'g the Gov't shall direct.

Without being on the spot it is not impossible (?) to give any pointed directions on the subject. As to the particular situation, I would have you to fix on such a position, as appears

best calculated to cover the town so as that from your works as many of the streets as possible, may be exposed to its fire.

It would be well that you had some public Building included in the works to afford shelter for women children and effects, but care must be taken that such Building should be so far from the Town as to run no risque of being consumed in case the Town should be set on fire.

As to the Extent of the work you will be governed by the number of men you will have to defend it and in this Computation none ought to be included who are fit for active service in the field. The number of persons you have to shelter will also be a Consideration in determining on this matter.

A palisade or picketed work will be the cheapest; materials easily provided and defensible as any ag't musketry, which is all you have to apprehend. I am, Gent. your most hu. serv.

[G. C.]

[To the officers and magistrates of Schenectady.]

[No. 3013.]

Governor Clinton to Lieutenant-Governor Van Cortlandt in Regard to Important News.

Poughkeepsie, June 25th 1780.

Sir, I have only time to enclose you a copy of a letter from General Howe and an Extract of one from his Excellency General Washington; and to inform you that in consequence of the intelligence they contain I have ordered the whole of the militia of this county to rendezvous at Fish Kill immediately, for which place I intend myself to set out in the course of the day. I am, Sir, with great Respect your most Obed't Serv't

G. C.

[To Lieutenant Governor Cortlandt.]

[No. 3014.]

Concerning the Exchange of Prisoners.

West Point, 26 June 1780.

Dear Sir, Nothing your Excellency can write to me, will be thought a trouble, nor any thing you can propose be unattended too, or not complied with when in my power.

The party you speak off were taken by the Connecticut Militia, and within the Bounds of that State and therefore not exchangeable, but for those of that State who are prisoners. I make no doubt however, but upon an application to Governor Trumbull he will readily consent to the Exchange; upon a promise from you of rendering him the same civillity on a similar occasion. If there should be any prisoners in the Hands of the Comissary of prisoners at Fish-Kills, that are not Soldiers, and will answer the end, I shall with pleasure give my sanction to it, but as I doubt whether there are or not, I shou'd think an application to Governor Trumbull wou'd be the best method.

In the mean time I will write to Col. Hay to enquire into the state of the prisoners at Fish Kills, and if there are any that will answer the purpose, I will inform your Excellency of it. I am,
Dear Sir, With great respect Your Excellency's most ob. ser.

Robt. Howe.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 3015.]

Sir Henry Clinton's Advance Up the Hudson.

Ramapough June 27th 1780.

Dear Sir, I received your Letter requesting an account respecting the new arrangement of the Q'r Master's Department;

I have not your letter by me and therefore cannot give it a particular Answer.

General Schuyler returned last night to Morristown from Philadelphia, which place I left in the Evening; he says the arrangement is nearly Complete, but that it is mutilated in the Plan in such a way as will in a great Measure destroy its utility. The Sallary of the State Deputies is to be 130 Dollars pr. Month; an Assistant Deputy 70, and others in the Same proportion. I shall say nothing further upon it untill I see it; Congress always destroy with their left hand what they begin with their right. People that will not learn Wisdom by suffering & experience cannot be saved.

Sir Henry Clinton with part of his army is up the River near Philipses Plantation; his designs are unknown. I am, sir, Your humble Serv't

Nath. Greene.

Colo. Hay.

Copy.

[No. 3016.]

A Plan to Conciliate the Disaffected in the County of Cumberland.
To a Committee from a Number of Towns in the County of Cumberland, to meet at Brattleborough, June 27th 1780.

Gentlemen, The Legislature of the State of Vermont, considering the unhappy Differences and Disputes, which have so long continued respecting Government in the County of Cumberland, and being earnestly desirous of having Government established on the broad and sure basis; (the perfect Union and agreement of the People) were pleased at their Session in March last, to appoint, Jonas Fay, Moses Robinson, & Stephen R. Bradley, Esqrs., a Committee with full Power to treat with all and every

of those Persons who were disaffected with the Government of Vermont: to inquire into the Cause of their Disaffection, and to make such Overtures from Government, as should if possible, make Satisfaction, and remove all grounds of uneasiness. In pursuance of which appointment, we now notify you, and we trust thro' you, the People whom you represent, that we will wait on them in the following manner. At Westminster Court House on the first Day of August next afternoon, at Putney Meeting House on the 2 Day of August next afternoon, at Brattleborough Meeting House the 3 day of August next afternoon, and at Guilford Meeting House the 4 Day of August next afternoon.

And should be happy Gentlemen at either of the Places aforesaid to meet you or a Committee appointed by the People for the above Purpose of amicably removing all Differences and are,
Sirs, Your most obedient Humble Servant

Jonas Fay,

Moses Robinson,

Stephen R. Bradley.

} Committee.

Westminster June 23d 1780.

[No. 3017.]

Colonel Uday Hay Appointed Agent of This State to Supply the Quota of Provisions for the Army.

Fish Kill, 28 June 1780.

Sir, By the enclosed Copy of a Letter from his Excellency, the commander in chief, you will see I am immediately to turn my attention towards making a very large transportation from the western borders of this State to New Windsor, I have already wrote to the eastward for forty continental ox teams to be con-

stantly employ'd in that business, which I am in hopes they will be able to afford me soon, as the transportation of the salt provisions is nearly compleated; in the mean time it is necessary I should have all the aid the upper part of Orange County and the lower part of Ulster County can possibly afford me; permitt me, therefore, to request your Excellency will be so good as desire the members for these Counties to favour me with the names of the districts from which I can reasonably expect assistance, the proportion of teams each district ought to afford, and the names of the magistrates or other principal gentlemen, within each district whose advice and influence I ought to apply for on this occasion; your Excellency well knows how necessary it is I should cultivate the confidence of all ranks of people in the state wherever I have public business to transact, which can never be done but by the strictest impartiality in the demands I make for such services as I am necessarily obliged from time to time to require, and as I am not sufficiently acquainted with that part of the State to enable me to act with that impartiality I would wish on this occasion, I doubt not that your Excellency will forgive the liberty I now take, and favour me with an answer by the bearer of this. As it will be necessary to employ a person constantly in procuring these teams as long as their assistance is wanted, I have sent for Capt. Hunter formerly of Colonel Malcom's Regt. for that purpose; of his activity and zeal I have already had good proof; but should the gentlemen whose advice I have requested think of any person more suitable, I would wish to employ him, as I can find sufficient business for Capt'n Hunter otherwise.

Let me request your Excellency will lay before the Legislature (if not already done) my memorial respecting a continuation of

the certificates, and my letter upon the subject of Pastures. I have the honour to be with the utmost respect, your Excellency's, most obedient and very humble ser't,

Udny Hay.

Governour Clinton.

P. S. An aid from General Heath brings an account that it is reported and believed to the eastward that Admiral Greaves is arrived at Hallifax with twelve sail of the line.

Mr. Loudon informs me by an account of Mr. Rivington's they have had a second touch in the West Indies, in which he tells a Cock & a bulls story of six of their ships having been detached from the rest, having fallen in with the whole of the French fleet performed prodigies of valour, but confesses they have gott most cursedly mauld.

Kingston 29th June 1780.

Dr Sir, The inclosed is as full an answer to yours of yesterday with respect to the Transportation of the Flour from Sussex to New Windsor as I have been able to obtain. About an Hour since the Council of Appointment made you agent for this State to supply the Quota of Provisions &c. to be furnished by this State for the use of the Army & I have no[w] to request that you will immediately repair to this Place & receive your Commission & a Copy of the Law under which you are to act. It may be of Importance to you in the Execution of your office to see the Legislature before they rise as you may be able to have such Matters explained to you as from a perusal of the Law may appear intricate & obscure. They will rise on Saturday. I am your most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

[To Col. Udny Hay.]

[No. 3018.]

Captain John Chipman Acquires Startling Information.

Fort Edward, June 28th 1780.

Sir, By secret Intelligence I find there is a party to be sent very soon to destroy Stillwater; they will come by the way of Crown Point, cross the Sacandaga River at the Rappets, proceed west to Balls Town, come in at the lower part of Stillwater, destroy up the River as far as they possibly can, and make their Retreat good. They have some new Levies raised which Capt. Baits can inform you about. I understand they have particular Orders to distress the Frontiers, keep them from putting Seed in the ground or from harvesting what is now on the ground. This Intelligence is come at three different Times; the first by a Capt. and then by two Lieuts. and is very possible to be true. I cannot send Scouts to any purpose for want of salted provisions, but I shall do all in my Power to keep the men out as much as possible. We much want Camp Kettles, and ammunition is very Scant. I shall receive it as a Favour if in your Power to send me the Articles of War as I am intirely destitute. The Tory People are continually harrasing me for leave to go to Canada and their Situation is truly deplorable as they have no Provision nor Money to purchase any. Yours &c.

John Chipman, Capt.

Collo. V. Schaick. (Copy.)

[No. 3019.]

Draft of Colonel Udny Hay's Commission as State Agent.

By his Excellency George Clinton Esq. Governor &c.
To Udny Hay Esquire Greeting.

By Virtue of the Authority in me vested by a certain Act of the Legislature of the said State entitled An Act to procure Supplies &c.

I have (by and with the Advice and consent of the Council of Appointment) appointed & I do by these presents appoint you, the said Udney Hay agent to procure the Supplies to be procured in pursuance of the said Act on the Account & Credit of the said State, for the Use of the United States with all the Powers Priviledges Authorities, Emoluments Salaries & Advantages to the said office of agent by Law belonging or in any wise appertaining. For which this shall be your Warrant.

Given under my Hand and the Priuy Seal of the said State at Kingston in the County of Ulster the twenty ninth Day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred & Eighty & in the fourth year of the Independence of the said State.

[No. 3020.]

Albany Militia Divided into Two Brigades—Robert Van Rensselaer Assigned to Command One.

Kingston, 29th June 1780.

Sir, Inclosed you have my general orders of equal date, dividing the militia of the County of Albany into two Brigades, and I have the pleasure of transmitting you a Commission giving you the command of one of them; the order for dividing the Brigade is directed to the Clerk of your County, in whose office it must be filed, to him you will please immediately to forward it.

From the information I have lately received from Genl. Tenbroock and Coll. Vanshaik I have great reason to believe that the savages meditate a sudden and general attack upon the settlements in Tryon County, and that Fort Schnyler will be at the same time invested. The deranged situation of the militia in that county has induced me to annex it to your Brigade, for

which purpose I now inclose you an order. It is absolutely necessary considering the alarming nature of this information and the indisposition of Genl. Tenbroock, that you repair immediately to Tryon County and collect the militia of that County together with so many of the neighbouring militia from the County of Albany as you shall deem necessary for defending the Country and defeating the designs of the Enemy. On your arrival at Albany you will confer with Genl. Tenbroock to whom this Letter shall be a sufficient order for furnishing you with such detachments from his Brigades as will be required for these purposes. The Levies for the defence of the frontiers will of Course come under your direction while upon this command. Coll. Van Schaik will afford you every assistance in his power to facilitate your operations.

I inclose you an act of Legislature authorizing the impress of provisions &c. for the use of the army, and a warrant to enable you to carry the same into execution, by which I trust the army under your command will be sufficiently provided for and the surplus removed into places of safety.

