





















Benj<sup>n</sup>. Tallmadge

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

1777-1795-1801-1804.

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VOLUME VI.

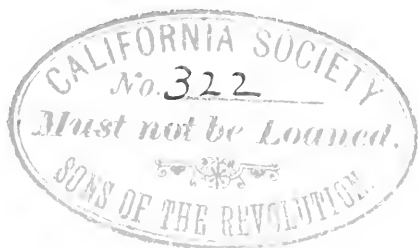
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## PREFACE TO VOLUME VI.

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Many incidents of interest, national and international, political and historical, are covered in the period embraced in the sixth printed volume of the Public Papers of George Clinton. July 10, 1780, the French fleet, with six thousand troops, arrived at Newport, Rhode Island, under the command of the Comte de Rochambeau and the Chevalier de Ternay. Under orders Rochambeau was subordinate to Washington as were the French troops to the American on all occasions of ceremony. Washington had contemplated a movement against the city of New York, expecting the French squadron to operate by the way of Sandy Hook, while the land forces struck simultaneously at the northern end of Manhattan from the direction of Morrisania and Kings Bridge. The arrival of the English Admiral, Graves, with a "formidable squadron" at New York, July 14, forced Washington to relinquish the plan, principally because of the superiority of the British fleet, and incidentally from the disinclination of de Ternay to expose his deep draught vessels to the narrow channel and the treacherous tides off Sandy Hook.

During the summer, Russia, Sweden and Denmark established the compact which has gone into history as the "Armed Neutrality." Holland had expressed a willingness to join, and it is not unlikely that the aggressions made upon that country, and the declaration of war, by England the following December, were instigated by this fact.

Arnold's treason developed during the latter part of this summer, 1780, and culminated in the early fall. Washington had assigned Arnold to the command of the left wing of the army under the conviction that his abilities better fitted him for active service in the field rather than for garrison duty. Arnold, however, had played successfully upon the sympathies of the commander-in-chief who had promised him, in the reprimand which the court-martial had directed, in consequence of Arnold's irregular conduct while in command at Philadelphia, to "furnish you as far as it may be in my power with opportunities of regaining the esteem of your country." The order for the command of the left wing was countermanded and on August third, Arnold, in the unfolding of his plan of infamy, took command of West Point.

The steady depreciation of the currency produced all sorts of complications and distress in and out of the army. The war had begun with scarcely any funds. Congress had no power to lay direct taxes. Paper money had been issued and for a time was currently rated at par. But, as subsequent emissions were floated, and as the States undertook to circulate unlimited currency of their own, the country was soon flooded with "Continental bills". The natural depreciation occurred with universal derangement in prices of all character. Congress resorted to the unwise expedient of making paper money legal tender. Instead of simplifying the condition of affairs, Congress entangled itself, its representatives, the army and the people generally, in a bewildering mesh which threatened ruination and destruction to the general fabric.

The depreciation in the summer of 1780 had fallen so low that the compensation of a major general was inadequate to hire

an express rider; that of a colonel to purchase oats for his horse, or that of a captain a pair of ordinary shoes; four months' pay of a private soldier would not buy a single bushel of wheat for the support of his family. It is not, therefore, surprising that discontent raged throughout the army and that mutiny actually broke loose. A committee of three members of Congress, General Schuyler, John Matthews and Nathaniel Peabody, had paid a visit to the Commander in chief, found the condition of affairs not at all exaggerated and returning, reported "that the Army was unpaid for five months; that it seldom had more than six days provisions in advance, and was on several occasions, for several successive days, without meat; that the army was destitute of forage; that the medical department had neither tea, chocolate, wine or spirituous liquors of any kind; that every department of the army was without money and had not even the shadow of credit left; that the patience of the soldiers, borne down by the pressure of complicated sufferings, was on the point of being exhausted." Nor was the opportunity for mischief lost upon the enemy. It was shown most conclusively that British emissaries had been at work among the two Connecticut regiments that mutinied in May, 1780—regiments that were only brought back to duty through the exertions of their officers and the moral suasion of a brigade of Pennsylvania troops. Washington admits that this mutiny gave him more concern than anything that had happened during the war, because he had no means of meeting the demands of the troops, except with Continental currency, which "is evidently impracticable from the immense quantity it would require to pay them as much as would make up the depreciation." The revolt of the Pennsylvania line was even more serious and

alarming. The mutineers were commanded by a sergeant named Williams, who had deserted from the British army. They had several grievances—many soldiers were detained in service beyond their enlistment; the arrearages of pay with the ruinous depreciation had not been made up; they were suffering every privation for food, money and clothing.

The revolt was general among all the Pennsylvania regiments. At a given signal nearly all the non-commissioned officers and privates, paraded under arms, avowing their determination of marching to Philadelphia, demanding redress from Congress or of quitting the service. An effort to quell the mutiny resulted in the death of Captain Billing, the wounding of several other officers and of a number of the rebels. General Wayne, who was held in high estimation by the troops, was not only repudiated, but upon cocking his pistol and threatening the most conspicuous with chastisement, found a bayonet at his breast. How the mutineers marched from Morristown to Middlebrook, thence to Princeton, where they submitted a list of their grievances to General Wayne; how Congress appointed a Committee, who together with the Governor of Pennsylvania and members of the executive Council left Philadelphia to treat with them; how Sir Henry Clinton assembled a large body of English troops to march at a moment's warning, his objective being West Point, at the same time despatching three emissaries with tempting offers to the insurgents; how Generals St. Clair, Lafayette and Lieutenant Colonel Laurens were ordered to leave Princeton; how the mutineers seized Sir Henry Clinton's emissaries and held them for a time and then turned them over to General Wayne to whom Clinton's proposals had been transmitted; how they eventually accepted the government's proposals and



marched to Trenton, where the mutiny ended, will be told in detail at the appropriate place in this volume.

The result of this outbreak might well create in the breast of the Commander in chief the most serious misgivings and apprehension. Chagrined by the generous concessions granted the mutineers by Congress, dismayed at this critical juncture by the practical dissolution of the military organizations of a state so influential as Pennsylvania, he resorted to no half way measures, when, three weeks later, a part of the Jersey brigade undertook to imitate the example of the Keystone revolters. The crisis was met with a resolute hand. General Robert Howe, who commanded the disaffected troops, was ordered to make no terms with them so long as they defied constituted authority, but to seize a few of the ringleaders and execute them on the spot. These orders were sternly obeyed and the mutiny came to an end.

From the time of the Conway cabal, two parties established influence known in Congress—those who were willing to bestow unlimited power upon the Commander in chief and those who favored the restriction of that power. Even Washington failed to escape the suspicion and the jealousy of men occupying high, responsible and patriotic places. He had disinterestedly recommended “that a plan” should “be devised by which everything relating to the army could be conducted on a general principle under the direction of Congress.” When it was proposed to send a Committee of three Members of Congress to confer with Washington in order to effect necessary reforms and changes in the army, objection was made on the floor by certain members to increase the power already lodged in the hands of the Commander in chief for the reasons “that his influence was already

too great; that even his virtues afforded motives for alarm; that the enthusiasm of the army, joined to the dictatorship already confided to him, put Congress and the United States at his mercy; that it was not expedient to expose a man of highest virtue to such temptation." Congress, guarding its own prerogatives with jealous care or careful jealousy, had created a cumbersome and heterogeneous contrivance, which was operated through committees and boards consisting of several members. Through mis-directed suspicion and distrust, one man power had never received recognition or encouragement from Congress. For years the unwieldy system had prevailed against the judgment and in spite of the opposition of the more liberal and progressive sentiment of the country in and out of Congress. But now, the reform wave came along and with it departed the committees and the boards, before a Secretary for Foreign Affairs, a Secretary of War, a Secretary of Marine and a Superintendent of Finance. Scarcely, however, had the new experiment been tried, when the Articles of Federation were ratified, February 1781. This wonderful and marrowless expedient fully justified the expectations of its opponents and proved hopelessly disappointing to its advocates and framers. In a short time it was repudiated by those who favored a centralized form of government and eventually discredited by the state rights representatives. It was an impotent makeshift, "a rope of sand," as Washington graphically described it. Its miserable life ended in less than a decade. Under the natural development of the American people, its substitution by a stronger, more cohesive and more intelligent instrument was but a matter of time and in 1787 the Federal Constitution rode over it and bowled it into oblivion.

The reorganization of the army had been ordered late in the fall of 1780—a much needed reform that had given the Commander in chief no less perturbation than uneasiness. Regiments were reduced by necessity and officers were dropped for incompetency. Washington estimated the fighting force of the enemy between eighteen and twenty thousand men. He placed his own army at eighteen thousand and calculated that twenty-two thousand men were necessary for even a defensive plan. Washington suggested that Congress should undertake the reduction of the old and the incorporation of the new regiments rather than leave the work to the States, because of his apprehension of the “great confusion and discontent” that should be produced. He had shown—and the evidence in support of his contention is voluminous and convincing in the following pages—that the system of raising regiments was complicated, demoralizing and productive of mutiny; that it was aggravated by the bankrupt condition of government, by the incapacity of staff officers, and by the mercenary practice of the farmer who discriminated in the sale of provisions against the depreciated paper money offered by our people in favor of the coin offered by the enemy. Though on the point of sheer bankruptcy the country was steadily called upon to face the great expense involved in paying and feeding two sets of troops, “the discharged men going home and the Levies coming in.” Discipline had to all intents and purposes, disappeared from the militia and levy regiments. Food had been wasted by the short term evanescent troops and arms and equipment had been unnecessarily destroyed by the frequent changes.

No state suffered from these disheartening conditions more than New York. The militia were under constant orders to

rush to the frontiers which lay open, exposed and helpless to the marauder—from the Pennsylvania line near Tioga to New Hampshire—two sides of a large triangle. Alarms were frequent; daring and destructive raids of Tories and Indians kept the nerves of the inhabitants drawn to the highest tension; crops that were not burned were neglected, or ruined from blight; animals of the field were carried away or killed; houses and barns were set ablaze with the torch and the whole region presented a sorrowful picture of desolation and terror. The militia were utterly unable to cope with the serpent like tactics employed. Washington had urged a permanent army—on the grounds of economy, greater mobility and discipline, and also for the wholesome effect that might be produced upon the enemy, our allies and Europe. He was unwilling to weaken his plans, even now by forwarding “line” regiments for the protection of New York’s frontiers, in spite of the importuning of Governor Clinton and of General James Clinton who had been assigned to the command at Albany. It was not alone the distress among the inhabitants which followed in the wake of the currency depreciation that James Clinton was called upon to provide against; nor the wild and uncontrollable panic, periodically produced by a restless and merciless enemy that disturbed him most, but the danger of being compelled to abandon the territory under his jurisdiction, and the threatened dissolution of his command, thoroughly loyal and patriotic, through mutiny and starvation. No better illustration of the apparent hopelessness of the American cause in the winter of 1781—the darkest hour before the dawn—can be found than the series of letters which this loyal, patient, uncomplaining soldier, wrote to his brother, the governor, concerning the destitution of his command.

For military operations, the South became the fighting arena, with the usual concatenation of American reverses. Washington, for the best of military reasons, still nursed his plan to make a grand demonstration against New York city. He held his army well in hand: to act offensively, should Sir Henry Clinton detach a portion of his command to reinforce Cornwallis, and, defensively, should the English advance to attack him. In all his career, Washington's ability and qualities as a great commander were never, to his own generation, more brilliantly displayed; and for posterity, more solidly established than during this period. He proved his perfect knowledge of the first rule of war and gave a double exemplification of his knowledge of its application, first in circumventing the designs of the enemy, and second in completely deceiving the enemy in the execution of his own designs.

The operations along our frontier, the incursions of the enemy at different points and periods, the suffering, discontent and privations of the troops, the anxiety endured, the patience exercised and the patriotism shown by the men, high in authority, military and civil, are set forth voluminously in the following pages, with a fidelity, perspicuity and credibility, invaluable alike to the novelist and to the historian.

HUGH HASTINGS,

*State Historian.*

State Capitol, Albany, N. Y., July 22, 1902.



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## CALENDAR FOR THE YEAR 1780.

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## ILLUSTRATIONS.

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No. 1—MAJOR BENJAMIN TALLMADGE—Frontispiece.

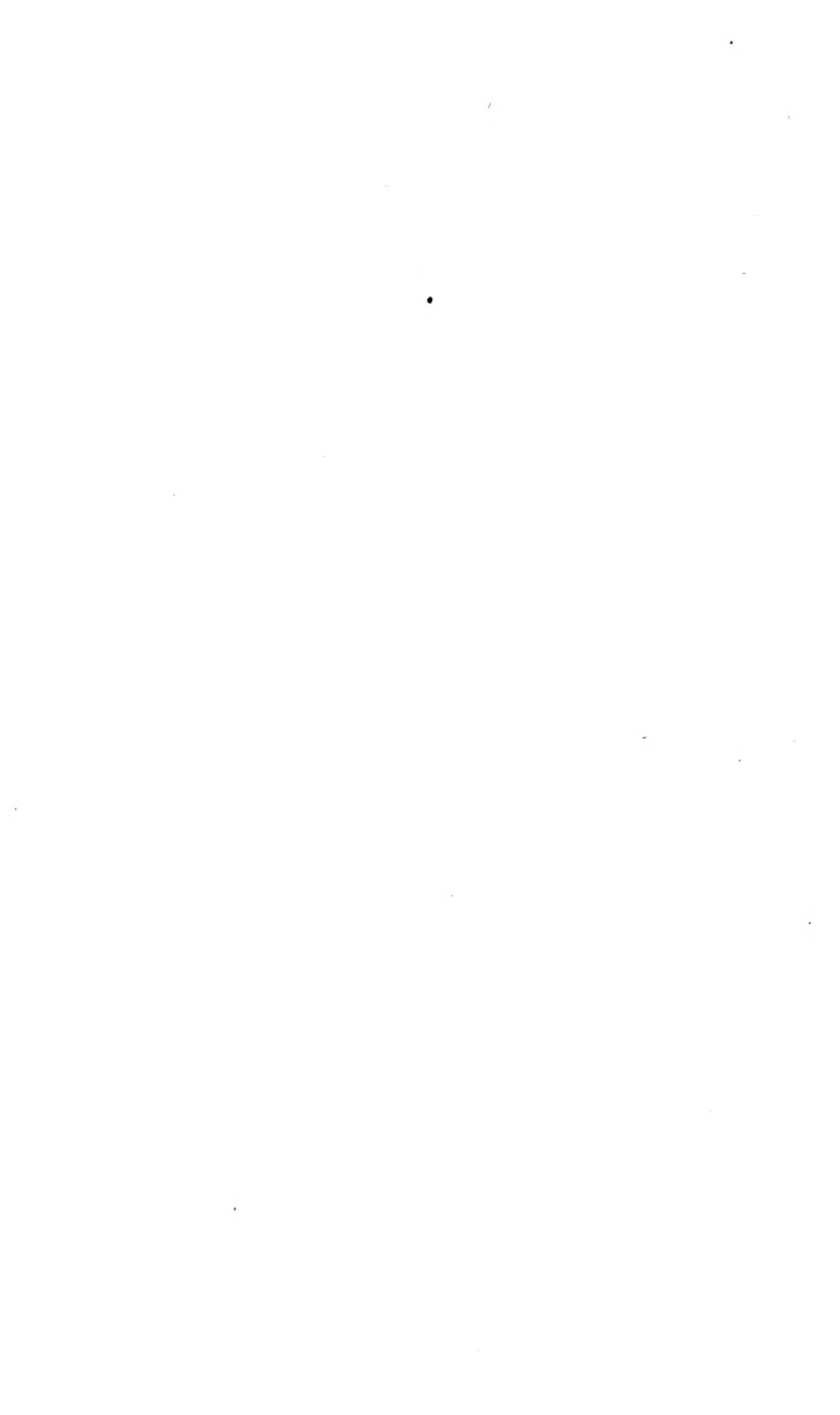
No. 2—BENEDICT ARNOLD—opposite page 145.

No. 3—THE BEVERLY ROBINSON HOUSE, GARRISON, N. Y., ARNOLD'S HEAD-  
QUARTERS—opposite page 264.

No. 4—MAJOR JOHN ANDRÉ—opposite page 272.

No. 5—THE ODELL HOUSE, ROCHAMBEAU'S HEADQUARTERS, DOBBS FERRY,  
N. Y.—opposite page 486.

No. 6—MAP—SCENES OF OPERATIONS BEFORE NEW YORK 1781—opposite  
page 646.



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Public Papers of George  
Clinton.

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**MSS. VOLUME X (Continued).**

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# MANUSCRIPT VOL. X.

(CONTINUED).

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[No. 3065.]

*Colonel Weissenfels' Letter Respecting a Mistake in the Rank of  
Some of His Officers with Governor Clinton's Reply.*

West Point July 11th 1780.

Sir, In the minutes of the honorable the Counsel of appointment, the Reasons assiged for the Rank of the four Ensings in my Regiment, is, having done duty from the 1st of January 1778, which wass the time the vacancie became due.

I have a president, for the filling up of vacancies in that manner, by the appointment of Mess's Dennisson, Tuthill Talmadge, and Woodruff, by Colo. H. B. Livingston in 1777, and if the above reasons (having done Duty) had not been mentioned, I presume the appointments would have met with no objections in the Brigade.

Whoever [however], I have an order sent to me by Capt. Lt. Elsworth, from General Clinton that I should write to your Excellency upon this Subject, that he is determined, not to deliver the Commissions to them, if they bear date from that time, and thinks that they should only bear date from the 1st of June 1779, the reason for such a determination is, that they where sarjeants before that time—

Which if a sufficient one, I dont wish to differ with the general oppinion and if your Excellency, with the honorable Coun-

ittee, thinks propre to revoke the former date, and adopt the latter I believe these gentelm will accept of it, though with Reluctance; I have the honor to be, with the greatest respect, your Excellency's most obedient most humble Servant

Fred: Weissenfels.

His Excellency, George Clinton, Esqr.

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Pokeepsie July 12th 1780

Dr Sr, I cannot possibly make any alteration in the Proceed'gs of the Council of Appointm't without their Consent. As soon as they meet I will lay your Letter before them & I have no Doubt that they will readily correct any mistake. I thought this matter was adjusted & settled in the Brigade & that no difficulty would have arisen thereon. I am, with great Esteem, Dr Sr, &c.

G. Clinton.

Lieut. Colo. Comdt. Weissenfels.

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[No. 3066.]

*Colonel Willett's Letter Respecting Sending Officers to Recruit Among the Levies.*

Camp West Point 11th July 1780

Sir, The situation of the Regiment which I command will just admit of our sending one or more officer upon the recruiting service. If it is agreeable to your Excellency I shall be glad to have the bearer, Ensign V. D. Burgh, authorised to go upon that service, as I conceive one officer insufficient for the business on so pressing an immergency.

I have recommended Mr. V. D. Burgh to endeavour to engage a certain Lewis Bogardus, whose residence is at Poughkeepsie



to assist him in recruiting. Bogardus has served three years a Serjeant in the third Regiment and upon several tryals I have experienced his abilities in this way. His success in recruiting has always exceeded my expectations. I have very faint hopes of his engaging in the service himself: unless in the character of a recruiting serjeant, and in that way I would be willing and desirous to employ him, But even this will depend in a great measure upon the encouragment we may have it in our power to give for recruiting. If you can make it worth Bogardus's while to assist Ensign V. D. Burgh, I am much misstaken if the publick will not receive sufficient benefit from his services. I am not dissposed to give your Excellency any unnecessary trouble, but the peculiar situation of the Regiment I have the honor to command (in having most of its officers prisoners with the enemy) makes it necessary to catch at every prosspect of assistance, that my endeavours may not be wanting to make the Regiment as respectable as possible. I have the honor to be, your Excellencies most obedient and very Humble Servant

Marinus Willett

His excellency Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 3067.]

*General Van Rensselaer's Return of Levies and Militia.*

A Return of the Disposition (made by General Rensselaer) of the Levies, and Militia on the Western Frontier.  
Fort Paris 11th July 1780.

Companies	Levies				Militia				The place where
	Captains	Subalterns	Privates	The place where	Leutenants	Serjants	Privates	From whose Regiment	
Captain J. Bogert	1	3	80	Schoharry	2	3	36	Leut. Col. Klide } Col. Bellinger } Col. Klock } Colo. Veyder } Col. Klock	Schoharry
Captain G. Putman	1	1	40	Fort Plainck			22		Fort Plainck
Captain Williams	1	2	50	Fort Herkimer			6		Fort Herkimer
Captain Allen	1	1	50	Fort Dayton	1	3	6		Fort Dayton
Captain Vroman	1	1	40	Fort Paris	2	4	28		Fort Paris
Leut. Woodworth	1	1	40	Johnstown	2	4	34		Fort Paris
Total	5	9	300	Rangers	3	4	21	Fort Paris	
				Total	8	10	153		

Lewis R. Morris, M. B.

[No. 3068-3069-3070.]

*Colonel Hopkins Writes to Governor Clinton of the Levies and Includes a Communication Touching on Militia Draft Certificates—Governor Clinton's Reply.*

Amenia, July 12th, 1780.

Sir, In Obedience to Brigade Orders of the 30th ult. I now return to your Excellency the number of Casses in my regiment for raising the present Levies for three months; the number is Sixty two; the men are to be Delivered the 14th Instant at Major Cook's & the 15th at Capt. Roger Sutherland's to such Officer as your Excellency shall appoint. I am, Sir, your most obedient Hum. Serv't,

Roswell Hopkins, Colo.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

May it Please your Excellency, We, the Subscribers, beg leave to inform your Excellency that Difficultys have arose in this Regiment respecting Exemption from Militia Drafts Certificates which have been transferred for a valuable Consideration by the procurer to another Person—that is whether the Purchaser of such Certificate is by act of the Legislature, Pass'd the 25th of March 1778, for Exempting persons from Drafts are as much exempted from Militia Duty as the first Procurers would be in case he had not transfer'd it. There being several such Instances in the Regiments and different Opinions in the Matter which is likely to produce uneasiness, and we being Inform'd that it has been the Practice in other Regiments to exempt the Purchasers of such Certificates. There is James Hildreth & Lemuel Brush—under this predicament the men that they purchas'd of, have done duty in this regiment ever since they transfer'd their Certificates to the present Holders. As their appears to be no fraud or collusion respecting the said James Hildreth and

Brush, we pray your Excellency's advice and Direction respecting such purchas'd Certificates which will oblige your Excellency's Most Obedient Humble Servants

Roswell Hopkins, Colo.

William Barker, Lt. Colo.

Brinton Paine, Major.

Eben. Husted, Maj'r.

Amenia, July 12 1780.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

I may certify that I am knowing to the truth of what is in the above, as I then Commanded the Regiment & am knowing to theas 2 men menched dus now due duty in the Regiment.

David Sutherland.

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Poukeepsie 13th July 1780.

Sir, I am this Moment favoured with your two Letters of equal Date. His Excellency Genl. Washington in Consideration of the Busy Season of the year & other Reasons has prolonged the Day for the Levies to rendezvous at Fishkill till 25th Instant. This I notified Brig'r Genl. Swartwoudt of by after Orders which I concluded he had issued to his Brigade. I will send an Officer to receive & take Charge of your men in Season to march them to the Place of Rendezvous. This Delay I flatter myself will be agreeable as they may be employed in gathering in the Harvests & it will afford them Time fully to prepare & provide themselves for the Campaign which is the more necessary as they are not to be relieved.

I wish it was in my Power to relieve Mr. Brush & Hildridge as I believe they meant to act honestly & uprightly; but it is not as they have not proceeded agreeable to Law and none but such

are exempted—neither am I vested with any Discretionary Power of determining in such Cases. I have explained myself more fully to Mr. Brush & am, Sir, your &c.

[G. C.]

[To Colonel Hopkins.]

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[No. 3071.]

*Colonel Van Ness' Letter with the Number of Levies to be Raised in His Regiment.*

Claverack District, July 13th 1780.

Sir, In pursuance of your Excellency's General orders of the 24th Ulto. I take the liberty to inform your Excellency that the Field officers of my Regiment have divided the same into Classes agreeable to law and that the number of men to be raised out of the same amounts to forty, who are directed to be prepared to march to the place of rendezvous on Tuesday next. I have the honor to be, your Excellency's most obed't l'ble serv't,

Peter Van Ness,

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

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[No. 3072.]

#### REPORTED ARRIVAL OF THE FRENCH FLEET.

*Washington's Appeal for the Employment of "All Our Zeal and All Our Exertions."*

In Committee of Congress

Preakness, State of New Jersey July 13 1780.

Sir, We do ourselves the honor to enclose your Excellency copy of a letter of this date, from the Commander in Chief. You sir, are so fully impressed with the necessity of improving every moment to promote the great object of the present Campaign,

it will be needless to aduce any arguments, in support of the sentiments contained in the general's letter. Permit us only to observe that in proportion, as any state is deficient in the number of men and quantum of supplies for the army, our prospect of success will be diminished, and should unhappily your state rely that the exertions of other states, will be Competent to the business and the same opinion entertained by others, it is evident that disgrace and ruin must be the portion of this Country. Persuaded that your feelings will revolt at the mere Idea, we rely with Confidence, that not a moment's time will be lost, in fulfilling the engagements of your state, and in a perfect Compliance with the requisitions of this Committee, as specified in former applications for any extra supplies or services.

Your Excellency will not conclude us too importunate in the repeated reiterations on this important subject, as we are convinced that the occasion will justify us in this address. We have the honor to be, with great respect & Esteem, your Excellency's most Obt. H'ble serv'ts

Ph: Schuyler,  
Nath'l Peabody

His Excellency, George Clinton, Esqr.

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Head Quarters 13th July 1780.

Gentlemen, We have received intelligence, through different channels from New-York, that the Gaudaloupe had arrived there on Sunday morning, and brought an account that she had fallen in with a large French fleet,\* consisting of several sail of the

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\*From headquarters, under date of July 15, 1780, Washington transmitted the sub-joined plan to Lafayette:

" The Marquis de Lafayette will be pleased to communicate the following general ideas to Count de Rochambeau and Chevalier de Ternay, as the sentiments of the underwritten.

1. In any operation, and under all circumstances, a decisive naval superiority is to be

line and a number of transports between the capes of Virginia and Delaware. This intelligence has every appearance of authenticity; and if true, the arrival of the fleet on the coast

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considered as a fundamental principle, and the basis upon which every hope of success must ultimately depend.\*

2. The advantages of possessing the port of New York, by the squadron of France, have been already enumerated to Count de Rochambeau and Chevalier de Ternay, and are so obvious, as not to need recapitulation. A delay in the execution of this enterprise may defeat all our projects, and render the campaign inactive and inglorious.

3. To render our operations nervous and rapid, it is essential for us to be masters of the navigation of the North River and of the Sound. Without this, our land transportation will be great, our expenses enormous, and our progress slow if not precarious for want of forage and others means.

4. With these ideas, and upon this ground, it is conceived that many advantages will result from the French squadron's taking possession of the inner harbor between Staten Island and the city of New York, and detaching a frigate or two above the *chevaux-de-frise* in the North River opposite Fort Washington, for the purpose of opening the navigation of the River, shortening the transportation by land on the upper and lower communication, and bringing the enemy to an explanation respecting Staten Island. Shipping so near the town would, at the same time they cover the frigates in the North River, keep the garrison in check, and be more likely to facilitate other movements of the army, than if they were to remain at the Hook or below the Narrows.

5. Our operations against the enemy in the city of New York may commence from either of three points, to wit, Morrisania, or the height near Kingsbridge, or Staten Island. Each has its advantages and disadvantages, but, under a full view of all circumstances, the preponderancy is in favor of Morrisania; especially since the aid of his Most Christian Majesty has come by the way of Rhode Island, instead of Cape Henry, as it was expected they would do, and touch at Sandy Hook, in consequence of advices lodged there.

6. As the means for carrying on our operations are not yet sufficiently appreciated, nor is the time by which our aids will arrive sufficiently ascertained, it is impossible to be precise as to the time the American troops can with safety rendezvous at Morrisania; but, as it is necessary to fix some epoch, it is hoped that it may happen by the 5th of August. I would propose that day for the reëmbarkation of the French efficient force at New London (if they should have come there), and that they proceed up the Sound to Whitestone on Long Island, or to such other place on that Island, or on the main, as circumstances may require, and the Count shall be advised of. For, the operations against the enemy depending very much upon their holding all or dismantling some of their present posts, and upon contingencies on our side, it is not possible at this time to mark out a precise plan, or determine whether our approaches to the city of New York shall be by the way of York Island, Brooklyn, or both. Numbers must determine the latter, and circumstances of the moment the former.

7. It must be clearly understood and agreed between the parties, that, if any capital operation is undertaken, the French fleet and land forces will at all events continue

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\*"You have totally misconceived my meaning, if you think I have or shall relinquish the idea of an enterprise against New York, till it shall appear obviously impracticable, from the want of force or means to operate. I have not as yet relaxed in any preparation tending to this end; nor shall I, till I am convinced of the futility of the measure. I would, by all means, have it understood as my wish, that the French squadron, if superior to Arbuthnot's since the junction, should take a station, while it can do it with safety, off Sandy Hook. This, and our exertions in the mean while, will demonstrate, long before the equinoctial gales, to what we are competent.

"What I had in view, by discouraging the first draft of the letter to the French general and admiral, was, first, with our ignorance of their strength, I thought we ought not to give them more than the information of Graves's arrival: and, secondly, not to hold up strong ideas of success, which probably would not be warranted by the issue; because I never wish to promise more than I have a moral certainty of performing."—*Washington to the Marquis de Lafayette, 16 July, 1780.*

The New York paper of the 14th announced the arrival of Admiral Graves on the 13th with a "formidable squadron" to reinforce Admiral Arbuthnot. From private information Washington learned that this squadron consisted of six vessels, the London (90 guns), Resolution (74), Bedford (74), Royal Oak (74), Prudent (64) and America (60). This gave the English a greater naval force than the French possessed.

may instantly be looked for. This indeed must be the case at any rate from the time they are said to have sailed.\*

It cannot be too much lamented, that our preparations are still so greatly behind hand. Not a thousand men, that I have heard

their aid until the success of the enterprise, or until it is mutually determined to abandon it.

8. In all matters of arrangement and accommodation, not repugnant to the foregoing ideas, the Marquis, in behalf of the United States, will consult the convenience and wishes of the Count and Chevalier, and will be pleased to assure them of the disposition I possess to make every thing as agreeable to them as possible, and of my desire to manifest on all occasions the high sense I entertain of their merit, and the generous aid they have brought to us."

To Lafayette, July 16, Washington wrote:

"Alluding to the harbor of New York. The Chevalier de Ternay declined attempting to pass Sandy Hook, in any event, being convinced, as he said, by the experience of Count d'Estaing, and by such charts as he had examined, that such an attempt with his large ships would be extremely hazardous. 'I have therefore concluded,' he wrote, 'that, if it is possible to sustain the fleet at Long Island without entering the Hook, this arrangement will be preferable on all accounts. I will combat the English squadron at sea, should it attempt to oppose the passage of troops. All my vessels are actually without water. I have landed thirteen hundred men sick. It was with difficulty that I was enabled to supply the wants of the frigates, which I despatched yesterday to endeavor to intercept some of the enemy's vessels.'"

From headquarters July 22, Washington wrote as follows to Lafayette:

"I have received, My Dear Marquis, your letter enclosing me those you had received from Count de Rochambeau and the Chevalier de Ternay. As I speak to you in confidence, I am sorry to find that the objections made by M. de Ternay are of a nature to prevent his entering the harbor, notwithstanding any superiority he will probably have. I certainly would not wish him to endanger his fleet in any enterprise not warranted by prudence, and by a sufficient prospect of success and security, and I shall acquiesce in his better judgment of Maritime Affairs. But I should hope, whenever he shall have a decided superiority, he may possess the port; and certainly, without this, our operations must be infinitely more precarious, and in success much less decisive."—Washington's Writings, Volume VIII.

\*The key of the military position in the east was recognized to be West Point. Its capture or possession by the British meant that the backbone of American revolution was broken. Every New Yorker of influence was naturally aroused in his determination to maintain it and in his resistance to any movement that would threaten it. The accompanying correspondence is introduced at this point, the better to elucidate the beginning of Arnold's perfidy and to demonstrate how completely he deceived not only the shrewdest men in the American Congress and Army, but his best friends in the American cause.

From Ramapo, 29 June, 1780, Washington had written to Robert R. Livingston in Congress:

Dear Sir, I have had the honor to receive your favor from Trenton, and thank you for the aid you have been pleased to afford in getting the provisions and stores removed from that place. Happily for us, the transportation is in a better train, and in greater forwardness, than I had reason a few days ago to expect it would be at this time. I am under no apprehension now of danger to the post at West Point, on the score either of provisions, the strength of the works, or of the garrison. I am sorry, however, to find there are apprehensions on account of the commandant, and that my knowledge of him does not enable me to form any decisive judgment of his fitness to command; but, as General McDougall and Baron Steuben, men of approved bravery, are both with him, and the main army is within supporting distance, I confess I have no fear on the ground of what I presume is suspected. To remove him, therefore, under these circumstances, and at this period, must be too severe a wound to the feelings of any officer, to be given but in cases of real necessity. When a general arrangement is gone into, and a disposition made for the campaign, I can with



of have yet joined the army; and in all probability the period for commencing our operations is at hand. I am happy to learn, that a spirit of animation has diffused itself throughout the State, from which we may expect the happiest consequences.

propriety, and certainly shall, bring him into the line of the army, and place the general you have named at that post, if the operations of the campaign are such as to render it expedient to leave an officer of his rank in that command.\*

If the States mean to put the army in a condition to adopt any offensive plan, the period cannot be far off when this measure must take place. Your sentiments, my dear Sir, upon this occasion required no apology. The opinion and advice of friends I receive at all times as a proof of their friendship, and am thankful when they are offered. I as so well persuaded of the safety of West Point, the necessity of easing the militia as much as possible, and of husbanding our provisions and stores, that I have dismissed all the militia, that were called in for the defence of the posts on the North River. With the greatest esteem and regard, I have the honor to be, &c.

Under date of Peekskill, 3 August, 1780, Washington issued the following instructions to Arnold:

You are to proceed to West Point, and take the command of that post and its dependencies, in which are included all from Fishkill to King's Ferry. The corps of infantry and cavalry, advanced towards the Enemy's lines on the East side of the River, will also be under your orders, and will take directions from you; and you will endeavor to obtain every intelligence of the Enemy's motions. The garrison of West Point is to consist of the Militia of New Hampshire and Massachusetts; for which reason, as soon as the number from those States amounts to twelve hundred, the New York Militia under the command of Colonel Malcom, are to join the Main Army on the West side of the River; and, when the number from Massachusetts Bay alone shall amount to fifteen hundred, Rank and File, the Militia of New Hampshire will also march to the Main Army. Colonel James Livingston's regiment is, till further orders, to garrison the redoubts at Stony and Verplanck's Points.

Claverac, upon the North River, is appointed for the place of rendezvous of the Militia of New Hampshire and Massachusetts, from whence you will have them brought down as fast as they arrive. A supply of provision will be necessary at that place, which you will order, from time to time, as there may be occasion. You will endeavor to have the Works at West Point carried on as expeditiously as possible by the Garrison, under the direction and Superintendance of the Engineers, the Stores carefully preserved, and the provision safely deposited and often inspected, particularly the salted meat. A certain quantity of provision has been constantly kept in each

\*Mr. Livingston had suggested his fears, that General Howe, in case of an exigency, would not inspire such a degree of confidence in the New York militia, as would be essential for engaging their efficient services. He solicited the appointment for General Arnold. "If I might presume so far," he said, "I should beg leave to submit to your Excellency, whether this post might not be safely confided to General Arnold, whose courage is undoubted, who is the favorite of our militia, and who will agree perfectly with our governor."—MS. Letter, June 23d.

Arnold had some time before written on the same subject to General Schuyler, who was then in camp as one of the committee from Congress. "I know not," said Arnold, "who is to have the command on the North River. If General Heath joins the army, as I am told he intends, that post will of course I suppose, fall under his command. When I requested leave of absence from General Washington for the summer, it was under the idea, that it would be a very inactive campaign, and that my services would be of little consequence, as my wounds made it very painful for me to walk or ride. The prospect now seems to be altered, and there is a probability of an active campaign, in which, though attended with pain and difficulty, I wish to render my country every service in my power; and, by the advice of my friends, I am determined to join the army; with which I beg you will do me the favor to acquaint General Washington, that I may be included in any arrangement that may be made."—MS. Letter, May 25th.

The application, on the part of Mr. Livingston, was no doubt made at the request of General Arnold, who immediately afterwards visited the camp and West Point. On the 20th of June, General Howe wrote to General Washington from that post: "I have taken General Arnold round our works and he has my opinion of them, and of many other matters. I have long wished to give it to you, but I could not convey it by letter."

But the exigency is so pressing, that we ought to multiply our efforts to give new activity and dispatch to our measures levying and forwarding the men, providing the supplies of every sort required; forage and transportation demand particular attention. After what had been preconcerted with the honorable the Congress; after two months' previous notice of the intended succor; if our allies find us unprepared, and are obliged to wait several weeks in a state of inaction, it is easy to conceive, how unfavorable the impression, it will make of our conduct. Besides this, the season is exceedingly advanced, a decisive enterprise, if our means are equal to it, will not permit us to lose a moment of the time left for military operations, which if improved with all the vigor in our power, is less than were to be wished for an undertaking of so arduous and important a nature. So much is at stake, so much to be hoped, so much to be lost, that we shall be inexcusable if we do not employ all our zeal and all our exertions. With the highest respect &

G. Washington.

The Committee for Co-operation.

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work, to be ready against a sudden attack. Where there are bomb-proofs, they serve for Magazines; but in the smaller works, where there are none, you will have places erected sufficiently tight to preserve the provision from damage and pillage.

You will as soon as possible, obtain and transmit an accurate Return of the Militia, which have come in, and inform me regularly of their increase. Should any Levies from the State of New York, or those to the Eastward of it, intended for the Continental Army, arrive at West Point, you will immediately forward them to the lines to which they respectively belong. The difficulties, we shall certainly experience, on the score of provisions, render the utmost economy highly necessary. You will, therefore, attend frequently to the daily Issues; and, by comparing them with your Returns, will be able to check any impositions. I am, &c.\*

\*Although there had been various intimations to the Commander-in-Chief, that Arnold wished to command at West Point, yet he had delayed conferring it, probably because he considered the services of so efficient an officer much more important in the main army. In the arrangement of the army, therefore, published in general orders on the 1st of August, the command of the left wing was assigned to Arnold. When it was found, that he was disappointed and dissatisfied, and complained that his wound would not allow him to act in the field, Washington complied with his request to be stationed at West Point.

[No. 3073.]

*Robert Bohannon Makes Application for Permission to Continue with His Regiment.*

Nestehuna, July 13th 1780.

May it Please your Excellency, In pursuit of the request I made to your Excellency, at Half Moon, on your return from the lakes, I procured the inclosed from my Colo. and Endeavoured to wait on your Excellency in Albany as you desired, but arrived there a few moments too late.

I hope your Excellency will in that case Excuse this Trouble, & will please to write a few lines to either Colo. V. S. hoven or to Colo. Wemple so that I may be retaind in the Regim't. I have hitherto served for these twenty two years past. The sooner your Excellency settle this matter the better, as I am warn'd to do duty by both, and altho this being the case, and that I have paid my quota in hard Cash to furnish men for seven months &c., notwithstanding my body Cloaths have been distraind by order of Colo. Wemple & sold by the Constable for like duty in his Regt. If your Excell'cy pleases to inclose what ever you please to write on this matter for me to the care of Henry Glen, Esqr. A. D. Q. M. G. in Schen'y, it will for ever oblige your distress'd Humble Serv't bound to Pray.

Robt. Bohannon.

[To G. C.]

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Halfmoon, 6th Day of June 1780.

This is to Certify that Robert Bohannon has formerly served in my Regiment and I would be verry Desireous that he may remain in the said Regement as he is verry willing for to do.

Jacobus VanSchoonhoven, Collo.

[No. 3074.]

*Colonel Crane's Letter Covering Return of the Number of Levies  
Raised by His Regiment.*

Salem, 14th July, 1780.

Sir, I enclose a Return of the Classes in my Reg't which I fear hath too long delayed by waiting for an opportunity which I have now got by Lievt. deliver ? who I hope will deliver this to your Excelency; if thought proper by your Excelency to let it be known who shall be muster master for the men; it may forward the buisness, and as far as I know it may be done by Cap. Stevenson, as some people get men which we think not fit; it may be soon determined; if your Excelency should order that officer to be determined by some person, and if there should be a proper opportunity for Lievt. Delivan to go with the men of the county, I think it will be well excepted, as he is well acquainted. I am, your Excelency's most obedient and verry Humblr servant

Thaddeus Crane.