I would only repeat that it is absolutely necessary that you enter upon this command without a moment's delay and relying upon your ready compliance and strenuous exertions I am &c.

P. S. I forgot to inform you that if my intelligence is to be depended upon, the time on which this attack is to be made cannot be many days distant, which shews the necessity of your immediate and most vigorous exertions. Colo. Van Schaick & Genl. Ten Broeck will furnish you with Copies of the information transmitted to me.

[No. 3021.]

CONGRATULATED ON HIS RE-ELECTION.

*Governor Clinton Receives a Commendatory Letter from His Friend
Robert R. Livingston.*

Philadelphia, 29th June, 1780.

Dear Sir, I should be very much mortified if I were to ascribe your silence to neglect, but I know the diversity of business that has engaged your attention for some time past, & do not wonder if amidst the hurry of great affairs the little calls of private friendship sh'd be forgot. It gave me sensible pleasure to find from the great superiority of ballots in your favor at the last election, that the people notwithstanding the endeavours of some designing men are disposed to do justice to your merits.

I am sorry to find that in passing the finance bill, no provision has been made for exchanging money, as this w'd enable you to answer the demands of Congress which are extreamly pressing & at the same time put some money in the treasury without too much distressing the inhabitants by taxes; it was for this purpose the words by *taxes or otherwise* were inserted in the resolution. If the legislature are sitting, I wish a supplemental bill may pass immediatly; if not I think that the necessity would justify you in ordering the treasurer to do it till they met, as it never was the Idea of any of us that you could raise the whole sum demanded by tax.

I wrote to you on the subject of my tax. I am informed that instead of nine thousand it is nearly £15000, so that my annual tax am's to upwards of £50000; my income is not £10,000. I do not wish to get rid of any burthen which others bear; all I ask is that the Legislature will not suffer advantage to be taken of the absence of their servants; but either have the charge open

till I am [at] liberty to return & controvert it, or by making the proper inquiries themselves do me justice.

We have information of the arrival of a very formidable Spanish armament in the West Indies, so that we have all the reason in the world to suppose that some decisive blow will be struck there after the hurricane months are over: England will have more upon her hands than she can cleverly manage, and I think we have all the reason imaginable to believe, that if we make exertions any way adequate to the occasion, this will be a decisive campaign.

We have been in pain for West Point, but I hope that we have now nothing to fear from that quarter, as we hear that our line are returned & that the posts are strongly reinforced. Should they be attacked I hope by the blessing of Heaven that our militia under your Excellency's command may acquire equal glory & be crowned with more success than they were in the last attack.

You will present my comp's to Mrs. Clinton & believe me to be with every sentiment of respect & esteem. Your Excellency's
Most Obt. Hum: Serv't

Robt. R. Livingston.

[To G. C.]

[No. 3022.]

Washington Declares the Crisis the Most Delicate and Important the Country Has Ever Experienced.

(Circular) Head Quarters Ramapough, 30th June 1780.

Sir, As the Levies required of the States for filling their Battalions have not yet joined the army or the French Fleet arrived, I beg leave to inform you, that it will be unnecessary for the militia, which the Honorable the Committee of Congress were pleased to call for on a late occasion, to be at the place appointed

for their rendezvous before the 25th next month. By this time I would willingly hope that things will be in such a train, as to enable us to commence our operations, and to make their aid essential. The present Crisis is by far the most important and delicate that this Country has ever experienced and it pains me in the extreme that we are so backward in all our measures. I hope a moment will not be lost in pushing on the Levies to fill the Battalions. Our allies would be chagrined, were they to arrive to-day, to find that we have but a handful of men in the field, and would doubt, it is more than probable, whether we had any serious intention to prosecute measures with Vigor. If we do not avail ourselves of their succour by the most decisive and energetic steps on our part, the aid they so generously bring may prove our ruin, and at best it will be in such case, among the most unfortunate events, next to that of absolute ruin, that could have befallen us. I think it my duty as often as I have the honor of addressing the States to forewarn them, that the completion of their Battalions to their full complement of five hundred and four, Rank and File, is a measure of indispensable necessity to the intended cooperation, and that without it we cannot ever attempt any thing decisive. I have the Honor to be with the greatest Respect & Esteem Your Excellency's most obt. and h'ble Serv't

Go. Washington.

His Excellency Gov. Clinton.

[No. 3023.]

Major Hetfield Summarily Removed from Office.

War-Office June 30, 1780.

Sir, In the year 1778 we did ourselves the honour to request your Excellency to appoint a commissary of hides for the state of

New-York. In consequence of which you were pleased to appoint Major Hatfield. Upon the new arrangement of the department in 1779, Major Hatfield received a fresh appointment from the board. Since then we have received many complaints of the gross mismanagement of the hide department under Major Hatfield, & very satisfactory evidence that they are well founded. Nothing has been suggested that impeaches Major Hatfield's integrity; but he seems to have given too little personal attention to the business, & trusted too much to his assistants. But from whatever cause it arose, the public have sustained such immense losses from the mismanagement of the department under Major Hatfield, that we have been constrained to remove him; and have appointed John Mehelm, Esqr., (Commissary of Hides for New Jersey) to succeed him.

As Mr. Hatfield was originally appointed by your Excellency, we judged it proper to advise you of the reasons which have induced us to remove him. We have the honour to be, with the greatest respect & esteem, your Excellency's most obedient servants,

In behalf & by order of the Board

Tim: Pickering.

His Excellency Governour Clinton.

[No. 3024.]

The petition of Johannis P. Haver to be released from jail.*

[No. 3025.]

Petition in behalf of Jacob Lent and his family.*

[No. 3026.]

John Brevoort Lays Claim to Patriotism.

The Humble representation of the State of facts of John Brevoort; That on or about the 15th of April 1777 from many pressing Circumstances Viz the receipt of Several Letters rec'd from my mother then living in N. Y. advis'd me of the Death of my Father: at the same time urging me in the most pressing terms, to come into town immediately, as my Mother was at the time of Father's Death, Dangerously ill & from all human appearances likely to die, the consequence of which, woud have throw'd the whole of my Father's Estate into the hands of a confirm Tory, who woud undoubtedly have embezzled or appropriated the whole of it. That on receipt of the above Letters & from the Circumstances, which then presented themselves to me on this occasion, Oblig'd me to apply to the officer then commanding on the Lines for a Flag to go to the City; immediately, as I expected not to see my Mother alive should I not be there in twenty four hours, he put me off from Day to Day; I did not know what to do in my Critical Situation; however, I told my Case to some of my Friends & on seeing the Letters they advis'd me, to go down, to see my Mother, in her low condition, which, I did; that after my stay there some Days, my Mother began to recover; she then begg'd me to stay with her; to take care of her; in the then helpless condition, she was in, which I thought myself in Duty bound to do; that I remaind in the said City until the 13th of May, 1780; that during my stay there was treated in the most egregious manner by the Tories & every other Friend to the British Government, on account of my steady attachment to the revolution; that my principles strongly induced me to render every Service in my power to the officers & soldiers of the United

States, by aiding & assisting many of them to effect their escape from their present Captivity; that I also was induc'd from Similar motives to Subscribe Liberally to the Support of our poor Distressed officers on Long Island & elsewhere that were in the hands of the British. I humbly beg leave to refer the Gentlemen, (under whose cognizance this may fall) to my worthy Good Neighbours, for my Character formerly & also to those officers to whom I rendered these Services.

[No. 3027.]

Mr. Taylor's Memorandum Condemning Tories in Tryon and Albany Counties, June, 1780.

Memorandum for his Excellency Gov. Clinton.

The Reverend ——— Stewart living near fort Hunter, an Enemy to the United States, was permitted to remain in Tryon County thro the Solicitations of the Mohawk Indians; his Conduct & Expressions has Rendered him Exceedingly obnoxious to the Whigs, of that county; the Removing him would be very agreeable to the friends of America in those parts. The permitting the families of persons who have Joined and are now with the Enemy, to Remain among us is displeasing to the Supporters & defenders of our Constitution; could they not be removed to their friends after being permitted to dispose of all their moveable Effects; no Commissioners of Sequestration: Lieutenant Drummond is still at Schenectady, his behaviour is not as it ought to be. Henry Vanschaack and others in his Situation it is hoped will soon be sent to New York; the Tories complain of Partiality, the whigs much dissatisfied.

[No. 3028.]

Colonel Van Schaick Reports the Disposition of His Levies.

Albany July 1st 1780.

Sir, I have the Honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellencies favor of the 29th ulto.

The order your Excellency mentions for the hundred Barrels of Beef or Pork on any Commissary to the Eastward, I have received from Brigadier General Clinton previous to his leaving Albany.

This order was immediately after receiving it sent to Mr. John Watson, of Hartford, a principle agent in the State of Conecticut, with a Requisition to Mr. Watson to make, or cause deligent inquiry to be made, and if the provisions above mentioned could be found, to forward them without delay, to the nearest place on the North River, giving at the same time notice thereof to me, and if the provisions cannot be had, Mr. Watson is to return the order to me. If the provisions are obtained or the Order returned, I shall in either case advise your Excellency of it immediately.

We had a few days ago a prospect of obtaining a supply of fresh Beef from Conecticut, but I find by a Letter Mr. Jacob Cuyler, received last night from that Quarter, that we shall be disappointed. There being at present three hundred of the Levies to the Westward, I have made the following disposition and Colonel Harper has posted them accordingly: Eighty at Schohary; forty at Johnstown; forty at Stone Arabia; forty at Fort Plank; fifty at Fort Herkemer; & fifty at Fort Daton.

I shall feel myself happy in giving all the advice and assistance in my power to Brigadier General Van Rensselaer, agree-

able to your Excellencies Requisition, being most respectfully,
Your Excellencies obedient servant

G. V. Schaick.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 3029.]

A Mutilated Manuscript Relating to Depredations on Long Island.

[]* 1st July 1781 (?) 1780 (?)

[]* Legislature of this state

[]* enclose their

[]* of my Letter to Gov'r

[]* relative to depredations

[]* under the sanction of

commissions issued by him. They are accompanied by affidavits which establish the facts complained of. I know not whether it is necessary to inform your Excellency, & Congress, that the inhabitants of that part of the Island which is exposed to these injuries are, for the most part firmly attached to the interest of America, and so respectable, that the enemy have seldom thought it prudent to irritate them by acts of power, tho' they are from their situation unhappily subject to their jurisdiction. The pointed resolutions which Congress have heretofore published on this subject, prove that they were acquainted with these circumstances, or what is more probable, & does them greater honor, that they were unwilling to risk the virtue of their Citizens, by indulging the spirit of avarice, & Cruelty, at the expence of humanity. If moral obligations can ever derive weight from political considerations, they would in the present instance be strongly enforced by the influence which

the good will of these people must have upon our intended military operations.

As it is supposed that a misconstruction of the ordinance relative to the capture & condemnation of prizes past in March last, will afford a pretence for the Continuance of these depredations, this state rely upon the justice of Congress for the revival of them, and such instructions to their marine & Courts of admiralty, as will most effectually prevent these Enormities in future. I have the honor to be &c.

I did myself the Honor of addressing a Letter to your Excellency the 1st Instant relative to Depredations committed on the Inhabitants of Long Island under Sanction of Commissions granted by the State of Connecticut. It was intended that the inclosed Copy of Commissions should have accompanied the []* transmitted on that Subject but it []* I have the Honor &c.