His Excelency Governor Clinton.

Salem 8th July 1780.

A Return of the Classes in my Reg't to furnish men for three months agreable to his Excelency's the governor's order and the Law of this State are as follows.

Capt. Jesse Trusdell Company		90 men	6 Classes	
Capt. Samll. Lawrance	Do	75	Do 5	Do
Capt. David Pardee	Do	75	Do 5	Do
Capt. Eph'm Lockwood	Do	120	Do 8	Do
Capt. Benj'm Chapman	Do	60	Do 4	Do
Capt. Daniel Bouton	Do	75	Do 5	Do
Capt. Samll. Lewis	Do	90	Do 6	Do

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 585 men 39 Classes

Thaddeus Crane, Lt. Coll.

His Excelency, Governor Clinton.

[No. 3075.]

*Difficulties in the Way of Trying Courts Martial Cases.*

Schaticoak, 15th July 1780.

Sir, Agreeable to your orders of the 8th ult., I Convened the officers in Charlotte County for the Trial of Col. Webster's regiment; a number of them remain still untried, and some of Van Woert's are screened by their officers, they not having furnished me with proper returns, A great part of the Inhabitants of the Scotch patent are in the same situation, the officers not having warned them to march in the different alarms.

A number of Webster's officers have not attended the Court which has occasioned much unnecessary trouble & expence. I could wish your Excellency would order the officers Command'g Regiments to order the subalterns to attend more punctual in future.

Inclosed I do myself the pleasure to transmit you the proceedings of the Court for your Inspection. I have thought proper to adjourn the Court unto 10th August next, which I hope may meet with your approbation.

Capt'n Bradt of my Regiment was by me ordered to attend the Court, but disobeyed without alledging a sufficient Reason for so doing. I therefore arrested him and acquainted Genl. Ten Broeck of the Circumstance who thereupon Issued Brigade orders for the Trial of Capt'n Bradt and Lieut. Powel of Van Woert's; for the particulars I beg leave to refer you to the inclosed proceeding and remain your Excellency's most obedient servant.

Peter Yates, Collo.

His Excellency, George Clinton, Esq. &amp;c. &amp;c. &amp;c.

[No. 3076.]

*Governor Clinton Hopeful the Levies Will Report on the Day Appointed.*

Poughkeepsie July 16th 1780.

Gentlemen, I am honored with the Rec't of your Letter of the 13th Inst. After the full Communications made of the measures taken by this State, in my Letter to the Committee of the 24th Ult. and to his Excellency the Genl. of the 3d Inst. it only remains for me to inform you that I have every Reason to hope that the Levies of men required of this State to reinforce the army will punctually appear at the Place of genl. Rendezvous at Fishkill by the 25th Inst. the Day appoint'd by his Excellency for that Purpose. In consequence of the act of the Legislature mentioned in my letter to his Excellency, Recruiting Officers from the respective cont'l Regts. of this State are now out on that service. I have not yet been informed of their success but from the Encouragements given it can scarcely be doubted, that those Regts. will be rendered at least very respectable if not complete by the time appointed. With respect to the Requisitions of supplies of Provisions &c. I beg leave to refer you to the bearer, Colo. Hay, who as he is agent for this State, may be able to give you every necessary Information.

Permit me Gent. to repeat my assurances, that evry Exertion on my Part will be used to facilitate & render successful the intended operations & as far forth as I am invested with Power it shall be cheerfully exercized in draw'g out the Resources of the State on this important occasion. I have the honor to be &c.

Geo: Clinton.

The hon'ble the Committee of Congress. Headqrs.

[No. 3077.]

*Return of Captain Sackett's Company.*

Northcastle July the 16th 1780.

A Monthly Return of Capt'n Rich'd Sackett's Company of  
New Leavies of the State of New York.

Ranks	Captain	Lieuts.	Serjts.	Corp'ls	Dr. & fite	Privates	Total
present fit for Duty	1	2	4	4	1	34	46
Sick						2	2
Deserted						3	3
Total	1	2	4	4	1	39	51

Richard Sackett, Capt.

[No. 3078.]

*Letter from Colonels Cortlandt, Gausevoort and Weissenfels, Com-  
plaining of Neglect of Duty in Captain Wiley, Agent to Procure  
Necessaries for the Troops, and in Captain Black, State Clothier.*

West Point July 16 1780.

Sir,\* We have received a Letter of the 4th Inst. directed to  
Capt. Black state Clothier on publick business, the Contents of  
which have made known to the field officers who are of opinion,  
as Capt. Black has been a long time absent and we have great  
reason to think very neglectfull, that the shortest mode of pro-  
curing the Clothing now collecting will be to appoint another  
Person to do that business at same time acquaint Capt. Black  
that there is no farther need of his Services—& further as Capt.  
Whiley who was recommended as State Commissary of Pur-

\*For Governor Clinton's reply, see page 22.

chases, &c. has much business on his hands of a private nature so as to Ingrese all his time, that he also be Inform'd that he is discharged, and another appointed, all which is submitted to your pleasure and shall be much obliged if you will please to inform us what you determine on; am, with much Respect,  
your Obed. Hum. Ser't

Philip Cortlandt, Colo.

Peter Gansevoort, Colonel.

Fred: Weissenfels, Lt. Colo. Comand't.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

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[No. 3079.]

*Enos Thompson Gives the Names of Persons Who Refused to Furnish  
Shirts or Overalls for the Troops.*

Charlotte July 17th 1780.

Sir, In Compliance with the Directions contained in a Letter received from the Legislature of the State, I have collected what Shirts and Linnen for overalls I could, in that part of this precinct allotted me, and pursuant to my Instructions beg leave to report the Persons, whose names are at foot, as of sufficient ability (in my Judgment) who have refused to contribute. I am, Your Excellency's Obed. serv.

Enos Thompson.

Israel Lewis Esqr.

Stephen Pugsley.

Caleb Thompson.

Widow Talmage.

[To G. C.]



[No. 3080.]

*Colonel John Harper Directs Certain Officers to Take Command of  
New Levies from Tryon County.*

A Return of the Officers I have directed to take the Levies (now raising) under their Command & which I recommend to his Excellency for to have the Appointment confirmed.

For the Tryon County Levies.

Capt. John Breadbake. Capt. Marks Demooth.

1st Lieut. Adam Helmer, 2d do John Coppernoll of Capt. Breadbake's Company.

1st Lieut. Wm. Wallace, 2d do Butterfield of Capt. Demooth's Com.

Capt. Wm. Detz, 1st Lieut. John Lawyer, 2d do Peter Hayer of the Schoharry Comp.

John Harper.

Fort Paris July 17th 1780.

[No. 3081.]

*Micah Townsend Reports Relative to a Vermont Company.*

Brattleboro' 19th July 1780.

Sir, The Letter from the President of Congress to Governor Chittenden, which I suppose contained Notice of the Time fixed by Congress for a Trial, I was obliged to leave with Mr. Fay, Father to the Secretary of their State, who engaged for the safe Delivery of it; the Secretary himself, and all the Members of Council, being at the Governor's at Arlington when I passed thro' Bennington.

We have procured the Men requested by your Excellency with much greater ease than I expected, although the number raised is considerably more than every 15th Man. Colo. Wells

encouraged the Business all in his Power, and voluntarily offered to, & has hired a Man himself.

I am sorry that the number of officers is so disproportioned to the Men; but as the matter was too far fixed before my Return to make an alteration without Injury to the Service, trust there will be no difficulty respecting their Pay or Rank.

There has also been a Difficulty about procuring an officer to command the company which has occasioned the Soldiers to be detained some time in this Town; I also hope your Excellency will endeavour, when the soldiers are to receive their wages & Subsistence Money, that they may not be the sufferers for a misunderstanding amongst our officers. It appears to me that the state had better advance a trifle for this company for which Congress will not give Credit, than, by making the soldiers uneasy, damp our future Exertions.

As it is not yet determined who is to command the company, I can only say that if it should be Mr. Blackslee he is the best military character we have. I have the Honor to subscribe myself, with the highest Respect, your Excellency's most obedient servant

Micah Townsend.

His Exc'y Governor Clinton.

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[No. 3082.]

*Governor Clinton Replies to the Field Officers Who Complained Against Captains Black and Wiley.*

Pokeepsie July 19th 1780.

Gent.,\* I have rec'd your Letter of the 16th Inst. Capt. Black holds his office of State Clothier by virtue of an appointment of the Council of appointm't & if he has been guilty of

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\* See page 19.

neglect or malconduct in the execution of it the charge with Evidence to support it, ought to be laid before the Council, who will meet the first of Aug't, & I have no doubt that they will take such measures as are consistent w'th Justice & will tend most to promote the public service. In the mean Time it is not in my Power to appoint another Person to do any part of the Duties of his office.

You may possibly have suff't Reasons to justify the open'g of a Letter directed to Capt. Black as State Clothier; but if the Letter you allude to, is the Letter I wrote on the 4th Inst't notifying him of the Persons appointed to receive in the several Counties the shirts & overalls collect'g for the Troops & pointing out his Duty, & it should not have been forward'd to him, his not having taken any steps to expedite this Business may be easily accounted for—as without his receiving that Letter he must yet be utterly ignorant of the measure.

With respect to the appointm't of an agent to procure necessities for the Troops, the Power was vested in me solely by the Legislature: but from an earnest Desire of appoint'g a Person most agreeable to the officers & who woud engage in the business w'th alacrity you may recollect I called upon them to recommend a gent for this office. Capt. Wiley was named & altho I was informed & his appointm't made out so long since as the 14th May last, previous to his being recommended, he had been consulted upon the occasion & was willing to accept, yet it gives me not a little Pain to observe that he has not called for his Warrant nor even appologiz'd for not having done it. I am however still equally desirous of having this Business committed to a faithful Person & will be, therefore, obliged if the officers concerned, would recommend a Gentleman qualified for the office

(in Capt. Wiley's stead) who, I may be assured, will undertake the Business.

Mr. Tayler of Albany & Mr. Stoutenburgh & Mr. Lawrence & Capt. Woodard were Persons I had thoughts of before Capt. Wiley was recommended—tho' I am uncertain whether either of these Gent. would now serve—I wish to have your answer on this subject as soon as possible & am Gent, &c.

G: Clinton.

[To Colonels Cortlandt, Gansevoort and Weissenfels.]

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[No. 3083.]

*The Governour Reprimands Colonel Henry Van Rensselaer for Failing to Deliver Wheat He Has Seized.*

Poughkeepsie July 19th 1780.

Sir, I am informed by Colo. Livingston that very little of the wheat seized by yourself & Mr. Dumond has as yet been delivered at his mill & that there is Reason to believe that the Possessors mean to withhold it. Colo. Hay, agent for Supplies in this State, will I expect, be your way in a few Days & will take the necessary measures for procuring it.

I must, therefore, request of you to give him your aid & Information in the execution of the Business. I am &c.

Geo: Clinton.

Colo. Henry Rensselaer, Claverack.

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[No. 3084.]

*Touching Supplies for Our Prisoners on Long Island.*

Fishkill 19th July 1780.

Dear Sir, When I last had the pleasure of seeing you at Albany on your return from Ticonderoga I spoke to you concerning the bearer, Mr. Vandervoort, going to Long Island, to supply

our prisoners there with such necessaries as they should really stand in need of, which he said he had in his power; you desired me to write to him immediately to come to you and he should go down which I did but the [letter] miscarried, being the reason of his not attending before; however if you think proper he still stands ready to perform the same. Am and remain with due respect, your most obt. and Verry Hum. servant

Ja. Rosekrans.

Governor Clinton.

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[No. 3085.]

*Eleazer Paterson Recommends Company Officers.*

Hinsdale, 20th July 1780.

Sir, Your Excellency's Favor of the 16th June last by Major Hunt I was duly honored with; in consequence of which no Endeavours of mine or the officers of the Regiment have been spared to procure a company of fifty Men, which was the greatest Number the Committee thought prudent, in the present situation of our affairs, to attempt raising.

There is only a Deficiency of ( ) Men, which I trust your Excellency will attribute to our peculiar situation, and not to want of sufficient Exertions in the officers, or spirit in the People.

With the approbation of my Field officers, I beg leave to recommend to your Excellency James Blackslce as a proper Person to command the Company; Jones Rice for 1st Lieutenant; Joseph Joy for 2d Lieut., & Zachariah Gillson for Ensign, thereof.

The officers formerly recommended to your Excellency for commissions, to supply the Places of some who have left the

County, & for whom I am still desirous to have them sent by the first convenient opportunity, are Thomas Baker for 1st Lieut;, Henry Henderson for 2d Lieut; & William Shattuck for Ensign, all of Capt'n James Pannel's Company. I have the Honor to be with the highest Respect your Excellency's most Obed't humble Servant

Eleaz'r Paterson.

His Exc'y Governor Clinton.

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[No. 3086.]

*Colonel Hay's Observations on the Supply Bill.*

. Poughkeepsie 20 July 1780.

Sir, I have the honour to enclose your Excellency some observations I have made on the supply bill, and some queries very necessary to be answered as soon as conveniently can be done, as much must depend upon the method and regularity upon which this business is commenced. I have taken the liberty of troubling you upon this occasion, but am in hopes when once properly fixed, your Excellency will receive very few applications from me except in such cases as the law has plainly pointed out you should be applyd to on. I am, w'h the greatest respect, your Excellency's most obedient and very humble ser't

Udny Hay.

Governour Clinton.

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OBSERVATIONS ON THE SUPPLY BILL.

1st. A Barrel of Flour being an indefinite Term, what is the Quantity it ought to be supposed to Contain? And are those who furnish Wheat in lieu of Flour, to furnish Barrels containing the Flour made from such Wheat? Or is that to be a State Expence?

2d. Though the act at first sight appears sufficiently severe against any defaulter who after being assessed shall refuse or neglect to deliver the articles so assessed, yet as the penalty depends totally upon the possibility of finding out the article assessed, it is very easy for the designing or disaffected to provide against that, by sending the whole of the articles they are assessed into some other Persons Barn, where it will be impossible to prove it to be their property, I conceive therefore a certain stipulated penalty (at least double or triple the value of the articles assessed and not furnished) should have been imposed upon each defaulter, which would certainly have prevented them from taking shelter in a way the Law did not design, though, they under its present form may undoubtedly avail themselves of.

3d. It appears at least possible that Frauds may be committed very Dangerous both to the agent & the State, from the mode the Law prescribes for his giving Certificates, as he must deliver them signed to his assistants without being filled up, and of Consequence can Charge them with no stipulated Value, should, therefore, (without supposing that any assistant should make a bad use of them) any of these Certificates be lost, they may be filled up by any Person whatever, and being signed by the agent, must undoubtedly be Rec'd by the Collectors of the Taxes, and the agent consequently become accountable for the value expressed in each of them; this I think might have been fully prevented by ordering the assistants' names to whom each Certificate should be delivered to have been inserted in the body thereof, and that it should not be receivable in payment of Taxes 'till the assistant whose name was so inserted had Counter-signed the same Immediately under the agent's Name.

4th. The Law positively & in the most confined Sense, declares the agent must be accountable for the expenditure of all monies put into the Hands of his assistants: No Man in his Senses could be supposed to accept the agency on these Terms, but from the fullest conviction of the generosity of the Legislature, and from an expectation that the mildest construction would be put upon the words of the Law, as long as it appeared that no man was appointed as an assistant but such as by their general Character and Conduct merited the public confidence at the time of their appointment.

5th. The Treasurer being only authorised to issue upon the Governor's Warrant in favor of the agent bills of the new Emission, how are the contingent Expences which must arise in the transaction of the Business to be paid?

6th. The agent is ordered every six Months to account with the auditor for all Monies rec'd; this will be found absolutely Impossible (in a strict Sense of the words) while he continues to carry on the Business, as his accounts can never be fully closed at any one Period 'till the whole Quota is supplied, and a sufficient time allowed after that for the assistants bringing in their accounts, and for the agent to examine and digest them properly afterwards. If at the end of every nine Months he can regularly account for the Monies he has Rec'd for the six first Months of that time, it will probably be doing as much as he possibly can.

7th. I imagine the Hides will in no Case be the property of the State, except where the Beef they are to furnish is to be salted under the Inspection of the State Officers, as the mode of fixing the Weight of Beef which must be agreed upon, betwixt the agent & Commissary General or one of his Deputies or as-



sistants, will probably make the Hides Immediately the property of the Continent. And as one fifth part is always allowed for the Hides, Tallow &c. if the Cattle are accepted of as above, the Continent [complement] will fall short one fifth of the Quantity of Beef they have required; if on the other hand the Hides, Tallow &c. is to become the property of the State it will be obtained at a most immense price, as Persons must be affixed with each Commissary for receiving the same.

8th. Where wheat or short Forage, either from not being sufficient Weight, or being improperly cleaned, or Cattle assessed not being properly Fattened become unmerchantable;—In what way is such Wheat, Forage and Cattle to be received?

9th. Where a Difficiency in the assessment may happen (as in some cases it undoubtedly will) and that Difficiency cannot be supplied at the fixed Price;—How is it to be made up? and can any purchases of that article be made on acc't of the United States within the District where such Difficiency arises 'till the same is first made good?

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[No. 3087.]

*Draft of Warrant on Treasury in Favor of Colonel Hay.*

By his Excellency George Clinton Esqr. Governor of the State of New York, General & Commander & Chief of all the Militia & Admiral of the Navy of the same.  
To Gerardus Bancker, Esquire Treasurer of the State of New York Greeting;

Pay unto Udney Hay, Esquire, Agent of this State to procure the Supplies on the Account and Credit of this State, for the use of the United States in pursuance of the Act entitled "an act to procure Supplies for the use of the Army & to prevent Monopoly of Cattle within this State & more effectually to prevent Supplies of Cattle to the Enemy" the sum of five thousand Pounds of the New Bills to be emitted in pursuance of the Act of Congress of the eighteenth Day of March last. And for so doing this shall be your Warrant.

Given under my Hand & the Privy Seal of the said State at Pokeepsie the twentieth Day of July in the fifth year of the Independence of the said State and in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred & Eighty.

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[Endorsement on back]

Warrants on the Treasury in favor of Colo. Hay.

1780.

July 20—£5000.

[No. 3088.]

*Apprehending Tories Who Had Started to Join the Enemy.*

A copy of a Letter from Capt. Brouwn

Dorlach July the 14th 1780.

S'r, This morning or yesterday William Heyntz is taken Prisoner with all his Famelly and his Effects & provision and horses, is Carried of by the Enemy. I have ordered Pursuit and as we imagin they are gone down the Sisquehanna. So if you Possibly can make any men op to Persue. I think by what I can learn they are but a small party. From, Sir, your Friend and most Humbly Serv't

Signed Methew Brown, Capt.

To Coll. Vroman, at Schohary.

A copy of a Letter.

Schenectady, July 18th 1780.

Sir, we have just now Rec'd information and from good authority that a party of Tories from the Helbergh, Neskitha and Beavordam, to the amount of near a hundred is set out to go and join the Enemy at Neagara, and that their is an Express along with them who is lately com from New York. They were to meet last Night at Captain Palls at the Beavor Dam and to proceed from thence to Unandilla; we will Emediatly order a party of men from here to go in pursute of them but being apprehensive that they may have got too much the start of us, we would Request, that on Receipt of this you will order out a party to indeavour to intersept them on their Rout. We Remain, Sir, your most Humbl. Serv'ts

Signed

Ab'm Wempel, Coll. Hugh Mitchell, Comessionier.

To Coll Peter Vroman, Schohary.

A copy of a Letter.

Helbergh, the 19th July 1780.

Sir, Yesterday twelve o'Clock we wrote to you by Express acquainting you that we had just then Received Information that a large party of Tories from Helbergh, Nisketha and Beaver Dam was assembled together in order to go to Niagara and join Buttler and Brant, and that they wer to meet last night at Capt. Palls at the Beavor Dam; as soon as the Express was sent of to you we Emediatly set out with a party from Schinectady to try to come up with them; we marched all Night and at Day breek got to Capt. Pall's house, Serounded the house and Barn and found three of the party in the Barn with arms, amunition, Provision and Every thing Compleat for their jurney; we took them all pressoners and have them now in Custodey. The pressoners confess their Intention of going to the Enemy, and say that they wer to be joined by fifty men of their party this morning on a hill just by Palls House, but suppose that the noise we made at the house had alarmed them, so we could see nothing of them; we are also Informed that they are to go by the way of Pachtetachken and again must Request, that you will use all Dilligence to apprehand and way lay them for we belive they are now on their Gurney; we also send this by Express.

We are, Sir, our Humbl. Serv'ts

Myndert M. Wemple, Major. Hugh Mitchell, Commessioner.

N. B. one Stophal Helts that used to live at Heny Wevers, is to go with them. You must Secure him Emediately. H. M.  
To Coll. Peter Vroman, at Schohary.

A copy of a letter.

Helbergh, July the 20th 1780.

Sir, I am just now informed by Christian Corsbort that the Enemy's Party is one Hundred man Strong at Pasick, but could

not just say what spot; and we are about thirty men and will lodge by Capt. Dietz at this Nite, and we will Proceed after them. Possible could be Rainforced by your Troops by tomorrow morning. I hope you will be Pleased; then I am, Sir, your humble Serv't

Signed                      Capt. Jacob Van Ernam.

To Coll. Peter Vroman, at Schohary.

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[No. 3089.]

*Du Simitiere Abandons Hope for Aid from Congress.*

Copy.

In Congress July 14th 1780.

Whereas, Pierre Eugene Du Simitiere of the city of Philadelphia hath with great industry, and at much expence collected materials for a literary work to be intitl'd "Memoirs and Observations on the Origin and Present State of North America" and hath sollicit'd Congress to grant him encouragement in preparing and publishing the Same, and whereas, Congress are fully Satisfied that a work of this nature will greatly tend to diffuse useful knowledge;

Resolved, that for the encouragement of the said M's Du Simitiere in carrying on and compleating his said undertaking, it be and it is hereby recommended to the several states upon his application, to afford him such assistance as may be most beneficial to him in rendering his said work compleat and useful.

Extract from the minutes.

Chas. Thomson, Secry.

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Sir, I have to acknowledge the reception of the letter which your Excellency has honoured me with, inclosing an act of Con-

gress of the 14 inst. relating to my work on the civil history and geography of North America.

It is with concern that I observe, that, there is nothing in that act that answers the purposes of my memorial to Congress, and of my letters to your Excellency, requesting the patronage and support of that hon. Body, consequently it can be of no Service to me. I beg leave, therefore, to return it to your Excellency requesting, that it may not appear in the Journals of Congress, and also presenting my apology to that hon. Body for having taken up so much of their time and assuring them that I shall not presume do the same in future and requesting their forgiveness for my intrusion.

Sir, I had some reasons to entertain hopes that the sovereign council of the United States would have granted a decent support for the compleating of a work pronounced of the greatest utility to the people of these states, in the pursuit of which I have now spent the best years of my life, but those hopes being now at an end, and it not being convenient for me to be at any further expence or loss of time, it is with great regret I see all the works I have applied myself to for so many years buried in oblivium, and the materials of my most valuable collection (the only one of the kind in private hands) in a short time perhaps be scattered and lost. There are many persons of the highest rank and learning who have favoured me with their friendship, have taken the trouble to view my collection and are perfectly well acquainted with its value; these may perhaps hereafter lament that nothing was done to encourage the possessor of it or at least to prevent its loss. I shall leave it to some more fortunate and better qualified than myself to undertake the arduous task, but none will ever surpass me in the zeal and the desire I had in

being really usefull to the people among whom I have lived so many years and for whom I entertain a real Esteem.

May I beg leave to request that the plan of my intended work which was annexed to the report of the committee on my affair may be return'd to me, and, if consistent with the rules of Congress that I may be favour'd with a copy of the original report of the said committee. I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect your Excellency's most obedient and most humble Servant,

P. E. Du Simitiere,\* of Geneva.

Philadelphia July 20th 1780.

His Excellency, the President of Congress.

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[No. 3090.]

*Ab'm Yates to Governor Clinton Regarding the Protection of the Frontier—With Governor Clinton's Reply.*

Albany 20 July 1780.

Dear Sir, I have r'd your favour of the 13th Instant. I differ with you in opinion upon that part where you say (speaking on your genl. orders) "it is certainly calculated for the Ease of the Fronteer Regiments and Safety of the Settlements not to diminish the Force now on the Fronters."

I conceive that every man taken from the Fronteers, diminishing the Force: for the militia is the Force of the Frontiers as well as the Levies—But this is not all I have found by experience, that when ever the Fronteers are attackd one from an other place is worth two; they have not the same cares for their famely or Effects and as such they have a different and a more resolute way of thinking and acting which gives spring to the other; another part of your Letter (mentioning the number of men

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\* See Volume IV, pages 533-536 and footnote, pages 607-609; also Volume V, page 492.

required by Congress) you say "and this being the Case I should hold myself criminal in diminishing their number even should other calls for their Services be ever so urgent and pressing." I am informed that the enemy of late have with small parties burned the evacuated Houses in the upper parts of Tryon County and that we have not men sufficient to go and drive them off but are obliged to keep in their little forts; if so, how will they get in their Harvest (the best that ever was in the County); if it is in, how will they preserve it from being distroy'd (I dont mean the whole, some part must go); I could wish that some measure could be fallen upon to save it. I can imagine how you feel when the object seems to be to get New York. But I mean that these should be done, provided it can be so done as not to leave the other undone. The expedition of Genl. Arnold when Genl. Burgoin came down, was formed by Gen Schyler upon this plan and it answered. These people feel themselves neglected and must sit as the forlorn Hope.

We have broke up and disconcerted a set of Tories that were to go off from Helleberg this day (Doctor Mead may give you the Particulars) to the enemy; 25 are taken up and are to be brought to gaol; what shall we do with them. They dont believe the French fleet is or will come; supposeing they were sent their I think that should be done or those from the South should be sent to the North and those from there to the Southern army the gaol will not do. The Doctor waits. I give you joy with your Daughter. I wish you Health, for God knows I believe you have so many applications & so much Business that you stand in need of it. I am your very Hu. S't

Ab'm Yates, Jun.

His Ex'y, George Clinton, Esq.

Pokeepsie 26th July 1780.

Dear Sir, I am favoured with yours of the 20th Instant. I perfectly agree with you that every Man taken from the Frontiers whether Militia or Levies is diminishing the Strength of the Frontiers; but you very strangely impute to my orders what is really the Effect of the Law. Surely a Moment's reflection will convince you that it is the Law that directs the raising of every fifteenth Man for Reinforcing the Army of the United States. That points out the particular Service they are to [be] employed in & that extends the present Drafts to every Regiment in the State not exempting any on account of their Situation without leaving anything to my Discretion. My orders are barely calculated to carry the Law into Execution. I likewise agree with you that the Militia of the Neighbourhood attacked do not generally act with the same Energy as if they were not perplexed with the immediate Care of their Familles, but at the same Time I insist that the Frontier Militia are not only generally better marksmen & having a general Knowledge of the Woods & Geography of the Country, far better adopted for the Frontier Service than the Militia of the Interior Parts of the Country? This I have often heard you remark with respect to the Militia of Tryon County. By my orders it did not follow that they were to be stationed in the neighbourhoods in which they were raised. My Intentions were very different; For you well know my Sentiments are to keep our Guards advanced to all our Settlements & in this Case your Objection ag't the Frontier Levies for that Service is fully obviated. I am certain it would ease the Inhabitants in procuring their Levies & this with me was a great object. Surely you would not wish me to counteract a positive Law. This I should do if I was



to apply any of the present Levies to the Frontier Service without replacing them with an equal Number & should consider it as Criminal stretch of Power.

Believe me, Sir, we shall after all the Pains I have taken, fall short of the number of men required of us to reinforce the Army, and I am very apprehensive I shall be obliged very soon to convene the Legislature to make some further & more ample Provision for this Service; & I am sorry to say the Deficiencies will be in Genl. Ten Broeck's Brigade cannot be that the . . . . . Regiment ought to furnish but 27 Men.

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[No. 3091.]

*Levies Raised in Colonel Cantine's Regiment, Detached to Replace the Seven Months' Levies Enlisted in Continental Army.*

List of the Levies raised out of Colo. Cantine's Regt. and detained to replace such of the 7th months men as enlisted by Lt. Conolly.

Petrus Merkel	Elisan Crispell
Johannis Mack	Hend'k Bush
Jesse Mack	Wm. Brodhead
Wm. Ennis	Cornelius V'n Wagenen
Jacob Snyder	Wm. DeWitt
Jacob Vandemerk	Joseph Vandemerk
David Bevier	John Aller
John Connoway	Cornelius Connoway
John Hardenbergh	William Dunlap
Zopher Taniry	A. Pawling, Lt. Colo.

Marbletown, July 21st 1780.

[No. 3092.]

*Return of Levies from Colonel McCrea's Regiment.*Fort Edward July 21<sup>the</sup> 1780.

## A Return of the levies from Colo. Mac Cray's Regt.

From what Company :	From what Class ;	Men's Names.
Capt. Ven Voat's	Giddin Boudis	John Guy
	Giddin Freeman	Timmethy Guy
	William MacCallips	Isaac Storms
	John Fish	William Benit
	Leut. Storms	Richard Antony
	Garet Finbury	James Allin
	Jacob V Soik	Roger V Soik
	Lieut. Wheler	John Bensen
John Tomson, Capt.	Richard Robbeson	Siris Knap
	Gorg Parmer	Abner Fish
	John Andris	William Nortin
	Capt. Boldin	Jonathan Millet
	Maj'r Dickason	David Hervy
Capt. Dunnin	Elezer Miller	Robbard Miller
	Insine Groman	Phinneas Wead
	Capt. Dunnin	Saul Smith
Capt. Woodworth	David Biddewill	Daniel Parks
	Ezekal Insign	Nathan Chitterster
	John McCarthe	Robert Simson
	Samuel McBride	Jonathan Foster
Capt. Dunham	Bengemin Rogis	Elias Cint
		Samuel Dunham
		Moses Hunter
	Capt. Dunham	Charles Robbeson
	William Grean	Emry Umfry

From what Company :	From what Class :	Men's Names.
Capt. Lake	Stanton Tift	John Reynolds
	Lieut. Gage	Gorg Cordiner
	Jonathan Foster	Joseph Saterly
	James Eldridge	Samuel Daly
Capt. Winner	Capt. Moss	Isaac Moss
	John Mahawney	Milo Webster

A return of the Levies raised from Saraghtoga Regt and now in actual Service at Fort Ann under the command of Capt. Sherwood.

John McCrea, Colone.

August 11th, 1780.

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[No. 3093.]

*John Williams Informs Governor Clinton of the Situation in Vermont—Ethan Allen's Threat.*

White Creek, July 21st 1780.

Hon'd Sir, I am sorry my writing you hath been so long omitted, but the sentiments of the people hath been such, that I scare knew what to write. I have been on the Grants, as much as once a week since your Departure from the frontieers, so that I have acquired the knowledge of most of their Proceedings, and I believe your presant proceeding, hath given a severe check to their new system. Collo. Warren, Major Allen, and other their officers, as well as their men, acknowledgeth your benevolence, and says it was far beyond what they ever mett with or that they could expect. The former hath laid down his commission, having lost the use of one of his hands and having a chargable family, which renders him incapable of officiating in that important post, & says as he was a captain commanding a company at Ticonderoga, and then acknowledging the Jurisdic-

tion of this state, he ought to be taken notice of as a petitioner agreeable to the act of Congress. Mr. Lyon, the gentleman that was at Lake George with Genl. Allen and after which followed your Excellency to Fort Edward, is so condemn'd for his conduct when with your Excellency, that he is about to leave this side of the Mountain.

The late resolutions of Congress hath caused great uneasiness amongst them & I have reason to believe that the majority of their men in office thinks they will lose their state. As for Allen he swears that he will fight, nay even run on the mountains & live on mouse meat before he will subject himself to New York, or Congress. He shew me a letter last week, which was going to the Council for approbation, in order to be sent to Congress, to this effect, that as the state of Vermont never had waged war with G. Britain, nor had not joyn'd Congress by confederation, it was at the option of Vermont which to joyn. and refered Congress to Bradleys Peice, (should this be sent to Congress) which I make no doubt but it will. I hope the matter will soon be settled. For my own part (tho' I shall leave an independant fortune) yet I cannot see the justice in depriving these people of their prior grants, (provided they would acknowledge our jurisdiction).

I had a great dispute with some of their leading men last week, respecting this matter; they say that admitting the Legislature of New York would confirm them in their prior grants, yet, if Vermont accedes to the Jurisdiction of N. York. the Patentees of N. York would prosecute their title as its not in the Legislative power to give those lands which are patent'd. I gave them for answer if the Legislature, gave the Patentees, unappropriated lands, & took up their patents, it could be done, &

that I had heard Mr. Duane, (who had the greatest share, except those gone to the Enemy) was fully satisfied to give up his right. Other objections they have, that in case they join New York, they will be troubled, respecting the sale of confiscated lands, and lands which they have granted. How far Policy may induce the Legislature to confirm these proceedings, I am not able to determine. But Vermont hath done this in order to strengthen them in New Hampshire, Massachusetts and Connecticut, as the Patentees are residents in those places, as well as the purchasers of the confiscated lands. A few days since some gentlemen came to me from Otter Creek who have always acknowledged the Jurisdiction of New York, in order to know how it went on. I gave them the resolves of Congress, which they had not seen nor heard of, it being kept secret from them. They inform me that the people in general are dissatisfied with the proceedings of the new state; and some who have taken the freemans oath are requesting to recant.

I am of opinion if a proclamation was issued that the prior grants should be confirm'd; in plain words so that the vulgar might readily understand it, the majority on this side the mountain would comply. I believe the greatest number that could be perswaded to fight against Jurisdiction would not amount to more than three hundred. As for the other side of the mountain, they are so much divided, some for New York, some for New Hampshire, & others for Vermont that there will be no great difficulty. It gives me pleasure to here the York party are raising their quota of men under New York jurisd' with the greatest cheerfulness, but I w'd submit it to your Excell'y, Judgm't whither prudence respecting the num' to be

rais'd ort not to be us'd, as the contention on the east side of the mountain is beneficiall.

We have cause to be thankfull that since you left us, we have remain'd in peace; the men ordered to be raised in this district are gone to Fort Edward. Notwithstanding your Excellency's orders, the men did not go to Skeensbrough, nor do I learn that any are ordered there. The inhabitants are generally moved of from there. Major McCracken went to Skeansbrough to pitch on a place for a pickett, & the inhabitants of Granvill would have charefully went with there teems to draw them, but the men not going there hath prevented any thing being done, so that the faithfull subjects are now open to the insults of the enemy, while the people on the Scotts Patent (who are in generall disaffected), are protected. Notwithstanding your Excellency's orders for a generall Court Martial, those people (in the Scotts Patent) who ought to have suffered, have been excus'd by reason of \* warning. It seems that those people by some pretence or other are \* duty, (because they deny doing any) but of all fines or punishments. This hath been the case since the retreat. Collo. Webster hath appointed sundry regimental courts martial for the tryall of delinquents, but suldom any officers appears, by which means there is nothing done; whether its done out of contempt to him, or neglect I know not, When Collo. Yates was at my house with the Court Martial, Collo. Webster requested one Shaw of the Scotts Patent to take a Lieut's Commission which he had ready for him. Shaw inform'd the Collo. that he dare not, for fear of being kill'd; the Collo. urg'd him much but I inform'd Collo. Webster that Shaw had been at Burgoyne's camps and would insist on

being sworn to the King (tho not desired) and no wonder of his being afraid of being killd. and thro the perswation of Collo. Yates & myself, Collo. Webster omitted urging him any more and if some officer is not appointed in that Patent, that knows how to act like an officer these people will not only free themselves of going out on duty, & draughts, but also of fines and punishments.

I am inform'd that the men did not proceed to Skeansbrough agreeable to your Excellency's orders, by reason of there [not being]\* supplied with provisions; a request for cattle came to me last week from the Commisary for cattle saying if they could not be supplied with that article, the men must abandon Forts George & Edward. I sent them a pair of oxen & a cow; and Major McCracken, Esqr. Hopkins & self collected near twenty head on the faith of the public, & I hope before they are gone a sufficient supply will arrive. I have nothing to inform you from the Norw'd, only one man being kill'd & scalp'd about a mile from the Fort on the frontiers of the Grants—supposed to be Indians. I have the Hon'r to be, with the greatest respect & esteem, your Excellency most obed't & most Humble Serv't,

John Williams.

To Governor Clinton.

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[No. 3094.]

*The Enemy Contemplates Destroying the Crops on the Frontier of New York—Governor Clinton's Letter.*

Sir, For your Excellency's Information we have thought it proper to inclose an Extract of an Examination of Peter Van Campen and from many corroborating Reports and Insinuations

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\*Mss. torn.

of the disaffected and other Circumstances, we are led to believe that the Enemy have it in view to (and will if possible), destroy all the grain to the Northward & Westward, a measure which is carried into Execution will certainly greatly distress us; we would, therefore, suggest the necessity of sending a strong Party to the Westward for the Purpose of aiding the Inhabitants in gathering the grain, threshing the same, and bringing it down to a Place of Safety. The Crops are so great they are not able of themselves to gather them and perform the Duties the Country requires. We have the honor to be, your Excellency's most obedient & hum: Servants,

Mat: Visscher. John M. Beeckman. Sam: Stringer.

Albany 22nd July 1700.

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

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Extract of Peter Van Campen's Examination taken on oath the 20th July 1780.

Who saith that John Buys who went off to Canada with Sir John Johnson in 1776, and has been lately with him at Johnstown is a Serjeant in his Regiment; that this Buys came to the Examinant's House last Friday evening a week, to see his wife, who is a Daughter of the Examinant & lives with him; that this Buys in conversation informed the Examinant that Sir John was gone down to Quebec for the Purpose of obtaining a Flag to fetch the women at Saragotoga; that they expected in Canada daily to hear of the Reduction of the Forts in the Highlands, when an Army would instantly move down from the Northward and Westward; that if this failed, Parties would come down the Mohawk and North Rivers immediately after the Harvest was



gathered, to destroy the grain which would effectually knock up our Army, as they had Information that Provisions were very scarce here and that the Crops below were very bad.

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Pokeepsie July 24th 1780.

Gent., I have rec'd your Letter of the 22d Instant with the Enclosure. Every means which the Law has put in my Power hath been faithfully employed in draw'g out a suff't Force for the Defence of the northern & western Frontiers. Nor have I been defic't in my Representations to the Legislature & his Excellency Genl. Washington, of their exposed situation. If my orders are executed I am led to hope that they will be secured ag't the attempts of the Enemy; but if they are not, it is to be regretted; & the officers concerned must answer for the Consequences. It is with Pain I inform you that of the Levies directed to be raised last spring, it would appear from Returns made me, that the County of Albany altho' so immediately concerned in the security of the Frontiers, are [is] upwards of 100 Deficient. While this is the case, you'l readily conceive how impossible it is for me to collect a Force competent for the Purposes mentioned in your Letter. I am &c.

G: Clinton.

The Commiss'rs for Conspiracies, Albany.

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[No. 3095.]

*Governor Clinton Answers an Alarming Appeal from the Northern Part of the State.*

To His Excellency George Clinton Esqr. Capt. General and Commander in Chief of the State of New York and Admiral of the Navy of the same.

Wee, the Subscribers being appinted by the Inhabitants of the townships of Skenesborough and Granvil at a Meating legally

named for that purpose and holden in Granvil the 22th instant July, as a Committee to address your Excellency in this distressing and Critical day of the Calamity of war: Relying on your Excellencies gracious promis at the time you was on your short expedition to Lake George, that wee should have the happiness of a small guard stationed at Skenesborough for the defence of our lives and libertyes, both Civil and ecclesiastical, against the Raviges and incurtions of a crewel and merciless enemy, which promis was cordially excepted and confidently relyed on, so that many of the frontier Inhabitants have returned with their families to their respective places of Residence, but much time being elapsed, wee find by sorofull experiance, that the guard distined for Skenesborough are stationed at Fort Edward, wheither it be your excellencies orders or any misrepresentation of matter wee are ignorant, and as a people happy under your excellencies wise goverment have gladly embraced your excellencies orders in raising our Coto of men alloted, hoping for our defince, but find them stationed a considerable distance below us, while wee are left open to the irresistable attac of the enemy which is dayly expected; these alarming Circumstance excites your excellencies humble petitioners to a Renewal of our former prayers that your excellency would consider our distressed Circumstances, and as additional instance of your Excellencies goodness towards us by way of protection, to send sum immediate Relief, that may in sum Measher be a sufficient Strength against the daly expected deperdation of the enemy for which your excellencies petitioners as in humble duly bound will ever pray &c.

Jeremiah Burroughs, Isa'h Benett, John Grover, Comittee.

P. S. The Impatience of your Excellencies humble petitioners prompts them to an earnest Request for an answer to this our humble petition by the Bairer.

Poukeepsie 30th July 1780.

Gentlemen, I have received your address by Mr. Baker. It has given me great concern that no Part of the Levies for the defence of the state have been stationed for the Protection of your Settlements. My Orders to Lieut. Colo. Harper who commands them, was to pay an equal attention to every exposed Part of the Frontiers in the Distribution of his Corps & I had flattered myself that a Detachment of them were in your Neighbourhood. I have by the Bearer wrote to Capt. Chipman on the Subject, & directed him to order as large a Detachment for your Defence as can be done consistent with Justice to the other Settlements. But the amazing Delinquency in Genl. Ten Broeck's Brigade in furnishing their proportion of these Levies, will I fear unavoidably occasion the Detachment which will be ordered to your Quarter much smaller than I could wish. You may rest assured, Gentlemen, that nothing in my Power shall be wanting to promote your Safety, & if the orders I have issued to Genl. Ten Broeck shall be executed, a force will be drawn out competent for this Purpose. I am &c.

[G. C.]

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[No. 3096.]

*Colonels Cortlandt and Weissenfels' Letter Respecting the Delinquent Captain Black.*

Weast Point July 22d 1780.

Sir, We have received your Letter of the 19th Instant, and beg leave to observe, that the Letter directed to Capt. Black, on publick Service, was handed to Ensign Tallmadge, who at Morris Town, distributed the Continental Cloathing; in the absence of Mr. Black, he gave the same to Colonel Weissenfels, observing

that General Clinton's opinion was Necessary upon the subject, and perhaps he would appoint an officer, for the purpose therein Mentioned, Mr. Tallmadge, being appointed Adjutant to the Regiment, could not possibly attend.

The General, parused the same and gave no deciasive answer; he soon after going away and Colonel Weissenfels, conceiving it his duty to Communicate the matter to some of the Field Officers, who were imprest, with a Renewed anxiety, for the distressed condition of the men, having heard nothing of Capt. Black, since the troops left Morris Town, neither knew where he might be found, believed that he was guilty of gross neglect of duty, and liable to Censure if not a dismissal, but acknowledge they were ignorant of the mode how to obtain either, but in the manner they expressed themselves to your Excellency; however the duty of our several stations will not allow, time to prosecute the affair, only wish that if he could be found he may be urged on to activity;

At this moment Capt. Wheyly, arrived and declares on honor that the Reason of his delay was unvoluntary occasioned, by various, and unavoidable distresses when the Enemy, was in New Jersey; we hope therefore your Excellency, will be pleased to permite him to receive his Instructions, for the purpose of his appointment, as we are well satisfied that he will approve himself to our Satisfaction; We have the Honor, to be your Excellency's most obedient Humble Serv't,

Philip Cortlandt,  
Fredr: Weissenfels.

[To G. C.]

[No. 3097.]

*Colonel Ludinton's Return of Levies from his Regiment.*

Regimental Return of Colo. Henry Ludinton's Redgt. of Militia in Brig'r General Swartwout's Brigade in Fricksborough July th 23, 1780.

Companies	Field			Commissioned			Staff				Non Commiss'd			Privates Present	Officers and Exempts are included in this Note.
	Colo.	Lt. Colo.	Major	Capt.	Lieuts.	Ensigns	Adjt.	Q. Master	Serjt. Major	Qr. Mr. Serjt.	Serjts.	Corps	Drum & Bfe		
Captains															
Capt. George Crane	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	4	4	1	23	77
Capt. David Warterberry				1	1	1					4	4	2		78
Capt. Hezekiah Meeads				1	1	1					4	4	1		80
Capt. John Crane				1	2	1					4	4	2		106
Capt. Joel Meeads				1	2	1					4	4	1		81
Capt. Nathaniel Scribner				1	2	1					4	4	2		91
Capt. Isral Knap	1	1	1	6	14	7	1	1	1	1	28	28	10	23	67
															580

Henry Ludinton, Colo'll.

[No. 3098.]

*Captain North's Receipt\* for Boards, etc. for the Repair of the House Formerly Belonging to Crannel.*

1780. State of New York to Robt. North Dr.

Oct.	10	for the freight of 600 bricks from Albany			
		to Pokeepsie @ 2	pr	Hhd	£ 0: 12: 0
		for 100 inch bord @ 2			10: 00: 0
Nov'br		for 32 floor bords @ 2	6d		4: 00: 0
		for 5 plank @ 3			0: 15: 0
					<hr/>
					£15: 7: 0

Received of George Clinton, Esqr. Gov'r of the State, sixty four Pounds twelve Shillings for the above articles in the new Emission computed at four for one in Specie being supposed the present passing Value, this 23d July 1781.

Robert North.

[No. 3099.]

*Major Woolsey's Report of the Number of Men Furnished by Ten Broeck's and Rensselaer's Brigades to Reinforce the Army.*

Albany July 22nd 1780.

Sir, I am directed by His Excellency Governor Clinton, to procure Returns of the Deficiencies of the Levies ordered to be raised by this state, pursuant to Genl. orders of the 11th of April last. Being obliged to forward the Levies nor raising, it is impossible for me to visit the Commanding officers of the different regiments. I have, therefore, to request you, immediately, to make out returns of the No. of men wanting to compleat your Quota for the Frontier Service and particularly the names of every dilinquent Class, it being probable that there

\*This document is dated 1781. It was incorrectly dated 1780 by the original editor of the Clinton MSS.

will be detachments from the militia for the purpose of defending the Frontiers; it will be the Interest of your Regiment for you to give this information, that the Burthen of the Campaign may fall upon the Defaulters. You will please, therefore, as soon as may be, to make such returns, and forward them to His Excellency. I am &c.

M. W.

Copies of this Letter were sent to Colo's Vrooman, McCrea, V'n Woert, Yates, V'n Bergen, V'n Ness & Whiting; all the rest had a verbal Request either from Lieut. Colo. Paine or myself.

Regiments	No Classes	No of Men Delivered	Wanting	Remarks
McCrea	36	36		1st: After this Return was made, Colo. Paine informed me that Webster and McCrea had not yet delivered their whole Quotas, but that they would do it in a few days without fail.
Webster	34	34		
Quackenbos	25	2	23	2nd: Two whole Classes, went off together to the enemy from Phil. P. Schuyler's & Quackenbos's regiments, 17 of whom were taken; and bro't to Albany on Sunday ye 23d Inst.
Phil. P. Schuyler	28	13	15	
Steph'n J. Schuyler	20	3	17	3d: Colo. Quackenbos informs Lieut. Colo. Paine that his Regt. will have nothing to do with raising men that he (Colo Quack) may assess them double if he pleases.
Schoonhoven	27	11	16	
Cnyler	27	16	11	4: I have ordered Lt. Peter TenBroeck, of Robt. V'n Ransseleer Regt. to proceed immediately to the five last Regiments and collect the remainder of their Levies, and march them to Fishkill this week.
Kel'n V'n Ransselaer	41	14	27	
Wimpe		0	0	Albany, July 24th 1780. Mel. L'd Woolsey.
Yates		0		
V'n Wort		0		
Vrooman		0		
Livingston	43	40	3	
V'n Ness	40	33	7	
Whiting	57	41	16	
V'n Alstine	31	21	10	
V'n Ranssalaer	44	38	6	

[No. 3100.]

*Colonel Vroman's Return.*

A return of Men at present on Duty at the defrant posts in Schohary from the Regiment of Coll. Peter Vroman at Schohary July the 24th 1780.

Regiments	Where Stationed																						
	Colonels	Lieut. Coll.	Majors	Staff	Captains	Lieutenants	Ensigns	Sergents	Drum & fife	Ranck & file	Total	Colonels	Lieut. Colonels	Majors	Staff	Captains	Lieutenants	Ensigns	Sergents	Drum & fife	Ranck & file	Total	
Coll. Vroman's			1		2	2	2	6	1	58	72					1	1	1	1	1	1	16	16
															1	1	1	1	1	2	2	17	17
															1	1	1	1	1	3	3	25	25
															1	2	2	2	2	6	6	58	72

his Excellency Georg Clinton Esqr. Governor of the State of New York &c.  
Errors Excepted Peter Vroman, Coll.



[No. 3101.]

*Schoharie in a State of Alarm.*

Schohary July 24th, 1780.

May it Please your Excellency: The distressed Situation of this Frontier Settlement urges us to call upon your Excellency for Relief; there is only about seventy men officers included of the New York State Levies and eleven militia from Albany under the Command of Capt. Isaac Bogert stationed at the middle and upper forts in this place. The Lower fort is intirely maintained by the militia of this place, besides assisting to maintain the middle and upper forts, as it will appear by the inclosed Return of Coll. Vroman.

The half of the militia of this place has been oblided to be on duty since the beginning of May last; here is the greatest prospect of a good Crop of whate; some of the inhabitance have begun to reap this day, so that a Reinforcement if possible would be absolutely necessary with the greatest speed. Besides Constant small scouts Coll. Vroman is continually called upon for assistance as it will appear by the inclosed Coppies of Letters.

Eighty men under the Command of Major Eckerson have been in persuit of persons going off to the Enemy last week. Information has been received yesterday that six men and a woman in Brekebeen [Breakabeen] upper part of this place was gone off to the Enemy by the way of Harpersfield; a party is sent this morning in persuit of them.

By all the Transactions of the disaffected persons, it is likely

that they Enemy Intents a Blow on this place; we Remain,  
with Esteem, your Excellency most obedient humble Serv'ts

Peter Vroman, Col;

Jonas Vroman, Justice;

Pieter Ziele, L: Col;

John Lawyer, Justice;

Thomas Eckesen, Major;

William Dietz, Justice;

Jose Becker, major;

Adam Vroman, Justies.

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

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Pokeepsie, 30th July 1780.

Gentlemen, I acknowledge the Receipt of your Letter of the  
24th Instant and must refer you to the Bearer, Mr. Becker, for  
the different Measures I have taken for your Protection of which  
I have not Leissure to give you a particular Detail. I hope  
they may be effectual for I can assure you nothing further than  
what I have already ordered remains in my Power. I am, with  
great Esteem, your most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

Colo. Vrooman, Major Ziele.

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[No. 3102.]

*Lieutenant Vermillya's Return of Levies from Allison's Regiment.*

July 25th 1780.

A Return of the Levies Re'd from Col. Elison's Redg. under  
the Command of Jacob M. Vermillya, Leut.

Men	Guns	Bayonets	Cartouches
6	6	5	6

[No. 3103.]

*Lieutenant Delavan's Return of Levies from Woodhull's Regiment.*

July 25th 1780.

A Return of the Levies Re'd from Col. Wooddell's Redg. under the Command of Leut. Daniel Delevan.

Men	Guns	Bayonets	Cartouch Boxes
15	13	6	12

Pr me Daniel Delavan.

[No. 3104.]

*Colonel Snyder's Return of Levies Raised in His Regiment.*

A List of the Number of men Raised & mustered out Collo. Snyder's Regiment & by virtue of an act Passed by the Legislature 24th of June 1780 for the Southern Service & the western frontiers of Ulster County to witt 68 men, & by order of his Excellency the Governor; out the Quota of said Regiment the one third are to be stationed at the frontiers as a Rainging Party & as many more as will Replace the men Listed by Lieut. Connally from the Levies Raised last for the frontiers, Collo. Albart Pawling has detain'd from the said Levies now Raised for the Rangers & to replace the men listed by Liut. Connally; the following Numbers to witt for Rangers 27 men, including Lieut. Hommel; to Replace the men of Connal's 19 Do; the Remaining to march with Mr. Nottingham to Fishkill, 22 men. Kingston July 25th 1780.

Joh's Snyder, Collo.

[No. 3105.]

*Governor Clinton Directs Attorney General Benson to Prosecute  
Delinquent Purchasers of Forfeited Estates.*

Poughkeepsie July 25th 1780.

Sir, I am informed that notwithstanding many of the forfeited Estates have been long since sold by the Commiss'rs, yet little if any of the monies due on such sales have been paid into the Treasury; by Reason whereof my warrants in favor of the Persons appointed to procure Clothing & necessaries for the Troops of this State in the Service of the United States, have not been answered. I have, therefore, to request that, without discrimination of Persons, you will immediately commence Prosecutions ag't the Delinquents for the consideration money due on the said sales & which agreeable to law ought to have been p'd into the Treasury. I am &c.

G: Clinton.

E. Benson, Esq. Atty Genl. &amp;c.

[No. 3106.]

*Ebenezer Boyd's Letter to the Governor Respecting Shirts and Linnen  
to be Collected for the Troops.*

Peekskill, 25th July 1780.

Sir, Yesterday I was favour'd with a Letter sign'd by the Hon'le Pierre V Cortlandt, Esqr. by order of the Senate dated 30th Ult. & directed to Eben'r Purdy, Solomon Purdy & myself, the purport of which was requesting us to solicit a number of Shirts & Linnen for overalls to be applied for the relief of this State Troops, said Shirts & Linnen to be collected by the 17th Inst. and deliver'd to Col. Joseph Benedict or his order. The Time of effecting this Business having expir'd before I was apprized of it, I thought it my duty to acquaint your Excellency

thereof to acquit myself of the seeming Neglect which I can no ways account for; had the Letter come to my Hands in due Time, I would cheerfully undertake & do my best; and have no doubt but the real Whigs in this District would be spirited in contributing according to their abilities on so becoming an occasion and I fancy most others would require but little Persuasion. I shall write to Col. Benedict on the Subject & proceed according to his Directions, being always glad of an opportunity to serve the cause of my Country. I have the Honour to subscribe myself, with the greatest Respect, your Excellency's most obedient and very humble Serv't

Eben'r Boyd,

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

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[No. 3107.]

*Governor Clinton Administers a Rebuke to Colonel Woodhull.*

Dear Govenor, Pursuant to your orders your Excellency has a Return of the number of Leavies from my Ridgement which is Thirty foure. I am, with great Esteem, your Excellencies very Humb. Serv't

Jesse Woodhull

Orang County, July the 10 1780.

To His Excellency George Clinton.

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July 26th 1780.

S'r, I have rec'd your Letter of the 10th Inst. & am extremely sorry to inform you that, from the Returns of Colo. Hathorn & others & from the knowledge I have of the strength of your Regt., there must be some very capital Error in your Return of the Levies to be furnished by your Regt. Hathorn

by his Return raised forty four & Allison's thirty one & this being the case & comparing the strength of your Regt. with those it cannot be supposed that thirty five is the full am't of your Proportion. Some abuse must have been committed in the classing of the Inhabit's, which I am willing to impute to your inferior officers; but which whether thro' mistake or Design, must be immediately corrected or I shall be under the disagreeable necessity of order'g a C't of Enquiry & of hav'g the Inhabit's of the District numbered anew. If it shou'd be found that the abuses have been committed with the knowlege of the officers, the officers concerned must be brought to punish'm't, for without this the other Regts. will have great cause of Complaint & the Service receive material Injury. As a member of the Legislature, I need not mention to you how much the intended operations depend on the getting out the Levies to reinforce the army & how fatal the consequences will be in case of failure, nor the Pain I feel on find'g by a Return, of the officer appointed to receive your Levies, that only fifteen of the few raised have yet arrived at the Place of Rendezvous. Let me, therefore, intreat you in the most earnest Terms to exert yourself in compleat'g your Levies & hav'g them forwarded to the Place of Rendezvous & thereby prevent the disagreeable necessity of my report'g to the Genl. that it is out of my Power to comply with his Requisition which I must do, pointing out the delinquent Regts. unless my orders are immediately complied with. I am &c.

G: Clinton.

Colo. Woodhull.

[No. 3108.]

*Major John Graham Reports the Presence of Joseph Brant in the Vicinity of Fort Schuyler.*

Fort Schuyler, 27 July 1780

D'r Sir, Yesterday about six O'Clock in the afternoon a body of Eight Hund'd of the Enemy including two hund'd whites Encamped a little below the Indian fields. I sent some of the Oneidas amongst them who inform me that they saw several British officers one a German who wore a star on his breast. Joseph Brant was with them; this morning about sunrise they paraded a little below the old fort in full view; we immediately saulted them with the artillery & drove them back after which they fell to killing the horses & Cattle belonging to the Oneidas that were not put up & firing at the fort till nine O'Clock & our artillery behaved very well & I believe killed some of them; they are now returned to their camp for how long I cannot tell. Sconondo & Peter are with them & have got their families; the rest of the Oneidas are with us & seem determined to oppose them; previous to this I sent Cap'n Hicks with sixty men & fifty Oneida warriours to guard up the boats from Fort Herkamer. The situation of the garrison obliged me to take this step, as I was informed by express that Capt. V Renselaer could not proceed for want of a Guard. I rec'd information of the enemy's approach yesterday in good time to inform Capt. Hicks who has fortified himself at Old Fort Schuyler agreeable to my orders. The Grasshopper is of opinion that the enemy are coming to besiege the fort & this party is coming to cut off our communication. You know the situation of the garrison & the condition we must be in should the boats miscarry. I have orderd Capt. Hicks to continue fortifying his little fort till he is re-

lieved from below. Our little hand full of men behaved with the greatest spirit & chearfulness & are determined to defend the fort while they can get a horse or dog to eat; what pity such brave troops should be used in such a scandalous manner. I remain in haste yours

Signed

Jno. Graham.

To Coll. Goose V Schaick.

Copy.

[No. 3109.]

*Governor Clinton to General James Clinton Regarding Promotions.*

Poukeepsie, 28th July 1780.

Sir, I am favoured with Col. Cortlandt & Wissenfel's Letter of the 22d Instant. Their Reasons for opening Capt. Black's Letter are perfectly satisfactory. I have transmitted a duplicate to his usual Place of abode & you may rely upon it that the moment he can be found he will be directed to pay the strictest & most assiduous attention to the Duties of his office & the least Evidence of neglect will not pass unnoticed. Capt. Wiley has been with me & recived his appointment with a Warrant on the Treasury for £150,000 & has engaged to pay an immediate attention to the Business of procuring Supplies for the Troops & I flatter myself from his Zeal & Activity you will soon experience the comfortable Effects of his Agency.

You may remember that in my last, I informed you that the Council of Appointment was to meet the 1st Day of next Month. I now enclose you a Copy of a Letter from Lieut. Glenny complaining of Injustice in the Arrangement lately made by the Council of the New York Line a Copy of which was transmitted you by Capt. Norton. You will have observed that the Council



in their appointments have proceeded upon the Returns made by the four Regts. of the Brigade attested by the Commanding Officer, without the least Deviation from it, so that if any Error has taken Place it is to be imputed to the Returns, for it was imposible for the Council to procure any other Evidence of the particular Periods in which Promotions were to take Place. For my own Part I must confess I am not as yet convinced of the Justice of the Principle upon which Mr. Glenney founds his claim of prior Promotion, nor am I satisfied that the Practice of the Brigade woud justify it: & if Returns are regularly made to the Board of War, which I presume to be the Case, I cannot conceive how Commissions can be issued on this System, as the Promotions woud be found to differ essentially from these Returns, notwithstanding Mr. Glenney may have Injustice done him when compared to the Case of Mr. Bagely & others which he aludes to. I have, therefore, to request your Report with the Sentiments of the Field Officers on this Subject in Season, to lay it before the Council at their next meeting, that the Arrangement may be compleated & the Warrants for the Commissions transmitted to the Board of War. We wish to do the Officers the strictest Justice with Respect to Rank. It is neither our Interest or Inclination to impede their Promotion: but at the same Time, we wish not be chargeable with Inconsistency or Injustice to the other Gentlemen of the Army by making undue Promotions in our Line. I am, Sir, &c.

G: Clinton.

Brig'r Genl. Clinton.

[No. 3110.]

*Colonel Van Schaick's Letter to Governor Clinton in Regard to  
Supplying Fort Schuyler with Provisions.*

Albany July 28th 1780.

Sir, On the 1st Instant I did myself the Honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellencies favor of the 29th Ultimo, informing your Excellency that the order from the Commander in Chief directed to any Com'sy to the Eastward for one hundred Barrels of Beef or Pork had been forwarded to Mr. John Watson of Hartford, a principle agent in the State of Conecticut with a requisition to forward the above mentioned Beef or Pork without loss of time. I have not yet rec'd an answer from Mr. Watson nor am I able to obtain an Express in order to make the necessary inquiry for the want of money in the Quarter Master Department.

I have not hitherto been able with the utmost Exertions to throw into Fort Schuyler, more provisions then to feed them from hand to mouth, & Capt. Horton, I have been inform'd, has inlisted the chief part of the Levies Stationed at the German Flatts; those it's said are on their march down with a few Stationd at Stone Arabia & Fort Plank & were the only alternative I had for an Escort to the Boats & Cattle going to the Fort. Altho I shall leave no means untried to have the Garrison of Fort Schuyler supplied, it is at present out of my power to promise that I shall be able to accomplish it. Provisions & men to guard them up are wanted. I am most respectfully your Excellencies, most Obedient Servant

G. V Schaick.

Governor George Clinton.

[No. 3111.]

*General Van Rensselaer Reports to the Governor that Fort Schuyler is Cut Off.*

Fox's Mills 28th July 178[0] 10 O'Clock P. M.

on my March to the German Flatts.

Dear Govenor, I am this moment favour'd with some very interesting Intelligence from Fort Schuyler. Time will only permitt me to inform your Excellency, that the Communication between this, and Fort Schuyler\* is cut off, by a body of Eight hundred Indians and Tories, and from Major Graham's Letter, it appears they expect a body of Regular Troops; for more particular information must refer you, to Col. Van Schaick Letter who I have desired to write you. I have one hundred men with me. Col. Clyde is now at the German Flatts with one hundred. I may get Eighty men from the German Flatts, and Lieut. Col. Veyder is now on his march with I imagine one hundred more. I have made application to Genl. Ten Broeck for assistance, and shall take every step in my power to assist the Garrison and defend this County. I am Dear Gov'r, yours Sincerely

Robt. V'n Rensselaer.

To his Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

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\*From headquarters, Peekskill, July 31, Washington wrote to Brigadier General Fellows of the Massachusetts militia:

"By advices, just received, I hear that the Enemy have cut off the communication with Fort Schuyler; and, as the place is not well supplied with provision, there is reason to fear the loss of that valuable post, unless it is speedily relieved. You will therefore be pleased instantly upon the receipt hereof to detach five hundred of the militia under your command properly officered, with direction to the officer to march and put himself under the command of Brigadier-General Van Rensselaer of Tryon county. I have written to Colonel Van Schaick at Albany, to supply provisions, wagons, and whatever else may be necessary to expedite the march of the detachment. Governor Clinton has written to the same effect to Colonel Van Schaick, and to General Van Rensselaer. When you consider how very essential the post of Fort Schuyler is to the security of our whole frontier, and that the saving of the harvest of the fine country upon the Mohawk River depends upon the immediate removal of the enemy, I am convinced you will not lose any time in marching off the detachment, that they may form a junction with the militia of the State of New York. Ammunition will be ready at Albany."—Washington's Writings, Volume VIII.

Head Qurs. Peeks Kill 31st July 1780.

Dear Sir, I have to acknowledge the Receipt of your Letters of the 27th & 28th Instant & to inform you in consequence of the Disagreeable Intelligence communicated by them, his Excellency Genl. Washington has ordered a Detachment of five hundred of the Massachusetts Levies now at Claverack to march with the utmost Expedition into Tryon County & put themselves under your Command. It is expected that this Reinforcement with the assistance which may be derived from Genl. Ten Broeck's Brigade, will enable you to cover the Country, open the Communication with Fort Schuyler & expel the Enemy out of that Quarter. I have wrote to your Brother Colo. Van Renselaer & Colo. Van Schaick, to facilitate & expedite the March of their Troops by every means in their Power, & for this Purpose have enclosed them Warrants to impress Provisions & Cariages. With the fullest Reliance on your Exertions, I am, my D'r Sir, yours &c.

[G. C.]

By Intelligence received by different ways from Canada the Enemy's force is said to be principally collected at Quebec, where they are apprehensive of an attack, so that it is not probable that they can have any considerable Force in the Rear of those between you & the Fort.

[To General Robert Van Rensselaer.]

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[No. 3112.]

*Hannah Van Buren's Petition.*

To his Excellency, George Clinton, Esqr. Governor and Commander in Chief in and over the State of New York.

The petition of Hannah Van Beuren, of Scodook humbly sheweth, That whereas an act passed the Honourable General

Assembly of the State of New York in the year 1778 for the detecting Conspirators and that by Virtue of s'd act the Husband of your humble Petitioner, was one of the unfortunate few, whose principles and Conduct, rendered him obnoxious and liable to s'd Act, and that he was excited from his place of Residence in this District, to the City of New York, Then and now in the possession of the British Troops, where he hath, in obedience & submission, to s'd Law, continued for the space of 2 years, without any prospect of a speedy release, & that of Course the Concerns of a famaly, have Devolved on your Humble petitioner to her great fatigue & embarresment, as well as the Concerns which necessarily arise from the near relation subsisting between Man & wife thus seperated, besides many other Considerations that will present themselves to your excellency's wisdom & sympathy, such as the Dificulty of procuring necessaries for a famaly & from the Consideration & the encouragement your excellency has been pleased to give, on Condition your petitioner could procure admittance into New York, together with the Aprobation of the good people of this Town, has emboldened your humble Petitioner once more to solicit your Excellency's permit & pasport for hersilf & Child to New York to her Husband & your Petitioner as in Duty Bound shall Ever pray.

Hannah Van Buriën.

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Scodook July 28th A D 1780.

The Petetition of Hannah Vanbeauren to your Excellency for liberty to repair to New York to her Husband who was Banished from this Place by an act of the Honorable General Assembly of the state of Connecticut, has the Approbation of we the Sub-

scribers, if it shall seem right & meet to your Excellency to grant the same; with the utmost Respect we are your Excellency's Most Obedient & Very Humble Servants

Jacob C: Schermerhorn, Maj.

Daniel Schermerhorn, Capt.

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[No. 3113.]

*General Howe's Letter to Governor Clinton Requesting Conditional Impress Warrants.*

Head Quarters, Highlands, July 29th 1780.

Dear Sir. The moving a great Part of the Army under my Command, having become immediately and absolutely necessary, & as it is probable more Teams & Waggons may be wanted than the Quarter Master can officially furnish, I take the liberty to request your Excellency to furnish him with authority to impress them. This Power shall not be used if it can be avoided, and if it is exerted it shall be in the way least injurious to the Inhabitants. My first movement will be down the East Side of the River, in the Vicinity of Kings-ferry; my next will be guided as the motions of the Enemy shall point out. All the Militia not requisite to the Defence of West Point & its Dependences will move with us. Those left behind will be united with a proper Portion of Continentals under a General Officer.

I think to be at Fishkill tomorrow morning early, where I should be happy to meet your Excellency, as I want much to speak to you, & my time will not admit of my doing myself the Honour of waiting upon you at Poughkeepsie, which otherwise I should be happy to do. I am, Dear Sir, with the greatest Regard your Excellency's most Obed't Serv't

Robert Howe.

Governor Clinton.

[No. 3114.]

*Doctor Treat Requests Exemptions for Certain Persons Employed in the Hospital.*

Albany, 29th July 1780.

Sir, I once more address myself to your Excellency in Behalf of three Persons belonging to the general Hospital, who are constantly and necessarily employed. I know not how it is but there is seldom a Party ordered out to escort Provisions, or other common Business, but one of these are under orders to march, while there are so many . . . . . Christians in this Place, who kill Time in smoaking & hug[g]ing their lazy stoops.

Your Excellency would exceedingly oblige me as well as promote the General Interest, if you would be pleased to grant them an Exemption from these common Duties; in case of general alarm they will cheerfully offer their Service as voluntiers in Defence of their Country, for they are no problematical whigs; their Names & characters are as follows; James Lamb Issuing Commissary, William Duncan Steward & ward master, Benjamin Egberts Clerk; these are all I have to manage the Business of the general Hospital.

I most affectionatly congratulate you on the Birth of another Pledge of mutual Love; may him or her be an ornament to your Name, please make my Compliments acceptable to Mrs. Clinton, and believe that I am your Excellency's most obedient humble Serv't

M'y Treat.

\* \* \* \* \*

[No. 3115.]

*Washington Orders Five Hundred of the Massachusetts Levies to Tryon County.\**

Peekskill July 31<sup>st</sup> 1780.

Dr Sir, The bearer hereof is charged with a letter to the Commanding officer of the Massachusetts levies, now on their march to this quarter, covering a general order for him to detach five hundred men into Tryon County. As Fort Schuyler is probably invested by this time it is of the utmost Importance that these troops should be expedited without a moment's delay, you will therefore take the letter from the bearer and send a proper person to procure carriages and whatever else may be necessary to accelerate the march of those troops.

An order is gone to the military store keeper at West Point to forward 100,000 rounds of ammunition; you will please to provide the means of conveyance either by water in a row boat manned by trusty hands or in waggons with careful drivers.

I have sent impress warrants to Colo. V Schaick at Albany and to Lt. Colo. Henry J. Van Renselaer at Claverak to procure carriages & provision for the troops, but least they should fail in procuring them I intreat you to direct your agents to prepare supplies for them.

Too much expedition cannot prevail in the execution of every part of this business. I am sir your most Obt. ser.

Geo. Clinton.

Colo. Udny Hay D. Q. M. G.

(Copy)

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\* See page 63, footnote.



[No. 3116.]

*Apportioning Wheat Among the Precincts.*

July ye 31st 1780.

Sir, I am to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's letter of the 6th Instant; It did not Come to hand till last week and Consequently could not be Complied with 'till this Day. The wheat and Short Forage is now apportioned among the several precincts & your Excellency may rest assured that the assessors will be Conven'd without delay, and I Flatter myself that they will do their Duty. I am Sir Your Excellency's Very Humble Serv't

John Haring, Clk. to the Supervisors of Orange County.  
Gov. Clinton.

[No. 3117.]

*Warrant to Colonels Van Schaick and Van Rensselaer for Impressing Teams and Supplies.*

His Excellency, George Clinton, Esquire Governor of the State of New York, General and Commander in Chief of all the Militia & Admiral of the Navy of the same.

To Colo. Goose Van Schaick, Greeting:

The Occasion & Emergency requiring the same by Virtue of the Power & authority vested in me by Law, I do hereby authorize you to impress one hundred & fifty Teams & Waggons, fifty Tons of Flour, or an equivalent in Wheat, ninety Thousand Weight of Beef or Fat Cattle, equi[va]lent thereto, for the use & Service of the Army, & for doing this shall be your Warrant.

Given under my Hand at Head Quarters Peek's Kill this thirty-first Day of July in the fifth year of the Independance of the said State & in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and Eighty.

A Second to Lieut. Colo. Henry J. Van Renselaer for 50 Teams & Waggons, fifty Barrels Flour, & 50 Head fat Cattle.

[No. 3118.]  
*Muste roll of Levies in Colonel Drake's Regiment.*

Muste Roll of the men raised from Colo. Samuel Drake's Regt. July, 1780, agreeable to the one Delivered  
 Capt. Benjamin Stevens.

Men's Names	Years old	Place of abode	What Trade	Com- plexion	Color of their Eyes,	Color of the hair	Haith	
							Feet	Inches
Abraham Depew	42	Mannor of Cortland	Labourer	Dark	Blue	Black	6	4
Theodis Cortet	21	Cape God	Labourer	Dark	Blue	Brown	5	5
Jonathan Finch	21	Bedford	Talor	Light	Blue	Dark Brown	5	10
Obedian Hunt	17	Mannor of Cortland	Cord Winder	Light	Blue	Light Brown	5	4
John Sequaw	21	Phillips's Mannor	Black Smith	Dark	Black	Dark Brown	4	9
John Sprague	21	Duches County	Labourer	Dark	Blue	Black	5	11
William Webb	20	Cortlands Mannor	Black Smith	Light	Blue	Black	5	9
John Bryon	17	Cortlands Mannor	Breches maker	Light	Light	Light	5	3
Samuel Dunbar	44	Massachusetts		Yellow	Negro	Light	5	3
William Polen	17	Plymoth	Taylor	Dark	Blue	Dark	5	9
Isaac Lawson	21	Mannor of Cortland	Labourer	Light	Blue	Dark Brown	5	9
Isaac Davis	26	Concord in Massachusetts	Labourer	Light	Blue	Light Brown	6	6
James Sergeant	18	Mannor of Cortland	Tanner	Light	Blue	Light	5	5
John Bishop	17	Mannor of Cortland	Labourer	Dark	Light	Dark	5	4
John Leut	17	Mannor of Cortland	Labourer	Dark	Light	Light Brown	5	10
Joseph Meade	22	Connecticut	Cord Winder	Dark	Light	Light	5	4
Henry Talor	18	Westchester County	Labourer	Dark	Light	Dark	5	6
Samuel Sears	16	New York	Butcher	Light	Light	Dark	5	3
Jacob V Wart	18	Westchester County	Labourer	Dark	Dark	Dark	5	5
Nathaniel Torr	22	Cape Ann	Labourer	Dark	Light	Light	5	9
Abidge Parmenter	23	Bay State	Labourer	Light	Light	Light	5	7
John Finch	17	Portsmouth	Sator	Light	Light	Light	5	1
Gilbert Williams	17	Westchester County	Labourer	Light	Light	Light	5	8
William Degrove	23	New York	Labourer	Dark	Light	Light	5	5
Lue Hunt	16	Westchester County	Cord Winder	Dark	Light	Light	5	8
Londoa	30	Westchester County		Negro	Negro		5	5
Benjamin Fishly	17	Westchester County	Labourer	Dark	Dark	Dark	5	4
Jonathan Odell	23	New Hamshire	Labourer	Dark	Light	Light	5	8
George Cottrill	27	Westchester County	Carpenter	Dark	Light	Light	5	7
Solomon Lane	19	Mannor of Cortland	Labourer	Light	Light	Light	5	8
Robert Brown	47	Mannor of Cortland	Sailor	Dark	Dark	Dark	5	5
Dennis Garrison	25	Mannor of Cortland	Labourer	Light	Light	Light	6	6
Simon Frenchman	39	Westchester County	Labourer	Dark	Dark	Dark	5	5
Daniel Varnel	20	Do	Do	Light	Do	Do	5	9
John Forgeson	26	Do	Do	Dark	Light	Do	5	8
Jacob Duer	21	Do	Carpenter	Light	Do	Do	5	7
Robert Graham	17	Do	Labourer	Do	Do	Do	5	7
Isaac Doten	53	Do	Do	Brown	Light	Light	5	7
Dick	25	Negro		Brown	Light	Light	5	5

[No. 3119.]

*Several Suspects Apprehended on the Ulster County Frontier.*

Kingston, August 1st 1780.

Sir, Whereas several persons residing on the Western frontiers in the county of Ulster, having been apprehended and brought before us, there was no Evident appearance that they have taken an active part against the people of this state, but most of them have brothers with the enemy and their parents are suspected for Tories, we are of opinion their going at large is dangerous to the good people of this state; and that they should be kept as Hostages for the good behaviour of their parents, and also a check on their Brothers who being with the enemy.

We have therefore Resolved to commit them to Poghkeepsie Goal, unless your Excellency can dispose of them, to more advantage to the state either in the army or Forts.

In case your Excellency should judge it proper that they should be committed to goal, we have inclosed a Mittimus for them; pleas then deliver it to the Serjeant of the gaurd who has the charge of the prisoners. We are, your Excellency's most obedient and Most humble Servants,

Joseph Gasherie, Corn. E. Wynkoop, Cor's Schoonmaker.

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 [No. 3120.]
*Governor Clinton Orders the Militia to Hold Itself in Readiness to Move at a Moment's Warning.*

Peek's Skill 1st Aug't 1780.

Sir, His Excellency Genl. Washington having in Contemplation a movement of very capital Consequence has requested me to hold the Militia of this State in readiness to move at a moment's Warning. You will, therefore, issue orders corre-

spondent to his Intentions. You will strongly impress your Officers with the necessity of drawing out every man on this Occasion & that each shou'd carry into the Field at least Ten Days Provisison, such as may not have meat to bring Flour for twenty Days. You will receive advice from Genl. Washington or me, when & to what Place to march your Regiments (Brigade), and on obtaining this you will move with all the celerity in your Power.

As much, very much, depends on a punctual Compliance with this order, I cannot entertain a Doubt but that will make every Exertion in your Power effectually to carry it into Execution.

The Men must take the Field well equipt for action, hence there is an evident necessity that you shoud immediately review your Regiment, (cause the Regts. in your Brigade to be reviewed), that you may be enabled to discover what Deficiencies & Defects there are in their arms & acoutrements, that you may give the requisite orders to compleat them.

In all probability you will not be detained in the Field for any considerable time. I am, Sir, your most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

Copies to Genl. Swartwont; Colo. Drake; Thomas; Crane; Hammond; Platt; Benedict.

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[No. 3121.]

*Lieutenant Colonel Cooper Ordered by the Governor to Reinforce Captain Lawrence with a Detachment and to Hold His Regiment in Readiness to March at the Shortest Notice.*

Head Quarters Peek's Kill 1st Aug't 1780.

Sir, The intended Movements of our Army render it indispensably necessary to strengthen the Force in the Neighbourhood of Tappan now under the Command of Capt Lawrence. I

have, therefore, to request, that immediately on the Receipt of this Letter you will march with one hundred of the Militia of your Regiment & join Capt. Lawrence, as the Present call for your Services is to enable his Excellency, the General, to establish a Post on your Frontier which besides other Purposes will in a great Measure cover your Inhabitants from further incur-sions of the Enemy. It is expected that the present Detachm't will turn out with chearfulness & alacrity & considering our present Circumstances, it is to be wished they could take with them Six or Eight Days' Provisson. In all probabillity you will not be detained for any considerable Time, but that there must not be the least possible Delay in taking the Field. You will meet his Excellency Genl. Washington's Orders, by which you are to be governed on your joining Capt. Lawrence, which I expect & hope will be on the next Day after your Receipt of this order.

Your whole Regiment are also to be held in the most perfect Readiness to march on the shortest Notice. I am, Sir, your most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

Lieut. Colo. Cooper.

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[No. 3122.]

*Colonel Newkerk's Return of Delinquent Officers.*

Sir, According to general orders dated July 8 for that purpose, I here make a report to His Excellency of all those who were delinquents in this Regiment, on the alarm of Jun th 26, who are the objects of a general Court martial viz.

John Dunning, first Lieut. of the Company formerly comanded by Capt. Veil; Jonathan Owen, second Lieut. Do; Henry Smith

Insign of the Company formerly commanded by Capt. Watkins.  
I am, with all Due respect, your Excellency's most obedient and  
very hum'l Ser't

Jacob Newkerk.

August th 2d 1780.

His Excellency, the Governor.

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[No. 3123.]

*Governor Clinton Supersedes Captain Black by Lieutenant Connolly.*

Aug't 2d 1780.

Sir, It having been represented to me that Capt. Black, the State Clothier of this State, is so indisposed as to be unable to attend to the receiving the Shirts and overalls procured within the State for the Troops, you will, therefore, apply to the several gentlemen who were appointed to collect this Clothing in the different Counties (& whose names are at the Foot of this), and receive from them the Shirts and overalls and deliver them to the Commanding officers according to the number in each Regt. for which purpose you will obtain a Return of the Brigade. You will take Receipts in behalf of the Clothier of this State, and in the Distribution you will not only have respect to the number, but also to the Quality of the Shirts and Overalls so that each Regiment may have its due Proportion.

I am

G. Clinton.

Lieut. Mich'l Connely.

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[No. 3124.]

*Captain Hallett Unable to Adjust His Accounts for Lack of Funds.*

Fishkill Aug't 2d 1780.

Sir, I have been at this place since the Tenth of last Month, on the recruiting Service by your Excellencies order, and as I

have not been furnished with money for that purpose, have been under the necessity of borrowing the Sum of Twelve Hundred & Fifty Dollars of Mr. James Cooper, wick I expected to have been able to Discharge, before I left the place, but as no money has come to hand, and the suddain movement of the army make it Necessary for me to join my Regiment, I must, therefore, go without settleing my account; and as Mr. Cooper has assisted me in order to promote the publick good, should be glad the money your Excellency intended for me whilst on this duty could be transmited to Mr. Cooper as soon as convenient. I am, with every mark of Respect, your Excellencies most obedent very Hum'e Serv't

Jonathan Hallett.

[To G. C.]

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[No. 3125.]

*Statement of Continental Bills Sent to Abraham Yates on Credit for the State of New York.*

A Letter from M. Hillegas, C. T. Treasurer, dated Philadelphia August 2d 1780, Directed to Abraham Yates, Esq. Commiss'r of the Continental Loan office for the State of New York in the following Words,—

“Sir, In pursuance of an order of the Hon'ble the Board of Treasury, I transmit to you by the Bearer, Mr. John White, four Thousand Eight hundred & Seventy five Sheets, Containing 100 Dollars each, being four hundred & Eighty Seven Thousand, five hundred Dollars of the unsigned money prepared for the 18th March last; you will please to give Mr. White Triplicate Receipts for the same. Enclosed you have Mr. White's Receipt for the above.”