[No. 3030.]

Governor Clinton Informs General Van Rensselaer That He Must Surrender His Supervisorship.

Kingston July 2d 1780.

Dear Sir, As your late appointment will necessarily call you from Home, and as you are Supervisor of the District, I must recommend it to you to commit the Business of receiving the assessments and making out the Tax Lists to some trusty faithful Friend and after the Tax Lists are made out let them be sent to you for your Signature. If you cannot possibly attend to the both offices of Brigadier and Supervisor, so that you should be reduced to the necessity of resigning either the one or

*Manuscript torn.

the other, the latter must be relinquished. I had much rather and the Service of your Country requires that you should be employed as a *military Commander* than a *mere Clerk*. Yrs. &c.

G: Clinton.

Brig'r Genl. Van Rensselaer.

[No. 3031.]

Operations of the Enemy Near Crown Point.

Fort Edward, July 2d 1780.

Sir, This Moment received Express from Major Allen from the New Hampshire Grants a Copy of which I transmit you:

Pits Ford July 1st 1780

Sir, I received Intelligence by a Scout last Evening which came from Lake Champlain, that they saw two large Ships lying near Crown Point last Sunday at 12 o'Clock and two Tenders. The two large Vessels had about ten Batteaux to each of their Sterns. The next Day they saw one of the Ships and one Tender sail down towards St. Johns, the other fell down as far as Raymonds Mills there cast Anchor; Also a large mast Boat went to the Shore and landed a Number of Men and made Fires. I also received Intelligence by Lieut. Jacob Simmons that was taken at Caughnawaga, in Tryon County, the 20th of last May by Sir John's Party and deserted them at Schamblie Ten Days ago, who is well known at this Place. The General talk of the Enemy is that if they had stayed four Days longer the biggest part of the Country would have joined them. They also swore Revenge against a place called Stone Arabia.

Sir, it is my Opinion that this is the Sixth Day of their March towards them parts but this I am not certain of. I thought it

my Duty to inform you in Case you make any Discoveries of any Plan forming against the Grants I desire the Same of you. I shall conclude that Wisdom will direct you how to conduct. I am &c.

Ebenezer Allen, Major Commandant.

Sir, I send Lieut. Bewel of the Levies with this; desire he may receive the Kettles & forward them to this Place. Yours &c.

John Chipman.

Colo. Van Schaik.

N. B. I shall send a small Scout to Morrow morning through the Woods to Johns Town.

[No. 3032.]

Colonel Pawling's Return of Levies Under His Command.

Return of the Levies commanded by Lt. Colonel Albert Pawling and Stationed on the Frontiers of Ulster & Orange Counties. Wawarink July 3d 1780.

Officers commanding Companies	Commiss'd Officers					Staff					Non Commiss'd					Rank & File			Alterations since last return			
	Lt Colonel	Major	Captains	Lieutenants	Adjt.	qr. Master	Surgeon	Serje. Major	q. M. Serje.	Sergeants	Dr & Fifes	Present fit for duty	Sick present	Do absent	on Com'd	on Furlough	Total	Joined	Dead	Deserted		
Capt. Pawling	1	1	1	2	1	1	1				33	1	1	2		17	7	1	2			
Do Witt			1	3							68					59						
Westfall			1	2							51	2				56						
Total	1	1	3	7	1	1	1				152	3	1	2		162	7	1	2			
											Marbletown											
											1	4	7	4	7	1	1	1	2			
											Wawarink											
											1	7	1	11	11							
											Governor's Guard											
											1	11										

one since apprehended & Confined in Poghkeepsie Goal

Lieut. Connor Acting as Qr. Master
 Lieut. Dubois Do as Adjutant
 Sergeant Montanye Governor's Guard
 1 Serjt. on Com'd Smith's Clove
 1 Fifer confined Poghkeepsie Goal.

A PAWLING, Lt. Col.

[No. 3033.]

Mr. Connolly Named as a Recruiting Officer.

Pokeepsie 3d July 1780.

D'r Sir, The Legislature are very desierous of complying with the Requisitions of his Excellency the Genl. for compleating the Continental Batallions raised under the Direction of this State have made Provisions for this Purpose by offering a very considerable Bounty to incourage the Levies for the Defence of the Frontiers & those to be raised for reinforcing the Army to enlist in those Batallions. It will be, therefore, necessary to have a recruiting Officer or Officers from your Brigade employed in this Business as soon as possible and as I [know of none who is better quallified than]* Mr. Conolly for this Service as well on account of his activity & Industry as his genl. acquaintance with the Officers & Men stationed on the Frontiers of Orange & Ulster, I wish him to be one, & the sooner he can be dispatched on this Service the better. On his Way to Ulster County he must call on me & receive his Instructions. The Time is short in which the Recruits are to be obtained & therefore it ought not to be delayed. I am &c.

G. C.

Brig'r Genl. Clinton.

[No. 3034.]

New York Makes Provision for a Bounty for the Levies.

Poughkeepsie, July 3d 1780.

Dear Sir, I was honor'd with the Receipt of your Excellency's Letter of the 27th ulto. on the foll'g Day, & I immediately communicated it to the Legislature & I am happy in being enabled

*Clause in brackets marked through in original.

to inform you that altho' within two Days of their annual Dissolution, they readily entered on the Business recommended to them & passed a law for completing their cont'l Battalions.* I dare not venture to pronounce that it will be as effectual as could be wished & the importance of the object appears to require: but considering the short time left them to deliberate on the subject, the embarrassments occasioned by their having previously adopted a different measure & the mutilated & distressed Circumstances of the state, I believe it to be the best that could be devised. I have it not in my Power to transmit a Copy of the law by this Conveyance to your Excellency, not having as yet rec'd it from the Sect'y. It in substance, enables me to engage the pres't Levies to serve in the cont'l Battalions by a generous Bounty in money or wheat at their option, which I am authorized to offer them, & occasionally to detach from the militia to supply their Places so as to keep the quota of 1575 always compleat. It was unfortunate, that the law was published & the Orders issued for raising the Levies according to the first Idea the Legislature formed of the Committee's Requisition, before your Excell'ys Letter came to hand, otherwise Drafts might have been made to fill up the Battallions in the first Instance which wou'd have reduced the Business to greater certainty & been attended with much less Expence. I am, how-

*The act referred to by Governor Clinton is known as Chapter 78 of the Laws of the Third Session and provides:

That it shall be lawful for any private belonging to the levies raised in pursuance of the act for raising levies for the defence of the frontiers, passed the 11th day of March last, or to the levies raised in pursuance of the act for raising levies to reinforce the army of the United States, passed the twenty-fourth day of June instant, to enlist in either of the Continental battalions raised under the direction of this State, and to serve until the fifteenth day of December next, and that the privates so enlisting shall exclusive of their pay and rations be entitled to the following bounties in wheat, that is to say, such private who shall so enlist on or before the first day of August next ten bushels of wheat—and each private who shall so enlist after the first day of August at the rate of one bushel and an half of wheat—for each month he shall serve in the said battalions.

ever, not without Hopes that I shall be able to accomplish it with a Degree of punctuality on the present Plan.

I wish to observe to your Excellency, that the Levies to reinforce the army, are to serve & not to be relieved until the expiration of the time mentioned in the Committee's Letter, and I have reason to believe that they will be principally composed of men who have occasionally been in service during the war, and as I am not confined to the militia for officers, I shall have it in my Power to engage gentlemen to command them who are acquainted with Service, as many of the supernumerary & other Officers of the Army who have resigned, have generously tendered their Services on this Important occasion. This, I flatter myself, will make them much more respectable & servicable than an equal force detached from the militia in the ordinary way.

The accounts I continue to receive from the northw'd & westw'd, (Copies of which & of a speech of the Oneida Chiefs* are inclosed) strongly indicate the Intentions of the Enemy to invest Fort Schuyler, & desolate the County of Tryon; this with the apprehensions which the Oneida Nation express on this Occasion, has induced me to believe it woud be inexpedient to relieve its present Garrison by the Levies on the Frontier. I have, therefore, thought it most adviscable to delay giving Orders for this Purpose until I shall receive your Excellency's further Directions on the Subject. For besides the exposed situation in which it woud leave the Frontier Settlements I am perswaded exchanging the present Garrison with whom these friendly Indians have contracted an acquaintance & have confidence in, for strange Troops of a less martial appearance, woud have an exceeding bad effect on their Minds, & perhaps might

*See page 882.

lead them to relinquish their attachment to us & join the Enemy. I inclose a Copy of the Letter which (on Receipt of your Excellency's on the Subject of throwing into Fort Schuyler a more ample Supply of Provision) I wrote to Colo. Van Schaick together with his answer thereto. Your Excellency may rest assured that I shall be ready to afford him any assistance which may be requested to facilitate that Business. I have the Honor to be &c.

Geo. Clinton.

P. S. I forgot to mention that your Excellency's circular Letter of 30th June was rec'd & laid before the Legislature a few minutes before they rose. I have also to thank your Excellency for your Confid'l Letter of the 27th.

His Excellency Genl. Washington.

[No. 3035.]

Governor Clinton Grants a Few Exemptions for Morgan Lewis.

Albany 3d July 1780.

I wrote your Excellency a few Days since for the Exemption you was so obliging as to promise me when last at this Place. Having detained some of the People who were ordered with the Militia and being apprehensive a Court Martial will soon be called which may punish them I shall take it as a Favor your Excellency would send it me by next Post. I am, with greatest Respect, your Excellency's most hum. Serv't

Mor'n Lewis.

His Excellency George Clinton Esqr.

Pokeepsie 6th July 1780.

Dear Sir, I have this Moment received your Letter of the 3d Instant (referring to a former which has not reached me) & re-

questing an Exemption for some Persons detained in your Service, who you are apprehensive may be punished by Court Martial. I recollect the Conversation I had with you on this Subject when at Albany, & that I promised you an Exemption for two or three Persons while actually employed by you, which I should have certainly granted had I been furnished with their names as I conceive it an Indulgence due to a public Officer especially when it is to enable him to reside with Conveniency at the Place most suitable to the public Business. The Want of the Names has prevented your receiv'g the exemptions. You will please to shew this Letter to Genl. Ten Broeck & Colo. Cuyler who will readily excuse from Tryal or remit the Punishment of the Persons that you have detained. I am sorry that the critical Situation of the Frontiers arising from a Deficiency in the Levies, as well as the Spirit of Jealousy that too generally prevails among the Militia, will prevent in future this trifling Indulgence which I should be happy for your sake in continuing. I am

[G. C.]

[To Colonel Morgan Lewis.]

 [No. 3036.]

Planning to Wean the Oneidas from the American Cause.

Fort Schuyler, July 3d 1780.