## Copy of the Receipt Dated 2d Aug't 1780.

"Receiv'd &c. which mony I am to Deliver to Abraham Yates, Esq. Commiss'r of the Continental Loan Office for the State aforesaid, and take his receipts for the same for which I have given Triplicate receipts of this Date.

John White, Escort."

## Abstract of the Resolve of the 18th March 1780.

"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 Indorsed on the Bills to be emitted and signed by a Commiss'r to be appointed by Congress for that purpose.

"That the said New Bills be struck under the Direction of the Board of Treasury, in due proportion for each state, according to their said Monthly Quotas, and be lodged in the Continental Loan offices in the respective states where the Commiss'r to be appointed by Congress in Conjunction with such persons as the respective States appoint, shall attend the signing of the said Bills, which shall be completed no faster then 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."

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[No. 3126.]

Transferred to and consolidated with document 3128.—STATE HISTORIAN.



[No. 3127.]

*List of Prisoners Taken in Tryon County.*

An Exact List of all the Persons which were taken by the Indians Near Fort Plank the 2nd Day of August 1780.

Names	Age		
	yrs.	m'ths	
Jacob Lambert	11		} Children of Peter Lambert;
John Frances Lambert	7	6	
Jno. Seber	8		Child of Jno. Seber;
Jacob Keller	10		Son of Solomon Keller;
Eve Miller	25		Wife of Theonesius Miller;
Catharina Miller	2		} Child of Eve & Theonesius Miller;
Mary Shnyder	14		
Rachael Shnyder	9		} Daughters of Jacob Shnyder;
Christina House	16		
Elizabeth House	11		} Belonging to the Widow of Henry House;
Conrod House	7		
Elizabeth House	21		} Wife & Child'n of Hanyose House;
Christina House	4		
Jacobus House		9	
Eve Meyer	5		Child of Joseph Meyer;
Eliz'th Rush Sleyfer	23		Wife of Paulus Rush Sleyfer;
Rebacca Schrieber	25		} Wife & Children of Stephen Schrieber;
Eliz'th Schrieber	7		
Ab'm Schrieber	4		
Maxia Schrieber	1		
Barbara Schneck	37		} Wife & Child'n of Geo. Schneck;
Marg't Schneck	13		
Christina Schneck		9	
Jacob Eccler	7		Son of Hen'y Eccler, Jun'r;

Names	Age		
	yrs.	m'ths	
Mary Lepper	24		} Wife & Child of Fred'k Lepper;
Fred'k Lepper	1		
Adam Haverman	10		Son of Jacob Haverman;
Cathrina Woolendorf	20		Wife of Danl. Woolendorf;
Marg't Lones	24		} Wife & Children of Jno. Lones;
Marg't Lones	5		
Martinus Lones	3		
Cathrina Lones		6	
Christina Bettinger	7		Child of Martin Bettinger;
Eliz'th Bost	20		
Jacob Brooner	63		} Father & Daughter;
Frena Brooner	13		
Mary Gywitz	17		Daughter of Fred'k Gywitz;
Marg't Walls	13		Daughter of Jacob Walls;
Maria Eliz'th House	17		Daughter of Geo: House;
Maria Sitz	7		Daughter of Balltus Sitz;
Conrod House	15		Son of Adam House;
Conrod Kreemer	13		Son of Godfrey Kreemer
Susanah Makley	7		} Children of Phelix & Cath- rina Mackley;
Anna Mackley	3		
Cathrina Triesleman	30		} Wife & Children of Christian Triesleman;
Marg't Triesleman	10		
Eliz'th Triesleman	8		
Anna Triesleman	1		
Geo. Snouts	50		} Father & son;
Jno. Snouts	10		
Maria Steed	19		} Wife & Child of Jno. Steed;
Jno. Steed	1		

Jacob Fehling, tacken in Palatine District about y 2d of Aug'st 1780. Conrad Lawer & Sohn, tacken the 16 of October 1780. Daughter of late Jost Davis & a Son of John Kring. Peter Casselman, the later End of July. Henry Riemenschneider, John Nicol Wohlleber, Jacob Aahring & wife, with two Sons and four Daughters. Friedrich Rasbach & wife with a Son. Samuel Ball & wife; Rudolf Furry; John Duer & wife; Jacobus & Gerhard van Sluyk; John Fahrenbos; Jost Klock; Nicolaus Fahrenbos; John Seiffert; Bartle Picker; Adam Furry; John Street with a Son of 12 years; John Garter & 1 Son; Jacob Klock; John Keyfer & two Sons (a Captain of Militia); Frederic Windecker's Son; Johannes Helmer; Henry Schafer; Daniel Lapton & 3 or 4 Sons.

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[No. 3128.]

#### DESTRUCTION OF CANAJOHARIE.

*General Ten Broeck Forwards to Governor Clinton a Report from Colonel Wemple.*

Albany 3d Aug't 1780. 7 O'Clock P. M.

Sir, The inclosed Copy of a Letter just received from Collo. Wemple will inform your Excellency of the Destruction of greatest part of Canajohary. In Consequence of Major Graham's Letter to Collo. Van Schaick. of which your Excellency has had a Copy I ordered the Albany and Schenectady Regiments, with the one half of General Rensselaer's & the one half of the remainder part of my Brigade (except the four Northern Regiments to Tryon County). The Militia of this City and Schenectady have turned out with alacrity. A very small proportion of the Remainder has come forward owing in great measure to the Season the Harvest just beginning. I cant but

lament the Fate of Tryon County, the most opulent part of which (Stone Arabia excepted) is now fallen. I have ordered the Colonels of my Brigade to make the Returns your Excellency has desired immediately, which shall be transmitted as soon as they come to Hand. I remain with great Esteem your Excellency's Most Obedient humble Serv't

Ab'm Ten Broeck.

His Excellency George Clinton.

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COLONEL WEMPLE'S LETTER.

Fort Plank Aug't 2d 1780. 7 O'Clock.

Sir.\* Yesterday I detached two officers & thirty men of mine & Collo. Cuyler's Regt. at the Willigas to wait the arrival of a Convoy of Boats at that place & with the rest of our men we proceeded to Caughnawaga, where we arrived last Evening & at four this morning we began our march & arrived at Caughnawaga opposite to Mr. Frey's about eleven, with an Intention to halt till they arrived with the Batteaux, which we expect to morrow about noon; immediately after we had cantoned as compact as possible our men, we were alarmed with a heavy smoke between John Abeails & Fort Planck about four miles distant from where we had taken up our Quarters. This immediately was confirmed in the Eye of our whole Body & found the Enemy were bussy employed to burn & destroy.

Instantly I did order both Regiments to be formed & proceed against the Enemy, who were at that time in their full Carear and tho our Numbers were not equal, yet I can assure you I should be void of Justice if I omitted mentioning their Prudence & cool behaviour without Distinction to all Rancks. An altho they had been in full march since early in the morning they

\*This document is numbered 3126 in the Clinton MSS. See page 76.

came up with such Vigor that the Enemy on our approach gave way & tho in sight we had no opportunity to give them Battle they retired in the usual way. Our first Halt was at a Fort erected near Mr. Abeals House. The Inhabitants happy to see us. Directly after we had refreshed the men a few minutes, a Number of Volunteers who were least fateigued joined me with the Field officers of both Regiments to see the Fate of this Fort, which we found as full of sorrowfull weomen & Children for their Husbands & Friends which were missing. They had, however, not made any Attempt to attack this Place. Such a Scean as we beheld since we left the River, passing dead Bodies of Men & Children most cruelly murdered, is not possible to be described.

I cannot ascertain at present the Number of poor Inhabitants killed and missing but believe the Loss considerable as the People were all at work in the Fields. I have endeavoured to obtain the Strength of the Enemy; the accounts differ so much that I cannot ascertain their Number, but from the many Places they sat on Fire, as in one Instant, & from parties out in a large Circuit of Country collecting & driving off Cattle. I am lead to believe that their Number is not small; our men are much fateigued.

We propose to remain here this Night. In the Morning we shall proceed and act as Circumstances shall turn up & will inform you more particular. Some Persons pretend to say not less then one hundred dwelling House are burnt; as so on as I can any ways collect the more particular Facts, I shall not hesitate one Moment to let you know.

As to General Rensselaer, I have no other accounts from him but that he left Fort Herkimer on Monday last in the afternoon; he then by the best accounts I have been able to collect, besides

the Convoy of Capt. Hicks, with about 50 Head of Cattle & that his party consisted of about five hundred men. I have great Reason to believe he has got safe into Fort Schuyler.

The Enemy began setting Fire & destroying some way near this place & proceeded on to Canajohary; near the River burnt their Church, Abeals House & its Neighbourhood & upwards, where they I am lead to believe got sight of us & then retreated. You will please to observe that very great Devestation is committed south west of this place; excuse my Haste & the Distressed Situation & Circumstances & hope will sufficiently appologise. I am, D'r Genl. &c.

Ab'm Wemple.

[To General Ten Broeck.]

(Copy)

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[No. 3129.]

*Colonel Cooper Makes Requisition for Supplies for His Levies.*

Niack August 4th 1780.

May it please your Excellency,

Agreeable to your Excellency's orders of the 1st Inst. the Officers and Men from the Regt. are now raisd and on the Ground, orderd, by your Excellency, some of which are furnishd with Six days provisions, others, their Circumstances will not admit, I have applyd to Commissary Cregier for provisions, who has none on hand, but such as was drawn by an order from Genl. Howe for the use of Capt. Lawrence's Comp'y. I should be happy your Excellency would direct, how provision is to be got for the use of the Men under my Command—with a Little Spirits. I Remain, with Esteem, Your Excellency's most humble Servant

Gilb't Cooper.

His Excellency, George Clinton, Esqr.

On a supposition that the Reasons for ordering out Colo. Cooper's Detachm't no longer existed, I advised Capt. Jona. Lawrence who bro't up the Letter, to get Colo. Cooper to represent the matter to Genl. Washington or Genl. Arnold, who now comm'ds the Department & possibly they would be dismissed.

R. Benson.

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[No. 3130.]

*Governor Clinton Urges the Forwarding of the Massachusetts Levies to the Tryon County Frontier with All Possible Despatch.*

Sir,\* His Excellency General Washington, by an order of Monday or Tuesday last, directed that 500 of the Levies from the State of Massachusetts Bay, should immediately march to Tryon County and be put under the Command of Brigadier General Van Rensselaer. This order was accompanied with Letters from me to Colo. Van Schaick the Commanding Officer in the Northern Department, and Lieut't Colo. Van Rensselaer at Claverack, inclosing warrants to impress Teams, Provisions, and other necessaries for the Troops on their march. I have not as yet received any Information of what has been done in consequence of the General's Orders, and the critical Situation of the western Frontier, especially at Fort Schuyler, requires that this Relief should be forwarded with all possible Dispatch; I have, therefore, taken the Liberty to urge you by every motive to send these Troops on. I am now on my way to Albany, and should you meet with any Difficulties, be assured that upon the first Intimation, I shall endeavor to remove them. This will be delivered to you by John Livingston, Esq. one of my Family,

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\* See page 68.

who will afford you all the assistance in his Power. I remain  
&c.

Manor of Livingston, Aug'st 5th 1780.

Brigadier Genl. Fellows or other Commanding Officer of the  
Levies from the State of Massachusetts Bay at or on their  
march to Claverack.

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[No. 3131.]

*Captain Wiley's Letter Respecting the Distribution of Supplies  
Among the Troops with Attending Embarrassments—Governor  
Clinton's Reply.*

Fishkill August 6th 1780.

Sir, Pursuant to your directions, I had determined to visit the  
Brigade, with a view of ascertaining the number of Rations;  
that I might the more readily regulate myself in the purchase  
of Supplies. On my way towards Peeks-Kill, I was inform'd of  
the Troops repassing the River; conscious, that in following  
them, three or four days would be lost; I thought it most expe-  
dient to write Colonel Cortlandt on the subject, desiring him,  
and the rest of the officers, at same time, to nominate some  
trusty Person, as issuing Commissary for the Brigade, referring  
him to you, Sir, for further Instructions. I have, likewise  
inform'd the Colonel, of a small supply, which will be here in a  
few days after my reaching Hartford; at present, the Embargo  
detains it there; this difficulty will be obviated immediately on  
producing my Papers. The Goods, on their arrival here, will  
be under the care of Mr. John Tyson, who has my directions, to  
deliver them to the Issuing Commissary, on producing an order  
from your Excellency. I have enclosed an Estimate, which I  
suppose is not very far from the monthly Rations to be issued.



I do not imagine it to be correct, as without a proper Return from the Commanding Officer of the Brigade, and some information of the number, and names of such as are entitled to draw, exclusive of the Brigade, it will be impossible to exhibit a true one.

Your Excellency will please to observe by the Calculation herein contained, that the Cartage alone, for three Months necessaries, will amount to at least Fifty Thousand Dollrs. computing the distance two hundred Miles, and as the Teamsters are not to be procured for the whole distance, one half of the above Sum must be deposited, on the Goods being delivered at the first Stage, to pay which, I have only seven Thousand Dollars from the Treasury; I shou'd not hesitate in advancing the Cash, myself were it in my Power, but the Publick has (in New Jersey) already drained my Finances. I am sorry, at a Time, when I am convinc'd your Soul is absorbed in the distresses which the infernal Indians & Tories have brought on our Frontiers, to add to your disquietudes; but my wishes to fulfill the design of my appointment, obligates me to point out the impediments, I now foresee. Could Permission be obtained for exporting Flour, in favour of such as wou'd credit the State, to the full amount of what they advance, I make no doubt but such privilege wou'd command Goods in preference to Money, and I am of opinion, that I cou'd procure a sufficiency, on that Principal, to pay the first set of Teamsters. With respect to the Cartage, which is to be discharged here, am in hopes the Treasurer will be able to assist me, for which purpose, if consistent with your Excellency's approbation, wou'd be glad the Commissioners detain'd some Money in their Hands, if Payment shou'd be made them during my absence, as the Treasurer is too remote for a sudden call.

I have Bought one h'h'd of Tobacco, conditionally, which I am informed is of the best Quality, as the produce of this Country; I shou'd have ventured to purchase more at the price but the want of Money was a hindrance; it is charged at five Dollars p lb. I cou'd not procure any otherwise than in the way of Barter, for some Goods I have now at Hartford. I shall leave an Order with Mr. Tyson, to deliver it to the Commissary of Issues. In the mean time a Letter from your Excellency, with Instructions for my future guidance will be anxiously expected, as I fear, circumstanced as I am, that nothing can be further done, without your Excellency's assistance. I shall however make every effort to accomplish the Bussiness I go upon. Please to direct to me at Mr. Aaron Lopez's Merch't, Leicester, State of Massachusetts-Bay. I am, Sir, with great Respect, Your Excellency's most Ob't and very h'ble Ser't

John Wiley.

P. S. On hearing the Brigade had cross'd the River, I thought most adviseable to return to Poughkeepsie, in order to have your Excellency's advice and instructions previous to my setting out. At Colonel Duboy's I learnt the unhappy occasion which render'd your Excellency's Presence necessary at the Northward; my Return was the immediate consequence. I shall proceed in half an hour for the Eastward, and will forward the goods, now at Hartford, as soon as possible.

J. W.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

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Aug't 22d 1780.

Sir, I have rec'd your Letter of the 6th Inst.; from the Estimate enclosed & from some expressions in your Letter it would appear that it extended only to the 5 cont'l Battalions; when on

perusing the Law, you will find that the Officers & Privates of Colo. Lamb's & other Corps credited to this State, are equally entitled to the Supplies directed to be furnished. I have tho't it necessary to mention this matter to you, not only that you might rectify any mistake in your estimate, but also that in the distribution of the small supply, which you mention to be on its way to Fishkill, a proper attention be paid to all who are by the Law entitled to participate. You will readily conceive that if any discrimination shall be made in issuing the first supplies, however trifling it will give rise to great murmuring & Discontent, The Legislature will meet the begin'g of next month, until which Time it will be impossible to give you any farther Instructions to or by any Means in my Power remove the embarrassm'ts under which you now labor. I am &c.

G: C:

Capt. Wiley.

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 [No. 3132.]

*Alderman Leggett Wishes to be Released from Exile.*

North Castle, August 8th 1780.

Sir, I hope your Excellency will excuse me in thus addressing you, when I inform you, Sir, that from my attachment of Friendship to my Country, I have been Exiled from my Farm, in the West Farms near West Chester, for Eleven Months past, and after repeated applications, have permission to return, and possess the same, and being so far advanced in the decline of Life, (as in the Eighty second year of my age) that I have a great desire to return to my old place of abode, when (although within the Enemy's lines) I shall ever hold to my Integrity of being always a friend to my Country,

I must beg leave to inform your Excellency, that when I left my Farm, I had permission to bring of my Stock, and other Moveables, I have, therefore, to request the favour that your Excellency will be pleased to grant leave for me to take my moveables and what small stock I have, which from my well wishes to my Country, your Excellency may be asured will not be turned any ways to the Enemy's advantage, I am, Sir with great Respect Your Excellency's most obedient Humble Servant

Gabriel Leggett.

[To G. C.]

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[No. 3133.]

*Captain Sterenson's Return of His Company of Levies.*

North Castle August 8th 1780

A Return of Capt. Benjamin Stevenson Company of New Levies of the state of New York.

Ranks	Capt.	Lieuts.	Serjents	Corporals	Drum & fife	Privates	Total
	1	1	4	4	1	79	
						90	Total

Benjamin Stevenson, Capt.

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[No. 3134.]

*Colonel Clyde Patriotically and Characteristically Describes the Destruction of Canajoharie.*

Fort Plank August ye 8th 1780

Sir, I have herby sent you acount of the fete of our Destrect. On the second Instant Joseph Brant at the head of about four Hundrad and fifty Indens and Tories, Brook in upon our Settlemnts and Leaid the Best Peart of the Destrect in ashes and

kild fortien of the Inhabitants that we have found; took betwixt fifty and sixty, mostly weoman and child Prisnors, twelve of them they have sent back; and they kild and drove away upwards of three Hundrad heade of Cattel and Horses big and small. They have burnt fifty three Dweling Houses and as many barns, one Elegent Church, one grist Mill, two small forts, that the wemon flead out of, and have burnt allmost all the farmers wagons and Emplements they had to work with, so that the Suffirers are in a mesirable Condietion.

Nothing left to suport themselves on, but what greau they have groing, and that they are not abel to seve for want of Tools and verry fue to be had here; this affer [affair] hapned at a verry onfourtnat Hour, when all the Militia of the County was Called up to Fort Schuyler, to guard nine Battows about half Loded. It was said the Enemy intended to cut of on ther Passidge; there was schers [scarce] a man left that was abel to go, that it seems as every thing Conspaird for our Destruction; in this quarter one holl Destrict allmost Destroid and the best Rejmt. of Militia her [here] rendrad [rendered] unabel to help themselves or the Publick; this I refere you to General Renssler for the Truth of.

This spring when we found that we were not liekly to have Eany assistance and we new that we was not abel to withstand the Enemy in oure habetions, went all to woork and bult our selves forts to live in, which we had nigh Effectted and could a have seved our lives and Effects had we got Liberty to a maid use of them, but that could not be; we must all turn out, not that we had Eany thing aginst assisting the generål to open the Passidge to Fort Schuyler, but still douptd what hes hapned, when we should be gon, but it was still insisted on there

was no danger, which has proved the greatest Blunder ever was hapned in the County, since the Commensment of the war and Discoridged the Militia, so that to send generals her without men, is just liek sending a man to the woods to chop without an ax. I am sensible had the general had men shuficent, he woould given general saticsfaction to the Publick and Inhabitants her. I am, with due Respect, your most Obedent Humble Servent

Saml. Clyde.

To his Excelency, Esqr.\*

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\*For Governor Clinton's Reply, see page 99.

[No. 3135.]

*Return of Colonel Van Schaick's Regiment.*

Return of the 1st New York Regiment of Foot Commanded by Colonel G. Van Schaick.

Albany August 9th 1780	Colonel	1	Lieut. Colonel	1	Major	1	5	1	1	7	6	Ensigns	Chaplain	Adjutant	Qr. Master	Paymaster	Surgeon	Mate	Sergeant Major	Qr. Master Sergeant	Drum Major	Fife Major	Sergeants	Drumrs & Fifers	Rank & File	Total	
		1	1	1	1	1	5	1	1	7	6						1		1	1				23	15	265	333

G. V. Schaick, Coll.

[No. 3136.]

*Commissary General Blaine Furnishes Governor Clinton with the Amount of Supplies to be Given by New York State.*

Tappan August 9th 1780

Sir. The Committee of Congress at Head Quarters having Called on the States to furnish Supplies for our army during the Campaign which is Increasing fast & makes the daily Consumption of Provisions very Considerable, and will require every possible Exertion of the States to keep them supplied.

Your State is requested to furnish one hundred & forty barr's of flour and seventy one thousand six hundred & Seventy five pounds of Beef p Month; there is fourteen Brigades assembled in this neighbourhood and Recruits hourly comeing in, which with the followers of the army, now Consume one hundred barrels of Flour, & Sixty five Beef Cattle daily. The requisitions made by the Committee of Congress upon the respective states for Provisions were Calculated to supply our army, which is very shortly Expected in the field, and without a speedy Compliance they cannot long subsist.

The supplies Demanded from your state is ordered to be deposited at Albany, I suppose with an Intention of supplying the Troops stationed on your Frontiers. I have been Informed that [that] will not be sufficient, as an additional number of Troops are Called into the field. Have, therefore, in the most pressing terms to request your Excellency, to give Col. Hay, or the State Commissioners, orders to Extend their Purchases, to procure all the flour & Beef your state can possibly furnish, whatever Sum that may Exceed your Continental Supplies, I shall take proper Care to have it settled and either Pay your state the money, or obtain an order upon you from Congress for



that purpose. I am much Concerned for the supplies of our army, and doubt the want of Punctuality in the state agents forwarding their respective Quotas, we shall be reduced to great Distress & difficulty. We have much hopes from the assistance of your state, and your Excellency may depend, was it three fold, we shall stand in need of it. I have the Honor to be with every Sentiment of Regard your Excellencies most Obed't & most h'ble Serv't

Eph. Blaine, C. G. Purch's.

Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 3137.]

*Return of Levies Raised in General Ten Broeck's Brigade.*

Return of the Levies raised in Brigadier General Ten Broeck's Brigade to reinforce the Continental Army. 10th Aug't 1780.

	Regiments	Classes	At West Point	At Schoharry	On Northern Frontier	At Albany	Deficiencies
1	Colo. Ab'm Cuyler's	27	27				
2	Colo. Peter Vrooman's	25		25			
3	Colo. H. Quackenboss'	25	17				
4	Colo. John McCreas	36			36		
5	Colo. Van Woert's	24	18				6
6	Colo. P. Yates'	36	15			2	19
7	Colo. V'n Schoonhoven	23	20			3	5
8	Colo. Stephen J. Schuyler	20	9				11
9	Colo. Ph. P. Schuyler	28	16				12
10	Colo. Wemple	29	20			2	7
11	Colo. K. V'n Renselaer	40	29				11
		318					79
							36
							115

[No. 3138]

*The Enemy Invades Schoharie.*

Albany, 10th August 1780.

Sir, I am informed by Colo. Vrooman of Schoharie that the Enemy entered that Settlement yesterday about 11 o'Clock in the Forenoon, fired several Houses at Vrooman's Land & pro-

ceeded to within about 2 Miles of the Midle Fort. We have no particular Account of the Strength of the Enemy or how far they may have since extended their Ravages. But it is not improbable that the Enemy may detach small Parties to your Settlements as well with a view of destroying them as to prevent your giving Succour to your Neighbours. I have, therefore, thought it necessary to communicate the above Intelligence & to recommend to you immediately & without the least Delay to call out & station your Regiment on the passes leading to your Quarter until the further movements of the Enemy shall render it necessary. I am, Sir, &c.

[G. C.]

Colo. VanBergen.

Col. Pawling.

Albany 10th Aug't 1780.

Sir, I am informed by Colo. Vrooman of Schohary that the Enemy about 11 o'Clock yesterday, entered that Settlement, fired several Houses at Vrooman's Land & proceeded to about two Miles from the Midle Fort. We have no Account of the Strength of the Enemy or the Devastations they may have since committed. But it is not improbable that they consist of the whole Force which appeared at Canojohary & shoud they retire by the Suskehanah, they may detach Parties to the Frontier Settlements of Ulster & Orange. I, therefore, thought it necessary to give you the Information which you will not fail communicating to the commanding Officers of the different Frontier Regiments, that they may afford you such additional Force as will enable you on this Occassion to repel any Attempt of the Enemy & keep the Country in a State of Safety. I am, Sir, &c.

[G. C.]

[To Colonel Pawling.]

[No. 3139.]

*An Unsigned Letter, Presumably from Governor Clinton, Chiding a Regimental Commander for Being Destitute of Ammunition.*

Sir, In answer to your Letter of this day I must observe that it is surprizing your Regiment situated on the Frontiers and daily exposed to Incursions from the Enemy should be destitute of ammunition. By the Militia Law they are required to be provided at their own Expense with these most necessary means of Defence and I believe with proper Pains the articles could have been purchased. That part of the Regiment which was to the Northward some weeks since drew ammunition which they never returned and which must therefore have been wasted. It is out of my Power to supply them at present except from the Continental Stores, and in order to obtain it from thence I have wrote to Colo. Van Schaick requesting him to direct the necessary Quantity to [be] issued but whether he is authorized to comply with this I cannot determine. Should you receive any from him I must entreat your utmost attention in the Distribution & Preservation of it.

It is with Pleasure I find your Regiments have compleated the Quota of the Levies and sincerely wish this was the Case with the other Regiments, for to their Remissness in this most essential Point our present Calamities are in a great measure attributed.

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 [No. 3140.]

*General Orders Affecting the Levies.*

State of New York—General Orders—Aug'st 10th 1780.

Such of the Levies intended to reinforce the Continental army as were to be furnished by McCrea's, Yates's, Schoonhoven's, & Van Woert's Regiments in Albany County and Webster's Regi-

ment in Charlotte County and which have not as yet been collected and marched are to remain for the Defence of the Frontiers until further orders, and for that purpose are immediately to rendezvous, these from the three first mentioned Regiments at Fort Edward, and these from the other two Regiments at Skenesborough and put themselves under the Command of the Commanding Officers at these Places. A Return of such of the Levies as shall repair to Skenesborough is to be made to the commanding officer at Fort Edward.

As there is Reason to apprehend that the Enemy will soon make their appearance in that part of the Country, one fourth part of McCrea's, Schoonhoven's and Yates's Regiments are immediately to march to Palmerton & to be commanded by Lieut. Colo. Van Rensselaer or Major Dickenson and the Remainder of these Regiments are to hold themselves in readiness to march at a moment's warning.

Considering the Devastation already made in the Western Quarter and the present critical Situation of the Frontiers, His Excellency the Governor flatters himself that the officers in these Regiments will exert themselves and immediately comply with these orders, and while on the one hand he would by every motive of Patriotism urge them to the Performance of their Duty, on the other he declares his Determined Resolution in Case of Remissness to have the Delinquents properly punished. He also conceives it necessary to observe that the least Delay in the Execution of these orders either from too much Formality in detaching, or from any other Cause, may be attended with the most disagreeable Consequences.

The Detachments from the above mentioned Regiments will take six Days' Provision with them.

[No. 3141.]

*Orders Disposing of the Levies for Frontier Duty.*

Albany 11th Aug't 1780.

D'r Sir, I presume that long since you must have rec'd my Letter from H'd Qu'rs inform'g you that 500 of the Mass'ts Bay Levies were ordered for the Protection of our Frontiers & it is to be lamented that notwithstanding every endeavour to hasten their March, they have so long delayed their arrival in this Department. About 80 have gone to Schoharry w'ch they reached yesterday Morning. 100 are at Schonectady on their way to Tryon County. A few more have since come in and the Remainder may be instantly expected. In addition to this Force I have ventured to deviate from the Law and have ordered the Levies from McCrea's Regt. and the Deficiencies from Van Woert's, Yates' and Van Schoonhoven's, amount'g to 66 Men to the Northern Frontier; Vrooman's (25) to remain at Schoharry and the Deficiencies of Quackenboss', Stephen J. Schuyler's, Ph. P. Schuyler's, Wemple's & K. V'n Renselaer's, amou'g to 49 to collect at Albany & be marched to such Place on the western Frontier as you shall direct. These measures will, I have to hope, ensure some greater Degree of Safety to our Frontiers and prevent the Enemy from continuing their Cruelties & Devastations.

I had every Reason to expect from the repeated orders I had issued & the favourable Proposals I had offered to Genl. Ten Broek's Brigade, you woud have derived considerable aid from it & have been better prepared to have met the Enemy; but it is to be regretted that except the Albany & Schenectady Regiments which are with you, I cannot learn that there are any more worth mentioning of that Brigade under your Command.

My orders to Genl. Tenbroeck to detach from his Brigade for the Frontier Service a Proportion equal to what he would otherwise have to give for supplying the Deficiencies in the Levies by Inlistments in the Continental Battalions, are still continued so that you may look for these in addition to the above Force.

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General Orders.

The Levies raised to reinforce the Continental army by Colo. McCrea's Regiment and the Deficiencies of Colos. Van Woert's, Yates', & Van Schoonhoven's, hav'g by Genl. Orders of yesterday been ordered to the Protection of the Northern Frontier, His Excellency the gov'r in some Measure to strengthen the Force on the western Frontier to enable them the better to prevent the further Devastation of the Enemy in that Quarter, orders that the Levies to be raised (and not yet arrived at Albany) by the Regts. of Colos. Quackenboss, Stephen J. Schuyler, Ph. P. Schuyler, Wemple & K. V'n Renselaer do without Delay rendezvous at the City of Albany and put themselves under Command of such officer as B. Genl. Ten Broeck shall appoint, and be marched with the least possible Delay to such Post or Place on the western Frontier as B. Genl. V'n Renselaer shall for that Purpose direct.

Notwithstanding these orders, Genl. Ten Broeck is to continue at the Frontiers, such a Part of his Brigade as shall be equal in No. to his Proportion of the Deficiencies in the Levies, occasioned by Inlistments in the Cont'l Battalions.

[No. 3142.]

*Colonel Snyder Opens a Letter Directed to Lieutenant Pawling.*

Kingston Aug'st 11th 1780, Fryday morning 9 a Clock.

Sir, I just now Received yours, Directed to Lieut. Pawling and I opened the Letter and Read it, and Immediately forwarded it myself. Thought Necessary to Consult Colo. Pawling & Colo. Cantyn on the Subject. Sir, I Remain your most obedient & hum'e Serv't

Joh's Snyder.

To his Excellency George Clinton.

[No. 3143.]

*Governor Clinton Answers Colonel Clyde and Explains Why the Frontier Was Not Properly Protected.*

Albany Aug't 11 1780.

Sir,\* I am favored with your Letter of the 8<sup>th</sup> Inst. I most sincerely deplore the Ravages committed by the Enemy in your County. Every thing in my Power has been done to prevent your present Misfortunes, and had my repeated orders to the Militia of yours & Albany County been strictly complied with the Enemy wo'd never have penetrated so far as they have done into the Country and returned unmolested. I have solicited from the Com'r in Chief, 500 eastern Levies for the Protection of the Frontiers, and had not their March been unhappily delayed (notwithstand'g every effort of mine to hasten them), Canajoharie might possibly, and the Houses burnt at Schoharry, wo'd in all human Probability have been saved. A Part [of] those Troops have however now arrived and marched for your Protection and the Rem'r is momentarily expected and will be forwarded to the Frontiers without Delay.

\*For Colonel Clyde's letter see pages 88-90.

I have also ordered the Deficiencies of the Levies from the Northern Regts. of Genl. Ten Broeck's Brigade ab't 66 men and the Deficiencies of the Regts. of his Brigade amount'g to 74 (includ'g 25 at Schoharry) to the western Frontier & I shall use all my Influence to have this force continued, and with the aid that may be derived from the Inhabitants, I doubt not the Enemy will be deterred from making any further attempt upon your Part of our western Frontier.

I feel most sensibly for the keen distresses of your County & sincerely regret that it has not been in my Power to afford them more ample Protection by giving more adequate Force to the Gentleman who is appointed to Command in that Quarter. I am perswaded he is sensible that the ordinary Militia was the only Resource in my Power for the Defence of the Frontiers & that my repeated Orders I issued to them, were such as to give me every Reason to hope that he woud have had a more ample Force under his Command. I am, Sir, &c.

[G. C.]

[To Colonel Clyde and others.]

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[No. 3144.]

*The Army Depending Upon the States for Sustenance.*

Tapan 14th August 1780.

Sir, The army is now become numerous and Consumes large Quantities of Provisions daily. Our Continental Supplies are quite Exhausted, and our Total dependance is on state supplies, agreeable to the Requisition of Congress and their Committee at Head Quarters, We are now without a magazine of any specie of Provisions, feed from hand to mouth (on the Receivals of this day, depends the Issues of tomorrow); in this Critical Situation is an army, which Consumes Twenty five thousand



rations daily. A great number of those Troops of the field, for want of Provisions in Camp, Under those Circumstances, a failure of two days supply, might be attended with the most fatal Consequences, which might not be in the power of his Excellency the Commander in Chief to prevent. Have, therefore, in the most pressing Terms to request your Excellency and Council to use every possible measure which may facilitate the Purchases required of your state, and order Punctuality in delivering and forwarding the same. I have great reason to doubt the want of spirit & Exertion in many of the agents who are Impowered to Purchase, which I hope will be a sufficient appology for my being so Pointed on that head, Shall take it a particular favor to have a line from you, informing what your prospects are respecting supplies. I have the Honor to be very respectfully, Your Excellencies Most Obedient and most Humble Serv't

Governor Clinton.

Eph. Blaine, C. G. P.

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[No. 3145.]

*Ab'm Yates Reports to the Governor the Receipt of the New Bills.*

Albany 14th Aug't 1780.

D' Sir, I have rece'd the new mony yesterday accompanied with a letter from M. Hillegas C: T: and a Receipt the Escort had given; Copy of both I enclose as also an abstract of the Resolves of Congress of the 18th March last; but have not r'd any appointment or authority to sign the Bills which I suppose should have been sent, you will observe in said Resolve the words "a Commissioner to be appointed by Congress for that purpose."

Whilst I am writeing, Genl. Schuyler calls in and in Conversation about the matter, and the letter the Legislator r'd at

Esopus from our Delegates, to name two Persons to sign on Behalf of Congress, and the answer of the Legislator and Nomination of myself and Mr. Ab'm Y. Lansing, he advised me to go on immediate and sign, that the situation of the Contry will not admit of Delay, and inform Congress of it: he supposes that it is done and probably neglected to be sent—which however, as the Commissioners that are to sign on Behalf of the State have not yet their Commission (so the Speaker tels me) if otherwise it was adviseable would answer no valuable Purpose.

I am not without my hopes that you may have some account of it that may cast light on the matter and that it may be adviseable to proceed; in such case you will be pleased to send me your opinion, and the Commission for the State signers by the Bearer.

But should you be of opinion that it is absolutely necessary to have the appointment from Congress, before I sign, I will be obliged to you to write to Congress, Treasury Board, or our Delegates which you may judge most adviseable to get the matter compleated.

As it is a matter of the first Importance, every body looking out for it, and Congress and the State more espetically interested in it, I have applied to Coll. Lewis for this Empress, who I furnish with mony 200 Dollers to bear his Expence as far as Poghkepse; if you have no rider or yours otherwise employed, he has leave to go on, but in that case will want money to bear his Expences, which you will please to furnish him with, and if required shall be returned, in either case a few Lines will be very acceptable to, your very Hum. S't.

Ab'm Yates, Jun.

Gov. Clinton.

[No. 3146.]

*Captain Norton Suggests to the Governor a Method of Raising Hard Cash.*

Camp Tappan August 15th 1780.

Sir, Agreeable to your Excellency's Orders I Proceeded up to the frontiers on the Recruiting Service, & thro' much Difficulty, & without Cash, have Inlisted a Considerable number of men about twenty of which is during the War, who now Insist on having their Bounty Paid them, which if I had it, I might Engage three times the Number.

Your Excellency may Remember in Conversation, I mentioned that there was a probability of getting some hard Cash from Long Island if thought proper, the Importance of the affair and the probability of filling up the Regt. in the Occasion of my taking the Liberty once more to mention the method, I proposed, Viz. Major Davis & myself on the Credit of our State, might Procure hard Cash of our friends upon the Island by our Connections with them; it is well known by those who are acquainted in Suffolk County that the Inhabitants in General are our Stanch friends, and am apt to think would, in a Secret manner, aid and assist us all that Lays in their power. Major Davis & myself have had Considerable Experience with them Since the Commencement of this war, and know of numbers who have Considerable Quantity of hard Cash, I am with all due Respect and Esteem your Excellency's most Obed't Humb'e Serv't

Nath'l Norton, Capt. 4th New York Regt.

His Excellency, Governor Clinton.

[No. 3147.]

*Return of Colonel Drake's Regiment of Militia.*

Return of the Horse and foot belonging to Colo. Samuel Drake's Regt. of Militia August 5th 1780.

Commissioned Officers	Colo.	Lieut Colo.	Major	Captains	Lieutenants	Ensigns	Adjutant	Qr. Master	Surgeon	Sergeants	Corporals	Drum and fire	Rank and file present	Rank and file absent	Arms	Bayonets	Cartouch boxes
Samuel Delavan Capt. Horse	1	1		1	2	1	1	1	1	3	3	1	39	10	48	35	40
John Drake Capt. Grindlers				1	1	1				2	2	2	14	5	16	16	16
James Kronkhite Capt. Battalion				1	2	1				4	4	4	63	9	41	41	41
James Tallor Capt. Do				1	1	1				4	4	4	21	6	21	4	9
Abr'm Smith Headden Capt. Do				1	1	1				4	4	4	31	8	17	12	17
Samuel Haight Capt. Do				1	2	1				4	4	4	60	40	40	40	14
Ebenezar Boyd Capt. Do				1	2	1				4	4	2	43	20	34	20	23
Abraham Buckhout Capt. Do				1	1	1				3	3	3	5	5	28	2	2
Henry Strang Capt. Do				1	1	1				4	4	4	7	22	3	2	2
Total Strength	1	1		6	13	4	1	1	1	32	32	3	233	148	212	146	167

Saml. Drake, Colo.

[No. 3148.]

*Artillerymen Complain That They Have Been Badly Treated in the Distribution of Donations.*

Sir, The Artillery belonging to the State of New York have long been flattering themselves with the Idea of receiving from their State an equal Participation of the Donations from the State, with the Troops in Gen. Clinton's Brigade. A Supply has lately arrived of Shirts, Overalls &c. some of which have been contributed by the very Friends of the men in the Artillery. Application has been made to the Comdg. Officer of the above Brigade on the Subject, & we are told that we are not included in the Supplies. Thus are our Expectations constantly dissatisfied; & we are just now, after all our applications to Congress & to the State left where we first sett out—& our Prospects of Succour from our State no better than they were before any application on the Subject, tho we have received the most flattering Promises from them. I leave you to judge, Sir, what must be the Feelings of both Officers & men in the artillery belonging to New York. They have never yet rec'd any Donations from their States who have Credit for them as well as for their other Troops without any of the Expence of raising them; & still these men are left to suffer.

I am requested by the officers to beg an Explanation of your Excellency's Letter to Lt. Connelly of the 2d of Aug't accompanying the last supplies from the State; & to know from your Excellency, whether it is the Intentions of the State that we shall be excluded from these or any future supplies or not.

I beg your Excellency will excuse the Liberty I have taken in addressing you on this disagreeable Subject, & believe that nothing prompts me to it but the application of my Brother

Officers & the Sufferings of a number of brave men, who can not relinquish the State to which they belong, tho they receive no Benefit from them.

I shall be obliged to your Excellency for an answer; you will please to direct to me at Gen. Knox's Quarters. I have the Honour to be, your Excellency's most Hum. Serv't

Jno. Doughty, Cap. 2d Regt. Art.

Park of Artill'y. 16 Aug. 1780.

His Excellency, George Clinton, Esq.

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[No. 3149.]

*Governor Clinton to Ab'm Yates, Jun., in Reply to His Relating to the New Issue of Continental Bills.*

Pokeepsie Aug't 16th 1780.