D'r Sir, In my last you have been informed that the Oneidas have been surrounded by a party of the Enemy, consisting of about 180 Indians & Tories, 70 of the latter commanded by one McDonald, since which the Sachems have waited on me from them and various others. I have been able to gain this farther Intelligence—That Schohary was confesedly their object when they left Niagara, but meeting a party of the Kanasaragas at

Cayuga, were induced to come by Oneida; the Kanasaragas told them, (as they have said) that their whole Village had gone off with some of the Oneidas, bound for Niagara & they were sure many more of the Oneidas might be prevailed upon to quit their Country & join the King if proper Measures were taken with them; Accordingly, upon their arrival made use of many Specious Arguments with the Sachems, to draw off the whole Oneida Nation. The head Warriors utterly rejected their Request of an Interview, & refused any of them Admittance into their Fort; indeed, the Main Body of the Enemy did not come within two Miles of the Fort. Three of the Sachems were several young warriors were two Days with them in Conneil, the Result of which appears to be this; That the Oneidas will not give a decisive Answer to their Proposals of removing, till Schonendo & Peter who are confined at Niagara shall be delivered up to them, to which the Senecas & Mohawks replied, that upon their Return to Niagara they should be immediately released from their Confinement & brought down. That they might expect to see them within twenty two or three Days, eight of which are now relapsed. That a very large Body would accompany them from Niagara when they hoped the Six Nations would be once more united. Another Chief of them declared farther in his Speech & told the Grashopper, an Oneida Chief, that they should not taste of their Corn Fields this year unless they complied with their Proposals.

The Oneidas were charged by the Senecas of being too officious, & making Report to the Americans of every Tract they discover and forbid the practice in future. The Oneidas replied to this, that the Woods were theirs, and had a Right to range where they pleased and that Necessity obliged their young Men to hunt and

fish for Subsistance; that it was very hard indeed. that if while their young Men were pursuing a Deer or catching a Fish, they must be charged with hunting after the Tracts of them.

The Oneidas requested the Head Warrior of the Party to return without committing any Hostilities on the Mohawks River. They accordingly promised to return, & were followed by several of the Oneidas, when they set out as far as Kanaghsaraga to watch their motion; some supposed they would turn their Course from Onondaga & take the Rout to Schobary. Eight of the Oneidas & one Tuscorora are gone off with them.

Two Indians of the Enemy's party related to some of the Oneidas, were admitted into the Fort & told some of their intimate Friends that Schonondo & Peter would never be released & delivered up to them but on this Condition that the Oneidas will join the Six Nations. The Plan laid at Niagara to bring this about was as follows: upon Return of this Party, a large Body of both English & Indians are to come down, the English to lay Seige to Fort Schuyler, the Indians in the mean Time to surround Oneida, send in one of the Prisoners, retain the other till they should comply; others again said, that their coming down within Twenty Days depended upon the Success of a certain Indian Chief, meet with in procuring some of the western Tribes of Indians, whither he was gone & also Joseph Brandt into Canada upon the Same Arrand. These accounts are generally believed among the Oneidas. You will, therefore, judge of them as you please. I would have inclosed you the Returns &c. but I conceive it improper at present. I must only request, that a timely supply of Provisions may be sent off without Delay, also Rum & a few Camp Kettls which we want much. Tobacco is an article our Men are in great want of. I must, therefore, give it

as my earnest Request, that the Paymaster be ordered to purchase a Hogshead and forward it up without Delay; this is desired by all the Men, let the Price be what it will.

As you are well acquainted with the Strength of the Garrison at present, I must, therefore, request if your Regt. is not to be relieved, that a Supply of Men may be sent me from the Levies on the River or such other as you may think proper. Those essential Points I think ought not to be delayed.

I received yours of the 26th June last, by the Indian & you may depend every Precausion shall be observed by, Sir, your humble Serv't

Cor's Van Dyck.*

Collo. Van Schaick.

[No. 3037.]

The Exposed Frontier.

Saraghtoga 3d July 1780.

Sir, Your Excellency's orders arived in our District yesterday and this day had a general meeting upon the same: we are chearfully willing to conform with your Excellency's orders for the raising the men as an additional support to our frontier guards and highly approve of the measure as a wise and judicious appointment. But, in the mean time, it is with the greatest concern that we find in the arrangement to be made by the officers to be appointed by your Excellency, are to relieve the Levies now raised and stationed on our Frontiers as a guard, there are many alarming circumstances which excites us to write this Letter to your Excellency, to have the men already raised to be continued among us; and from your Excellency's

*See page 921.

knowledge of our situation at this critical conjuncture with our frontier Country, has induced us to rest the matter on your Excellency's candour, not doubting but your Excellency will grant us every relief which you can, consistent with the general and publick good; the bearer will be able to give your Excellency a more perfect Information in this matter. We are, Sir, with respect, your Excellency's most obedient Humble Servents.

To his Excellency, George Clinton, Esqr.

John McCrea, Colonel; Jacobus Van Schoonhoven, Colo.; Cornelius Van Veghten, Lut. Col.; Ezekiel Taylor, Mjr.; Daniel Dickinson, majr; Jacob Van Schayck, maj.; Peter Van Wort, Cpt.; John Thompson, Capt.; Peiter Winne, Capt.; Hezekiah Dunham, Capt.; Samll. Shelden, Leut.; Samll. Bacon, Stephen Benedict, Lient.; Peter Lansingh, Corelyus T. Vanden Brgh, Har: Schuyler, Eben'r Marvin, Elisha Andrus, Adjt.; Job Wright, Reuben Wright, Ensign; James Eldredge, Increase Child, Ephraim Woodworth, Capt. Mishael Beadle, Q. M. Holtom Dunham, Elias Palmer.

[No. 3038.]

Colonel Snyder's Return of Levies Raised in His Regiment to Reinforce the Army.

Sir, Inclosed the Return of all the male Inhabitants from 16th years of age & upwards within the Destrict of my Regiment as Returned to me by the Commanding officers of the Severall Companys of militia the 3rd July 1780 To witt.

Cpts.	N. of men	The N. at 10 in a Class.	for the southern Service	for the frontiers Service
By Capt. P Newkerk, Light horse	40			
By Capt. Van Buren, Grenadier	48			
By Capt. Bogardus,	119			
By Capt. Jan L. Dewitt,	100			
By Capt. Hend. Schoonmaker	100			
By Capt. Philip Swart	136			
By Capt. Mattys Dederiek	91			
By Capt. Simon Lafeyer	110			
By Lieut. Petrus Backer	50			
	814	81	54	25

A True Copy of the originall.

By your most obedient humbl. Serv't, July 10th 1780.

Joh's Snyder, Colo.

To his Excellency George Clinton.

[No. 3039.]

Shirts and Overalls for the Troops.

Poughkeepsie July 4th 1780.

Sir, The Legislature have proposed that Shirts and Linnen Overalls should be collected throughout the State for the use of the Battalions of this State. The Persons appointed to receive the Shirts and Overalls in the several Counties are: John N. Bleecker, Esq. of the City of Albany, Peter S. Deygert, Esq. of Palatine District, in the County of Tryon, Gilbert Livingston, Esq. of Poughkeepsie in the County of Dutchess, Jonathan Hasbrouck, Esq. of New Burgh in the County of Ulster, Elishu Marvin, Esq. of Cornwall Precinct in Orange County and Joseph Benedict, Esq. of Cortlandt's Manor in the County of West Chester. The Shirts & Overalls are to be collected by the 17th Inst. and delivered by these gentlemen to you or your order. You will, therefore, send to them for the Shirts and Overalls they may have collected and distribute them to the Troops. If

you send about the 23d Inst. I imagine you will be in Season.
I am &c.

G: Clinton.

Capt. Black.

[No. 3040.]

Isaac Stoutenburgh Accepts an Appointment.

Red Hook July 4th 1780.

Dear Sir, I beg leave to inform your Excellency that I have determined to accept of an appointment under Coll. Hay, to whome your Excellency was pleased to offer me a recommendation, I shall so dispose of my affairs, as to be ready to act, as soon as my service is required; if I might have a district near the place of my residence, it would be very agreeable; if it is necessary that I should wait upon your Excellency, on account of this business, I would beg the favour to be inform'd, and I shall attend for that purpose immediately, I am, with the most perfect Esteem and Regard, Your Excellencies Very Hum'è Serv't

Isaac Stoutenburgh.

His Excellency George Clinton, Esqr.

[No. 3041.]

Colonel Klock Requests the Governor to Withdraw No Men from the Frontier Service.

Fort Paris, July 5th 1780.

Sir, I had the Honour of your Excellency's order for drafting the fifteenth man out of this Brigade. I have issued my orders for that Purpose and had a meeting with the Field officers of the different Regiments, at which meeting I was requested to represent to your Excellency the present State of this County; both officers and others are exceeding uneasy that men should be

taken from hence when greater numbers are necessary for our Defence. The Enemy are daily discovered amongst us, and we are much afraid that unless we have Relief we shall not be able to defend the remaining Settlements.

Brigadier Genl. Van Rensselaer has wrote (I understand) to your Excellency on the same Subject or I should enlarge. I have in Behalf of these People to request your Excellency not to order any Troops to be taken from hence, and to have your farther orders on the occasion. I am, with the greatest Respect your Excellency most Obt. Serv't

Jacob Klock.

Gov. Clinton.

[No. 3042.]

General Van Rensselaer Reports the Situation in His Vicinity.

Stone Arabia, Fort Paris, 5th July 1780.

My dear Sir, I received yours of the twenty ninth of June, inclosing me, my Commission as Brigadier General, for which I must beg your acceptance of my best thanks; and, agreeable to your Order, sett out immediately for Albany, and accordingly to your Request conferrd with General Ten Broeck and Colo. Van Schaick, when I found the Intelligence transmitted to your Excellency was at least premature. I, however, came directly up to this place and have ordered one sixth of Colo. Klock's Regiment to join some Rangers at this Post, an equal number from Colo. Fisher's Regt. of Militia to join the Levies at Johnstown, and shall order the same Proportion from the other Regiments to rendezvous at the Post nearest their Settlements; they are to remain fourteen days at the end of which time they will be relieved by an equal number, and so in Rotation untill further Orders.

I have appointed Persons to make enquiry what quantity of

flower and Beef can be collected, but much fear it will be farr short of your Expectation. Could your Excellency see the distressed situation of this County, you'd sincerely feel for its distressed Inhabitants, as every little fort is crouded with block Houses, replete with Inhabitants, and their anxiety is much encreased through fear that some of the Troops will be called from this County, which has already too few by the accounts of the field officers, all the Returns being not yet collected. I am, D^r Gov^r, your most Obedient and verry Humble Serv^t

Robt. Vⁿ Rensselaer.

P. S. An Indian went down last night to Albany from Fort Schuyler, who (I am just informed) says the Enemy are coming in force against that garrison. Some of the Enemy's Indians burnt the Empty Houses at Snyder's Bush yesterday; it is about Eighteen miles distant from this place; they are frequently discovered in small parties.

Gov^r George Clinton.

[No. 3043.]

Return of Levies from Dutchess Militia.

Colo. Hopkins' Ridgment Deficient 15	Colo. Vanderburgh Ridgment Deficient 0	Colo. Brikerhoff's Ridgment Deficient 1	Colo. Frazer's Ridgment Deficient 0	Colo. Luddentons' Ridgment Deficient 2	Colo. Field's Ridgment Deficient 8	On Command	Sick in haspittle at Albany	Deserted	Present	Total •	Listed in Continantl Army
19	16	27	25	17	14	11	1	6	95	116	

Faort Hekerman 5 July 1780.

An exact Return of the Lavies of Dutches County, Releivd by Capt. Williams and Leiut. Dyckman.

[No. 3044.]

Prowling Indians in the Mohawk Valley.

Albany, 1 O'Clock P. M. 6th July 1780.

Sir, I send your Excellency the inclosed Copies by order of General Ten Broeck. The Indian who brought the Letter from Collo. Van Dyck* informs that the Party some Time since heard of at Onida are gone back. The following Information the Genl. received this Morning about 11 O'Clock from Genl. Rensselaer. On Monday a party of Indians supposed to be eight, fired on some People howing Corn in Snyders Bush without doing any Damage & I imagine the Same Party burnt the Empty Houses there yesterday. I am your Excellency's most Obedient Serv't

His Excellency George Clinton.

Jer'h Lansing, M. B.

[No. 3045.]

Return of Levies to Be Raised in Colonel Allison's Regiment to Reinforce the Army.

A return of the Number of Levies Now to be Raised in Colonel Allison's Regiment to Reinforce the Army of the United States.

Companies	
Capt. David Swazy	8
Capt. Samuel Jones	4
Capt. John Jackson	7
Capt. John Little	5
Capt. Moses Kortright	3
Capt. Samuel Cole	4
Total	31

6 July 1780.

Moses Hetfield, Major.

*See pages 905 and 912.

[No. 3046.]

Regarding Mrs. Booram and Mrs. Rapelye.

Cateat July 6, 1780.

Sir, This day being the time agreed upon to Determin the legallity of Mrs. Booram & Rapelje's coming from the Enemy & Passing through the Country without authority, & Immediatily against the laws of this state. I according to agreement waited on the Justice who to my Disapointment gave me to understand the Govenor had ordered them away. The motive I had in taking up the women was this: if they were Enemys, which I did not know but they were, as I had only Mr. Sicker's word to the Contrary, a gentleman of not the most Immaculate Character amongst us, or his word might have had more weight, as I have mentioned, if they were Enemys to treat them as such, if Friends, to let the world see we acted Impartially with all Rancks. It was not with a view of Interest I have this far acted, as I mentioned several times, if they were friends & Could prove it, I was very sorry they did not come out in a legal manner, as all Friends ought to do, and if their things were Condemned, they as friends should have them again as a Present.

Nevertheless, since the Govenor has been Pleased to order them away, must be Content; its hard to kick against the Pricks. I am, with Respect, Your Humbl. Serv't

Geo. Leaycraft.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 3047.]

Colonel Van Alstine's Letter, With the Amount of the Levies to Be Raised in His Regiment.

Kinderhook July 6th 1780.

Sir, I rec'd your favour of the 29th ulto. inclosing an act of the Legislature passed the last Session for Raising Levies to re-

inforce the army of the United States, and have accordingly Classed my Regiment; and agreeable to General orders have now sent the Number of my men, being 31, which I trust will Rendezvous at the place appointed as near the time limited as possibly may be. I have the honor to be your Excellency's most Obed't & most H'ble Serv't

Ab'm J. Van Alstine, Colo.

[To G. C.]

[No. 3048.]

Return of Militia from General Ten Broeck's Brigade in Actual Service.

A Return of Militia Men on the Ground (and Deserted) of several Regiments of Genl. Ten Brook's Brigade. Schoharie 7th July 1780.

Of whose Regiment	Capt.	1 Lieut.	2 Lieut.	Ensign	Serjts.	Corpl.	Drums & Flies	Pri- vates	Total
Colo. Cuyler's				1	2			9	12
do Robt. Van Renselaer's					2	2		4	12
do Van Bergen's				1				2	3
do Schnyler's			1					3	4
do Whiting's								2	2
do Renselaer's								1	1
			1	2	4	2		17	26

Deserted the 6th Inst. 2 Men of Schnyler's Regt.

Do 7 Do 6 Do of Robt. Renselaer Regt.

Adam Dietz, Lieut.

[No. 6452.]*

Muste Roll of Captain Nathaniel Norton's Company, 4th Battalion, New York Forces, for May and June, 1780.
 Muster Roll of Capt. Nath'l Norton's Company 4th N. York Regiment in the Service of the United States
 Commanded By Lieut. Colo. Command't Fredrick Wiessenfels for the Months of May & June 1780.

{ April 23rd 1778. Nath'l Norton Capt.

{ November 9th 1777. R. V. Hoevenburgh Lieut. Transf'd to Capt. Titus Compy 1 June

{ November 9th 1777. Joseph Frilick Lieut. Joind June 1st.

{ June 1st 1779. John Barr, Ensign sick at Nine Pardoners Joind June 1.

{ June 1st 1779. Steph'n Griffing Ensign Transf'd to the Major Compy June 1.

Appoin'd	Serjeants	Term	Remarks	App'd	Corporels	Term	Remarks
	John Ellis George Norton Rich'd Daviss	War Do Do			James Munday Jno. Landrum Asc West	War Do Do	
	Drummer				Fifer		
	Jno. V. North	Do			Jno. M. Charlsworth	Do	Sick at Albany
	Privalls				Privalls		
	Corpechous Amberman Andrew Badley Ebert B. Smith Jno. Cannaday Edward Curwine	Do Do Do Do Do			Jno. M. Dole Jno. Miller Henry Parker Henry Stringham Mich'l Shaw	Do Do Do Do Do	on Duty F. Mungumery Tending the Sick at Albany Sick at Albany on Duty at New Winsler
	Abr'm Cole Mich'l Decker Jesse Gardhier Jno. Jay	Do Do Do Do			Moses Snaderker Jno. Weaver Eleazer Youmans Sepl'n Benjamin	Do Do Do Do	Transf'd to Capt. Walker Company June 1st 1780. Died May 9th 1780.

Camp West Point July 5th 1780 Muster'd then Capt. Norton's Company as Specified in the above Roll.
 Nich's Fish Inspector.

* From Vol. XXIV, Clinton MSS.

PROOF OF THE EFFECTIVES.

	Capt.	Lieut.	Ens'n	Serjts.	Corpls	Drummer	Efftr	Privts
Present	1	1	1	3	3	1	1	12
Absent								1
Total	1	1	1	3	3	1	1	16

We do Swear that the Within Muster Roll is a true State of the Company without Fraud to the United States or any Individual according to the Best of our Knowledge.

Nathl Norton Capt.
Joseph Frilick Lieut.

Sworn Before me this 6th Day of July 1780,
James Clinton B. Genl.

*Muster Roll of Captain James Stewart's Company, 5th New York Regiment for the Months of May and June, 1780. [No. 6433,]**

Muster Roll of Capt James Stewart Company in the 5th New York Battalion in the Service of the United States of America lately Commanded by Colo. Lewis Dubois for the months of May and June 1780.

Novem'r 21st 1776. Capt. James Stewart.
 Commissioned Octob'r 1st 1777. Lieut. Samuel Dodge Prisoner of war.
 Novem'r 21st 1776. Ensign Francis Hammer Rank 2d Lieut.

No.	Appointed	Serjeants	Term	Remarks	No.	Appointed	Corporals	Term	Remarks
1		John West			1		James Keeler		
2		James Mitchell			2		John Albright		
		Drum					Fire		
1	Enlisted	David Davis		on Com'd Smith's clove		Enlisted	Privates		
		Privates					Jacob Lavance		
		James Ammerman					Robt. Marshall		
		Walter Brooker					John Reed		
		Concord Cunitte					Thomas Russell		
		Dani. Carrigan			16		Robt. Robertson		
5		Thos. Fitzgerald		on Com'd Fort Montgom'y			Thomas Smalley		
		James Gillissey					Joseph Smith		
		Geo. Trauborok		sick Smith's clove			Isaac Samson		
		James Humphrey		with Gov'r Clinton			John Stump		
		Abrah'm Klipp		under Guard			Geo. Springsteed		on Com'd Little Britain
11		John Lovett			22		Samuel Hopper		

Camp West Point July 5th 1780 then mustered Captain James Stewart Company as Specified in the above Roll.

Nich's Fish Inspector.

* From Vol. XXIV, Clinton MSS.

PROOF OF EFFECTIVES.

	Capt.	Lieut.	Ensign	Serjeants	Corporals	Drum	File	Privates
Present	1	1	1	2	2	1		15
Absent								4
Total	1	1	1	2	2	1		22

I do Swear that the within Muster Roll is a true state of the Company without fraud to the United States or to any Individual According to my best Knowledge.

James Stewart Capt.

Sworn before me this 7th day of July 1780.

James Clinton B. Genl.

[No. 3049.]

*Colonel Hathorn's Letter, With the Number of Levies to Be Raised
from His Regiment.*

Warwick 7th July, 1780.

Sir, Forty two men are the number to be raised in my Regiment, pursuant, to the late Act for reinforcing the army Passed the 24th June last; and have ordered them to be delivered in the Regiment the 15th Instant, at which time I hope an officer may be ready to receive them. I am unhappy, in not having it in my power, to strictly conform to the General Order; the time being so far elapsed from the Issuing the Order untill it reach'd my hands, I could not possibly consistant with the Law have the men classed and delivered, one day sooner. I hope they will be at the place of Rendezvous by the 16th. I have the honour to Subscribe myself with great Esteem your Exce^ys most Obt. Servant

John Hathorn, Col.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 3050.]

Relative to the Assessment for Provisions.

July 7th, 1780.

Sir, The Committee of Congress at Head Quarters, by Letter of the second Ult^{mo}, required of this state 71675 lb. of Beef and 140 Barrels of Flour per month for five months to be delivered at Albany. An assessment was immediately ordered throughout the State, and you will find that this assessment is mentioned in supply act and that you are to collect these Provisions, and have them transported to Albany by applying to the assessors in any of the Precincts. You may obtain a Copy of the Circular Letter from the Legislature and from that you will discover the Train of the Business.

Among the Multiplicity of affairs which must now engage your attention, I thought possibly this might not have occurred to you, and as the Legislature have engaged that the Provisions should be punctually delivered at Albany, I have taken the Liberty of suggesting this matter to you. If in any District, the assessors have neglected to make the assessment, you may inform them from me, that unless they proceed immediately to assess, I will grant you a warrant to make an indiscriminate Impress of the whole Quantity required from the District. Robert Livingston, Esq. of the Manor of Livingston has generously offered to furnish a Quantity of the Flour; the Legislature accepted of his offer and I imagine the Flour is ready to be delivered to your order. I am &c.

G. Clinton.

Colo. Udny Hay.

[No. 3051.]

Governor Clinton Notifies Petitioners from Claverack That the Legislature Has Anticipated Their Grievances.

To His Excellency George Clinton, Esq. Governor and Commander in Chief of the State of New York Major General of all the Militia and Admiral of the Navy of the Same.

The Humble petition of the subjects of the said State Inhabitants of Claverack District Sheweth, That while wee Lament the distresses to which this Cruel and wicked war supported against us by the Tyrant of Great Britton; wee see the friends of America Deminish and our Demestic Enemies Rejoice; wee Consive it a greivence to bee tride by Marciel Law; wee Consivee that when wee are at home wee are under Civil government or of Right ought to bee; wee Conceive it a greivence to bee Cauld from home on Commands when no pay is alowed, our provision Detraecht without pay; or Less then halfe price; wee no money to support our

selves, nor many of the poorer sort; any thing perhaps to support a large family of small and helpless Children when absent; wee most humbly petition your Excellency to lay before the Hon. Council and other the Legislator of this state the following petition:

That wee bee Allowd at Every Caul to Raise our Coto of Men by Hiring, in which Case the farmers may bee at their business;

That in Case of Misbehavior with the Melitia at home they bee tride by Civil Law;

That in Case some Method Could bee devisd to Make god the pay of the soldier thare would always bee a sufficiency of Men without the disagreeable Necessety of Courtmarliels;

That if provisions for the army bee wanting, wee bee allowed (such as have it) to pay our Rates in such produce as is Necessary, in the Room of Deteaching our produce and wee Declare that we are Redy now and at all times with our Lives and fortunes to support the war and to turne out on all generil alarmes to assist and to Repel all the Hostile invasions of Britton and all other the Enemies of our state.