Dear Sir, I am favored with your Letter of the 14th Inst. I have not rec'd any Information on the Subject of the new Bills since the rising of the Legislature. Considering the State of our Treasury & the little prospect there is at pres't of its being supplied with money to exchange for the new Emission, I cannot conceive it necessary to send an express to Congress for their appointment of the Persons to sign them. We shall undoubtedly receive it in season to prepare & sign the new Bills to exchange for the old by the Time we shall have it in the Treasury for that Purpose. The Embarrassm'ts occasioned by the want of money in our Treasury would possibly justify your signing the new Bills in the manner you propose: but as they cannot by any means be issued otherwise than in the proportion that the old are paid in to redeem them, it will answer no valuable purpose, neither will it in the least remove the embarrassm'ts bro't upon us by the low state of our Treasury.

I send you by this conveyance a Commission for the Persons whom the Council have appointed as signers of the Bills. I am &c.

G: Clinton.

Ab'm Yates, Jun. Esqr.

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[No. 3150.]

*Proceedings of a Delinquent Court Martial.*

Omitted.

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[No. 3151.]

*General Van Rensselaer on the Canajoharie Disaster.*

Claverack, August 6<sup>th</sup> 1780.

Dear Gov'r, The distressed Situation of the County of Tryon since my Return from Fort Schuyler occasioned by the Destruction of Conajoharie & other Parts of the Country, has embarrassed & perplexed me so much that I have neglected writing to your Excellency on the Subject, having been under the Necessity of acting the Commissary of Purchases both for the Troops under my Command and the poor Inhabitants, who have lost their all. It is not in my Power to paint to your Excellency their Distresses. The Number of Widows and orphans who are left in this Country without a Friend to afford them any Relief is great, except what little it has been in my Power to grant them, which was small indeed having scarcely sufficient to feed the Troops from Hand to Mouth. It is a Matter in my opinion which demands the attention of our Legislature. I wish his Excellency may point out some Mode by which they may be assisted for the present.

On my Return from Fort Schuyler I had all the Inhabitants from German Town and with their Effects, removed to the

German Flatts at their own Request, it being out of my Power to protect them at their Houses, since which the Enemy have drove off all their Cattle by which Means they are also reduced to the greatest Distress, it being the only Means left them for their Support, their Houses & Crops being all destroyed; add to this near thirty of their Inhabitants, chiefly Heads of Families either slain or made Prisoners in the Course of this Season. The Loss at Canajoharie by a Return made to me, amounts to seventeen killed, two scalped still living, and fifty one Prisoners; fifty two Houses and forty two Barns burnt. The Eastern Troops I met on the Road & have disposed of them in such a Manner as in my opinion will best protect the Inhabitants in collecting & thrashing their Grain.

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[No. 3152.]

THE ARMY IN DESPERATE STRAITS.

*The Commissary General and the Committee of Congress Point Out Threatening Dangers Unless Supplies Are Forthcoming.*

Circular.

In committee of Congress, Camp Tapan, August 16th, 1780.

Sir, Inclosed you will receive copy of a letter of the 15th instant, from the commissary general.

Circumstanced as our army at present is, the information contained in this letter becomes truly alarming. It requires the utmost attention of the officers, together with all the necessaries and even comforts of life, to render the service acceptable to recruits; and as the greatest part of the army, at present, consist of that class of men; if the time should unhappily arrive, when we will be reduced to the necessity of putting them on half allowance of provisions, or probably have none to give them,



the consequence must be, that those men, unaccustomed to endure this species of distress, and not brought to that state of discipline, which can give their officers that controul over them, they have acquired over the old soldiers, must revolt at the idea of tamely submitting to a service, when divested as they are of every other privilege the soldiers of all armies are intitled to, and are furnished with, they cannot receive even the means of subsistence. If reduced to the extremity, I have just mentioned, and an irreconcilable disgust should once take place among these men, and desertions (or perhaps something worse) begin, the contagion will, beyond a doubt, pervade the whole army: For it is not to be expected that the few old soldiers, now remaining, will be disposed to go on, enduring the calamities they have so often experienced, when they find others equally bound with themselves, and who have as yet had none of those difficulties to encounter, manifesting so refractory a spirit, at what they will conceive to be trifles, compared with their own sufferings. Should such an event take place, the train of ruinous consequences that will inevitably ensue, must at once strike you so obviously, as to render unnecessary my entering into a detail of them. We do, therefore, earnestly request of you, Sir, that the officers of your State, appointed to procure and forward the supplies, may be called on, in the most urgent manner, to give their utmost attention to the important business of keeping the army regularly supplied with your quota of the articles that has been assigned to your State as you must plainly perceive what embarrassments the least remission on the part of the States, or any of them, must throw us into: For it must be remembered, that the monthly supplies are no more than what is barely necessary for the consumption of the army, in that time.

It is true, that the army does not at present amount to the numbers, on which the estimate was made, but as the men are daily coming in, we are to suppose that the complement of men, will be made up by the end of this month. But at all events, it is incumbent on us, to be provided to answer the largest demands that can be made on us.

It is not only the immediate supply of the army, that the committee would wish to call your attention to, but likewise the necessity there is of the greatest punctuality in furnishing the supplies, agreeable to the requisitions that have been heretofore made, to prevent, in future, alarms of this nature, and our giving you further trouble on the subject. I have the honor to be, with the highest respect, Your Excellency's Most obedient servant, in behalf of the committee.

Jno. Mathews.

His Excellency George Clinton Esqr.

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Tappan, 15 August, 1780.

Gentlemen, The army daily increasing and a declension of supplies, makes me dread the most fatal consequences. Our Continental magazines are quite exhausted, in every part of the United States, and no other method of procuring provisions, but through the respective states. The requisition of Congress upon the States was calculated to supply the American army, and its dependencies. That made by your honorable committee, was to answer the demands of the campaign, agreeable to a calculation for that purpose; many of the States have done little, others are moving slowly, and those who are using their utmost exertions, will fall short of the supplies required. I have this day received advice, that there is little flour at Elk, Christiana, and the communication to Trenton; of course the supply of that

article must fail; the States who are called upon for cattle, are also tardy; the army now feed from hand to mouth; (on the receivals of this day depend the Issues of tomorrow). In this critical situation is an army, which consumes twenty five thousand rations daily, two thirds of which are new levies, not acquainted with the hardships of the field, or want of provisions in camp; under these circumstances, two days failure of supplies might be attended with disagreeable events, which might not be in the power of his Excellency the commander in chief to remedy. Have therefore to request you to use every possible measure with Congress, and the executive authorities of the respective States to pay due attention to your demands, a neglect of which will be a dissolution of the army.

In the former system of the commissariat, all persons employed in the department, were by a resolve of Congress exempted from Militia duty and fine; the persons employed in Philadelphia are all classed, and fined, without they render personal service; my Cashire, who has the principal direction of my office, when absent, the receival of all letters and settlement of accounts, but one clerk to assist in transacting the whole of my business, several other persons employed as receivers and drovers of cattle, those persons have scarcely a daily subsistence, and without they are exempted from those fines, which they are not able to pay, I must be under a necessity of shutting up my office, and all business cease. One of my Clerks is fined four thousand dollars, the other eleven hundred pounds, have not been informed what the other persons have to pay. I request your answer to this matter, as they have wrote me: if the public do not exempt them from payment of their fines, necessity will oblige them to quit my office.

You may rest assured of my utmost endeavours to keep up supplies, but present prospects are not favorable, and believe every endeavour will prove ineffectual without the States use fourfold exertions. I have the honor to be, with every sentiment of respect, Your most obedient humble serv't

Eph. Blaine, C. G. P.

The honorable Committee of Congress.

(Copy)

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[No. 3153.]

WASHINGTON SOUNDS THE ALARM.

*Deficiencies in Supplies Both of Men and Provisions—The Committee of Congress Appeals to Governor Clinton.*

Head quarters, Orangetown August 17th, 1780.

Gentlemen, We are now arrived at the middle of August; if we are able to undertake any thing in this quarter this campaign, our operations must commence in less than a month from this, or it will be absolutely too late. It will then be much later than were to be wished; and with all the exertions that can be made, we shall probably be greatly straitened in time.

But I think it my duty to inform you, that our prospects of operating diminish in proportion as the effects of our applications to the respective States unfold; and I am sorry to add, that we have every reason to apprehend, we shall not be in a condition at all to undertake any thing decisive.

The completion of our continental batalions to their full establishment of five hundred and four rank and file, has been uniformly and justly held up as the basis of offensive operations. How far we have fallen short of this, the following

state of the levies received, and of the present deficiencies will show.

By a return to the 16<sup>th</sup> instant, we had received from,

	Rank & file
New-Hampshire .....	457
Massachusetts .....	2898
Rhode-Island .....	502
Connecticut .....	1356
New-York .....	283
New-Jersey .....	165
Penslyvania .....	482
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	6143

The deficiencies of the batalions, from a return of the 12<sup>th</sup>, allowing for the levies since arrived, to the 16<sup>th</sup> are,

	R & file
Of New-Hampshire, 3 batalions.....	248
Of Massachusetts including Jackson's, adopted, 16 batalions .....	3514
Of Rhode-Island, 2 do.....	198
Of Connecticut, including Webb's batalions, adopted .....	1866
Of New-York, 5 batalions.....	1234
New-Jersey, 3 do.....	569
Penslyvania, 11 do.....	2763
	<hr style="width: 10%; margin-left: auto; margin-right: 0;"/>

In the whole, 10,397 rank & file.

If the amount of these deficiencies, and the detached corps necessarily on the frontier, and at particular posts be deducted, and a proper allowance made for the ordinary casualties and for the extra calls upon the army for waggoners, artificers &c.

it will be easy to conceive how inadequate our operating force must be to any capital enterprise against the enemy. It is indeed barely sufficient for defence.

Hitherto all the Militia for three months that have taken the field under my orders have been, about:

700 from New-hampshire.

1700 from Massachusetts.

800 from New-York.

500 from New-Jersey.

A part of the eastern Militia has been detained to assist our allies at Rhode-Island, and will shortly march to join the army. But from all the information I have, the number of Militia will fall as far short of the demand, as the continental troops; and from the slow manner in which the latter have for some time past come in, I fear we have had nearly the whole we are to expect.

In the article of provisions, our prospects are equally unfavourable. We are now fed by a precarious supply from day to day. The commissary, from what has been done in the several states, so far from giving assurances of a continuance of this supply, speaks in the most discouraging terms; as you will perceive by the inclosed copy of a letter of the 15<sup>th</sup>, in which he proposes the sending back the Pennsylvania Militia, who were to assemble at Trenton the 12<sup>th</sup>, on the principle of a failure of supplies.

As to forage, and transportation, our prospects are still worse. These have lately been principally procured, by Military impress, a mode too violent, unequal, oppressive, and consequently odious to the people, to be long practiced with success.

In this state of things, gentlemen, I leave it to your own

judgment to determine how little it will be in my power to answer the public expectation, unless more competent means can be, & are without delay, put into my hands. From the communications of the General and Admiral of our allies, the second division, without some very unfortunate contrariety, will in all probability, arrive before the time mentioned as the ultimate period for commencing our operations. I submit it to you, whether it will not be adviseable, immediately to lay before the several states a view of circumstances at this juncture, in consequence of which they may take their measures. I have the honor to be, with the greatest respect and esteem, Gentlemen, Your most obedient serv't

Go. Washington.

N. B. The return of the Rhode Island recruits is of the last of July; more may have since joined. There is a body of Connecticut State troops & Militia, employed in preparing fascines &c. on the sound.

The hon'ble the committee of Congress for co-operation.

(Copy)

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THE COMMITTEE'S PATRIOTIC APPEAL TO GOVERNOR CLINTON.

(Circular)\*

In Committee of Congress Camp Tapan August 19, 1780.

Sir, When America stood alone against one of the most powerful nations of the earth, the spirit of liberty seemed to animate her sons to the noblest exertions, and each man cheerfully contributed his aid in support of her dearest rights. When the hand of tyranny seemed to bear its greatest weight on this devoted Country, their virtue and perseverance appeared most

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\* This document is numbered 3161 in the Clinton MSS. It has been consolidated with document 3153 for reasons that are apparent.—STATE HISTORIAN.

conspicuous, and rose superior to every difficulty. If then, such patriotism manifested itself throughout all ranks, and orders of men among us, shall it be said at this day, this early day of our enfranchisement and Independence, that America has grown tired of being free? Let us, Sir, but for a moment take a retrospective view of our then situation, and compare it with the present, and draw such deductions from the premises, as every reasonable man, or set of men, ought to do. In the early stage of this glorious revolution, we stood alone. We had neither army, military stores, money, or in short any of those means which were requisite to authorize a resistance. The undertaking was physically against us.

But Americans abhorred the very Idea of slavery!

Therefore, reposing the righteousness of their cause in the hands of the supreme disposer of all human events, they boldly ventured to defy the vengeance of a tyrant, and either preserve their freedom, inviolate to themselves, and posterity, or perish in the attempt.

This was the situation, and temper of the people of this country, in the beginning of this controversy. At this day, America is in strict alliance with one of the first nations of the earth, for magnanimity, power and wealth, and whose affairs are conducted by the ablest statesmen, with a prince at their head, who hath justly acquired the title of the protector of the rights of mankind. A respectable fleet and army of our ally, are already arrived among us, and a considerable reinforcement is hourly expected, which, when arrived, will give us a decided superiority in these seas; the whole to co-operate with the force of this country, against the common enemy. Another powerful nation (Spain) though not immediately allied with us, yet, in



fighting her own, she is daily fighting the battles of America, from whence, almost every advantage is derived to us, that could be produced in a state of alliance. An army we now have in the field, part of whom, are veterans, equal to any the oldest established nations can boast. Our Militia from a five years War, are become enured to arms. You have at the head of your army, a General, whose abilities as a soldier, and worth as a citizen, stand confessed, even by the enemies of his country. Our officers of all ranks, are fully equal to the duties of their respective stations. Military stores are within our reach. Our money, tho not so reputable as that of other nations, with proper attention, we have reason to expect, will shortly emerge from its present embarrassed state, and become as useful as ever.

Now, Sir, from a comparative view of our circumstances at the beginning, and at this day, how much more eligible, how much more pleasing and important, must the latter appear, than the former, to every dispassionate man? Then, shall we leave to future generations to say, shall we at present commit ourselves to the World to exclaim, that, when Providence had benignly put into our hands the most essential means of obtaining by one decisive blow, the inestimable prize we had been contending for, it was lost,—disgracefully lost, for want of proper exertions on our part? That avarice, luxury, and disipation, had so enervated the boasted sons of American freedom, that rather than forego their present ease, and wanton pleasures, they would tamely, cowardly, submit to the loss of their Country, and their liberty, and become those abject slaves, which their generous natures, but a few, very few years before, would have revolted at the bare Idea of?

These reflections arise, Sir, from the extraordinary backwardness of some states, and great deficiencies of others, in sending the men into the field, that was required of them, near three months ago, and ought to have joined the army fifty days past; and an apprehension, that, from this torpitude, America has forgot, she is contending for liberty, and Independence; and that the good intentions of our generous ally, will be totally frustrated, by our unpardonable remissness.

Our former letters to the states, have been full on this very important subject, and we are concerned to be driven to the necessity of reiteration; but our duty to our Country, our respect for the reputation of the Commander in Chief of our army, impel us to it: for, a knowledge of the force that has been required of the states for the Campaign, and which was allowed to be adequate to an important enterprize, will induce a belief in our countrymen, in the World, that it has been furnished, and they must stand amazed to see our army inactive, and things not in that train for operation, which ought, in such a case to be expected, especially at this advanced season of the year. Again—the force of our ally, now with us, and the shortly expected arrival of its second division, must clearly evince the utility of our army's being put in a condition to undertake an enterprise, which if successful, must give a deadly wound to our unrelenting and ambitious foe. But what apology can be made, if, when the Commander in Chief of our army, should be called on by the commander of the forces of our generous ally, and informed, he is ready to undertake with him, whatever measures he shall think proper to point out, he shall be reduced to the cruel necessity of acknowledging his inability to engage in any enterprise, that can possibly redound to the

honor, or reputation of the arms of either nation? Sir, the reflection is too humiliating to be dwelt on, without the extremest pain; nay horror!

You must pardon us, worthy Sir, for the freedom with which we have now delivered out sentiments on this truly interesting subject. We flatter ourselves, great allowances will be made for our situation, when we daily have before our eyes specimens, of that want of energy in conducting our affairs, which must shortly, so far embarrass us, as to render all future exertions inadequate to the attainment of those great purposes, at which we aim. America wants not resources; we have men (Independent of those necessary for domestic purposes) more than sufficient to compose an army capable of answering our most sanguine expectations: and our Country teems with provisions of every kind necessary to support them. It requires nothing more than a proper degree of energy to bring them forth, to make us a happy people. This we trust, Sir, the state over which you preside will shew no reluctance in contributing her aid to, by taking such decisive measures, as will, without loss of time, bring into the field, the remainder of your quota of men, that have been required for the Campaign.

The articles of provisions, forage, and teams, are no less important, than men; but as the Committee had the honor of addressing you but a few days ago, on the subject of provisions and the other articles, being so nearly allied with that, we will not intrude it on you, at this time.

Inclosed is Copy of a letter, from the Commander in Chief, of the 17th Inst. to the Committee. It will fully shew you the state of the army, at this time, and how great a deficiency of men there is, to what there ought to have been before this day. However

we hope, Sir, it will be no discouragement to your State, to using their utmost exertions, for furnishing the remainder of their troops, to join the army as soon as possible: and that the Idea of its being probably too late, before a sufficient force can be collected to promise a successful Campaign, will be totally banished; for policy, as well as interest, dictate to us, to be always prepared to take advantage of every favourable conjuncture, and it is impossible to say how soon such a one will present itself.

The General's letter treats this subject in every other respect so fully, as renders it unnecessary to add more, than, that we have the honor to be with great respect, Your Excellency's Most Obed't Humble Servant—In behalf of the Committee.

Jno. Mathews.

His Excellency George Clinton, Esqr.

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[No. 3154.]

*Lieutenant Governor Dudley Digges, of Virginia, Notifies Major Forsyth That Virginia Will Furnish No More Funds for the Northern Army.*

In Council, Richmond Aug't 17, 1780.

Sir, Your Letter from Frederickburg of the ninth Instant, was this day (the Governor being absent) put into my hands by Mr. Tate. I did immediately lay the same before the Council, who after mature Deliberation, have determined that a warrant should issue upon your account to Mr. Tate, for the Sum of fifty Thousand Pounds to enable him for the present to confirm his contracts for Meat for the Convention Troops. I am directed at the same Time, to inform you, that this is the last and only Sum that can or will be given on account of the

exhausted State of the Treasury for the use of the Convention Troops, a circumstance this, which it was the more necessary to inform you of, as we are told by Mr. Tate, the Bearer of your Letter, that you very soon intended to go to Philad'a and may. therefore, have an opportunity of representing to Congress or to the Commissary General of Provisions, how impracticable it will be for this State to engage to make further advances in your Department—whilst the Demands for the Southern Troops occur so frequently, as totally to exhaust our Treasury, and with it our abilities to comply with any future requisitions, at least until next Meeting of the General Assembly.

Dudley Digges, L. G.

Copy.

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[No. 3155.]

*Governor Clinton Informs Commissary Blaine That He Is Making Every Exertion to Collect Supplies.*

Poukeepsie 18th Aug't 1780.

Sir, Your Letter of the 9th Instant is this Moment delivered me; every Exertion is making for collecting the specific Supplies required of this State. The Moment this is accomplished there will not be the least Objection ag't the agent for this State extending his Purchases as much farther as the Rescources of the State will admit of & the Public Service may require. But as such Extra Purchases must be made at the Expencc of the United States & under the Direction of the Commissary Genl. it will be necessary that he shoud have your Order for the Purpose without which, however, pressing the Demands, I am not authorized to direct him to exceed the Requisitions made of the State. Should he receive your Orders you may rely on every

Assistance in my Power to render his appointment as extensively useful as possible. I am, Sir, your most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

[To Commissary General Blaine.]

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[No. 3156.]

*The Legislature to Meet 4th September, 1780.*

Poukeepsie 18th Aug't 1780.

Sir, I am favoured with your Letter of the 15th Instant. The Moment the new Money is issued which I have reason to expect will very soon be the Case, I will transmit you the Bounties for the Men you have inlisted out of the Levies to serve during the War on receiving Certificates of the Commanding Officer of the Battallion of such Inlistments which is necessary to enable me to draw the Money out of the Treasury. I wish at the same Time to be furnished with an account of the Expences of the several Gentlemen employed in the Recruiting Service under my Warrants that Measures may be taken to discharge the same. This I wish you to communicate to the other Gentlemen concerned.

I recollect the Conversation we had respecting the obtaining Species for clothing the Troops and I am fully perswaded the Plan is practicable. The Legislature is to meet the 4th of next Month when I will endeavour to have it adopted as without their approbation I woud not venture to engage in it. It must remain a Secret for many Reasons. I am Sir with great Regard  
yours

[G. C.]

[To Capt. Nathaniel Norton.]

[No. 3157.]

*Petition from Widows and Orphans Ruined by the Ravages of the Enemy in Tryon County, for Order to Draw Provisions.*

To his Excellency George Clinton Esquire, Governor, and Commander in Chief of the State of New-York.

The Humble Petition of Mary Tenis, Catharine Shefein, Elizabeth Browning, Catharine Ringle, Margaret Keller, Mary Clements, Elizabeth Irine, Susannah Ohene, Gertrude Stinewax, and Magdalene Snackein, Widows of New Petersburg, Kingsland District, in the County of Tryon, and State of New-York.

Humbly Sheweth, That your Poor Petitioners are all Widows, who are left with large Families of Children; our husbands are all killed by the Indians, and now lately, the Indians has Burn'd our houses and Barns, and taken away, and Destroy'd, all our Horses and Cows. And your Petitioners dare not venture home, to get our Harvest in. So that we, and our Fatherless Children are reduc'd to Poverty, and must inevitably want, if not reliev'd by your Excellencies Humanity and Bounty.

Your Petitioners, begs leave to acquaint your Excellence, that General Van Rensselaer, ordered all the inhabitants of New Petersburg to leave the Place, and we are now at Fort Dayton, with scarce anything to subsist ourselves and Children.

Your Petitioners therefore Humbly Prays, that your Excellency will be pleas'd to grant, that we may draw Provision. Or order your poor Petitioners such Relief, as your Excellency out of your abundant Goodness, shall think fit. And your Petitioners, shall ever Pray.

Fort Dayton, August 18th 1780.

The number of those Widows, together with their Children, is Forty and four, and all of the Children incapable of earning a Livelihood.

[No. 3158.]

*Governor Livingston Requests Permission for His Sister, Mrs. Lawrence, to Proceed to New York.*

Morris Town, 18 Aug't 1780.

Sir, I lately received a Letter from my Sister Mrs. Lawrence, a Widow & Refugee from the City of New York & for some years last past an Inhabitant of your state. She informs me that tho' she had a very genteel competency at the Beginning of these troubles, she is at present greatly straightened by occasion of the depreciation of the money, & that she is advised by many of her Friends in New York to come into the City, giving her the strongest assurances of her receiving her house rent if she can obtain Liberty to come in person. She would, however, not wish to stay, but is desirous of a Permission to go, & return into the State of New York after having secured her property. Such Permission, Sir, she begs me to solicit from your Excellency. I know it is a delicate point to interfere in the Policy of other States; and would only be understood to desire the Pass so far as such Indulgence to a distressed Widow & a good whig, reduced by the fate of war from a very easy fortune to a state of Dependence, & having a fair prospect of recovering her debts by going in, is consistent with the plan which your Excellency has prescribed to yourself respecting the granting of Passports. With great respect, I have the honour to be, your Excellency's most humble Servant

Will: Livingston.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.



[No. 3159.]

*Colonel Hopkins' Lively Episode with Press-Master Tremble of Connecticut.*

Amenia Aug't 19th 1780.

May it Please your Excellency, I beg leave to trouble your Excellency with a Remonstrance Concerning a certain Press-master, one George Tremble, who is a transient person that lives in Connecticut, who came to me on the 8th Instant and told me he wanted my team to carry forrage to the Fishkills. I told him my Circumstances was such that I could not let them go. for it would Ruin me for my wheat, about 130 bushels, all I had was in the field and it would spoil. My oats, 200 or 300 busshels all lay in the Swarth, and would be lost, for I had no help but one Son, and could not hire any man; my flax a fine Crop was all in the field and some hay in the meadow, and my grass lodged and rotting, but he said he cared not for that, but I should go myself with my team the next day. I told him if I could secure my grain I would send my son and team the next week, but he said I should go the next day. I told him I would not; he showed me a Cobby of a press warrent from your Excellency to Colo. Hay with a line from him on the back authorizing said Tremble to impress teams & drivers in this state.

I told him that was no legal warrent to him; he rode off saying he would get a warrent for me & then told all about, he had got a warrent for me; but on the 14th he came again with a Sergeant & 8 men & entered my field, Seized my son & confined him under guard, drove out my fatten oxen that I was fattening for the army, took my horses, & forced my son to drive them with a lode of my own oats to the Fishkills, altho I consented .

if they must go they might carry my oats, he told me I was a disaffected Person, had done nothing to support the cause, held bad Principles, was a dam'd Lyer and a dam'd Rascal.

I have fined him for cursing; sued him for trespass & issued a warrent against him in order to bind him to his good behaviour & recorded a riot against him.

I think its a pity that there is not a man in this Precinct County or state that can be trusted with a press warrent, but such an outlandish, Irish, malicious, abusive fellow must be sent into this Precinct to press all the whiggs teams, & none in Charlotte, which is near 3 times as big, and half tories, for I cant learn of one being pressed there; after all the malicious fellow wrote a letter to Colo. Hay sent by the Soldiers that my team Capt. Shepherd's & Mr. Ingersoll's teams were disaffected teams, and requested they might be kept in Service a month; he abused others besides me. I am, Sir, your most obedient Hum'e Serv't

Roswell Hopkins.

P. S. One Stack of my wheat is spoiled being wet thro & grown & I shall loose about six tons of hay. R. H.  
His Excellency Governour Clinton.

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[No. 3160.]

*Draft Letter to Brigadier General James Clinton, Requesting Returns of Recruits from the Levies.*

Poukeepsie, 19th Aug't 1780.

Sir, It is necessary that I shoud be furnished with a Return of the Recruits inlisted in the Bataillions of this State since the 14th June last, specifying such as were inlisted out of the Levies the Term of Time for which they are inlisted & the Officer with

whom inlisted which I have to request you will be pleased to transmit me with the least possible Delay. I some Time since in your absence, transmitted to the Commanding Officer of your Brigade, a Letter from Lieut. Glenney complaining of Injustice in the late arrangem't made by the Council & requested the sense of the Field Officers on the Subject, with which I have not yet been favoured. I am, Sir, your most obed.

[G. C.]

I do not mean to include Van Schaick's, as I believe there have been few if any Inlistments in it & to wait for a Return from it, woud occasion too long Delay.

Brig'r Genl. Clinton.

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[No. 3161.]

Document 3161 has been consolidated with document 3153 for obvious reasons.—STATE HISTORIAN.

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[No. 3162.]

*Colonel Henry Livingston Intimates "Interesting Operations" Are Contemplated Against New York.*

Philadelphia 20th Aug'st '80.

Sir, Business of the most pressing Nature, has prevented my doing myself the Honour of attending you to Albany upon the present Serious occasion, and will probably detain me untill your return to the Equally interesting operations intended against New York, at which period I hope from your Excellencies Friendship that you will not permit me to be an Idle Spectator. I have the Honour to be, with great Respect, your Excellencies Most Obt. Serv't

Henry B. Livingston.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 3163.]

*Colonel Weissenfels Reports the Number of Men Enlisted from Levies  
Into His Regiment.*

Orange Town, August 21st 1780.

Sir, Agreeable to your Excellency' Letter to Captain Norton, requiring a Certificate to Enable you to Remitt the Bounties from the Treasury, for the Recruits Enlisted during Warr, out of the New Levies; I do hereby Certifie, that there are twenty one, able Bodied men, Enlisted during Warr, in the fourth New York Regiment.

I cannot but Remark, that the Exertions, of so good a Recruiting officer as Captain Norton, has Considerable augmented my Comand, and Deserves my Notice and thanks. I doubt not of further Success in that respect, if Cash can be Procured, before the time of their Temporary Enlisment Expires. I am, with great respect, your Excellency' most obedient, most humble Servant

Fred. Weissenfels.

His Excellency, Governor Clinton.

[No. 3164.]

*Draft of Letter to Colonel John Lamb Respecting Supplies to be  
Issued to Troops.*

Poukeepsie 22d Aug't 1780.

D'r Sir, Capt. John Wiley agent to procure Necessaries for the Troops of this State is now to the Eastward on that Business, but for want of a proper Supply of Cash, which it seems our Treasury is not in a Condition to afford him it is to be feared he will for a Time be much restricted in his Purchasses. By his Letter of the 6th Instant he informs me that he has procured on his own private Credit. a small Quantity of Liquor

&ca. which he is forwarding on to Mr. Tyson at Fishkill to be distributed to the Troops. It will be impossible for Capt. Wiley both to purchase & attend to the Issuing of these Articles to the different Individuals who are entitled to receive them, & the Law has not provided for Issuing Commissaries. I would, therefore, recommend it to the Commanding Officer of the different Regts. to appoint some faithful Persons belonging [to] your Regiment to receive & issue the Proportions of their respective Regiments. You will readily perceive that to fix the Proportions of the Supplies to be delivered to the different Corps some one Person must be possessed of the Returns of such of the Officers & Privates as are Creditted to this State & for this Purpose I have to request you will be pleased to make yours to Genl. James Clinton, whom I have requested to ascertain the Proportion of each Regt. & transmit it to the Agent with Duplicates thereof & Copies of the Returns to me. I am, with great Respect & Esteem, D'r Sir, your most Obed't Serv't

G. C.

Colo. Lamb.

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 [No. 3165.]

*Governor Clinton Notifies Captain Doughty That No Discrimination Should be Made Against Artillerymen in Distributing Supplies.*

Poukeepsie 22d August 1780.

Sir, I am this Moment favoured with your Letter of the 16th Inst't. By the act of the Legislature for provid'g Clothing & necess'ies for the Troops, the Officers & Privates, of the artillery & other Corps, credited to this State, undoubtedly are entitled to an equal & full participation of those articles, with the five

Battalions of this State. Mr. Curtenius, agent to procure the Cloth'g, & Capt. Wiley, agent to procure the necessaries, are now both gone into the neighboring states on this Business & whenever those articles are issued, your Corps will receive their full Proportion with respect to the Shirts & Overalls now deliver'g to the five Battalions, on a suggestion that they, in consequence of their late frequent marchings, had so worn out their under Clothes as scarcely to be able to do Duty; the Legislature, by informal Resolutions appointed Persons in the diff't Parts of the State, to collect by voluntary Donations a Temporary supply of those articles. By the Papers handed me, it would appear that the Distribution of them was confined: but at any rate the quantity collected was so small. as not to admit, neither would it have answered so good a Purpose the extend'g the issuing of them to the whole of the Troops credited to this State & Capt. Black, the Comm'y, being indisposed, I was under the necessity, to prevent their being lost or destroyed, of employing Lieut. Conoly to collect & deliver them accordingly. I am &c.

G: Clinton.

Capt. Doughty.

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[No. 3166.]

*To General James Clinton in Regard to Supplies and Enlistments.*

Pokeepsie 22d Aug't 1780.

D'r Sir, Capt. Wiley agent to procure necessaries for the Troops is gone to the eastward on that Business: but for want of a proper Supply of Cash which our Treasury is not at pres't in a condition to afford him it is not probably he will be enabled to extend his Purchases to any great amount. He, how-

ever, informs me that he has procured, on his own credit, a small quantity of Liquors &c. which he is forward'g on to a Mr. Tyson, at Mr. Gysbert Schenck's at Fishkill, who is to deliver them: but as it will be impossible for him to issue the several articles to the individuals of the diff't Corps, who are by the Law entitled to receive them, I would recommend until some more perman't mode can be adopted, that a faithfull Person from each Regt. including Lamb's, Spencer's & the other Corps who have Officers or Privates in them credited to this state, be appointed to receive and issue them to the individuals of their respective Corps. And for this Purpose it will be necessary that the Proportion to be delivered to each Corps and the Genl. & Staff Officers be ascertained & I have accordingly directed Colo. Lamb to make the necessary Return of his to you; where the other Corps are I know not; you will be pleased to enquire & procure their Returns. When you have ascertained the Proportions you'l please to transmit them to Mr. Tyson for his Gov't & Duplicates thereof with Copies of the Returns on which they are founded to me. This Business for want of being properly Regulated, will be attended with its embarrassm'ts but until some System can be established, we must do the best we can.

In my Letter of the 19th, I requested to be furnished with a Return of the Recruits inlisted in the Battalions of this State since the 14th June last, specifying such as were inlisted out of the Levies, the Term of Time for which they inlisted & the Officer with whom inlisted. Van Schaick's is not meant to be included; to wait for a Return from it, would occasion too long Delay. I am &c.

G: Clinton.

Brig'r Genl. Clinton.

[No. 3167.]

*Extracts from Letters of Assistant State Agents Monell and Wynkoop Regarding Supplies.*

The tardiness of the Assessors obliges me to be longer in Executing this Business than I could wish, as it was my Determination, if possible, to have my Quota collected Immediately. I have wrote to all the Supervisors repeatedly for their Returns, but cannot effect to get them, untill such Time as the assessors lay the assessment on the People. I have now sent Mr. Wharry round to them all for that purpose; as soon as I receive the Returns, and get the Cattle delivered, shall forward them on as Directed with all possible Dispatch.

signed—Jas. Monell, Asst. State Agent.

New Windsor Aug't 14' 1780.

(Copy)

The assessors have been very backward in making their assessment of Cattle; some have done nothing concerning it, and others so Indifferent that it puts me under great Difficulty. I shall collect as many as possibly I can and send them on when I will be able to make a Return of the Difficiencies.

D. Wynkoop.

Kingston, 16' Aug't 1780.

I have now received the Returns of the Wheat assessed in New Windsor Precinct, and instead of their Quota, which was seven hundred and seventy Bushels, they have returned two hundred and fifty Eight and say there is no more in their Precinct to be had: I have go no Return of Beef from them yet, nor do I know if ever I shall, although I waited on them myself the Day they met to lay their assessment.

Jas. Monell, A. S. Agent.

New Windsor, 18 Aug't 1780.

(Copy)



After repeated applications to the several Supervisors of my District for their Returns of their respective Quotas of provisions, I've rec'd such Imperfect acc'ts, that I know not what to do with them; in particular from Mr. Wolver Acker, Superintendent of New Burgh Precinct, who writes me that there are one Barrel of Flour in his Mill, and the remainder at Colo. Hawsbrook's Mill, the whole amounting to 500 W't. As for the Cattle, they are assessed for the Months of June, July, and August: Any Wheat, Flour or Forage they have not assessed nor are they likely to assess any more, adding that there are not Wheat in their District for the Support of the Inhabitants thereof.

Jas. Monell, A. State Agent.

New Windsor, Aug't 23d 1780.

(Copy)

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[No. 3168.]

*British Prisoners to be Treated as American Prisoners Are Treated by the Enemy.*

Fredericksburgh 24th August 1780.

Sir, I can acquaint your Excellency that Henry & David Van Schaack, Mathew Goes and Thomas Bull, are at Fishkill; Fletcher Mathews was sick and unfit to be brought by the Guard. I shall this day go over to Fishkill and lodge at Doctor Van Wyck's tonight; beg that your Excellency will be pleased to direct me whether I shall immediately see those persons conducted to within the Enemy's Lines, and whether they may be permitted to take horses with them, and the manner in which I must pursue this business. I should have personally waited on your Excellency but am just returned from Westchester County and much fatigued by riding in the hot weather. I

have the honor to be, Your Excellency's most Obdt. & very  
h'ble Ser't,

Philip Pell, Jur.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

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Poukeepsie 25th Aug't 1780.

Sir, I am favoured with yours of yesterday by Colo. Duer. It is not less my Inclination than it is my Duty by every means in my Power to endeavour to effect the Liberation of the Citizens of this State who are Prisoners with the Enemy & there is Reason to believe if those who profess allegiance to the King of Great Britain in our Power met in every Respect with similar Treatment that an Exchange woud soon be effected. It is therefore my orders that you immediately confine & cause Mr. Van Schaick and the other Gentlemen mentioned in your Letter to be treated in the same Manner our friends who are Prisoners with the Enemy are, until you shall receive my further orders. If this shoud produce Overtures from the Enemy for an Exchange, you will conduct it agreable to my former Orders, observing in any Exchange you may agree to, that those who have been longest in Captivity be first exchanged. If you shoud find it necessary & proper to confine these Prisoners in the Provost at Fishkill, you have a Note to the Commanding Officer at Fishkill requesting they may be received & treated according to your orders. I am, Sir, with great Regard &c.

[G. C.]

[To Philip Pell Esq.]

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Sir, Mr. Pell, Com'y of Prisoners, of this State has several Prisoners whom observing the Law of that altrusion it may be proper to have confined until their Exchanges can be effected

and shoud apply to you. I have to request you will order them to be received in the Provost at Fishkill & treated as he shall direct, which will be simular to the usage received by our Citizens, who are unfortunate enough to be in the Power of the Enemy. I am &c.

[G. C.]

The Command'g Officer at Fishkill.

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[No. 3169.]

*Colonel Peter Vroman Forwards to Governor Clinton a Threatening Letter from Brant.*

Schohary August 24th 1780

May it please your Excellency; Inclosed I send you a Threatment of Joseph Brant. I did not Receive it till this date; it was Delivered me by a woman who lives at the west Branch of Delaware; your own prudence will teach you what will be best to do in the Case. Ephraim Vroman has send a Letter with a List Dated on the Dellaware the 11th Instant, of those taken prisoner with him on the 9th Instant, by Brant in this place, of which List I sent you a Cobby. The Inhabitants of this place are greatly alarmed of the murder and Destruction Committed by Brant and his Indians; they have made no appearance since the murder, but expect they will, if not provided to stop them. I Remain with Esteem, Sir, your most obedient hum. Ser.

Peter Vroman.

To his Excellency, Gov. Clinton.

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Sir, I understood that my friend Hendrick Huff & Cool is taken Prisoners near at Esopus, I wou'd be glad if you wou'd be so kind as to let those people know that took them, not to use my friends too hard, for if they will use hard or hurt them,

I will certainly pay for it, for we have several Rebels in our hands makes me mention this for it would be disagreeable to me, to hurt any Prisoner; therefore, I hope they will not force me. I am, your Hu'ble S't

Jos. Brant

August 11th 1780.

To Coll. Vroman.

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A List of the prisoners names who were with Brant on the Delaware, the 11th of August 1780, and taken the 9th Instant, viz: Ephraim Vroman his two sons Bartholomew and Josias; Simon Vroman his wife and one son Jacob, three Sons of my Brother, namly John, Barent and Tuenes all that was Left; himself his wife and one son kill'd; John Vroman and his Son Martines; Thomas Marienes; Abraham Delly and Hendrick Heger.

The names of those fourteen persons was sent by Leut. Ephraim Vroman.

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[No. 3170.]

*Sir John Johnson Reported as Contemplating Another Raid Along the Mohawk Valley.*

Albany, 24th August 1780.

My dear Sir, We have just received an Express from Tryon County, from Col. Harper, who mentions that a Man employed by Genl. Rensselaer to gett intelligence, informs him that Sir John Johnston has sent a party into Johnstown, to inform the Inhabitants that he is coming on with about 2000 men, and intends making his first stroke at Stone Arabia. That the Inhabitants at Johnsons Bush have baked a Quantity of Bread

for the use of Sir John's men. The General intends going immediately to Schenectedy to have Scouts continually out.

Genl. Ten Broeck will put the Militia of his Brigade, (at least such a part as may be necessary) under marching Orders, to march at a moment's warning; by the Information, Sir John was to have been at Johnstown yesterday. He will order Col. Harper to Johnsons Bush and if any Bread can be found seize it, and the Persons who have it. His Reason for taking Post at Schenectady, is that in case, there is any thruth in the account that he may collect a force in Person, an Endeavour to confute the designs of the Enemy. The Genl. would have wrote himself but is gone to conferr with Genl. Ten Broeck. I am, D'r Sir, with much Esteem your mo't Obt. Humble Servant

Lewis R. Morris.

Gov'r Clinton.

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[No. 3171.]

*Abram Yates, Junior. Authorized by Congress to Sign Bills of Credit.*

Philadelphia August 24. 1780.

Sir, Enclosed your Excellency will receive an act of Congress of the 21 Instant, appointing Abraham Yates, Junior,, Commissioner on the Part of the United States to endorse the Bills of Credit to be issued by the State of New York in Pursuance of the resolutions of Congress of the 18 of March last; and in Case of his Disability appointing. Abraham G. Lansing, to that Service. I have the Honor to be, with very great respect, your Excellency's most humble & obedient servant,

Sam Huntington, President.

His Excellency, Governor Clinton.

In Congress, August 21st, 1780.