Jonathon Dean, Moses Kellogg Junior, Considor King, Gaius Dean, David Griffeth, Abraham Reed, Ritchel Reed, Phillip Trimon, Asca Gould, David Hilyard, Georg Cadmond, Ebenezer Potter, Sammuell Andrus, John Castor, James Walling, Isrel Lee, John Scudor, William Havens, Jonathon Devenpoort, Abraham Andrus, Junior, Isaack Doty, Ashbell Colvor, Berior King, Asel Trynor, Seth Scudor, Bengomon Doty, Alanson Saxton, Joseph Andrus, John Nackels, Sammuell Curtis, Speary Andrus, Ebenezer King, Rawnel Andrus, Nathon Willeoks, John Cadmon, Ezeray Tilor, Nathaniel Kellogg, Daniel Adams, Samll. Palmer, Joel Lee, Daniel Mack, Josiah Williams, Thomas Andrews, Jun'r, Elicakim Nickeals, Wyatt Wolcot, Jehiel Hunley, Daniel Pears, Jona. Wise.

July 7th 1780.

Gent'n, Your Request to me to lay your Petition before the Legislature came too late as they had already adjourned; however if it is still your Desire, the Petition shall be communicated to them at their next meeting, in which Case you will signify your wishes to me by another Letter. The Reason of my intimating to you that I shall not lay the Petition before the Legislature unless upon a renewal of your Request from you, is because it appears to me that they have by several Laws passed at their last meeting already provided for the several matters in which you pray Relief. The Troops intended for the Defence of the Frontiers, and those intended to reinforce the Continental army, and both together if compleated, to the requisite number ought to amount to 2400 men, are to be raised in the manner you request, and all the male Inhabitants of sixteen years and upwards, are to be classed and to pay in proportion to their Estates and seems to be the Intention of the Legislature in every Instance where it is practicable, to pursue this mode of raising men, by which means the militia will be exempted, almost from all Service except in Cases of sudden Invasion or Insurrection. For those Cases it is impossible in the way you suggest without maintaining a standing army nearly equal to the Number of Militia. This would be ruinous. Indeed upon those Occasions the Call is general and it is never complained of as a Burthen.

With respect to making good the pay to the Soldiers, the Legislature have directed the militia to be paid agreeable to the Continental Establishment, and Congress have assured us that as soon as they possibly can, they will fix the Pay of the army upon a permanent and generous Footing, so that I am in hopes we shall not long hear any Complaints upon that Score.

You must also have observed that whenever the Occasion would admit, the Legislature have ordered Provisions to be taken by assessment instead of Impress. Our whole Quota of Supplies required by Congress are to be furnished in this manner. You must, however, be sensible, that when a Country is invaded, that Cases will arise which will not wait for the Intervention of assessors or any Process for determining the Proportion to be given by each Person. The Provision or whatever else may be wanted must be taken wherever it can be found. We must submit to this rather than submit to the Enemy.

There is one part of your Petition with which I believe the Legislature consistent with Peace and Safety of the Country cannot comply, namely a repeal of the Laws subjecting the militia to martial Law, unless when actually in Service in the Field. Tho' I am not personally acquainted with you, yet if my Information is just, you are all Friends to our Cause as whigs; therefore, let me caution you against the secret arts of the Tories. They have long been endeavoring to effect a Relaxation in our military Discipline, not only because they wish to be free from Duty themselves, but they are sensible that the Strength and Power of the Country consists in the militia, and it is as Evident as the Light that this Strength and Power will diminish with a Relaxation of Discipline. I trust it will be needless to mention to you, all the arguments that might be adduced to shew the Propriety of our present System. The very Question you state, was agitated in the Legislature at the last winter meeting, when it was determined still to persevere and let our militia Law retain its Rigor and Spirit, tho' many of the members were Privates themselves.

Let me entreat you gentlemen seriously, to reflect upon this part of your Petition. I am confident if you saw it in all its Consequences as I do, that instead of praying for an alteration in the Law you would rather wish to add to its Rigor. Remember, that without martial law, you never can compel the Tories to turn out and fight in the Defence of the Country & they are the principal Objects of the Law. I am &c.

G: Clinton.

To Messrs. Jona. Dean, Moses Kellog & others Claverack District.

*Nathaniel Cortier sworn and say he was at the House where the Court masher was hild and he Heard Capt. John Salberry say if they ment to Carri on their plan they must stand to it and Be Resolute.

[No. 3052.]

Governor Clinton Answers Colonel Whiting's Letter Regarding Levies.

Kings District July 7th 1780.

Sir, Colo. Troop will wait on your Excellency with these his being absent on a journey into New England; (on my Return home) is the ocaation of his not waiting on you sooner—however, hope it is not so late but that he may be able to comply with your orders, and cant admit of a doubt but he will execute them to your liking, and to the honour of his country; but as you will have oppertunity with the gentleman, shall leave the matter to your wise determination. Agreeable to orders, I immediately (on my Return home) attended to the business of proocuring the

*This on separate slip under No. 3051; no endorsement.

three months men, which was put in train by Colo. Waterman; the number of men in my Regiment is fifty five, which are class'd & ordered to be return'd, according to law by the 13th inst. when I shall order them forthwith to Fishkill, unless you order otherwise. As their will be so large a number out of this district, it will be agreable to them to go under their own officers, woud Purpose, therefore, that Lev't. Moses Jones be capt; Mr. Samuel Rexford first Lev't; whose commision I bro't up with me & ——— be appointed; I have sent Ens'n Deen's commission, that it may be Rectified, shou'd be put to Capt. Kellogg company; think it my duty to inform you that their is a set of Prophetick people among us, whose principles inflames them to a surprising degree of intusiasm, and many zealous whigs are taken in with them and all immediately lay down their arms; and as it is not possable for me to pick them out, but beg to refer you to the bearer for Particulars, will only add that I think that toryism is much at the bottom of some of their first leaders, and something must spedily be done, for I think them dangerous to the state. Am, Sir, with Esteem, your Excellency's Obedient Hum'e Serv't

W. B. Whiting.

N. B. Sir, Their is too certificates besides the inclosed, dated the 10 & 12 of November 1778, all which have been sold to the amount of fifty Pounds a peace or more at that day sign'd by John Duguid, Qr. Mr. and as the possessors now plead for a Discharge, and use this as an argument, that the certificates where Purchased long before the Law pass'd, to oblige them to lodge them with the Coll. of the Regiment, I beg to know what I shall do in the matter.

Governor Clinton Esq.

Poughkeepsie, July 9th 1780.

Dear Sir, I have rec'd your Letter of the 7th by Colo. Troop. If the Levies to reinforce the army raised in your Regt. appear at the place of genl. Rendezvous at Fishkill on the twenty fifth Instant at farthest it will answer the Purpose. I give them this further Time, that the Inhabit's may wth less difficulty procure their men & that they may have time to provide & equip themselves more completely for the Campaign. I have no objection to the list of officers deliv'd me by Colo. Troop & they will accordingly march the Levies to Fishkill, but I cannot promise that on the genl. arrangem't, they will have the whole of the men raised in your Regt. under their particular command; tis probable it may be the case with respect to many of them. The Certificate is altogether inadmissable, as by Law they are not assignable &, therefore, the pres't Possessor cannot possibly avail himself of any Exemption in consequence of it; great abuses have been committed in this way. As to the Enthusiasts aluded to in your Letter, I have no authority to deal with them; but as the Powers of the Commiss'rs for Conspiracies are revived I conceive it comes properly within their line & therefore, would advise you to send the names of the Principals with the Evidence ag't them to the Board of Commiss'rs at Albany. I return the Commission of Lieut. Dean, as it cannot be altered until the meet'g of the Council of Appointment. He ought, however, in the meantime to act in the Company for which he was intended. I am &c.

G: Clinton.

Colo. Whiting.

[No. 3053.]

*Governor Clinton Unable to Understand Why Colonel Jansen
Ordered Two Classes of His Regiment to the Frontier.*

Newmarlborough July ye 7th 1780.

Dear Sir, I am very sorry to trouble your Excellency with the Subject of this Letter, and Neither should I, were it not I daily see the ill Consequence the present orders is Like to Effect, (viz) Disobediante to all good government; the sending out 2 classes to the frontiers from the 4 River Companys, is a great Burthen, Especially as they are orderd to Carry their own provision, ammunition &c. and I am informd the whole is Combining to gether to stand out & not go. I am orderd out next week my self, & to Raise the 3 month men, beg shirts and overhauls &c. and I Expect not a man will go with me. I should think if possible it would be best to stop this method; if your Excellency finds you can Consistant with the publick safety, please to signify it by a Line. From, Sir, your Excellys most obed^t Hum. Ser^t

Stephen Case.

His Excellency George Clinton.

 Poukeepsie 8th July 1780.

D^r Sir, I have this Moment received yours of yesterday. I do not know what Intelligence may have induced Colo. Jansen to order two Classes of his Regiment to the Frontiers. I woud not venture, therefore, to countermand his orders, but I have wrote to him on the Subject & I have no doubt his orders will be recalled, unless the safety of the Country absolutely requires that they shoud be carried into Execution, in which Case they must be obeyed & every Combination to the Contrary suppressed

& the authors severely punished. I have also directed him to institute a Regimental Court Martial for the Trial of Delinquents in the late alarm, & to confine & Report such as from a Disobedient & Refractory Spirit are the Objects of Genl. Court Martial. I am, Sir, with great Regard, Sir, your most obed^t Capt. Case. [G. C.]

[No. 3054.]

Colonel Newkirk's Return of Levies Raised by His Regiment.

Walkill 8th July 1780.

Dear Governor, I have Classed the Regiment as directed by Law, and finds there is 63 Men to [be] raised in this Regiment, which if possible I will deliver at Fishkill the 15th July, and will expect an Officer to receive them.

Should be glad that there was a General Court Martial appointed for the Trial of those Officer and soldiers who refused Marching to the Fort last alarm. Am Dear Governor with the utmost esteem your most Humble serv^t

Jacob Newkirk,

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 3055.]

Colonel Field Forwards a Return of the Levies of His Regiment.

Sir, Agreeable to an act of the Legislature I have caused my Regim^t to be properly class'd which said several Classes together produces Forty seven men, a Return of which in obedience to your Excellency's orders to me by Genl. Swartwout, I hereby send, and as I have given positive orders to the several Captains to meet me at Fredricksburgh on Tuesday next, the 11th Inst.

with the levies, have to request your Excellency will please to order a person to meet me there to receive them. I have the Honour to be, Yo'r Excellency's Most Obedient & most H'ble Serv't

John Field.

South East Precinct 8th July 1780.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

July 8th 1780.