Resolved, That Abraham Yates, junior, Commissioner of the Continental Loan Office for the State of New York, or the Commissioner of the said Loan Office for the time being be and hereby is appointed Commissioner on the part of the United States to endorse the Bills of credit to be issued by the State of New York in pursuance of the Resolutions of Congress of the 18th Day of March last, and that in case of the Disability of the said Abraham Yates, Junior, or the Commissioner of the said Loan Office for the Time being, Abraham G. Lansing, be appointed to endorse the said Bills.

Extract from the Minutes.

Chas. Thomson Sec'y.

[Nos. 3172-3173.]

*General Arnold Reports Only One Day's Supply of Fresh Beef on Hand at West Point.*

Fish-Kill 25th August 1780.

Honoured Sir, I inclose you copy of a Letter from the Honbl. Major Genl. Arnold,\* by which you will observe there is the greatest appearance of an immediate want of Meat for the Troops at West Point and Posts in its Vicinity.

Our dependence for supplies of Cattle was principally upon the Agent for Massachusetts State, but by what information I can get and the want at Head-Quarters, I have reason to believe the Cattle he can furnish, are ordered there. Colo. Hay imagines he shall not be able to furnish but very few for want of Cash. The Agent for the State of Connecticut informs me that the

\*Arnold was ordered to West Point and took command August 3, 1780.—STATE HISTORIAN.

demands from the French Fleet & Troops at New-Port are nearly equal to what he can furnish.

Our Issue amounts to about fifteen Cattle p Day. I am really at a loss where to make farther application, having represented our situation to the Commissary General. If your Excellency can consistently prescribe any method for obtaining a number of Cattle in this State, it would be relieving us at a most distressed time. I have the honour to be, your Excellency's obligated Servant,

Nathaniel Stevens.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

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Head Quarters, Robinson's House August 24th 1780.

Dear Sir,\* The Fresh beef on hand in garrison will be expended tomorrow; And, I am this day informed, that the Army at Head Quarters, have been two days without: so that we cannot hope to derive farther supplies by stopages at Kings Ferry; nor do I know of any other means of Procuring it, than by your exertions.

Should you have none near at hand, it will be absolutely necessary, that you apply to Colo. Hay, the state agent for New York, or some of the deputies for a Present Provision. In order to ensure success, I think it most expidient & do advise you to apply to His excellency, Govenor Clinton, on the subject, stating to him our necessaty & requesting his orders on some of the agents of the state, for a supply of cattle, until the purchasing Commissaries send some, that we may not be obliged to breake in upon our small stock of salt provision. With sentiments of Esteem, I am, Dear Sir, your Obt. and very Hum'e Serv't

B. Arnold.

Nath'l Stevens, Esqr., D. C. Genl. Issues.

(Copy)

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\*Numbered 3172 in the Clinton MSS.

[No. 3174.]

*The Governor Approves an Advance of One Thousand Dollars to  
Lieutenant Colbreath.*

Albany August 25th 1780.

Sir, Exclusive of the two thousand Dollars you ordered me to pay to Lieut. Colbreath, of the 3d Regiment, I paid him one thousand Dollars on the 25th July, for which I have no order. Will your Excellency be pleased to signify your approbation of it, I, am Sir, Your Very Humble Servant,

Gerard Bancker.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

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 Pokeepsie Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> 1780.

Sir, I have rec'd your Letter of the 25 ulto. informing me of your hav'g advanced a farther sum of 1000 D'rs to Lieut. Colbreath and I now signify my approbation of it. I am

[G. C.]

[To Gerard Bancker.]

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 [No. 3175.]

*Governor Clinton Answers Commissary Stevens' Letter Referring to  
Supplies.*

Pokeepsie, Aug't 26th 1780.

S'r, I have rec'd your Letter of yesterday. Colo. Hay the agent for procuring Supplies in this State for the army has appointed his assistants in the diff't Parts of the State & given them the necessary Directions for executing the Business committed to them. I have not had any Returns made me, neither can I by any Information I have rec'd, form any estimate of the Supplies already procured or of the future Prospects. He is the proper Person to apply to on this occasion & he will meet



with every assistance which it may be in my Power to afford him. It may be proper to inform you, that if the agent should be able to procure any number of Cattle, I have no authority to order them to Fishkill, as by the Direction of the Commander in Chief, they are to be delivered at Albany where it is to be presumed they are wanted. I am &c.

G: Clinton.

Nath'l Stevens, Esqr.

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[No. 3176.]

*General Ten Broeck Ordered to Assemble His Command at Saratoga in View of Sir John Johnson's Reported Advance.*

Pokeepsie Aug't 26th 1780.

D'r S'r, By a Letter this moment rec'd from Genl. V Rensselaer, I am informed that a body of the Enemy under the command of S'r John Johnson are coming on towards Johns Town. I have, therefore, to request that you will immediately order the militia of the northern Part of your Brigade, to be assembled at Saratoga, & there held in the most perfect readiness to march across the Country on the first appearance or approach of the Enemy, to intercept their Retreat. You will likewise afford Genl. V Rensselaer every possible aid from the other Parts of your Brigade to enable him to operate ag't them in front.

It is suggested that some dissatisfaction has taken Place in y'r Brigade on account of the Exempt Corps not being ordered out with the militia; by Law, they are subject to equal Duties w'th the militia, especially in Cases of Invassion & it has always been my intentions that they should bear an equal proportion of the common burthen. You will, therefore, include them in your Orders on the present & every future simular Occassion. You

will correspond with Genl. V Rensselaer & the other Officers on the Frontiers & agreeable to the acc'ts you may receive, in your Discretion continue or dismiss the militia. I am &c.

G: Clinton.

Brig'r Genl. Ten Broeck.

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[No. 3177.]

*Disposition of Several State Prisoners.*

Sir, Notwithstanding any former Order you may have received, you are on the Receipt of this Order, to convey Thomas Bull, Prisoner to this State, to the Common gaol at this Place & there deliver him to the Sheriff of Dutchess County or his Dep'y, who is hereby directed to receive & Confine him in the said gaol & to be governed in his Conduct towards the said Prisoner by the Orders he may receive from the Commissary of Prisoners of this State. Given at Pokeepsie, in Dutchess County, the 27th Aug't, 1780.

G. C.

Directed as within.

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Sir, You are on Receipt of this Order notwithstanding any former Order you may have received on the Subject, convey Henry Van Schaack, David Van Schaack & Mathew Goes, Prisoners to the State of New York, under safe Conduct to the Common gaol at Goshen, in Orange County, & there deliver them to the Sheriff of the said County or his Deputy, who is hereby directed to receive & confine them in the said gaol & to be governed in his Conduct as to their Confinement by the Orders he shall from Time to Time receive from the Commissary of

Prisoners of this State for the Time being. Given at Pokeepsie, the 27th Day of Aug't, 1780.

Geo. Clinton.

To the Officer having Charge of the Prisoners mentioned in the above order.

[No. 3178.]

AN EPISODE IN THE LIFE OF JUDGE BELKNAP.

*Lieutenant Sullivan's Vigorous Methods of Subordinating the Civil to Military Law.*

On the 22d Day of August 1780 Elnathan Foster of New Burgh, Farmer, applied to me for a warrant against J. Sullivan, a Lieutenant of Col. Millard's Regiment of Light Dragoons, for forcibly putting a Number of Horses into his Meadow without his Consent; upon which I issued a warrant and Sullivan was taken, and of his Choise whent before John Nicoll, Esqr., who by a Note Requested my attendance with him on the Troyal; the Troyal came on the 23d when the Determination of the Court was, that Sullivan Pay the Cost, the Damages to be appraised according to Law and Paid to Foster by \_\_\_\_\_ and the Horses to Remain in Foster's Enclosure until I could procure Pasture as near the Post as Possible. The 24th I made Return of Pasture to the Quarter master and Requested Sullivan to Remove the Horses immediately to the Pasture Provided for him. He nevertheless obstinately Refused to Direct the Horses to be Removed. Foster then applied to me for a Second warrant against him. I granted it. Sullivan then Refused to be taken, and then on the 26th on appll-cation of said Foster, I issued a third warrant against the Persons who had the keeping or Care of the Horses, with Directions for the Constable to take assistance and Remove the Horses, upon which Five Horses, and William Denton, one of the Persons who had the Care of them, was taken and brought before me at Martin Wygant's. When Sullivan with a Guard of about 10 men, under arms, with Fixed Bayonets came, and the said Sullivan insulted and abused me with the most menacing abusive Language, Pointing his Drawn Sword at me, Calling me a Dam'd Rascall &c. Then abused the Constable, struck him with his Drawn Sword, Demanded the warrant out of his hands, read it, and threw it away on the Ground; he then Refused the Prisoner and the Horses, and then Swore by ..... that he would have them in spite of the Civil authority, and then ordered his Guard to Bayonet the first man that should attempt to oppose them. The above is a true State of my Proceeding against, and the abuse I, together with the Constable, Received from the said Sullivan, as near as I can Recollect. Witness my Hand the 29th of August 1780.

Abel Belknap.

August the 25th, 1780.

Sir, I receiv'd a note from you yesterday, desiring me in a very insolent & peremptory manner to send my horses to Mr. Coleman; or to apply to the Q. M. I do not recollect. I accordingly went this morning to Mr. Coleman, who happen'd not to be at home, and his wife inform'd me, that he had no pasture but what was three miles from thence. You know, Sir, I can not have the horses at such distance; the few men that are with me, being continually employ'd at work for the regt. & consequently can not attend them. I am determin'd, therefore, Sir. that the horses shall not be remov'd; till pasture can be procur'd more convenient to the men. And indeed it is not worth procuring any as I shall sett [out] for the regt. in two days. Sir, you ought to be asham'd of such conduct; so inconsistent with the character of an honest man and a good magistrate, that had the interest of his country at heart, to propose to send those horses in the country again, when you know their shoes have been taken off; and were rode to such a degree by the inhabitants, as render'd them in a manner unfit for service this campaign. Your aversion to the army is the only motive you can have

In acting in so ungentlemanlike a manner. But you shou'd consider, Sir, that those horses are much yours as mine; that they belong to the public & consequently shou'd be provided for. From what I have seen of you, you are such an illiterate & at the same time so hot-headed an old gentleman, that it is altogether useless to reason with you on any subject; and thought, therefore, most expedient to give you my opinion of you in writing. For indeed no man of sense cou'd hear you five minits w'th patience, as you are a meer composition of obstinacy & "fat contented ignorance". Your ungentlemanlike behaviour in regard to me, woud I assure you, Sir, have met with its desert, were you worthy the attention of a Gentleman.

J. Sullivan.

Esqr. Belknap

Ulster County SS:

Personally came and appeared before me Wolvert Ecker, Esqr., one of the State Justices, being of full age and duly Sworn, Deposeth and Saith, that on Saturday the 26th Inst. he was at the House of Martin Wygant at New Burgh, when he understood that one Lieutenant Sullivan of Mallard's Regiment of Light Dragoons, had Forceably put a Number of Horses into the Meadow of Elnathan Foster, and that the Horses had been taken out and a Person who had the Care of them, taken by a warrant issued by Abel Belknap, Esqr., who was then Present. That soon after this Deponent saw the said Sullivan march up to the House at the Head of a guard of about 10 men in arms with Fixed Bayonets, when he Demanded the Horses and prisoner aforesaid, and then took them by Force from the Constable, abusing the Majistrate in the most menacing Language, Pointing and steping towards him with his Drawn Sword, Calling him a Damd Rascal, and Enemy to his Country and the army &c., abusing the Constable in like manner; he then marched of with the Horses and Prisoner aforesaid, ordering his guard to Bayonet any mau that should attempt to Rescue them. And further this Deponent saith, that he heard the said Sullivan say that he would have them in spite of the authority, and further this Deponent saith not.

Thos. Palmer.

Sworn before me the 29th Aug't, 1780.

Wolvert Ecker.

Ulster County SS:

Personally appear'd before me Abel Belknap, Esqr., one of the state Justices of the Peice, Lieut. Jedidiah Stickley, and Being Duly sworn Deposeth and Saith, that Lieut. John Sullivan, of Coll. Morland's Regt., of horse applied to this Deponent for the Firelocks of the men under his Command, and at the same time told this Deponent that he wanted them to take some bad Fellows; that this Deponent asked David Brooks, Dept. Clother Genll. whose store the Deponent, with his men and arms was Employed in Guarding, whether it would be Prudent for him to let the arms go, upon which the s'd Brooks told this Deponent that he thought the said Sullivan would make a Prudent use of them. And Further this Deponent saith, that said Brooks, told him that he should not Come to any Damage as he Could see; upon which this Deponent, let said Sullivan have the arms of the men then under his Command. And Further this Deponent saith not.

Jedidiah Sticknee, Lieut.

Sworn Before me this 6th Sep'r '80.

Sworn Before me the Day above menchend.

Abel Belknap, Justies.

Ulster County Precinct Newburgh.

Personally appeared before me John Robinson one of the people's Justices, Benj'm Birdall, being of full age duly sworn deposeth and saith, that he was at the house of Martin Wigants on the 26th day of August on Publick business, where was many of the Neighbours & assessors of above s'd Precinct, Abel Belknap, Esqr., being one of the number. I heard s'd Abel Belknap, Esqr., say that he had granted a warrant against one Sullivan, a Lieut. of the light Horse, for Putting his horses into and keeping them in Elnathan Foster's Medow without Orders, or Reason by force of arms, and said that the Constable could not serve the warrant by Reason that he kept him-self shut up in the Cloathing store and would not be taken; then in my Presence granted a warrant to the Constable to take the Sentury and horses; the Coustable then ordered me and several of the Neighbours to assist him in taking them, which we did; then three of s'd Sullivan's men appeared with Pistols, Cocked them and demanded his





*B. Arnold*

authority and horses; warrant was Red; Constable yet kept the horses and sentinell; the sissors whent to their business again; soon after Came into the Room one Davld Brooks who has some Care of the Publick Clothing, Cautioned the Justus to beware what he was about in Regard to Sullivan; s'd that Sullivan was a gentleman and an officer; again s'd that he would have him take care, for it would be a serious affair before it was done with; the Justice and some other used mild arguments with him on the subject. S'd Brooks fell into a great Passion useing fowl language that disturbed the whole house, swinging his Cane Round and over the heads of the Justice and others, swairing by his maker that he Cared nor feared no man; being ordered by the Justice and Constable to be Peacable and set down, s'd Brooks s'd that the Justices of this Place seamed determined to lend no aid or assistance to the Military department and again asserted that it would be a serious affair; soon after s'd Sullivan appeared at the head of about ten men, well armed with fixed bayonets, in a Resolute manner, swearing bitter Oaths against the whole Company, Justice and Constable present; struck the Constable with a naked sword; demanded his warrant; Read it or pretended to Read it; threw it away; demanded the Horses and sentinell Immediately, and took them; ordered his men to Bayonet any man that opposed them; he said all the Company was Enemies to their Country and tories; Pointed his sword at the Justice; said that Rascol in Perticular; I asked him whether he Really Intended to Risque the sentinell and horses out of the hands of the Civil authority or not; he answered with a great Oath that he would in spite of all authority; so did; and went of with horses and Centinell.

Benjamin Birdsall.

Sworn Before me this Six Day of September, 1780.

John Robinson, Justice peace.

Ulster County SS:

Personally appeared before me Wolvert Ecker, Esqr., one of the Peoples Justice of Peace for said County, Joseph Coleman, being of full age and Duly sworn who Deposeth and saith, that he was qualified according to Law for taking forage for the Horses belonging to the Contenantal Service that should come in the Precinct where he resides, and that he was at the house of Martin Wygant on August the twenty Sixth Day: there he saw a number of horses which was taken by vertue of a warant from Abel Belknap, Esqr., for Trespass in Elanathan Foster's meadow; the said horses was under the Comand of Leut. J. Sullavin who appeared there with about ten men, with chargd Bayonets, and Demanded ye horses of the magistrate, and swore his men shoud fight as long as one was a live, but what he would have his horses; at the same time Damd the magistrate for a villin, and further said if the magistrat should step one foot towards him he would run him through with his sword; this Deponant further saith that he told the Leut. that he had Paster for his horses if he would make use of it, but without Paying any regard, he ordered his men to take the horses away, and if any man offered to oppose them to run them through with their Bayonet, and this Deponant further saith not.

Joseph Coleman.

Sworn Beofre me Newburgh, ye 29th August.

Wolvert Ecker.

Ulster County SS:

Personally appear'd Beofre me John Robinson, Esqr., one of the state Justises of the Peace, Cornelius Hasbrouck, Being Duly sworn Deposeth and saith, that on Satterday the 26th August Last, he was at the House of Martin Wygant, at Newburgh, where he Saw Lieut. John Sullivan of Coll. Moilan's Regt. of Horse, Come with about 10 or 12 Men, in arms with Fixt Bayonets and Demand a Number of Horses which the said Sullivan Had Forcibly put into a Meddow of Elnathan Foster; which Horses had Been taken out and the Person who had the Care of them by a Warrant Issued by Able Belknap, Esqr., who was then Present, who he the s'd Sullivan did abuse in the Most menacing Language, Calling him a dam'd Raskle and Enemy to his County &c. He also abus'd the Constable, who he struck with his sword and with a pistle Cock'd at his Brest, Obligd him to give up the authority given him for takeing s'd Horses; then ordering his guard to take the Horses & Bayonet any man that should attempt to Resque them Swareing By ..... he would have them in spite of any authority there. And Further this deponent saith not.

Coru's Hasbrouck.

Sworn Before me Sep'r 7th 1780.

John Robinson, Justice peace.

[No. 3179.]

*Captain Graham on the Question of Enlistments and Expenses.*

Camp Teniek August 29th 1780.

Sir, I yesterday waited on his Excellency, Genrall Washington, with the Inclosed Inlistment and my Account of Expences, who Referred me to you; as there is no money in the Treasury he would have given a Warrant for the Bounty had the Finances admitted. I wish it was in my power to have paid them the whole of the Bounty. I have paid them some at the Rate of forty for one.

As I was not sent by the Orders of your Excellency, I have Inclosed a Copy of the Orders given me by Col. Cortlandt, when sent to Cortlandt's Mannor for the purpose of Recruiting; if we had money, men are plenty that would engage for the war. Severall has offered Since my Inlisting the two mentioned above, but I could not give them Promises of Immediate payments of their Bounty. Colo. Cockran would have wrote to you for to advance for the use of the Regiment a Sum of Money for the purpose of Recruiting, but his Indisposition Obliges him to Dispencc with writing, but has desired to mention it to you; if you should send me the Bounty for those two men, if you send it to head Quarters, I shall allways gett it safe. I am your Excellency's most Obedient and Very Humble Ser't

Charles Graham.

To G. C.

Camp West Point July 19th 1780.

Capt. Graham.

Sir, The Legislature of the State of New York having enacted that Ten Bushells of wheat shall be given to Each Draught now Raised for three months, if they will engage to serve that time and two months Longer in any one of the Regular Ras'd Regiments of the State, and have farther Enacted that fifty dollars be



given as a Bounty to any person who will engage for the war in any of the said Regular Regiments, you will, therefore, Repair to the House of Mr. Joshua Hyatt, in the Mannor of Cortlandt, or whenever any of the Recruits may be assembled, and do your Endeavour engage as many as possible for the Second New York Regiment, promises by you made in Consequence of the above will be carried into Execution, By your Humble Ser't

Phillip Cortlandt. Colo.

A Copy.

The State of New York.

To Capt. Charles Graham, Dr.

July 20th	To Cash pd at Martin's for Dinner	D 12
21st	at Capt. Hoyt's for Lodging and hors feed	20
23	at Colo. Benidict's for Sundres	70
	at Daniel Mead's for diner	12
	at Capt. Hoyt's for Liquor and hors feed	12
	at Jones Manner Cortlandt	7
24	at Clark's for Lodging &c.	34
	at Brewer's	3
25	Col. Hyatt's	15
	Cash pd for Mr. Hatfield for 3 Days horse hire	80
27	pd Mr. Joshua Hyatt for Severall Necessarys	
	for Liquors and Victuals	116
		<hr/>
		Dollars 381

Errors Accepted

P Charles Graham.

We, the Subscribers whose names are hereunto Subscribed, do voluntary inlist Ourselves as Soldiers in the Second New York Regiment, to Serve during the present Contest, and we do Bind Ourselves to Conform to all the Rules and Regulations of the army the Articles of War and the Resolutions of Congress. In Witness whereof we have sett our Hands at Tappan August the nineteenth 1780.

George Daniells  
Michall Rably.

A Copy.

I do certifie that the above named persons are now in the Regiment agreeable to the above Inlistment.

Robt. Cockran, Lieut. Colo.  
Commanding 2d New York Regt.

[No. 3180.]

*Difficulties in the Way of Raising Supplies in Westchester County.*

Bedford, 29th August 1780.

Honored Sir, I am under the disagreeable necessity of Representing to your Excellency the embarrassment and Difficulty I labour under. Have been lately honored with the appointment of assistant State Agent for West Chester County, which I willingly accepted, flattering myself that the present method adopted for procuring supplies for the army, the Encouragement given of payment in new bills equal to gold and silver, and assisted by the law to prevent the monopoly of Cattle &c. would enable the purchaser to procure more ample supplies for the army than has been for these two years past. But am unhappily disappointed in the County, although there is at this time in this county, not less than three Hundred head of good beef cattle for sale, which I have endeavoured by every encouragement and persuasive means in my Power to purchase, but lately have had the mortification to see the troops commanded by Col. Sheldon, for several days together destitute of beef, and their resentment (when short of provisions) is wholly bent against the publick purchaser, when it is out of the power of the assistant to procure them any relief, but by the voluntary consent of the possessor, which is seldom to be met with at these times. Every method is now taken to evade the law for preventing the monopoly of cattle and Beef, and although we daily see beef cattle removed from Place to place, find it extremely difficult to procure full evidence that they were purchased with intent to sell again, and let the number of cattle or quantity of beef be ever so great, the purchaser is not subject to any penalty unless full evidence of the possessor's intention.

Many persons in this County through fear, or some other motives came into allegiance with this state that have been

considered as disaffected to the well being of it. Those persons mostly refuse to sell their produce for any thing but hard money, and it is almost generally the case in this County that those that offer to sell for paper money demand much higher prices than they know is in the power of the Publick purchaser to allow; this being the case especially at this time, and the Troops often suffer for want of provisions when there is a plenty in the neighbourhood for sale. I was under the disagreeable necessity, two days ago, to impress two pair of fatt oxen for the relief of the Troops, and thereby exposed myself to the law, which is rather disagreeable; those matters I submit to your Excellency's consideration and pray (if consistant with justice) that your Excellency will grant me an impress warrant to indemnify me in the abovementioned impress which I do acknowledge nothing but necessity would Justify. And further, that your Excellency would grant an impress warrant to some person in this County (under such Restrictions as you may think proper) to impress provisions or forage to supply real necessity. I would not wish to trouble you Excellency on this occasion, but can find no relief elsewhere; shall be exceeding glad to have your advice by the Bearer, Mr. John Sackett, and such further relief as my necessities require. And am with respect and Esteem, your Excellency's most Obed't Serv't

Saml. Townsend, A. S. Agent.

His Excellency George Clinton.

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[No. 3181.]

*The New York Party in Cumberland County Retain Luke Knoulton as Their Agent to Attend Congress.*

Brattleboro' 30th August 1780.

Sir, The professed Subjects of New York in this County think themselves so materially interested in the speedy Determina-

tion of the Controversy respecting a new State, and in some Questions which may be agitated at the Trial, that they have appointed Luke Knoulton, Esqr., their agent to attend at Philadelphia at their own Expence.

As Mr. Knoulton has resided in the County from the beginning of the Disturbances, and is a gentleman of Penetration and Probity, we flatter ourselves he may be useful to the Delegates either in refreshing their Memories, or in acquainting them with some Circumstances which may not have come to their Knowledge.

We have requested Mr. Knoulton to wait upon your Excellency in his way to Philadelphia to be informed what Prospect there is of Congress entering upon the Business at present: and if he should proceed further, we shall be much obliged by your Excellency's favoring him with a Line to the Delegates. We have the Honor to be, With the highest respect, Your Excellency's most Obedient humble Serv'ts

By order of the Com:

John Sergeant, Chairman P. T.

His Excellency, George Clinton, Esqr.

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[No. 3182.]

*Mrs. Edgar Applies for a Pass to Canada for Herself and Family.*

Sir, Your Excellency is now addressed by the unhappy Relict of Mr. David Edgar, formerly a majestrate and reputable Trader in this City, who Died in the month of September, 1776, leaving me, his disconsolate widow, in very low circumstances, to support myself and four Children; our property being in Canada, in the hands of my Husband's Brother and partner, Mr. Wm. Edgar, who carried on the Indian Trade in that Country, on

their joint account, for many years preceding the Commencement of the present war, and is still engaged in it. That property on which our support depended, being, by the war, put entirely out of my reach, it has been with much difficulty that I have kept House, in Decency, since my Husband's Death; but now, finding my utmost Efforts unequal to the task, I have no alternative, but either to remain here, and behold misery and want staring us in the face; or else remove to Canada with my Family, where I hope to find very considerable property, in the hands of an affectionate Brother-in-law and faithful partner.

I assure you, Sir, it is with great regret that I quit a place where I have lived in friendly intercourse, with a Social Sett of acquaintances, for upwards of Twenty years past; but the distress which the Exhausted state of my finances would unavoidably involve me in, constrains me for the present to leave them, whilst I lament the necessity of my doing so.

Underneath I take the liberty of noting down the names and ages of my Children respectively, for your Excellency's Information; those, a white Servant woman, named Mary McCord, and an old negro man, named Cuff, (who has lived with me for Eighteen years) compose the whole of my Family. The most favourable Season for our undertaking so long a journey and voyage across the northern Lakes is now arrived; wherefore, after having taken my Case into your humane consideration; I hope, and humbly entreat, your Excellency will be favourably pleased to order me to be accommodated with a pass and flag for the removal of myself and family, and our Baggage, hence to Canada, and any injunctions proper or necessary to lay us under, shall be religiously observed. Hoping for your favour-

able determination, and that I shall soon be happily made acquainted therewith, I have the honor to be, with great respect,  
Sir, Your Excellency's Suppliant, and most Obedient Servant.

Jean Edgar.

Albany, 31st Aug'st 1780.

Hannah aged 18 years; James Greg 14; Jane 12½; David 10.  
His Excellency, Geo. Clinton, Esqr.

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[No. 3183.]

*The Irrepressible du Simitiere Explains to Governor Clinton His Fiasco with Congress.*

Sir, Although I have not been favoured with a written answer to the letter I did myself the honour to write to your Excellency in date of the 30th April last, yet I have reason to believe from the verbal message Mr. Denning delivered me some time ago that it has reached your Excellency's hands. This gentleman mentioned in general that your Excellency had some curiosities ready to send me, but could not remember the particulars. I readily acknowledge my gratitude for so much attention considering the important occupations that engross your Excellency's time, but I must also confess that ever since the reception of your Excellency's last letter of the 23d of February last which announced them, I have somewhat boasted of what fine curiosities I dayly expected, and that before some ladies whom I have put off from seeing my collection untill the reception of them, but now having waited so long, they ask me whether my curiosities are arrived or what's become of them, that they will no longer wait to see my collection &c. and I have not a word to say, wishing only that your Excellency might find an early and safe opportunity to forward them to me.

We have had public accounts of your Excellency's expedition after Johnson but the enemy fled with too great precipitation

to afford an opportunity to punish their depredations. I have also lately heard that your Excellency was lately return'd from another expedition in the same party. I know not the particulars but I sincerely wish it may have proved successfull.

Having in my letter of the 23d of February last given your Excellency some account of my affair depending in Congress, I shall now give the conclusion in as few words as possible.

My memorial and the report of the committee thereupon having lain dormant ever since last December, I thought I should once more try if I could not bring this affair to a decision. Accordingly on the 11th of last month I wrote to the President, observing that it was almost a year since I presented my memorial and requested that Congress would no longer keep me in suspense, but determine; thereupon, in consequence of that application the matter was taken up a fresh, and the report of the committee debated upon. It seems (for I have not seen it) that it consisted of three articles beside the preamble; one was, that Congress would name me historiographer; another, that I should receive an annual support of two thousand dollars for three years; and the last, that Congress would recommend to the respective states to assist me in my undertaking. Amidst a croud of clamorous opponents founded on the most ignorant and illiberal principles, these articles were debated, and the first entirely set aside; it was even opposed by a friend of mine under the mistaken notion, that, I was about writing the history of the revolution, and that it would be improper for Congress to give such a title, as it would hence appear, that, whatever I should write, had the sanction of Congress, whereas I never intended to write a word about the revolution.

As for the two thousand dollars yearly support—when the committee reported that sum, money was near four times better

than it is now, and even then, it was but a very insignificant mean allowance; yet all the objections of my friends could not bring about an additional sum to be granted, and they voted me exactly the same two thousand nominal dollars but as soon as I heard of it, I requested my friends to have that vote struck off entirely, which was done the next morning. The last article of the report being a mere faddall passed, not before my opponents had smuggled out of it that part, wherein it was said that Congress would patronize and encourage the work &c. and this mutilated and ungenteeled act (as it was called) with a Whereas formally prefixed to it, I received some days after inclosed in a few lines from the president. From the report I had of it, I was nearly resolved not to accept of it, but to send it back from whence it came. I waited only to see it before I fully determined thereupon, which I had no sooner done, than I was really exasperated at such ungenteeled and useless paper, and the next day I did myself the honour to return it to the president, accompanied with a letter—is here enclosed for your Excellency's perusal—but not before I had shewn it to four members of Congress, to whom I also produced for them to compare a resolve of Congress on an occasion of much less importance, in favour of a Mr. Hazard who pretended to nothing more than to collect Charters and other state papers relating to the colonies; and as I was informed from the first authority, had not at that time began his collection nor had any thing to begin it with, and yet that resolve was honourable and polite to the person for whom it was passed and as full as could be wished for. Your Excellency has no doubt seen it; it is of the 22d of July 1778.

Upon the reading of my letter in Congress, great offence was taken at my returning their act especially (as I was inform'd) by



the eastern members, and they thought I had insulted Congress; however, the majority was not of that opinion, and so my letter was left on the table. But a few days after, at the persuasion of an hon. gentleman for whom I have the greatest regard, I was induced to request him to move for leave to withdraw this said naughty letter, which he did, and by that means I am able to send it to your Excellency, but only the copy of their act, for the original they kept, to my great satisfaction, and they agreed also among themselves that nothing of that transaction should appear in their printed Journals, but that it should remain on their secret journals; and thus has the affair ended, without the least regret on my part on many weighty accounts, and I hope I shall never more have any thing to do with Congress nor take up your Excellency's time in relating similar transactions, leaving it to your Excellency to form a judgment thereupon.

I have now to request of your Excellency to make inquiry among some of the ancient inhabitants of the city of Albany to find the year of the death of a certain Luycan Wyngaert, formerly a noted Indian trader in those parts; an anecdote is recorded relating to him which I can not find in the papers without knowing the date of the year of his death.

Mr. Petrus Theobaldus Curtenius was here six weeks ago, and I show'd him my philosophical house, some account of which he will be able to give your Excellency. Gen. McDougall has been here sometimes and I was very happy to see him again, and to renew our old acquaintance contracted many years ago in the days of his persecution, and I was in great hope to have the pleasure to have continued it, but altho I have repeatedly waited on him, he has never favour'd me with a visit, but made a kind of apology the other day in the street complaining of burthen of

affairs, of attendance on great men &c. He lodges at the hotel of the New England Delegates.

I shall for the present take my leave of your Excellency with my warmest wishes for your safety and prosperity and recommending myself to your friendship. I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, your Excellency's most obedient and most humble Servant

Du Simitiere.

Philad'a, August 31st, 1780.

His Excellency, Governor Clinton, &c. &c. &c.

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[No. 3184.]

*Colonel Malcom in Command of the Brigade of New York Levies  
Marches to the Front.*

Aug't 31st 1780.

Sir, The Commander in Chief has ordered the Brigade of Troops raised by this State to reinforce the army, to our Frontiers, and they are now on their march under the Command of Colo. Malcom, whom I must request you to furnish with every aid and Information in your Power.

As you will leave Home to attend the Legislature, I must recommend it to you to give the necessary orders previous to your Departure that Colo. Malcom may have such assistance from your Brigade as the Emergencies may from time to time require & he requests. I am, Sir, your most Obed. Serv't

[G. C.]

Brig'r Genl. Ten Broeck.

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[No. 3185.]

*Governor Clinton to Captain Townsend on Impressments.*

Aug't 31st 1780.

Sir, I have rec'd your Letter of the 29th Inst. The Embarrassm't you complain of are owing to defects in the Law which

it is not in my Power to remove. They ought to be reported to the State Agent, that he may represent them to the Legislature (who are to meet next Monday) that some farther Provision if it should be conceived necessary may be made. Motives of private friendship would induce me to sanctify any impress you may have made for the good of the Service; but by the Law, I am only authorized on extraordinary emergencies to issue my warr'ts and as your impress would appear to have been made previous to the grant'g of the warr't, it would not justify it. There is Reason to believe that the supplies of Cattle to be furnished by this State & which were to be delivered at Albany, have all been delivered &, therefore, the pres't distresses of the Army must be occasion by deficiencies from the other States.

To prev't the disaffected Inhabit'ts from furnishing supplies of Cattle to the Enemy, the Legislature at their last meet'g prohibited the driving of any Cattle in Westchester County from the northw'd to the southw'd of a Line (to be fixed by Proclamation from the Person administring the Gov't). I would, therefore, be obliged to you for your opinion as soon as possible, as to the Place of beginn'g & the course of such Line across the County, so as most effectually to answer the Purposes intended by the Law. I am &c.

G: Clinton.

Capt. Townsend.

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[No. 3186.]

*Mr. Daniel Albison's Request.*

Mr. Daniel Albison of Southampton Suffolk County Desires permission to move with his family & Effects into the State of N. York, at the Walkills he having made a purchase at s'd place.

[No. 3187.]

*An account of money and orders sent for the relief of the prisoners in New York and Long Island.*

		Dr.				Cr.	
1777	25th Nov'r William Allison to Governor Clinton & Clinton pr Flag by Peter K. Fell			9 guineys 37/4	16.	16.	0
				1 Half Job's 64/	3.	4.	0
				100 Dollars 8/	40.	0.	0
	And by the same Flag 37 Bils. Flour sold by Mr. Pintard heading				104.	5.	3
					<u>164.</u>	<u>5.</u>	<u>3</u>
1780	August to 4 orders on the Credit of this State at £ 500 each which was answered for the use of the prisoners of this State with the Enemy				2000.	0.	0
					<u>2164.</u>	<u>5.</u>	<u>3</u>
1777	25th Nov'r Pay'd the Officers as pr. Receipts Inclos'd taken at Forts Montgomery & Clinton						
				No. 1			96.
				No. 2			53.
							14.
							<u>164.</u>
							11.
							12.
							<u>2.</u>
							164.
							5.
							3
							£
							96.
							53.
							14.
							<u>164.</u>
							11.
							12.
							<u>2.</u>
							164.
							5.
							3
							2000.
							<u>2164.</u>
							0.
							<u>5.</u>
							2164.
							5.
							3

Errors Excepted  
Wm. Allison.

# MANUSCRIPT VOL. XI.

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[No. 3188.]

*Governor Clinton Transmits Valuable Information to Washington.*

Sept'r 1st, 1780.

D'r Sir, I am favored w'th yo'r Excell'cys Letter of the 27th ulto. & am much obliged by your attention to my application (thro' Genl. Schuyler) in ordering Coll. Malcom's Corps to the Defence of the Frontiers; every measure in my Power will be taken to expedite his march & he has my orders to relieve the Garrison of Fort Schuyler without the least Delay by the Levies raised for the Defence of the Frontiers last spring whose times of Service will not expire until the first Dec'r next. It will take some considerable Time, however, to collect them, as they are posted at diff't & remote parts of the Frontiers: but I would fain hope that the Discontents of the present Garrison will subside when they are informed that measures are taken to relieve them. I have directed Colo. Malcom to proceed immediately to Albany, and take the necessary measures for collect'g as large a supply of Provision for Fort Schuyler as can be spared, for which Purpose he has Warrants Impress that he may avail himself of an escort by the Troops intended to garrison that Post.

I shall take the earliest Opportunity of communicating [to] the Legislature (who are required to meet at this Place the 4th Inst.) your Exc'ell'cy Letter of the 27th Ultio. together with the

several Letters from the Committee of Congress on the Subjects of Supplies for the army. In the meantime the State Agent will have my Directions to make every Exertion in his Power for afford'g them immediate Relief.

I take the liberty of enclosing, (confidentially), for your Excell'ys Perusal, a Copy of the Proceed'gs of a Convention of Committees from the States of Massachusetts Bay, Connecticut & N: Hampshire, in which I am happy to find, even at this late Hour, Sentim'ts which if generally adopted, cannot fail of producing much good. I believe I may venture to assure you, Sir, that as the most sensible among us have from the begin'g of the Contest foreseen the consequences of temporary expedients, they will meet the chearful approbation of this State. I have the honor to be &c.

G: Clinton.

His Ex'cy Genl. Washington.

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[No. 3189.]

*Charles Phelps' Supplicating Letter from Vermont to Governor Clinton.*

Sir, I beg of your Excellency to let me know from your selfe or the State attorney general, Mr. Benson, or some other gent'n lerned in the Law of New York State of the Expediency of my taking two or three of these Vermont evil workers by a warrant, from one of your magistrates sent up to the sheriff of this County, who is qualified to officiate and serve such a warrant to bring them to Pokipsee goil or Albany or the goil he can best take them to on Hudson's river, for our goil in this County being put into the Hands of a Vermont keeper by Vermont parties pretended authority, their partie wold let them out or not suffer them to be put into prison if we should attempt it.

I am advised to take them down to one of your prisons where he wont escape, and I am thoughtfull Mr. Grout, the ondy justice that can officiate, being the ondy one sworn to execute his office &c. among us, would be loath to execute a warrant against these Vermonters, for fear of being abused by that partie in a Clandestine manner if he shold issue a warrant for yt purpose.

Also I pray your Excellency, to send me your mind of the expediency of having magistrates commissioned to hold plea of Criminal Jurisdiction among us, before Congress has determined whose Jurisdiction we shall be under of all those Claimants thereof. Also pray of your Excellency to inform us of the expediency or lawfulness of suing out writs for the originating tryals before the Supream Court, in Causes wherein the plfff. deposeth he has received twenty pounds Damages, & how the Cause & Costs will turn if judgment is not recovered for twenty Pounds, the sued for. And also, whether we cant have a Court of oyer & terminer to sit among us in this County of Cumberland, sent in once in 3 or 6 months, to try all sorts of Criminals in the County where the Cause of action originates, without staying untill we are finally send one before we may have our Causes tryed of Civil or Criminal Jurisdiction, or in other words when & in what manner or how we had best Conduct our affairs to recover our Damages & prosecute the vile Vermonters for their injurious treatment of us as Complained of.

Worthy Sir, I want to know how to Conduct my selfe in these affairs not ondy for my selfe, but for all those who are abused by the Vermonters, similar to my injuries, tho not in aney Comparison to that Degree I suffer and my son, for all our

Improvements are attacked and all our buildings seized, execution issued against my estate already, that 20,000 Dollers wont make my Damages good, wherein I am injured by them they have a more peculiar ill will against me than any or perhaps all the Subjects of the State, for they think I have done more and my sons, to overturn their Vermont State than all the people hereabouts have, that if your Excellency and government will suffer me to be so injured and do nothing for my relieve I have run a fine rig, in dead Contrary to my Intrest for the Honour and benefit of your state, in which hoping all allong for your protection &c. I shall be finally ruined. I expect I must soon go to the authority for process against them, as I am advised; therefore, I pray your Excellencies favor in the above desires, that I may have a written account or Letter sent me of advice in the premisses before I am at the expence of doing near 200 miles to confer with your Excellency and Mr. Benson in the premisses, who, am with the highest Sentiments of Submission & gratitude, your Excellency's most Humble & Obed't Servant and Loyal Subject &c.

Charles Phelps.

& may send me an answer by the bearer hereof when he returns.

C: Phelps.

New Marlborough, September the 1st, 1780.

To His Excellency George Clinton, Esqr.

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[No. 3190.]

*Cyrus Punderson's Appeal for His Horse.*

Salem, Sep'r 1st, 1780.