Sir, I have rec'd your Letter of this Day. If the Levies of your Regt. are at Fishkill by the 25th Inst. they will be in season. This will give the Classes more Leizure to hire their men & the Levies a longer time to provide themselves with whatever may be necessary for the Campaign. An officer will be appointed to attend at Fredricksburgh on the 22d Instant to receive them. I wish the Deficiency in your Regt. of the last Levies to be completed. I am Sir &c.

G: Clinton.

Coll. Field.

[No. 3056.]

NEW YORK'S COOPERATION WITH CONGRESS.

Governor Clinton Portrays the State's Discouraging Condition to Mr. Huntington.

July 8th 1780.

Sir, I am now to acknowledge the Receipt of your Excellency's Letter of the 22d Ultimo covering several acts of Congress. These Papers came to hand while at Fish Kill with the militia, and immediately upon my Return to Kingston were communicated to the Legislature. The Result of their Deliberations was a Report of a Committee, confirmed by both Houses, and which I

do myself the Honor to transmit to you. This Report, tho' sufficiently explicit to those who were previously acquainted with the Train of the Business, yet appeared to require some Explanation to give Congress a clear and comprehensive View of the matter; I therefore furnished them with a Summary of all the Proceedings of this State relative to the several acts of Congress referred to in the act of the 17th Ulmo. This Summary with the several acts and Letters referred to in it and which are also transmitted will afford Congress all the necessary Information with respect to the measures that have been pursued by this state in consequence of their Resolves.

From the acts of the Legislature for raising monies, it will appear that they always, in the first Instance, intended to have complied with the Requisitions of Congress and punctually to have paid the Sums required, and it is not to be numbered amongst the least of our misfortunes that we were unable to fulfil these Intentions, but were obliged by subsequent appropriations to apply the monies to different purposes. Hence I suppose our arrears are considerable. How far tho', we are to be considered as Defaulters, we submit to the Justice and Generosity of Congress. The Enemy in the entire Possession of our Capital and four Counties; our Southern, western & northern Frontiers exposed and ravaged, our Subjects on the Grants in a State of Revolt, the Staple of the Country restricted from Exportation and limited in Price, for near three years past, solely with a view to retain it for the army, all purchases & impresses for the Continent within the State for many months past upon Credit and still unpaid, the Expence of our civil administration when we are thus reduced to the mere Epitome of a State, equal as if we were in the full Possession of our whole Ter-

ritory, in short if our peculiar Situation, the Difficulties we have had, and still have to contend with, our former Exertions and present Efforts (when we shall call into the Field for three months at least one fourth Part of our enrolled militia) are considered, I trust we shall stand acquitted and that none of the public Embarrassments will be imputed to us. I have the Honor to be &c.

G: Clinton.

His Excellency Saml. Huntington, Esqr. Presid't of Congress.

A Summary of the Proceedings of the Executive and Legislative authorities of the State of New York in relation to certain acts of Congress referred to in the act of Congress of the 17th June 1780.

Acts of Congress.

March 9th 1779. Act of Congress recommending to the States to complet their respective Quotas of 80 Battalions.

Proceedings &c.

The Legislature by an act for raising 1000 men for the Defence of the Frontiers passed the 19th of March 1779 & to continue in Service until the 1st of Jan'y then next authorized the Governor to draft such number of these Levies as he should think proper into the Continental Battalions raised under the Direction of this State, in consequence of which the Governor issued an Order for drafting 500 of these Levies into the Continental Battalions and as far as Returns have [been] made to him it appears the 169 were actually drafted into the Battalions. Such of these Levies as were not drafted into the Battalions were agreeable to a Plan concerted between General Sullivan & the Governor, & approved by the Com'r in Chief to remain in their respective Corps as arranged by the State and either to scour

the Frontiers or join the army under the Command of Genl. Sullivan in the Expedition into the Indian Country and the Corps under the Command of Lieut^t Colo. Pawling would have joined Gen. Sullivan's army had he not been impeded in his march by heavy Rains which prevented his arrival at Onachquago in Season, Genl. Clinton having left that Place three days before, so that Colo. Pawling was obliged to return. This was reported to the Commander in Chief who shortly after ordered Colo. Pawling with his Corps to the High Lands where they remained til they were dismissed by the command'g officer of the department—The rest of the Levies being under the Command of Lieut. Colo. Van Rensselaer remained on the Frontiers.

May 21st 1779. Act of Congress calling for a Tax of forty five millions in addition to what was called for the 2d Jan'y to be paid into the Continental Treasury by the 1st Jan'y then next.

This act was intended to have been laid before the Legislature at their meeting in June 1779 but they were prevented from assembling by the Operations on the part of the Enemy which called the whole Force of the State into the Field for several weeks and during the whole Summer the State was so exposed to Invasion that it was impossible to convene the Legislature until Octo. when by act of the 23d they authorized the Treasurer to pay into the Continental Treasury the Sum of 800,000, (the Quota of 15,000,000 required by the act of Congress of the 2d of Jan'y 1779) forthwith and the Sum of 2,400,000 (the Quota of 45,000,000 required by this act of Congress) to be paid in before the 1st day of Jan'y then next. This act of the Legislature is herewith transmitted to Congress together with the other printed Laws of the Fall Sessions 1779.

Sep. 13th 1779 & Feb'y 9th 1780. Recommendations to the States to make up the Deficiencies in their Battalions & to bring into the Field the respective Quotas of 35,211 men.

These acts of Congress were laid before the Legislature in Feb'y last but no measures were taken in consequence thereof as from the Returns it appeared that there were from this State in the Service of the United States (exclusive of Warner's Regiment Sheldon's Dragoons and the regimented artificers) a considerable number more than its Quota.

Octo. 6th & 7 1779. The several States to pay into the Continental Treasury their Quotas of 15,000,000 dls. monthly,—and March 18th 1780, act of Congress for calling in the Bills now in circulation and emitting new Bills.

The Legislature have made Provision as appears from the printed act passed the 6th of March last for raising 5,000,000 and herewith transmitted to Congress together with the other printed act of the winter Sessions 1780 and also from the act "approving of the s'd act of Congress of the 18th of March &c.," heretofore transmitted by the Governor on the 21st of June last to His Excellency the President of Congress and also from the Supplementary act, to the last mentioned act of the Legislature, by the same Conveyance with this transmitted to the Delegates from this State who are directed to lay the same before Congress.

May 19th 1780. The States called upon to pay into the Continental Treasury 10,000,000 Dollars in 30 days.

Immediately upon the Receipt of this act of Congress it was communicated to the Legislature who instantly directed a Subscription to be opened in every Town and District in the State and employed Persons of Repute and Influence to conduct it, yet notwithstanding the Zeal & assiduity of these gentlemen and the advantageous Terms of the Loan a Sum adequate to the

Requisition of Congress could not be obtained. As the Subscription Rolls were not all returned the Treasurer could not furnish the Governor with the exact amount of the monies but supposed from Information it would be about 350,000 dls. Congress may therefore immediately draw for 300,000. As soon as the amount can be known with certainty it will be transmitted to Congress when they may draw for the Residue. It must be intimated that part of these monies consist in the Emissions of this State and consequently can only be expended here. The Circular Letter from the Legislature (No. 1) upon this Occasion is herewith transmitted to Congress.

May 20th 1780. The States to forward their Quotas of Troops to join the Continental.

In addition to the Information contained in the Letter of the 27th Ult'mo from the Governor to the President of Congress there is herewith transmitted to Congress a Copy of a Letter from Genl. Washington to the Governor of the 27th Ult'mo (No. 2), an Extract from the Governor's answer thereto, of the 3d Inst. (No. 3), a Copy of the act of the Legislature for completing the Continental Battalions of this State (No. 4) and a Copy of the Circular Letter from the Legislature to every Town and District in the State to procure Shirts & overalls for the Troops (No. 5).

[No. 3057.]

Lieutenant Colonel Paine Detained to Receive the Levies of Ten Brock's Brigade.

Poughkeepsie July 8th 1780.

Sir, I have received Major Lansing's Letter (written by your order) of the 6th Instant with its enclosures. I have taken every

measure which the Legislature have put in my Power, to place the frontier Settlements in a state of Safety, which I wou'd fain hope, if my orders are carried into execution will be the case.

It is of the utmost importance that the Levies to reinforce the army should be at the Place of Rendezvous by the 25th Inst. I have, therefore, dispatched Lieut. Colo. Paine to receive those of your Brigade & forw'd them on to Fishkill; to whom I must request, that, for this purpose you will give every necessary assistance.

I think it proper to observe to you, Sir, that if the whole of the Levies directed for this Service are compleatly raised in every part of the State, they will not exceed the number required to reinforce the army & that any Deficiencies in the supplies either of men or Provisions will be attended with the most serious Consequences.

I have proposed a Plan which you will find on perusing Lieut. Colo. Paine's Instructions, for drawing out an additional force for the frontier Service, which as it is the only practicable one in my Power, I wish you to encourage & promote it. I am &c.

G: Clinton.

Brig'r Genl, Ten Broeck.

P. S. I shall have occasion for a number of Officers for the Levies now raising, and as the taking such out of the militia as have seen actual Service will be very injurious to the militia I wish therefore to get as many of them from among the supernumerary officers & others who have been in Service as possible. You'll be pleased, therefore, to endeavor to furnish me with a List of such gentlemen as you may think will answer the Purpose remarking the Rank they heretofore sustained & send it to me without Delay.

[No. 3058.]

GOVERNOR CLINTON CONCERNED FOR THE FRONTIER.

Abraham Yates Declares He Found as Great a Difference Between the Inhabitants of Albany as Between a Surgeon and a Shad.

Albany, 8th July 1780.

D'Sir, I set out from the Strand at Esopas Monday morning half after eight and arrivd at Albany before seven the same day. I have been since to see Genl. Ten Broeck who is recovering he (as well as call the men) hold out their fears upon that part of your genl. orders of 21 June last "the men furnish'd by the Frontier Settlements will be detach'd for the Defence of the Frontiers and will relieve the levies now stationd at the different posts for that Purpose" not only that the Inhabitants will understand that the Troops now their: but that the very men they have raised (upon enormous Bounties) for scouters, may at some future time be calld away.

I mention this not to advise, for I generally take such things by the wrong end, but to apprise you of it. Mr. Vroman intimated also that if he could be sure of staying at Schoharre he would wish to have the Command of one of the Battalions.

I hear also that the militia towards fort Edward are every now and then stinted for Provisions; three times they have been on their march down at Schoharre; the Idea that Mr. Wills held out to you at Esopas, was now held out to me by Major Henry Van Vechten (he has been in the Quartermaster's Branch) that the Provisions to the Troops at Schohary are issued in the most Preposterous way—first they are (or are to be) carried to Schenectady and then a month's Provisions to be issued and carried back to Schoharre; he ads that if it was no other Detriment if

you issue to a souldier for 30 Days at one time it will not be sufficient for 20.

On my return I find as much difference between the Inhabitants, and when I left them to join the Legislature; as there is between a sturgeon and a shad, or in other words, as forty is to one. I hear of no Immediate alarm on the Frontier. Genl. Renselaer is in Tryon County. I am in great hopes he will do good. I am of opinion that the enemy as soon as the Fleet is come, lay ready to attack us on the western & northern Frontiers. My compliments to Mrs. Clinton. I am your very Humble S^t

Ab'm Yates, Jun.