May it please your Excellency; Embolden'd from the extraordinary Character I have ever heard of you, I presume to lay



before you a particular circumstance, attending my Captivity; (viz.): I was on the Night of the 8th July last, taken by nine armed men from this spot, & Bro't off by eight, the one that remained most certainly was the Person that took from me a valuable Horse, from sundry Circumstances I am well satisfied it must have been done by that Person. Those that came off with me utterly refuse to tell me the Name of the Person left on. Those men took me by your Excellency's Permission; still I am sure from your Character & most Ingenious Proclamation, you will not countenance such Robbery; my Charecter you have in a Letter from Capt. Muirson of Aug'st 10th partly & may more fully obtain by Conversing with Maj'r Nat'l Delavan, who will have the Charge of this. I seek no Revenge, nor wish any punishment may follow, only pray that I may recover my Horse, (being no way able to sustain such a Loss), or receive Satisfaction, Pray let my Loss & Suffering Excuse my thus Troubling you, who am but, your most obed't Hum. Ser't

Cyrus Punderson.

[To G. C.]

[No. 3191.]

*Colouel Webster Brings to the Governor's Attention Several Militia Suggestions.*

Black Creek Sep'r 1st 1780.

D'r Governor. Some time ago, one Parks, who lives near Fort Ann, was taken up by Capt. Sherwood as a person enlisting men for the Enemy. I have not heard the Issue of his Trial. I had a letter a few days ago from Major John Chipman informing me that I was to send out the 4th man and the 30th man for the Defence of the Frontiers to be relieved monthly. I returned him for answer, I had your Excellency's orders of the 10th Ultó.

and these I meant to abide by till otherways ordered. I informed him I had your orders liakways, if my Information should be such as I should judge reinforcement necessary, I should send them, which I should be cairfull to do or the whole regt. if wanted; we have lived here in perfect peace since your Excellency visited us. I wish Capt. John Hamilton's resignation may be granted as he is unfitt for duty and the rest of the officers displeas'd when he dos it not.

The officers belonging to the Company is now Capt. Jno. Hamilton; 1 Lt. George McKnight; 2 do James Wilson; Ensign Saml. Crosett.	Will be if Capt. Hamilton's resignation is accepted of: George McKnight, Capt; James Wilson, 1st Lieut; Samuel Crosett, 2 do; Robert Wilson, Ensign.
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Their is about seventeen families settled upon Poltney. Oliver one of the men came to me and told me they wanted to join my regiment and be under the Jurisdiction of the state of New York. This Setteltment is about 10 miles N E from Skeensborough and too great a distance from any other company to be annexed to them, he asked me what steps they should take to accomplish their design. I told him my advice was that they should meet together and nominate a lieutenant and petition the Honorable Council of Appointment for his Commission, and that they should declare their willingness to be subjects of the state; they accordingly met together as appeared from their record of metting which was signed by 21 able bodied men; they chose Samuel Hyde for their Lieut. but their record was so worded that I told them by their representative, I could not present it to the Council; they cal'd themselves an Associated Comp'y. I told him that an Associated Comp'y was entitled to

some exemptions they would not want. tho the state should grant it; he said it was their Ignorance of the Law was the Cause and that they were willing to do militia duty without exception. I think it would be good policy to send Saml. Hyde a first Lieut's Commission. I am, D'r Sir, with great regard & esteem your Very obedient and Humble Servant

Alex'r Webster.

To His Excellency George Clinton Esquire.

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[No. 3192.]

Consolidated with document 3199.—STATE HISTORIAN.

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[No. 3193.]

*Captain Cross Discredits Robert Thompson.*

Hanover, Ulster County Septbr. 2d, 1780.

Sir, With all due Respect, I beg leave to acquaint your Excellency, that I have been informed a certain Robert Thompson of my Comp'y, has lately made application to you for an Exemption from militia Duty on account of a wound Rec'v'd. in his arm 10 or 12 years past; and also that he had obtained a Certificate from Doctor Grahams to that Effect. Although I had (previous to his applying) wrote to the Doctor forbidding him to grant it; assuring him that it could be sufficiently proven he was a man able bodyed and capable of all manner of hard Labour common to a farmer, I, therefore, as a friend to my Country, thought it my Duty to acquaint your Excellency with his true Character in that Point; being confident the unworthy receives no favours knowingly at your hand: If he repeats his application (as he says he will) I will undertake to make it appear by all the most respectable of his Neighbours, that they

believe him to be one of the most capable men (as to ability of Body) that is in the Company; and also that it is the general opinion that his complaint originates much more in Dissafec-tion of Principle to the common Cause than Dissability of Per-son; much of his false assertions might be added: But I have the Honour to be, with all Due Respect: Your Excellency's most obedient Servant,

William Cross.

To His Excellency, George Clinton, Esqr. &c. &c.

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[No. 3194.]

*John D. Goes Takes the Oath of Allegiance to Massachusetts.*

Great Barrington, Sept'm 2d, 1780.

Gent'n, I being alarmed at the Dangers threthening me by the Severity of your Laws. I have been obliged to leive my Family in a Sorrowfull condition, & have fled for Protection into this State, whare I have represented my Deficulties to the select men, tendered the Oath of Elegance & became a Subject, I mean to settle myself hear, although to my unspeakable Dam-age, yet I chuse it farr better then to enter into a New Parole or whatever farther troubles might attend me in the prevarious troubles I was in by reson of that act I was called upon. I hope this kind of bannishing myself will sufficiantly suffice, as I am consiannously clear of crime whatever that might be laid to my charge. & its now out of my Power, if I was so minded to use any Influence that might be attend with Dangerous conse-quencis. I found in the course of my Inquiring that Doct'r Van Dick, who has been transported from Albany has returned into the Jarsies, taken protection, & lives in pease, I flatter myself, thairfore, that your Honours will be satisfied with my

apolygy & let the troubles that have attended me already atone for the groundless suspicion that has so artful & Desinedly been maintained against me. I am, Gent. your most obedient Hum'le Serv't,

John D. Goes.

To the Board of Commisioners at Albany.\*

(Copy)

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[No. 3195.]

*Mathew Goes Appeals to the Governor from Goshen Jail.*

Goshen Goal, 3 September 1780.

Sir, Mr. Van Schaack shewed me a letter he lately received from Colo. Benson, wherein the Colo. says "that he is desired by your Excellency to remind Mr. Van Schaack that he had for two years past been indulgd on his Parole, and that your Excellency has not been informed of any endeavours on his part being made to effect an exchange, and that if it is considered that during this time many of the faithfull subjects of this state have been consantly kept in close confinement &c." with all deference, may it pleas your Excellency, this does not immediately apply to me; because about a twelve month ago, being wearied out by the expence I was at, by being from home, and the difficulty of supporting my family in my absence, I made application to your Excellency for leave to go down to New York to negotiate my Exchange. Not hearing from your Excellency on this subject and having been since December last, near eight months at home, and under no restrictions, I flattered myself the Idea of Exchanging us was laid aside. Whatever reasons, therefor, that may apply to others for this close confinement I hope upon your Excellency's recollection of my application for an Exchange,

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\*See page 266.

that my present punishment may be mitigated, and that I may have leave to go on parole home, where I shall remain, untill the answer for an Exchange may arive. I remain with the greatest Respect Sir, your Excellency's most Obedient Servent

Mathew Goes, Jur.

Excellency Governor Clinton.

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[No. 3196.]

*Rank and Authority of Governors of States When Acting in the Field with Troops.*

Circular,

Philadelphia September 3, 1780.

Sir, Your Excellency will receive herewith enclosed an act of Congress of the 25 Ulto, ascertaining the Rank of the Governors or Presidents of the several States, whenever they shall act in the Field together, or in Conjunction with the Continental Army.

The same Rule hath been heretofore adopted in particular Cases, as just & necessary and hath given Satisfaction. It is now deemed expedient to adopt the same as a general Rule, which it is supposed will meet with Approbation in the respective States. I have the honor to be with the highest respect your Excellency's most obedient Servant

Sam. Huntington, President.

His Excellency George Clinton Esquire.

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In Congress August 25th 1780.

Resolved, That when the Governors or Presidents of two or more States act in the field together, he who has been longest in Office, shall take rank of all other Governors or presidents except the Governor or president of the State in which they are,

who in his own State, notwithstanding he may be youngest in office, always takes rank.

Resolved, That whenever the Governors or presidents of States act in conjunction with Continental troops, they shall for the time they so act in conjunction have the rank of Major Genl. in the line of the army.

Provided, always that nothing in the above resolutions shall exclude the Governor of any State from a separate command over the militia of the State in which he presides, where not inconsistent with the particular views of the Commander in Chief.

Extract from the minutes.

Chas. Thomson, Sec'y.

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[No. 3197.]

*General Robert Van Rensselaer Makes Report of the Situation in the Mohawk Valley.*

Fort Rensselaer, Sept'r 4th '80.

Dear Gov'r, The Reports of the Enemy Intentions are still vague and uncertain; some say Sir John is coming by the way of Lake Champlain, Brant and Butler from the westward; small parties are frequently seen upon the Frontiers. Last Thursday they attacked the House of one Sheel about three Miles North of Fort Herkimer. The House was bravely defended by the Man, his two son, and wife; he supposes they killed and wounded fifteen or sixteen of the Enemy. They left one killed and one wounded on the ground; the Prisoner says the party consisted of thirty six British Troops and thirty Indians. Capt'n Allen of the Levies went the next Day in pursuit of them with fourty Men, who was not returned yesterday even'g.

On Saturday last, I sent of Twelve Boats with Provision for Fort Schuyler. Escorted by two hundred Men under the Command of Collo. Brown, of the Massechutsets Levies, which leaves the Frontiers verry thin of Men. I have also sent out a Scout to Unedilla and Oequage, at which places I am suspicious they make their Rendevouz. I am anxious to hear from your Quarter, and shall esteem it a particular favour to hear from you.

I am, Dear Gov'r, your most obed't humb. Serv't,

Robt. V'n Rensselaer.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

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[No. 3198.]

*Cornwall Sands Requests His Bill for Provisions to Troops Be Paid in Specie.*

New Cornwall, the 4 Sept. 1780.

S'r, I wrote you by Capt. David Reynolds near 12 month past, Inclosed an accompt of Provisions I Purchased and furnish'd the Troops with by Collo. Woodhull's order at the time Fort Montgomery was taken. I Rec'd for answer Verbally, by Capt. Reynolds, that your Excellency expected more acc'ts of a Similar nature. and that in a Short Time you would Transmit mine to me with Orders for payment. Since which I have heard nothing further about it. Your Excellency will please to remember the word Depreciation was a Stranger with us at that time but has been so Common since that its Intirely wore out. Hope if your Excellency should Order me paid it will be in Specia that has never Suffered Depreciation. I am, S'r, your Excellency's most Obedi't Humble Serv't

Cornwall Sands.

His Excellency, George Clinton, Esqr.



[Nos. 3199 and 3192.]

## A FRONTIERSMAN'S GALLANT DEFENSE.

*With His Two Sons He Holds the Enemy at Bay for Several Hours  
and Finally Forces Him to Retire.*

Albany September 5th 1780.

Sir, At the desire of Colo. Bellinger I have the pleasure to Enclose your Excellency a Letter containing an account of a Gallant affair which happened near the German Flatts.

I have yesterday been informed by Capt. James Watson, one of the purchasing Commissaries for the State of Conecticut, that no salt meat could be had at any of the magazines in that State & that the order sent for that purpose by his Excellency General Washington would be returned. It is with the utmost concern that I inform your Excellency that, notwithstanding, the impress Warrants put into the hands of the persons appointed for procuring supplies of provisions for the use of the Troops in this Quarter, nothing has yet been produced in Consequence of them. I have for some time past, caused repeated applications to be made for provisions for the Northern & Western Frontier posts in this Quarter, who have for this month past been illy supplied but these to no purpose. The time in which Fort Schuyler ought to be supplied with provisions until the first of February next is rapidly advancing & I have not even a distant prospect of a supply for that Garrison until the 1st of December next, & by a Letter I have received lately from Fort Schuyler I find the minds of that Garrison are more disaffected to their situation & Circumstances than ever the true reason of Brant's appearing with his party before the Garrison was the fullest assurance had been given him that they would join him to a man. Indeed from their situation & the great difficulty I have been under in procuring only a few pair of

Shoes, it is what I have expected daily to hear, & they are made to believe they are to remain until their three years are finished. I am most respectfully your Excellencies most obedient humble servant

G. V Schaick.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

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COLONEL BELLINGER DESCRIBES THE AFFAIR TO HENRY GLEN.

Fort Dayton Septbr. the 1th 1780.

Sir,\* Yesterday afternoon about four a Clok the Enemies appeared in ouer neighbourhood about four Miles N. E. from this, 66 strong, as fourty eight Indians, eighteen white men, where a Boy has been by they tooked last year prissoner down Susquehanna, attaked Christian Shell with his Famely, tooked two of his Sons, both eight years old, prissoner, & the man retired with the rest of his famely in his house, and begun the Battel with them, and fought with the greatest Spirit till two houers in the Night, he killed & wounded about fitten, tooked one Prissoner, Named Danl. McDonnell; his oldest son got a slight wound through his arm by this affair, but all the rest of his Famely is save; his other two sons behaved during the affaire with the greatest Spirit and assisted the Father; he got one of the Death, whose name has been Mathew Bryon, and put them both in the house; gave the wounded milk & Bread and went of and came in this morning about eight a Clok; they carried seven on Litters with them; the man supposed to have, with his three sons wounded & killed of the enemie fitten; they attempted to set the House a Fire, but it has been in vain; by the first intelligence I received, I detached fifty men for his assistance about midnight, but the Darkness of the night hinderd them from being there sooner; just day

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\*Document No. 3192 in the Clinton MSS. See page 165.

Breake they came to the House, found the Enemies being gone, then they burried the Death and followed the Enemies a piece; found the field all over Spotted with Blood. They brought the prissoner to this post, and the Doct'r found his thy bone verry much fractured, and a swan shot in the joint of his Knee, so he proposed the amputation; I should have send a stronger party, but some of ouer militia heard eight guns firing up toward Germantown, so I thought they might appear and attempt to attake ouer Fort, wich is but weak in men; then we have no other assistance then twenty of the three months levies, whereby is eighten of my Regt; we have been but purely assisted all the time, and being entirely outside; if anything else shall happen I shall have the pleasure of acquainting you and remain your H'ble Serv't

Peter Bellinger, Colo.

P. S. Sir, you will please to send this to Colo. Van Shaik, who will forwarded to his Excellency, the Governor.  
To Henry Glen, Esqr.

[No. 3200.]

*Captain Stevenson's Return of His Company of Three Months' Levies.*

Northcastle Sept. 5th 1780.

A Return of Capt. Benjamin Stevenson's Company of New Levies of ye state of N. York.

Ranks	Captain	Lieu-tenants	Serjents	Corporals	Drum & Fife	Privates
Present Fit for Duty	1	2	4	5	1	73
Sick absent			1			10
On Parole						2
Deserted						1
Dead						
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>100</b>

Benja. Stevenson, Capt.

[No. 3201.]

*Governor Clinton Brings Col. A. Hawkes Hay to Washington's  
Attention.*

[September 6, 1780.]

D'r Sir, The bearer Colo. Hay, wishing to be some way employed in the staff of the army in which he may be of service to his Country and be able in some measure to subsist his Family, has solicited me to write to your Excellency to request, that if any thing sh'd offer for w'ch he may be qualified he might be favored with your attention. I am exceedingly unwilling to trouble your Excellency with an application of this Nature, not only because I had some Doubt of the Propriety of it, but because I am sensible the whole of your Time must be now employed in Matters of the most interesting and public Concern. But Colo. Hay's Zeal & attachm't to the Cause, & the heavy Losses he has sustained by the war have induced me to comply with this his request. I am &c.

[G. C.]

[To General Washington.]

[No. 3202.]

*Proclamation of Governor Trumbull of Connecticut Declaring for  
Free Trade Among the States.*

Lebanon 6th Septem'r 1780.

Sir, I take this Opportunity to inclose to your Excellency, an act of the Gov'r & Council of this State, removing by Proclamation, the Embargo by Land which has for some Time subsisted within the same.

Not doubting but your State will readily concur in this measure, I am with much Consideration & Respect Your Excellency's most Obed't humble Servant,

Jon'th Trumbull.

His Excell'y, Gov. Clinton.

By His Excellency Jonathan Trumbull, Esquire, Governor, and Commander in Chief, in and over the State of Connecticut.

A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS the General Assembly of this State, holden at Hartford, on the second Thursday of May last, Resolved, That his Excellency the Governor, by and with the Advice of the Council of Safety, be authorized and requested to correspond with the Governments of the neighbouring States, on Terms of opening a free Trade, and transportation by Land from one State to another, and is impowered by Proclamation, to grant a general Permission to transport Provisions and other Commodities by Land, from this State to any of the neighbouring States, (except to such Places where they may be exposed to be taken by or carried to the Enemy of the United States) any Law laying an Embargo notwithstanding; provided that such Permission shall not take Effect before the first Day of August next.

Whereupon proper Measures have been taken to correspond and agree with the neighbouring States, on the Subject of opening a free Trade by Land.

It appears on Conference and Observation, That by the Blessing of Heaven, there is a competent Supply of the Fruits of the Earth for all our Necessities, both for the Inhabitants and the Troops employed for the Defence of the United States.

That all restraints on Trade are grievous,—that a free Inter-course and Trade among the Citizens of the United States, with each other, tendeth to their mutual Advantage—to promote Harmony and Concord between them—to reduce the Prices of Articles to a just and reasonable Rate and Proportion, and to support and maintain public Credit.

And also, that it is necessary all Acts laying an Embargo on the Exportation of Articles by Water and to prevent illicit Trade with the Enemy, be duly observed and executed, that so the nefarious Practices of supplying the Enemy and Trade with them, so imminently dangerous to the Liberties of America, may be defeated and broken up.

I have thought fit, by and with the Advice of my Council of Safety, to issue this Proclamation, and do hereby grant free Liberty and Permission to all Persons who are friendly to, and Subjects of these States, to carry or bring by Land, Provisions or other Commodities to and from any of the United States, in such Ways and Manner as to avoid the same falling into the Hands of the Enemy.

Hereby at the same Time strictly enjoining a careful and punctual Observance of the Laws laying an Embargo on the Exportation and Transportation of all Articles by Water, with the Restrictions and Regulations respecting the same.

Permits are to be had and received only from the Governor with Advice of his Council of Safety.

And all Naval-Officers are to take Bonds according to Law, and to take Care that Certificates are duly returned of the Delivery of such Articles that are Water-born accordingly, or that the Bonds are put in Suit.

I do hereby further enjoin upon, and require all Officers civil, marine, and military, and all Persons whatsoever within this State, to use their utmost Vigilance and Efforts to detect and prevent all illicit Trade with the Enemy, and to carry the Laws made in that Respect into full Effect.

Given under my Hand at Lenabon, the 25th Day of August, Annoque Domini, 1780.

Jonat. Trumbull.

[Nos. 3203-3204-3205.]

## COLONEL UDNY HAY'S VALUABLE SUGGESTIONS.

*Appointed Deputy Commissary General of Purchases for New York  
He Submits to the Governor His Views, the Result of Experience.*

Poughkeepsie 7th Sept'r 1780.

Sir, Though acquainted by Colonel Pickering, lately appointed Qr. Master Genl. that my Continuance in that Department is only to be for a Short time, yet from a Sincere desire of Serving the United States and puting my Successor on as good a footing as lyes in my power, I take the liberty of representing to your Excellency the Necessity of reviving the laws for obtaining firewood for the use of the army, for empowering the justices to call out teams for public Service, and for empowering Genl. Officers upon Certain occasions to grant warrants of impress, in which last Permit me to observe to your Excellency, the Necessity of allowing the officer to whome the Warrant is directed to depute another for the execution thereof, with a Copy of the warrant certified by him, he being responsible for the Conduct of the Person he so deputes.

From an Inclination to bring my accounts in the Qr. Master's Department to as Speedy a Close as possible, as well as to do justice to the many Individuals within this State to whom I am Indebted on account of Services rendered in that Department, I am farther Induced to request your Excellency will lay before the Legislature the necessity of requesting Congress to come to an immediate adoption of some certain pointed plan for the Settlement of damages done by, and necessaries furnished, to the army by the Inhabitants of this State for which regular Certificates have never been given, though full and Satisfactory proof can be made, that the articles were furnished and the

damages were really rece'd and did not arise from a wanton exertion of power, but from Circumstances that rendered the Prevention of them absolutely impossible, without endangering the well being of Some part of the army; amongst cases of this nature which will be exhibited the burning of fences, and losing or killing Horses & Oxen when Impressed for the use of the army, will be Some of the most Important. It is a matter likewise that ought to be fully & Clearly determined, whether old debts yet unsettled are to be paid by the nomenal Sum they appear to have been Contracted for, or if any allowance is to be made for the Depreciation of the money and what that allowance ought to be, as well as for fixing some mode for giving the Public Creditors notes upon Interest if money cannot be obtained for their Immediate Satisfaction. I have the Honor to be your Excellency's most obt. & very humble Serv't

Udny Hay.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

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HIS APPOINTMENT AS DEPUTY COMMISSARY-GENERAL OF PURCHASES  
OF NEW YORK.

Poughkeepsie 7 Sept'r 1780.

Sir, Having lately been appointed Dep'y Commissary Genl. of purchases for this State, I beg leave to represent to your Excellency, the necessity of immediately adopting some mode for laying up within the State (exclusive of Quotas demanded by Congress), a magazine of flour for the use of the army of the United States, the necessity of which is strongly impressed on my mind by the late opportunity I have had of viewing the distresses of the army from a want of that and the other necessary articles of subsistance, and the immense expence that accrued from the method which was found necessary to be taken for



procuring them an immediate supply, owing totally to the want of proper magazines.

Fully sensible of the many disinterested and truly patriotic exertions of this State and the inhabitants thereof in almost numberless instances since the commencement of the present war, and of the many hardships they have laboured under in consequence of these exertions, and unwilling to propose any mode by which their real sufferings might be further increased, with all due submission, I beg leave to hint to your Excellency, that it might be proposed to Congress to lay up as soon as conveniently can be done (an assessment being made for the purpose and before the present embargo is taken off) forty thousand barrels of flour, to be paid for at the highest medium price given for that article within the States of Pennsylvania, Jersey, Massachusetts, & Connecticut (allowing for transportation to the two latter) betwixt the day of delivery and the day of payment, and for enabling the State to pay for the same a sufficiency of that part of the new money issued by the State, which becomes the property Congress should be retained and delivered to the purchasing officer for that purpose, Congress crediting the State for the amount thereof, and at the same time advancing a quantity of Salt for the use of the Inhabitants of this State at Boston, Philadelphia or some of the intervening Posts, with orders to distribute the same in as impartial and equitable a manner as possibly can be done, and charging for the same the then current price of that commodity in the Post where it shall be delivered. to be allowed in part payment of the flour, upon the delivery of the whole of which your Excellency to be authorized by the Legislature immediately to take off the embargo.

In my instructions as Deputy from the Comm'y Genl, I am ordered to allow the Purchasers one and a half per Cent upon all expenditures of mony passing thro their hands; this mode I know is not only obnoxious to the people at large, and, therefore, ought to be avoided, but may be attended with bad consequences; would, therefore, beg your Excellency to point out the propriety of the Legislature passing an act prohibiting every public Officer acting within this State from being paid a commission upon the expenditure of mony (unless authorized there-to by a special resolve of Congress subsequent to the Law), in which case as the board of war have fully approved of the mode I have adopted for the payment of the State officers, I should think myself Justifiable in following the same mode with respect to the purchases I might make on account of the public. I have the honor to be with the highest respect, your Excellency's, most Obed't and very H'ble Serv't

Udny Hay.

Governor Clinton.

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TOUCHING HAY, CATTLE, IMPRESS WARRANTS AND SUPPLIES FOR  
OUR ALLIES.

Fiskill Sept'r 7, 1780.

Sir, In transacting the business of State Agent I have made some observations which I must take the liberty of requesting your Excellency to lay before the Legislature, not doubting but that Honorable body will make such amendments on the subject as by them shall be deem'd necessary.

By the supply bill it does not appear we have a right to refuse any cattle above two years old; and the inhabitants taking an undue advantage thereof, deliver scarce any but what are nearly of that age, which greatly reduces the quantity of beef the

Legislature expected the quota would produce; this I beg leave to suggest, might be remedied by the assessors being empowered not only to affix the number of cattle each individual should furnish, but also to declare that each creature so furnished should not be less than a certain weight.

In the meantime, permit me to request your Excellency to grant an impress warrant for taking from each precinct which has been assessed such a number of fat cattle as will make up the deficiency betwixt what that precinct has furnished and what it would have furnished if each creature they delivered had weighed four hundred and fifty pounds.

Permit me likewise to observe that a great saving would arise to the State from each person who was assessed, being obliged by law to drive the Cattle he was assessed, at such time and to such place as the Purchaser should direct, not exceeding ten miles from his own house; nor would this law be attended with any great inconvenience to the inhabitants.

I am sorry being constrain'd to complain of the negligence of some of the assessors and request your Excellency to order the Attorney Genl. to prosecute them; the letters I deliver herewith, will put it in your power to determine how far my complaints and requests are Justifiable. Though I shall in all probability be able to procure a larger quantity of Hay than what is demanded as the quota of the State, yet the quantity I can purchase will be so very short of what will be wanted for the army within this State, that I must request your Excellency to lay before the Legislature the necessity of making an assesment of that article, in which I doubt not proper regard will be had to those who have already voluntarily parted with their quota of the assesment.

The enclosed letter\* from Melancton Smith, Esqr., Asst. State Agent, contains observations I hope your Excellency will think worthy your attention and induce you to enforce on Congress the necessity of obtaining provisions for the army of our allies by some other mode than that they have already adopted, for, I have reason to believe, that the late great scarcity of beef with the army (a scarcity which is generally thought will be attended with a train of bad consequences) arises from persons in Massachusetts and Connecticut being authorized to purchase that article for the use of the French Troops with hard money.

Your Excellency was pleased some time agoe to grant me a warrant on the treasury for five thousand pounds, of which not a single shilling either as yet has, or is for some time to come likely to be rec'd, the contingent expences which daily accrue are considerable, and tho' hitherto through the diligence, zeal and activity of my assistants, the quota ordered nearly been furnished, yet without some speedy mode for obtaining a supply of cash we must undoubtedly fail, and hope, therefore, the Legislature will endeavor either to obtain a loan or take some other method by which a small supply of cash may be procured for me. I have the honor to be with the utmost respect you Excellency's, most Obed't & very H'ble Serv't

Udny Hay.

Governor Clinton.

[No. 3206.]

*Even James Clinton is Forced to Complain of the Scarcity of Food.*

Head Quarters, Sept'r 8th 1780.

D'r Sir. Your favour of the 22d of August came to hand, which, as I have not commanded the Brigade since my last

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\*Not found.

arrival in camp, I delivered to Col. Gansevoort, directing him to comply with the contents: but thro' misapprehension of your intentions, he, without consulting any of the Officers, or even procuring the necessary returns, dispatched an Officer from each regiment to Fishkills, to receive their Proportions, who returned as they went, without effecting any thing.

I have, however, collected Returns from Lamb's, Spencer's & Hazen's Regiments, duplicates of which I send you enclosed; that of Livingston's Regiment I have not been able to procure, as he lies at King's Ferry, neither do I know if there are any men in it who are intitled to State Bounty.

The returns of the Brigade will be delivered you by Major Fish, as also that called for in your letter of the 19th Ulto. which untill now I believed had been forwarded long since, as Col. Gansevoort was possessed of your Requisition immediately on the receipt of it.

I forbare attempting to comprise the Intelligences of this Quarter in a Letter, as you will receive it at large from the Gentlemen who are deligated to attend the assembly: I wish they may not do more injury to the cause they profess, than if they had declined it.

The greatest Difficulty proceeds from the scarcity of Provisions in camp; this is a truth too melancholy to dwell upon. I am with perfect Esteem yours sincerely

James Clinton.

Please to make my compliments to Mrs. Clinton & the family. Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 3207.]

## JAMES CLINTON THREATENS TO RESIGN.

*The Governor Advises Against the Action—The Former's Son  
Appointed An Ensign.*

Steen Rapia, Sept'r 8th 1780.

Dear Brother, My son Alexander is now in Camp, who is Desirous to enter the service to which I have no Objection, though I could have wished he had been further advanced in his education before he launched out into Life; and your sentiments on that head as Delivered me by Major Popham have Induced me to Conclude on haveing him appointed an ensign in the third or fourth Regiments, which may be done without Interfereing with the Claims of any Individual; if you approve of his appointment I hope you will have it done this session.

At the Particular request of Maj'r Popham, whose merrit and services entitle him to my esteem, I would take the oppertunity of mentioning him to you. His Situation in thè army is rather Difficult; he entered the service imediately on his finishing his grammar education before he had laid any foundation for his future expectations in Life, which, as far as I can find, depend intirely on his own exertions: as he does not wish to make the profession of arms the Buisness of his Life, it is highly necessary to adopt some other scheme. The Law he seems to have a taste for and from his attention to Business, and natural abilities there is Reason to believe he would not discredit the Profesion.

As his finances will not support him out of the army, he would wish to enter into some Department, which at the same time that it would afford him the oppertunities of Improvement, would also furnish him with the means of supporting himself

during the time necessary for acquiring it: He has expressed an anxious desire of serving under you, if it could be effected conveniently in which I have encouraged him, convinced that you are disposed to assist him as far as in your power; however, as I am unacquainted with your present situation with Respect to aids or Secretaries, I have Concluded to wait untill I hear from you. If as a Brig'r Genl. in the Line of the army, you could take him as your aid, he then could hold his Rank in the Line and not loose the advantages of an Officer by Resignation. But if this cannot be done, and you can by any means find Buisness for him in your office as secretary, or aid, he is Determined to Resign, rather then loose the opportunity which he so ardently wishes for. As you know him as well as I, it is needless to say any thing on that head, only that I should be happy were it in my power to secure him in so material a Point. I am, with great  
Regard yours Sincerely

James Clinton.

His Excellency Governor George Clinton.

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D'r Brother, I shoud have answered your Favours of the 8th Instant had not the Hurry of Business & the Want of a safe opportunity prevented. From the Return you furnished me with and others I have collected I have been enabled to form a genl. one for Capt. Wily's Direction in issuing the Supplies he is procuring for the Army. I sincerely wish they may be adequate to your Wants; but fear at the same Time they will not for want of Cash the Treasury being exhausted & every Effort to replenish it seems to fail.

It woud give me great Pleasure was it in my Power to serve Major Popham. I have a high Sense of his Merrit & you may

rest assured that whenever it is I will embrace the Opportunity with Pleasure. At present I have two Aids which is as many as I am authorized to employ, either of whom it would be ungenerous to the last degree to dismiss, & since I have acted in the Civil Line I have not conceived it justifiable to charge the public with the Expence of a Brigade Major. Upon the whole I would advise the Major to continue with you at least until the Times are a little more settled, & favourable Opportunity offers of his entering on the Study of the Law, which I would by all means recommend to him, with more advantage than he can at present. He may rely on my Friendship & Assistance.

The Council have appointed Alex'r an Ensign in the 3d Regt. but tho he is now here with Mr. McClaghry, I have thought proper not to mention it to him or any body but yourself for obvious Reasons untill I can procure his Commission. I have heard that you have intimated Intentions of resigning owing to the Ungenerous Conduct of some of the gentlemen of your Brigade towards you. I hope this may not be the Case & that you will not think of it on any Consideration at so critical an Hour & especially as it might gratify the Views of certain Intriguing Spirits whose only Objects are their own Interest & Promotion. The Legislature are disposed to do ample Justice to their Officers & Soldiers. I am persuaded they are. I refer you to the Bearer, Capt. Machin, for what they have already done & am with great Regard yours Sincerely

[G. C.]

[To Gen. James Clinton.]



[No. 3208.]

*Colonel Hay Suggests that Provision be Made to Prevent Bulls Being Furnished as Legal Tender for Cattle.*

Poughkeepsie 9 Sept'r 1780.

Sir, In addition to the other applications I have taken the liberty of lately making to your Excellency, I must farther request you will lay before the Legislature the necessity of observing the law respecting the delivery of Cattle assessed in such a way as to prevent the State Agent or his assistants being under the necessity of receiving Bulls as a legal tender for Cattle; great abuses totally contrary to the intention of the law have been committed in some of the Precincts on this score.

I must likewise beg leave to observe, that unless I can be furnished with money or a farther assessment of beef Cattle is made than what the law has yett provided for, it will be totally impracticable for me to obtain the quantity required by Congress from this State. I have the honour to be with the utmost respect, Your Excellency's most obed't & very humble Ser't

Udny Hay.

Governour Clinton.

[No. 3209.]

*Governor Clinton Calls the Attention of Generals Arnold and Parsons to the Exposed Condition of Westchester County.*

Poughkeepsie, 9th September 1780.

Sir, The extent of Country the Enemy have in the County of Westchester and the danger the well affected Inhabitants are by that means exposed to Induced us to represent this matter to your Excellency and that the Troops posted on the Easter-

most part of the County of Westchester afford but little security to the westernmost part.

The Cowboys to the amount of 40 frequently make their appearance near Pine's Bridge and drive off Considerable stock; they will by this means drive back the well affected without they can obtain aid; we beg leave to mention it as our opinion that 70 or 80 men scouting in the Neighbourhood of Pine's Bridge would be a Considerable safe guard and of public utility; and as we have little reason to hope for a sufficient detachment from the Troops under Genl. Parsons, by reason of their particular situation, we beg your Excellency will use your Influence with General Arnold for Troops at West Point or with the Commander in Chief, or in any other way most agreeable; we would at the same time suggest to your Excellency the propriety of appointing a Commissary for supplying this Detachment (if any can be procured) with provisions; we would also mention that this application is made at the particular request of the Inhabitants of the County of Westchester, and are your Excellency's most obed't Serv'ts

Lewis Morris; Thomas Thomas; Samll. Drake; Saml. Delivan.  
His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

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Pokeepsie 9<sup>th</sup> Aug't [Sept.] 1780.

D'r Sir, I take the Liberty of transmitting you a Letter which I have this Day rec'd from several respectable Inhabitants of W. Chester County. I don't know how far it may be consistent with your Duty, but I am convinced if you with Propriety comply with their Request it will be of the most essential Service to that Part of the Country. I am

[G. C.]

[To Gen. Arnold.]

D'r Sir, I take the Liberty of inclosing you a Letter I have just rec'd from several gentlemen of W. Chester County. You will be best able to determine whether the Force under Command will admit of covering the Country in the Manner they have pointed out. I am persuaded if it can be done it will be of essential service to the Country and that this Consideration will be sufficient to induce you to do it if consistent with your Duty. I have wrote to Genl. Arnold on the subject but I am at a Loss to knew whether his Command extends to that Quarter. Should you not be able to spare a Detachment for this Service, I sh'd imagine that the Necessity of cover'g that Part of the Country and saving for the Public the Supplies that may be drawn from it, would induce Genl. Washington to increase your Command upon application for this Purpose. Indeed Capt. Sacket's Company of Levies were raised expressly with that Intention, tho the Number of Troops ordered by his Excellency for the Defence of the northern & western Frontiers of this state forbids my importuning him on the subject. I am &c.

[G. C.]

[To Gen. Parsons.]

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 [No. 3210.]

## NEW YORK'S UNSELFISH PATRIOTISM.

*Cedes Her Western Lands for the Common Good, while Other States Remonstrate and Bicker.*

Circular.

Philadelphia September 10, 1780.

Sir, Your Excellency will receive herewith enclosed an act of Congress of the 6 Instant, adopting the report of a Committee; together with Copies of the several Papers referred to in the report.

I am directed to transmit Copies of this report and the several

Papers therein mentioned to the Legislatures of the several States, that they may all be informed of the Desires & Endeavours of Congress on so important a Subject; and those particular States which have claims to the western Territory, & the State of Maryland may adopt the measures recommended by Congress in Order to obtain a final ratification of the Articles of Confederation.

Congress, impressed with a Sense of the vast Importance of the Subject, have maturely considered the same, and result of their Deliberation is contained in the enclosed report, which being full and expressive of their Sentiments upon the Subject: without any additional Observations; it is to be hoped, & most earnestly desired, that the wisdom, generosity & Candour of the Legislatures of the several States which have it in their Power on the one Hand to remove the Obstacles, & on the other to complete the Confederation, may direct them to such measures in Compliance with the earnest recommendations of Congress, as shall speedily accomplish an Event so important & desirable as the final ratification of the Confederation by all the States. I have the Honor to be with the highest respect & Consideration your Excellency's most obedient Servant

Sam. Huntington, President.

His Excellency The Governor of New York.

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NO. 3. DECLARATION OF THE STATE of Maryland, read Jan'y 6th 1779. (Copy)

By the State of Maryland

A Declaration.

Whereas the general assembly of Maryland hath heretofore resolved "That the delegates from this State should be in-

structed to remonstrate to the Congress that this State esteem it essentially necessary for rendering the union lasting; that the United States in Congress assembled should have full power to ascertain & fix the western limits of those States that claim to the Mississippi or South Sea ”

“That the State considered themselves justly entitled to a right in common with the other members of the union, to that extensive tract of country which lies to the westward of the frontiers of the United States, the property of which was not vested in, or granted to Individuals at the commencement of the present war; that the same had been or might thereafter be gained from the King of Great Britain or the native Indians by the blood & treasure of all and ought, therefore, to be a common Estate to be granted out on terms beneficial to all the United States, and that they should use their utmost endeavours that an article to that effect be made part of the Confederation.

That this state would contribute their quota of men and money towards carrying on the present war with Great Britain for the purpose of establishing the freedom and Independence of the United States according to such rule of proportion as should be determined by the United States in Congress assembled, and would pay their proportions of all money issued or borrowed by Congress or which might thereafter be issued or borrowed for the purpose aforesaid. And that this State would accede to, and faithfully execute all treaties which had been or should be made by authority of Congress, and would be bound and governed by the determination of the United States in Congress assembled, relative to peace or war.

That this State hath upon all occasions shewn her zeal to

promote and maintain the general welfare of the United States of America; that upon the same principle they are of opinion, a Confederation of Perpetual Friendship and Union between the United States is highly necessary for the benefit of the whole; and that they are most willing and desirous to enter into a confederation and union, but at the same time such confederation should in their opinion be formed on the principles of Justice & Equity.

Which resolves, remonstrances, and Instructions were by our delegates laid before Congress, and the objections therein made to the confederation were submitted in writing to their consideration, and the several points fully discussed and debated, and the alterations and amendments proposed by our delegates to the Confederation, in consequence of the aforesaid instructions by us, to them given, were rejected, and no satisfactory reason assigned for the rejection thereof.

We do therefore declare, that we esteem it fundamentally wrong and repugnant to every principle of Equity and good policy, on which a Confederation between Free, Sovereign and Independent States ought to be founded; that this or any other State entering into such Confederation, should be burthened with heavy expences for the subduing and guaranteeing immense tracts of country, if they are not to share any part of the monies arising from the sales of the Lands within those tracts, or be otherwise benefitted thereby, in conformity to this our opinion, the sentiments of our constituents, in justice to them and ourselves.

And lest such construction, should hereafter be put on the undefined Expressions contained in the third Article of the Confederation and the proviso to the ninth (according to which no

State is to be deprived of territory for the benefit of the United States) as may subject all to such guaranty as aforesaid and deprive some of the said States of their right in common to the Lands aforesaid:

We declare that we mean not to subject ourselves to such guaranty, nor will we be responsible for any part of such expence, unless the third article & proviso aforesaid, be explained so as to prevent their being hereafter construed in a manner injurious to this State. Willing however to remove, as far as we can, consistently with the trust conferred upon us, every other objection on our part to the Confédération, and anxiously desirous to cement by the most indissoluble ties that union, which has hitherto enabled us to resist the artifices and the power of Great Britain, and conceiving ourselves, as we have heretofore declared, justly entitled to a right in common with the other members of the union to that extensive country lying to the westward of the frontiers of the United States, the property of which was not vested in, or granted to Individuals at the commencement of the present war.

We declare, that we will accede to the Confederation provided an article, or articles be added thereto, giving full power to the United States in Congress assembled to ascertain & fix the western Limits of the States, claiming to extend to the Mississippi or South Sea, and expressly reserving and securing to the United States a right in common in and to all the Lands lying to the westward of the Frontiers as aforesaid, not granted to, surveyed for, or purchased by, Individuals at the commencement of the present war; in such manner that the said Lands be sold out, or otherwise disposed of, for the common benefit of all the States, and that the money arising from the sale of

those lands, or the quit rents reserved thereon, may be deemed and taken as part of the monies belonging to the United States, and as such be appropriated by Congress towards defraying the expences of the war, and the payment of interest on monies borrowed or to be borrowed, on the credit of the United States from France, or any other European power, or for any other joint benefit of the United States.

We do further declare that the exclusive claim set up by some States to the whole western country by extending their limits to the Mississippi or South Sea, is, in our Judgment without any solid foundation, and we religiously believe, will if submitted to, prove ruinous to this State, and to other States similarly circumstanced, and in process of time be the means of subverting the Confederation; if it be not explained by the additional article or articles proposed so as to obviate all misconstruction and misinterpretation of those parts thereof that are herein before specified.