Gov. Clinton.

Poughkeepsie July 13th 1780.

D^r Sir, I have rec'd your favor of the 8th & am happy to hear that your Passage home was so short & hope you found your domestic concerns equal to your wishes. I cannot conceive upon what Principles that part of my Genl. Orders alluded to in your Letter could have alarmed Genl. Ten Broeck & Colo. Vroman; it is certainly calculated for the ease of the frontier Regts. and the safety of the settlem'ts; it is not intended to diminish the force now on the frontiers, neither is there a word in the orders that will warr't the Idea. By the Law for raising Levies to reinforce the army every fifteenth man is to be raised for that Purpose; that number, therefore, must be applied to that Service, & you must be sensible that I have no authority to make any other Disposition of them than that which the Law directs. But as the Troops now upon the frontiers were many of them raised in the Interior parts of the state, & of course

not so well acquainted with the woods & the rang'g service as the frontier militia, I conceived that it would be for the ease of the Inhabit's & promote the Service, to make the arrangem't mentioned in my orders, viz't leaving the men raised under the pres't Law from the frontier Regts. for the defence of the frontier settlem'ts, with which they are not only acquainted but immediately interested, & withdraw'g from thence an equal number of those, now in that Service, to reinforce the army; which as they are equally under the Direction of the Commander in Chief, I conceived myself authorized to do. I do assure, Sir, that if the pres't Levies are compleatly raised they will not exceed the number required by Congress to reinforce the army & this being the Case I should hold myself criminal in diminishing their number should other calls for their services be ever so urg't and pressing. I am to execute & not to legislate & it would be a great happiness if all your Serv'ts were to observe this Rule.

Colo. Vroman's Services in his own Regt. consid'g its situation, cannot be dispensed with; the present field officers on the frontiers are not to be removed. Before I left Kingston I wrote fully to Colo. Harper on the Subject of Provision; the Difficulties complained of are more imaginary than real; each Regt. has a qr. mr. & qr. mr. sergt.; if they draw a m'ths Provision it may be deliv'd out to the men daily if they please. I remember that last winter there was an issuing Commiss'y a Clerk & a Salesman (so called) all at the expence of the public, & tak'g advantage of every enrolment, to deliver Provisions to a sergeant's guard at Scholarie. I do not wish to expose the Troops on the frontiers Service to the least Inconveniency, but it is our Duty to retrench all unnecessary Expences & prevent abuses.

I am anxiously concerned for the Safety of the Frontiers & I sincerely desire to give them the most ample Protection in my Power. You will recollect that besides the pres't Levies to reinforce the army the cont'l Batt'ns of this state are to be completed; this will take 800 men (equal to one half of the pres't number to be raised) & is to be effected by inlistm'ts from the Levies & the Deficiencies occasioned in the Levies thereby are to be supplied by Drafts from the militia. In order, therefore, to augm't the pres't force on the frontiers by my Instructions to Lieut. Colo. Paine who is sent to collect the Levies from Genl. Ten Broeck's Brigade &c. which I have directed him to communicate to Genls. Ten Broeck & Rensselaer, I have proposed (if the pres't Levies to reinforce the army are completely raised & delivered) that if the frontier Regts. of Albany Tryon & Charlotte Counties will agree in the first Instance to raise their proportion of the men, that will be necessary for compleating the continental Battalions, those men shall be constantly stationed on their Frontiers & their Regts. be exempted from Drafts or Detachm'ts, under the late Law, for filling up the cont'l Battalions and I should be willing (upon these Terms) the pres't Levies to reinforce the army being compleat, to extend such Exemption to Genl. Ten Broeck's whole Brigade. This would give an additional force to the frontier Service of at least 400 men, without imposing any thing more than an equal share of the common burthen on the Brigade & other Regts. concerned. A similar proposal has been made to Cantine & Snyder's Regt. of Ulster County; they cheerfully came into the measure & classed their men, instead of 15, into Classes of 10 men, & I have the pleasure to inform you, that after delivering their full quota to reinforce the army, they have a compleat ranging Com-

pany on their Frontier, which I trust will put them in a Degree of Security, & I would hope that your People would not be backw'd in a measure so evidently calculated for their ease & security. If they should, they must expect to be subject to the above Detachm'ts or drafts; for the Levies must be kept compleat at all Events.

From the manner in which you have stated the great difference you found (on your arrival) in your Inhabitants, an Esopus man would conclude they were growing worse; I however, am willing to suppose the contrary, & shall be peculiarly happy if their future Conduct convinces me that my Interpretation is the true one. Mrs. Clinton after waiting till the alarm below & the great hurry of Business was over, very decently presented me w'th a fine Girl. She joins me in our best Respects, your lady & the family, and I remain, d'r Sr, yours &c.

G: Clinton.

Ab'm Yates Jun'r Esq.

[No. 3059.]

Brant Reported as Having Gove to Canada.

Poughkeepsie July 8th 1780.

Sir, I am informed by Capt. Case that two Classes of your Regt. (at least that Part of it lying on the River) are ordered on the frontiers. I may not be apprised of the Intelligence which induced the issuing of those orders. I am possessed of no late Information that renders it necessary. I would not, however, venture to countermand your orders until I had first wrote to you on the Subject; but considering how distressing it is at this Time to call out the militia at this season, & the delay & difficulty it will occasion, in rais'g the Levies to reinforce the

army, I think it ought not to be done unless in Cases of absolute necessity. Brandt, who by the former acc'ts was said to be com'g this way, is (by accounts rec'd this morn'g & which I believe may be relied on) gone to Canada to solicit assistance.

I inclose you Copy of Genl. Orders for a Genl. Court martial to try the Delinquents of the militia on the late alarm; also a Copy for Colo. Newkerk, which I must request you to forward to him as soon as possible. I am, &c.

Geo: Clinton.

Colo. Johnson.

[No. 3060.]

A List of Persons "Gone to the Enemy."

Hanover July 8th 1780.

Dr Sir, I wrote a few lines by the bearer, William Mickels, to Mr. Harpur desireing him to send me a Copy of the act for the removal of Families of persons who have join'd the Enemy, Mr. Provost has obtain'd a Flagg I am told & that John Henry is going down by water; the women that were at Kingston with Watson with the addition of Mrs. Hardenbrook & Mrs. Forbes have been with me several times in order to know when and how they may go, but for want of the act I am not able to inform them, and whether these that have no husbands may be permitted to go, they are desireous of going with Henry by water, as they have permits from General Patison. I told the bearer that it might be necessary to obtain leave from you & the Commanding Officer in the Highlands as the Flagg had been proenred for other purposes. I am, in hast your friend & humble Ser't

Art'r Parks.

To His Excel. George Clinton.

Persons gone to the Enemy, John Hardenbrook Yery Taase, Charles Ackerman, James Hadden, & Jno. Harris; beside the above Mrs. Forbes, & Hannah Bud. I wish they were all gone from among us.

(Granted.)

[No. 3061.]

A Request for Dr. Punderson's Exchange.

Fairfield July 8th 1780.

Sir, The bearer, Doct'r Cyrus Punderson, is now a prisoner of war & is very desirous to be exchange'd as soon as your Excellency can attend to it. He is a brother in law of mine & a very inoffensive man, & I believe has never been any ways active against this country since the war. His family is in but an ill situation to live when he is absent. His wife, almost the whole of her time, unable to take the necessary care of a number of Children without him. If your Excellency can permit Doct'r Punderson's exchange to take place soon, or to return home upon parole it will be relieving his family & be gratefully acknowledged by your Excellency's most Obedt. Humble Servant

Heathcote Muirson.

His Exclty. Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 3062.]

Two Thousand Dollars Each Advanced to Two Recruiting Officers.

Poukeepsie 9th July 1780.

Dear Sir, Capt. Norton of the 4th, & Lieut. Colbreath of the 3d New York Batallion of Continental Troops, are ordered on Recruiting Services among the Levies stationed on the Fron-

tiers of Albany Tryon & Charlotte Counties. They are utterly destitute of Cash even to bear their own private Expence, and without a little Money it will be impossible [for] them to proceed on this important [mission] with the least probability of success. I have, therefore, to request that you will advance them each two thousand Dollars; if it is not in the Treasury borrow it on my private account. I expect Quaker assessm'ts in daily, out of which I shall be able to replace it. I am, D'r Sir, with great Regard your most Obed't Serv't G. C.
To Gerard Bancker, Esqr. Treasurer of the State of New York.

D'r Sir, Capt. Norton of the 4th & Lieut. Colbreath of the 3d New York Regts. are ordered on Recruiting service among the Levies stationed on the Frontiers of Albany Tryon & Charlotte Counties & I have to request that you will afford them every necessary aid & assistance. They may have occasion each of them for a public Horse & make Drafts for small Quantities of Liquor which I begg may not [be] refused them. I am &c.
[G. C.]
Colo. Van Schaick.

[No. 3063.]

Improved Measures for Feeding the Troops.

Pokeepsie 10th July 1780.

Dear Sir, I have communicated to a Committee of the Legislature appointed to devise Means for facilitating Supplies for the Army the Embarassments & Difficulties you experience in the Execution of your Office and I have every Reason to believe Measures will be adopted to render your future Endeavours to

feed the Army more effectual. It is informally mentioned to me that it is in Contemplation to advise the Person administering the Government, to issue Warrants of Impress for seizing all the Fatt Cattle in your County above what shall be sufficient for the use of its Inhabitants; and, presuming this may be the Case, I have to request that you will by every means in your Power endeavour to discover the Number & Owners of such as are intended for sale (as these will be the Objects of the Impress) & report the same to me with the least possible Delay. I am sensible of the Difficulties that will attend such Discovery, but by employing secret Agents to treat with such as you suspect have Cattle for Sale, under an Idea of dealing in Specie you may promote the Business & on this Occassion it will be justifiable. You will readily perceive that Secrecy & adress will be essentially necessary. The Pay & Expences of the Persons employed for this Service are to be charged with your other Contingencies. I am &c. [G. C.]

[To Capt. Townsend.]

[No. 3064.]

The Enemy Unwilling to Exchange Prisoners.

Westchester County 10th July 1780.

Sir, The Letters your Excellency dispatched to the several Officers of the Levies in Westchester, I last evening received of Mr. Barclay, and the circuit I shall this day take, will afford me an opportunity of delivering some and safely conveying others of them. Capt. Sackett and his Company have lately distinguished themselves upon the Lines, in the retaking of about two hundred head of Cattle and Horses, which near two hundred of

the Enemy consisting of Horse and foot, had taken and were driving down; a Capt. Ebenezer Shield and one other of the Enemy formerly of Westchester, were killed, Sackett lost none.

It is with pain I acquaint your Excellency that above thirty of the most valuable militia of this County are now prisoners with the Enemy, and two of them have lately died in confinement, yet it is not in my power to relieve them as I have not a sufficient number of the Enemy; and the few under my direction have been a long while proposed in exchange, but the Enemy discover a backwardness, seemingly for the sake of murdering ours by inches; I shall give all possible attention to this business and endeavour to relieve our people from their captivity as speedily as shall be in my power. I am, respectfully, your Excellency's most obedient & very H^{ble} Serv^t

Philip Pell, Jun.

[To G. C.]

END OF VOLUME V.



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