We entered into this just and necessary war to defend our rights against the attacks of Avarice and Ambition; we have made the most strenuous efforts during the prosecution of it, and we are resolved to continue them until our Independence is firmly established: hitherto we have successfully resisted and we hope, with the blessing of Providence, for final success. If the Enemy encouraged by the appearance of divisions among us, and the hope of our not confederating, should carry on hostilities longer than they otherwise would have done, let those be responsible for the prolongation of the war, and all its consequent calamities, who, by refusing to comply with requisitions so just and reasonable, have hitherto prevented the confederation from taking place and are, therefore, justly chargeable with



every evil, which hath flowed and may flow from such procrastination.

By the House of delegates      By the Senate, Dec'r 15th 1778.  
Dec'r 15th 1778.                      Read & assented to

Read and assented to              By order R. Ridgely, C. S.

By order J. Duckett, C. H. D.

(Copy)

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NO. 3. INSTRUCTIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND TO THEIR DELEGATES RESPECTING THE ARTICLES OF CONFEDERATION DEC'R 15, 1780. READ & ENTERED 21ST MAY 1779. (COPY)

Instructions of the General Assembly of Maryland to George Plater, William Paca, William Carmichael, John Henry, James Forbes, and Daniel St. Thomas Jenifer Esquires.

Gentlemen, Having conferred upon you a trust of the highest nature, it is evident we place great confidence in your integrity, abilities & zeal to promote the general welfare of the United States, and the particular interest of this State, where the latter is not incompatible with the former. But to add greater weight to your proceedings in Congress and to take away all suspicion that the opinions you there deliver and the votes you give, may be the mere opinions of Individuals and not resulting from your knowledge of the sense and deliberate judgement of the State you represent, we think it our duty to instruct you as followeth on the subject of the confederation; a subject in which unfortunately a supposed difference of interest has produced an almost equal division of sentiments among the several States composing the union. We say a supposed difference of interests: for if local attachments, and prejudices and the avarice &

ambition of individuals would give way to the dictates of a sound policy, founded on the principles of justice and no other policy but which is founded on these immutable principles deserved to be called sound, we flatter ourselves this apparent diversity of interests would soon vanish, and all the States would confederate on terms mutually advantageous to all; for they would then perceive that no other confederation, than one so formed can be lasting. Altho the pressure of immediate calamities, the dread of their continuance from the appearance of disunion and some other peculiar circumstances may have induced some States to accede to the present Confederation contrary to their own interests & judgements, it requires no great share of foresight to predict, that when those causes cease to operate, the States which have thus acceded to the Confederation, will consider it as no longer binding, and will eagerly embrace the first occasion of assisting their just rights, & securing their independence. It is possible that those States, who are ambitiously grasping at territories, to which in our judgement they have not the least shadow of exclusive right, will use with greater moderation the increase of wealth and power derived from those territories when acquired, than what they have displayed in their endeavours to acquire them? We think not; we are convinced the same spirit which hath prompted them to insist on a claim so extravagant, so repugnant to every principle of justice, so incompatible with the general welfare of all the States will urge them on to add oppression to injustice. If they should not be incited by a superiority of wealth and strength to oppress by open force their less wealthy and less powerful neighbours, yet the depopulation and consequently the impoverishment of those States will necessarily follow, which

by an unfair construction of the confederation may be stripped of a common interest in, and the common benefits derivable from the western country. Suppose for instance, Virginia indisputably possessed of the extensive & fertile country, to which she has set up a claim, what would be the probable consequences to Maryland of such an undisturbed and undisputed possession? They cannot escape the least discerning. Virginia, by selling, on the most moderate terms, a small proportion of the lands in question, would draw into her treasury, vast sums of money and in proportion to the sums arising from such sales, would be enabled to lessen her taxes. Lands comparatively cheap & taxes comparatively low, with the lands & taxes of an adjacent State, would quickly drain the State thus disadvantageously circumstanced, of its most useful inhabitants; its wealth and its consequence in the scale of the confederated States would sink of course.

A claim so injurious to more than one half, if not to the whole of the United States ought to be supported by the clearest evidence of the right. Yet what evidences of that right have been produced. What arguments alledged in support either of the evidence or the right? None that we have heard of deserving a serious refutation.

It has been said that some of the delegates of a neighbouring State have declared their opinion of the impracticability of governing the extensive dominion claimed by that State; hence also the necessity was admitted of dividing its territory and erecting a new State under the auspices & direction of the elder from whom no doubt it would receive its form of government, to whom it would be bound by some alliance or confederacy, and by whose councils it would be influenced. Such a measure,

if ever attempted would certainly be opposed by the other States, as inconsistent with the letter & spirit of the proposed confederation should it take place by establishing a sub-confederacy, Imperium in imperio. The State possessed of this extensive diminion must then either submit to all inconveniences of an overgrown & unwieldy government, or suffer the authority of Congress to interpose at a future time, & to lop off a part of its territory to be erected into a new & free state & admitted into the confederation on such conditions as shall be settled by nine States. If it is necessary for the happiness and tranquility of a State thus overgrown that Congress should hereafter interfere & divide its territory why is the claim to that territory now made and so pertinaciously insisted on? We can suggest to ourselves but two motives, either the declaration of relinquishing at some future period a portion of the country now contended for was made to lull suspicion asleep, and to cover the designs of a secret ambition, or, if the thought was seriously entertained, the lands are now claimed to reap an immediate profit from the sale.

We are convinced policy & justice require, that a country unsettled at the commencement of this war, claimed by the British crown & ceded to it by the treaty of Paris, if wrested from the common enemy by the blood and treasure of the thirteen States, should be considered as a common property, subject to be parcelled out by Congress into free convenient & independent governments in such manner, & at such times as the wisdom of that assembly shall hereafter direct. Thus convinced we should betray the trust reposed in us by our constituents, were we to authorise you to ratify on their behalf the confederation unless it be father explained. We have cooly

and dispassionately considered the subject; we have weighed probable inconveniences and hardships against the sacrifices of just & essential rights: and do instruct you, not to agree to the Confederation, unless an article or articles be added thereto in conformity with our declaration, should we succeed in obtaining such article or articles, then you are hereby fully empowered to accede to the confederation.

That these our sentiments respecting the Confederation may be more publickly known and more explicitly & concisely declared, we have drawn up the annexed declaration, which we instruct you to lay before Congress, to have it printed and to deliver to each of the delegates of the other States in Congress assembled, copies thereof signed by yourselves or by such of you as may be present at the time of the delivery, to the intent & purpose that the copies aforesaid may be communicated to our brethren of the United States, and the contents of the said declaration taken into their serious & candid consideration. Also we desire & instruct you to move at a proper time that these instructions be read to Congress by their Secretary & entered on the journals of Congress.

We have spoken with freedom, as becomes freemen; and we sincerely wish, that these our representations may make such an impression on that Assembly as to induce them to make such addition to the articles of confederation as may bring about a permanent union.

True copy from the proceedings of December 15, 1778.

Test

J. DICKETT, C. H. D.

(Copy)

NO. 5. REMONSTRANCE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF VIRGINIA TO CONGRESS. READ IN CONGRESS APR. 28TH 1780. (COPY)

Virginia to wit.

In General Assembly the 14th December 1779.

The remonstrance of the General Assembly of Virginia, to the delegates of the United American States in Congress assembled.

The General Assembly of Virginia, ever attentive to the recommendations of Congress, and desirous to give the great Council of the United States every satisfaction in their power, consistent with the rights & constitution of their own commonwealth, have enacted a Law to prevent present settlements on the north west side of the Ohio river, and will on all occasions endeavour to manifest their attachment to the common Interest of America, and their earnest wishes to remove every cause of Jealousy, and promote that mutual confidence and harmony between the different States so essential to their true interest and safety.

Strongly impressed with these sentiments, the General Assembly of Virginia cannot avoid expressing their surprize and concern, upon the information that Congress had received and countenanced petitions from certain persons stiling themselves the Vandalia and Indiana Company's, asserting claims to Lands in defiance of the civil authority, Jurisdiction and Laws of this commonwealth, and offering to erect a separate government within the territory thereof. Should Congress assume a Jurisdiction, and arrogate to themselves a right of adjudication not only unwarrantedly, but expressly contrary to the fundamental principles of the confederation; superseding or controuling the

internal policy, civil regulations and municipal Laws of this or any other State, it would be a violation of public faith, introduce a most dangerous precedent which might hereafter be urged to deprive of territory or subvert the sovereignty and government of any one or more of the United States; and establish in Congress a power which in process of time must degenerate into an intolerable despotism.

It is notorious that the Vandalia and Indiana company's are not the only claimers of large tracts of Land under titles repugnant to our Laws; that several men of great influence in some of the neighbouring states are concerned in partnerships with the Earl of Dunmore and other subjects of the British King, who under purchases from the Indians, claim extensive tracts of Country between the Ohio and Mississippi rivers; and that propositions have been made to Congress evidently calculated to secure and guarranty such purchases, so that under colour of creating a common fund, had those propositions been adopted, the public would have been duped by the arts of Individuals, and great part of the value of the unappropriated Land converted to private purposes.

Congress have lately described and ascertained the Boundaries of these United States, as an ultimatum in their terms of peace. The United States hold no Territory but in right of some one individual State in the union. The territory of each State from time immemorial, hath been fixed and determined by their respective charters, there being no other rule or criterion to judge by, should these in any instance (when there is no disputed Territory between particular States) be abridged without the consent of the States affected by it general confusion must ensue; each State would be subjected, in its turn to the incroachments

of the others, and a field opened for future wars & bloodshed; nor can any arguments be fairly urged to prove that any particular tract of country within the Limits claimed by Congress on behalf of the United States, is not part of the chartered territory of some one of them, but must militate with equal force against the right of the United States in general; and tend to prove such tract of country (if north west of the Ohio river) part of the British province of Canada.

When Virginia acceded to the Articles of Confederation, her rights of sovereignty and Jurisdiction within her own territory were reserved & secured to her, and cannot now be infringed or altered, without her consent. She could have no latent views of extending that Territory; because it had long before been expressly and clearly defined in the act which formed her new government.

The General Assembly of Virginia have heretofore offered Congress to furnish Lands out of their territory on the north west side of the Ohio river, without purchase money, to the troops on Continental Establishment of such of the confederated States as had not unappropriated Lands for that purpose; in conjunction with the other States holding unappropriated Lands and in such proportion as should be adjusted and settled by Congress; which offer when accepted they will most cheerfully make good to the same extent, with the provision made by Law for their own troops; if Congress shall think fit to allow the like quantities of Land to the other troops on Continental establishment. But altho' the General Assembly of Virginia would make great sacrifices to the common Interest of America (as they have already done on the subject of Representation) and will be ready to listen to any just and reason-



able propositions for removing the ostensible causes of delay to the complete ratification of the confederation, they find themselves impelled by the duties which they owe to their constituents, to their posterity, to their country and to the United States in general, to remonstrate and protest; and they do hereby, in the name and on behalf of the commonwealth of Virginia expressly protest against any Jurisdiction, or right of adjudication in Congress upon the petitions of the Vandavia or Indiana Company's, or any other matter or thing subversive of the internal policy, civil government, or sovereignty of this or any other of the United American States or unwarranted by the Articles of the Confederation.

Nathaniel Harrison, S. S.

Benj. Harrison, S. H. D.

Attest: John Beckley, C. H. D.

(Copy)

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NO. 4. AN ACT OF THE LEGISLATURE OF NEW YORK "TO FACILITATE THE COMPLETION OF THE ARTICLES OF CONFEDERATION & PERPETUAL UNION AMONG THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA." READ MARCH 7TH 1780. (COPY)

An act to facilitate the completion of the Articles of confederation and Perpetual Union, among the United States of America.

Whereas nothing under divine providence, can more effectually contribute to the tranquillity and safety of the United States of America, than a Federal Alliance; on such liberal principles, as will give satisfaction to its respective members: and whereas the Articles of confederation, and Perpetual Union, recommended by the Hon'ble Congress of the United States of

America, have not proved acceptable to all the States; it having been conceived, that a portion of the waste and uncultivated territory within the limits or claims of certain States, ought to be appropriated, as a common fund for the expences of the war: and the people of this State of New York being, on all occasions, disposed to manifest their regard for their sister States, and their earnest desire to promote the general interest and security; and more especially to accelerate the Federal Alliance, by removing as far as it depends upon them, the before mentioned impediment to its final accomplishment.

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 it shall and may be lawful to and for the delegates of this State, in the Hon'ble Congress of the United States of America, or the major part of such of them as shall be assembled in Congress; and they the said delegates, or the major part of them so assembled, are hereby fully authorised and empowered, for and on behalf of this State, and by proper and authentic acts or Instruments, to limit and restrict the boundaries of this State, in the western part thereof, by such line or lines, and in such manner and form, as they shall judge to be expedient; either with respect to the Jurisdiction as well as the right or pre-emption of soil: or reserving the jurisdiction, in part, or in the whole, over the Lands which may be ceded or relinquished, with respect only to the right, or pre-emption of the soil.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid: That the territory which may be ceded or relinquished by virtue of this act, either with respect to the Jurisdiction, as well as the right or pre-emption of soil; or the right or pre-emption of soil

only; shall be, and enure for the use and benefit of such of the United States, as shall become members of the Federal Alliance of the said States, and for no other use or purpose whatsoever.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid: That all the Lands to be ceded & relinquished, by virtue of this act, for the benefit of the United States, with respect to property; but which shall nevertheless remain under the Jurisdiction of this State shall be disposed of and appropriated, in such manner only, as the Congress of the said States shall direct; and that a warrant, under the authority of Congress; for surveying and laying out any part thereof, shall entitle the party, in whose favour it shall issue, to cause the same to be surveyed, and laid out, and returned, according to the directions of such warrant; and thereupon letters patent, under the great seal of this State, shall pass to the grantee, of the estate specified in the said warrant; for which, no other fee or reward shall be demanded or received, than such as shall be allowed by Congress.

Provided always, and be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid: That the trust reposed by virtue of this act, shall not be executed by the Delegates of this State, unless at least three of the said delegates shall be present in Congress.  
State of New York SS.

I do hereby certify, that the foregoing is a true copy of the original act passed the 19th of February 1780 and lodged in the secretary's office.

Robert Harpur, D'y Sec'y State.

(Copy)

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In Congress, Sept'r 6th 1780.

Congress took into consideration the report of the committee to whom were referred the Instructions of the General Assem-

bly of Maryland to their Delegates in Congress, respecting the Articles of Confederation, and the declaration therein referred to, the act of the Legislature of New York on the same subject and the remonstrance of the General Assembly of Virginia, which report was agreed to in the words following

“ That having duly considered the several matters to them submitted, they conceive it unnecessary to examine into the merits or the policy of the Instructions or declaration of the General Assembly of Maryland or of the remonstrance of the General Assembly of Virginia, as they involve questions, a discussion of which was declined on mature consideration when the Articles of Confederation were debated; nor in the opinion of the committee can such questions be now revived with any prospect of conciliation: That it appears more adviseable to press upon those states which can remove the embarrassment respecting the western country a liberal surrender of a portion of their territorial claims, since they cannot be preserved entire without endangering the stability of the general confederacy; to remind them how indispensibly necessary it is to establish the Federal Union on a fixed and permanent basis, and on principles acceptable to all its respective members; how essential to public credit & confidence, to the support of our army, to the vigour of our counsels & success of our measures, to our tranquility at home and our reputation abroad, to our present safety & our future prosperity, to our very existence as a free sovereign and Independent people. That we are fully persuaded, the wisdom of the respective legislatures will lead them to a full and impartial consideration of a subject so interesting to the United States and so necessary to the happy establishment of the Federal Union. That they are confirmed in these expectations by a re-

view of the before mentioned act of the Legislature of New York submitted to their consideration. That this act is expressly calculated to accelerate the Federal Alliance by removing as far as it depends on that State the impediment arising from the western country and for that purpose to yield up a portion of territorial claim for the general benefit." Whereupon

Resolved, That copies of the several papers referred to the Committee be transmitted with a copy of the report, to the Legislatures of the several States, and that it be earnestly recommended to those States who have claims to the western country to pass such laws, and give their Delegates in Congress such powers, as may effectually remove the only obstacle to a final ratification of the Articles of Confederation,\* and that the Legis-

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\*The secret journals of congress, published under the resolutions of March 27th, 1818, and April 21st 1820 contain "A History of the Confederation." The course of public opinion on a most important point—the nature of the connexion which ought to be maintained between these United States—may be in some degree perceived in the progress of this instrument, and may not be entirely uninteresting to the American reader.

So early as July, 1775, Doctor Franklin submitted "Articles of Confederation and perpetual union" to the consideration of congress, which were to continue in force until a reconciliation with Great Britain should take place on the terms demanded by the colonies. Into this confederation, not only all the British colonies on the continent, but Ireland and the West India islands were to be admitted.

Congress was to consist of members chosen by each colony in proportion to its numbers and was to sit in each successively. Its powers were to embrace the external relations of the country, the settling of all disputes between the colonies, the planting of new colonies; and were to extend to ordinances on such general subjects as, though necessary to the general welfare, particular assemblies cannot be competent to viz: "Those that may relate to our general commerce, or general currency; the establishment of ports; and the regulation of our common forces."

The executive was to consist of a council of twelve, selected by congress from its own body, one-third of whom were to be changed annually.

Amendments were to be proposed by congress; and, when approved by a majority of the colonial assemblies, were to become a part of the constitution.

In June, 1776, a committee was appointed to prepare and digest the form of a confederation to be entered into between the United Colonies, which brought in a draft (in the handwriting of Mr. John Dickinson) on the 12th of the succeeding month.

This report was under debate until the 14th of November, 1777, on which day congress agreed on the articles afterwards adopted by the states.

In the scheme supposed to be prepared by Mr. Dickinson, the confederation is considered as an alliance of sovereign states, who meet as equals by their deputies assembled to deliberate on their common concerns, each sovereign having a voice. This principle was retained; but several modifications in the language and principle of the original scheme were made, which indicate a watchful and growing jealousy of the powers of congress.

In each, an article is introduced reserving the right of the states. That which is found in the report, "reserves to each state the sole and exclusive regulation and gov-

lature of Maryland be earnestly requested to authorize their Delegates in Congress to subscribe the said articles.

Extract from the minutes.

Chas. Thomson, Secy.

[No. 3211.]

*List of Press Warrants for Provisions, &c.*

Warrants issued in pursuance of the act entitled "An Act authorizing the Person administering the Government of this State to grant Warrants of Impress."

1780.

July           Warrant to Egb't Dumond & Henry J. Van Rensselaer (with Copy of the Law) to impress all the Wheat & Flour (above what should be necessary for the respective family's use) in the Manor Livingston & adjacent Districts.

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ernment of its internal police, in all matters that *shall not interfere with the articles of this confederation.*"

This article was so modified as to declare that "each state retains its sovereignty," "and every power, jurisdiction and right, which is not by this confederation *expressly* delegated to the United States in congress assembled."

This denial of all incidental powers had vast influence on the affairs of the United States. It defeated, in many instances, the granted powers, by rendering their exercise impracticable.

The report permits the states to impose duties on imports and exports; provided they, "do not interfere with any stipulation in treaties hereafter entered into by the United States."

The confederation confines this restriction on the power of the state to such duties as interfere with the stipulations in treaties entered into "in pursuance of any treaties already proposed by congress to the courts of France and Spain."

Each plan assigns to the State in which troops shall be raised for the common defence, the power of appointing the field and Inferior officers. The confederation adds the power of filling up such vacancies as may occur.

The report inhibits a state from endeavouring by force to obtain compensation for advances made or injuries suffered during the war, which shall not be allowed by congress.

The confederation omits this inhibition.

The report gives to congress the power of making treaties.

The confederation adds a proviso, "that no treaty of commerce shall be made whereby the legislative power of the respective states shall be restrained from imposing such imports and duties on foreigners as their own people are subjected to, or from prohibiting the exportation or importation of any species of goods or commodities whatever."

The report authorizes congress to appoint "courts for the trial of all crimes, frauds, and piracies committed on the high seas, or on any navigable river not within a county or parish.

- July Warrant to Brig'r Genl. Van Rensselaer, for the like Purposes in Tryon County.
- July Warrants to Udney Hay for 10,000 Pine Boards.
- July 15th Warrant to George Tremble for 20 Tons Flour.
- July 20th Warrant to Udney Hay Esqr. for ten thousand Pine Boards.
- Do Do Warrant to Do for one thousand Barrels Flour.
- Aug't 2 warr'ts to Colo. Malcom one for 6 waggons & 2 Horses with a Driver to each waggon—the other for 200 bar'ls of Flour or an equivalent in wheat, 100 head fatt Cattle & 6 waggons as above.
- 4th Sep'r To Do for six Barrels Flour and to Lieut. Conolly for five Waggons Horses & Drivers for the same for Six Days.
- 11th Sept'r To Colo. Hay & Rich and Lush or either of them for 100 waggons in Albany & Tryon Counties to be continued in Service one month & no longer—the warr't to continue in force one month.

The confederation limits the jurisdiction to "piracies and felonies committed on the high seas."

Both empower congress to appoint courts for the trial of appeals in cases of capture; but the confederation provides that no member of congress shall be appointed a judge of any such court.

Both empower congress to settle differences between the states. The confederation prescribes minutely the manner in which this power shall be exercised.

Both empower congress "to regulate the trade and manage all affairs with the Indians." The confederation provides "that the legislative right of any state within its own limits be not infringed or violated."

The report gives the power of "establishing and regulating post offices throughout all the United Colonies (states) on the lines of communication from one colony (state) to another."

The confederation varies the phraseology and adds, "and exacting such postage on the papers passing through the same as may be requisite to defray the expenses of the said office."

The report places many important portions of the executive power in a council of state, to consist of one delegate from each state, to be named annually by the delegates of that state.

The confederation empowers congress to appoint a committee to sit in the recess of congress, to be denominated "a committee of the states", and to consist of one dele-

[No. 3212.]

*Colonel Jas. Livingston's Letter for Clothing for His Regiment—  
Governor Clinton's Answer.*

Kings Ferry 11th Sept'r 1780

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

Sir, I take the Liberty to request your Excellency woud inform me, whether those officers and Soldiers of my Regt. belonging to the State of New York, are to receive any Cloathing from, or the Depreciation of their Pay to be made good by the State.

I have about ninety Men, Canadians included, inlisted during War, belonging to the State of New York, and cou'd wish to know, whether I am to have their Depreciation made good by the State or by Congress.

The Distress'd Situation of my Officers and Men obliges me, to beg the favor of an answer from you as soon as possible and believe me to be with Sentiments of Esteem your Excellencies most Obed't Serv't

Jas. Livingston.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

gate from each state, to exercise such powers as congress might from time to time vest them with.

A few of the states agreed to ratify the confederation unconditionally. By many, amendments were proposed which were steadily rejected by congress. It was obvious that the delays would be almost interminable should congress relax this determination, because every change would make it necessary again to submit the instrument as amended to the several states. It is remarkable that Jersey alone proposed an enlargement of the powers of congress. That state was desirous of investing the representatives of the state with power of regulating commerce.

The states possessing no vacant lands, or an inconsiderable quantity within their chartered limits, pressed earnestly and perseveringly their claim to participate in the advantages of territory, which was, they said, acquired by the united arms of the whole; and Maryland refused, on this account, to accede to the confederation. At length, several of the states empoowered their members in congress to ratify that instrument as forming a union between the twelve states who had assented to it. Maryland, alarmed at the prospect of being excluded from the union, gave her reluctant consent to the confederation, accompanied by a protest, in which she still asserted her claim to her interest in the vacant territory which should be acknowledged at the treaty of peace, to be within the United States.

It required the repeated lessons of a severe and instructive experience to persuade the American people that their greatness, their prosperity, their happiness, and even their safety, imperiously demanded the substitution of a government for their favourite league.



S'r, I am fav'd w'th your Letter of this Day. The Officers and Privates, of the independ't Corps, who belong to & are credited to this State, are entitled to the Clohting & necessaries provided by the State, in like manner as the five Battalions of this State; and I have no Doubt that they will be included in every other Provision which the Legislature may think proper to make. I am &c.

G: Clinton.

Colo. J's Livingston.

[No. 3213.]

*A Return of the Troops in Tryon County*

Under the Command of Brigadier General Robert Van Rensselaer. Fort Rensselaer 11th Sept'r 1780.

Regiments	Officers Present												Rank and File										
	Field			Commis'd			Staff						Non Commis'd		present fit duty	On Command	On furlough	Sick	Deserted	Total			
	Colonel	Leut. Col.	Major	Captain	Leuten'ts	2d Leuten'ts.	Adjutant	Qr Master	Chaplain	Surgeon	Surgn Mate	Serj. Major	Q. M. Serjt.	File Major							Drum Major	Serjants	Drum File
Colonel Brown	1		1	4	4	4	1	1	1							17	6	213	19	2	9	1	276
Leut. Col. Harper		1	1	4	3	1	1	1	1							8	4	116		7	7	4	146
Major Frisbee detachment of militia				2	2	1										3		30					33
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>388</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>455</b>	

gone on a Scout to Canada Creeck 19

Captain Demott of Col: Harper's Regiment has made no return of his Company tho supposed to be about Fifteen Rank and File. Capt. Putman of the same Regiment sick, Leut. Bateman under an arrest.

Lewis R. Morris, M. B. Robt. V'n Rensselaer, B: Genl.

[No. 3214.]

*Reports that Vermont Tories Are Meditating Mischivous Work.*

To His Excellency, George Clinton, Esq.

We having receiv'd information of an alarming nature, some of which we have sent your Excellency in writing; and for a more particular account we refer your Excellency to the bearer hereof: as we are destitute of authority, we humbly conceive that the appointment of a Committee if they were invested with some degree of authority, might be of great service for detecting such Inhabitants amongst us as we have reason to suppose, are Conspiring against us with our Enemies, who secretly lurk amongst us; and we further, beg leave to suggest to your Excellency whether something by way of scouts will not be best to be done.

The bearer hereof, will inform your Excellency what measures we have taken, and by him we hope to receive from your Excellency such directions as your Excellency's wisdom shall direct.

We are, Dear Sir, your Excellency's loyal Subjects,

Eleaz'r Paterson, Colo'l; John Sargent, Lt. Colo; Timothy Church, Capt; Seth Smith; Saml. Warriner; Benja. Butterfield, Lieut; Jonathan Church; Aaron Nash; Artimas How; Henry Seger; Lemuel Hendrick; William Harris.

Brattleborough, September 11th, 1780.

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BENJAMIN BUTTERFIELD'S STATEMENT.

I, Benjamin Butterfield, being at Fort George about the 25th of June last, saw one John Shadford, who came in there from St. Johns, and by examining him about the people that went from Cumberland County to the Enemy, he inform'd me that he knew several of them; especially one Oliver Church, who for-

merly belong'd at Brattleborough the Town which I now belong at; and he furthermore informs me that those people have ben and are continually scouting from St. Johns over to the Inhabitants of that quarter; and likewise, from the best information he could git, that they intended to go with a strong party to distroy the Inhabitants of that quarter. I being concern'd about the Inhabitants for fear of their being distress'd before they could have any information of their design, I obtain'd leave of absence the last of July, and returning to the Town aforesaid, and by secret inquiry found that the s'd Oliver Church had lately ben in the Town; and likewise a number more of his party was then at New Fane.

#### JONATHAN CHURCH'S STATEMENT.

I, Jonathan Church, by the above intelligence and a desire of the Inhabitants of Brattleborough, thought proper to go to New Fane in order to see what discoveries I could make, which accordingly I did the 13th of August last, and by discourcing with one of the Inhabitants of s'd Fane, he inform'd me that he had discourced with one Shaderick Ball, who now belongs to the Enemies Forces in Canada; he further says that s'd Ball informed him that there was a private Expedition a forming to the number of about four Thousand to come against the Inhabitants of this quarter; he further sayeth that said Ball inform'd him their intentions was, some time this Fall to come on with small scouts in order to take the leading men amongst the Inhabitants and secure them; and then to come on with a large party to burn and distroy all who they came acrost, except them who were their friends; he furthermore informs me that said Ball was their poilet, and that the s'd Ball had ben six times back and forth as a poilet from St. Johns to New Fane, since March last upon that business.

Brattleborough, August 26th, 1780.

In Consequence of orders receiv'd from Col. Serjeants, I march'd with eight men under my Command, from Brattleborough, across the woods to the south Branch of West River, in New Fane; and from thence up said Branch to westward of the Inhabitants of said Town; from thence across to Bakers Brook, from thence up the Brook to the great Croch, in the Town of Summersett, to the westward of s'd Fane, where I found Trees lately fell across the River, s'posed to be for people to cross the River on, and from thence finding a considerable of a track up the West Mountain towards said Fane, which I s'posed to be the track they traveled in to the Inhabitants to the westward. I then turning my course Northwardly to a little Meadow on the head of Smith's Brook, there being the place where said Ball did inform was the place which they steer'd to from St. Johns; s'd place being in New Fane, and there I found that there had ben some passing very lately. From thence I returned home through said Fane, and there privately discourcing with a young lad who inform'd me that he had ben at the place in the woods where s'd Church and Ball did resort, with a number of others of the same party; I also got intelligence that said Church and Ball had return'd to St. Johns, in order to bring on a party upon these Inhabitants.

And finding no more intelligence of any consequence I return'd on the 30th of August.

These may Certy that what we the subscribers have inserted in the within premises is the truth; witness our hands.

Benja. Butterfield, Lieut.,  
Jonathan Church, Lieut.

[No. 3215.]

*Mr. Knoulton Introduced to the Delegates in Congress.*

Pokeepsie, 12 Sep'r, 1780.

Gent. This will be handed to you by Mr. Knoulton, a gentleman from Cumberland, for whose Character and Business I beg leave to refer you to the inclosed Copy of a Letter and to his Credentials. I should be happy if he may be enabled to return with such Intelligence as will prove satisfactory to his Constituents, whose Patience in their present disagreeable Situation appears to be nearly exhausted.

The Legislature is now sitting and will soon adjourn. I would, therefore, wish if Congress have any Matters which may require their attention that they be forwarded without Delay. I am &c.

[G. C.]

[To delegates in Congress.]

[No. 3216.]

## DEPRECIATION OF PAY.

*Officers of the Line Submit a Serious Grievance to the Legislature—  
Transfer of Land Suggested as a Substitute.*

Poughkeepsie, Sept'r 12, 1780.

Sir, The officers of the Line of this State, have appointed us their Committee, for the important Purposes of representing to the Honorable the Legislature, the unhappy and distressed Situation of the Troops they have the Honor to command, and the necessity thence arising of a speedy compliance with the several Resolutions of Congress in their Favor, particularly those of the 17th of August, 1779 and of the 12th & 24th ulto.

From our Profession unacquainted with the usual Mode of transacting Business in the civil Departments, we have taken

the Liberty of communicating the Nature of our Embassy to your Excellency and to request that your Excellency will be pleased to represent it to that Hon'ble Body, that we may be favored with ther Direction in the execution of it.

Possessing the fullest confidence in the Legislature, we are persuaded that from a conviction of the Justice and Propriety of our application, the necessity there is of our Presence with our men at this critical Period, and from a tender Regard to our Feelings while necessarily absent, they will adopt such Measures, as shall appear most consistent with Justice, and best calculated to give Dispatch to the Business with which we are charged. We have the Honor to be with due Respect your Excellency's most obedient & very humble Servant

Marinus Willett,

Nich's Fish,

Thos. Machin.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

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Camp, Steenrapia, September 7th 1780.

Gentlemen, We have chosen you our Committee to wait upon the Legislature of the State of New York for the important Purposes of representing to that Body the unhappy & distressing situation of the Troops under our Command, and their immediate Care and Direction, and of enforcing the necessity of a speedy Execution of the Resolves of Congress relative to the supplies necessary for the comfortable subsistence of the army; and as well to ascertain & liquidate the Loss sustained by the army by the Depreciation of the Currency. as to obtain proper security for the Payment thereof. These, Gentlemen, are the essential Objects to which we would call your attention.

The real Depreciation upon the monies received and expended by the army, you are well acquainted with; and the most eligible mode to ascertain it, we conceive, will be by taking a comparative view of the Prices of articles most used in Camp, beginning at the first Establishment of our present Pay, & thence computing at different Periods, the advance upon such articles.

You will please to have in view that the Pay of the Troops has been very irregular, and that they have seldom been with less than three months Pay in arrears, and often with more, especially in the present year, the Pay for which since the first of January is still due, the Depreciation on which can be computed at nothing less than the real value of the money on the first of August.

With Respect to the Payment of such depreciated money as may be due us, we think, that Cash, or nothing less than a real security or Transfer of Lands will by any means answer the good Intentions of the state or relieve us. Certificates or notes for Payment we find, from Experience, like other Paper Credit, is subject to the Ebbs and Flows of the Times. We have had melancholy Instances of this in the Eastern states where the notes given to the Troops have been sold at the most enormous Discount, & the Distresses of the army with the Legislature had in view to relieve, have by no means been removed. Good landed Interest is secure from these Failures, and is the security we wish to receive, it is such, which if conveyed to us firmly and bona Fide will always form a Capital, upon which we can draw without any Discount. When we say landed Interest, we mean, Gentlemen, improved Estates, such as have a real and immediate value, of which the state to which we belong have an



abundance by the attainder of many of its Inhabitants who have withdrawn themselves from its allegiance. It settling the value of these Lands it will be necessary for you to pay particular attention to the mode to be adopted. We would recommend that three indifferent men may be appointed under oath for that Purpose, & that we may have a voice in nominating as well the Persons to value as the Lands to be apprized.

As Congress have by a Resolve of the 24th of August last, recommended to the different states to make Provision for the widows and orphans of Officers who have died or may die in the service, we request your attention thereto, and that the Provision therein recommended or some other may be extended to the widows and orphans of the non-commissioned Officers and soldiers in the like Circumstances.

We beg, Gentlemen, that you will proceed as soon as possible upon the important Business to which you are delegated, and as we have the utmost Confidence in your zeal & abilities to serve us, we would wish you to consider these Instructions more or less absolute as you shall find Circumstances require, and to do whatever else may be necessary for our Interest though not particularly mentioned herein.

We wish you, Gentlemen, a pleasant Journey and a happy success in your Endeavours to serve us. We are, Gentlemen your hum: serv'ts

Philip Cortlandt, Colo; Robt. Cochran, Lieut. Colonel; Charles Graham, Capt. 2d N. Y. Rgt; Saml. T. Bell, Capt. Do; J. Wright, Capt. 2d Regt; Jona. Hallett, Capt. 2 N. Y. Regt; Abner French, Capt. 2d Regt; Ch. Nukerek, Capt. Lieut. 2nd Regt; C. F. Weissenfels, Lieut. 2 Regt; W. Glenny, Lieut. 2 Regt; T. V. Wagenen, Lieut. 2nd Regt; Robt. Provoost, P. M. 2 N. Y. Rgt; B. Swart-

wout, Ens. 2<sup>n</sup> N. Y. Regt; Christopher, Codwise Lt. ye 2 Regt; Dan Menema, Surgeon. 2<sup>d</sup> Regt; Jno. L. Hardenbergh, Lieut. 2<sup>d</sup> Regt.

Peter Gansevoort, Colo. 3<sup>d</sup> N. Y. Regt; Ja. Rosekrans, Major, 3<sup>d</sup> N. Y. Regt; Henry Tiebout, Capt. 3<sup>d</sup> N. Y. Regt; W. Colbrath, Lt. 3<sup>d</sup> N. Y. Regt; Corn's T. Jansen, Capt. 3<sup>d</sup> N. Y. Regt; Christ'r Hutton, Liv. & adj. 3<sup>d</sup> N. Y.; Jonah Bagley, Lieut. 3 N. Y.; Benj'n Herring, Ens. 3<sup>d</sup> N. Y. Regt; Prentice Bowen, Lt. 3 N. Y. Regt; P. Magee, Lieut. 3<sup>rd</sup> Regt; John Elliot Jun'r S. M. 3 Reg; Douw J. Fonda, Ens'n 3<sup>d</sup> N. Y. Regt; B. Bogardus, Lieut. 3<sup>rd</sup> N. Y. Regt; Geo. Denniston, Lieut. 3 N. Y. Regt; Geo: Sytez Capt. 3<sup>d</sup> N. York Regt.

Israel Smith, Capt. 4<sup>th</sup> N. Y. Regt; Jonathan Titus, Capt. 4 N. York; Edward Dunscomb, Capt'n 4<sup>th</sup> Regt; Silas Gray, Capt. Do; Peter Elsworth, Capt. Lieut; Peter V Bunschoten, Lt. 4 N. York; J. Frilick, Lt. 4<sup>th</sup> N. York Regt; Saml. Dodge, Ens'n 4<sup>th</sup> N. York Regt; Stephen Griffing, Do Do; Saml. Tallmadge, Ensign & Adjutant.

J. F. Hamtramck, Capt. 5<sup>th</sup> N. Y. Regt; H. V. D. Burgh, Capt. 5<sup>th</sup> N. Y. Regt; Henry Dodge, Capt. Do 5<sup>th</sup> N. Y. Regt; James Johnston, Ens'n & Adj. 5<sup>th</sup> Regt; Barth'w V. D. Burgh, Ens'n 5 N. York Regt; Francis Hammer, Lient. & Qr. Master; Samuel Cooke, Surgeon 5<sup>th</sup> N. Y. Regt; Eben'r Hutchinson, Surg'n Mate 5 N. York Regt; James Stewart, Capt. 5<sup>th</sup> New York Regt.

Fred. Weissenfels Lt. Col. Commandant.

John Davis Maj'r 4<sup>th</sup> N. Y. Regt.

Ph. D. Bevier, Capt. 5<sup>th</sup> N. Y. Regt; J. Brown, Ens. 2 N. Y. Regt; H. D. Bois, Capt. 5<sup>th</sup> N. York Regt; Saml. Lewis, Lieut. 3 N. York Regt; Eph'm Woodruff, Ens. 4<sup>th</sup> N. Y. Regt; Tjerck Beekman, Lt. 2<sup>d</sup> N. Y. Regt; Aaron Aorson, Capt. 3<sup>d</sup> N. Y. Regt; Leonard Bleecker, Capt. 3 N. Y. Rg; Peter Vosburgh, Lient. Colo.

Livingston; J. Reed, Capt. Lieut. 2nd Regt. Artill'y; Geo: Fleming, Capt. Artill'y; John Waldron, Lieut. 2nd Regt. Artill'y; Alex'r Thompson, Lieut. 2d Regt. Artly; J. Giles, Lieut. 2d Regt. Artillery; John Santford, Capt. Col. Spencer's Regt; Abr'm Neely, Capt. do; P. Taulman, Lt. & Adj. in do; Finch Gilder-sleeve, Lieut. do; Anth'y Maxwell, Lieut. do; Jno. Stagg, Lieut. do; Andrew Moodie, Capt. 2d Batt'n Artillery; Henry A. Williams, Lieut. do; Jno. Doughty, Brig. Maj'r Artillery; I. Guion, Capt. Lieut. & P. Master; Gershom Mott, Capt. 2d Regt. Artillery.

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STATUS OF OFFICERS AND MEN OF LIGHT DRAGOONS AND OF THE ARTILLERY CORPS.

In Congress, 15th March, 1778.

Resolved, that all officers, non Commissioned officers and Soldiers now belonging to the Corps of Light Dragoons, & Artillery & Infantry, and the Corps of Artillery Artificers, Commission'd and Inlisted since the 16th Day of Sept'r 1776 for three years or During the War, or which shall hereafter be so Commission'd and Inlisted, not being part of the 88 Batta'ns originally apportioned on the States, be Considered as part of the Quotas of the Several States to which they did or shall respectively belong, when so Commission'd or inlisted; and that where it has happened or shall happen, that any non Commission'd Officers or Soldiers of those Corps shall not have gained a settlement in any part of the United States, they shall be Considered as belonging to the State in which they were or shall be Inlisted and credited, accordingly as part of the quota of such State.

That for the purpose of ascertaining the States to which the Officers & Soldiers now in the Corps aforesaid shall be deemed to belong, the Commander in Chief be Directed to cause returns to be made to him without delay, of the Names of all the officers, Non Commissioned Officers and Soldiers in the said Corps, and the States, Counties and Towns to which they belonged, or in which they were inlisted as aforesaid; which returns shall be Transmitted to the Board of War, who shall send to the respective states, lists of the Names & ranks of all officers and soldiers to be Credited to them as aforesaid: The like returns to be made afterwards once every three months of all officers Non Commission'd Officers & Soldiers who shall have Entered into those Corps after making the said first returns.

Extract from the minutes.

(Copy)

Cha. Thomson, Sec'y.

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[No. 3217.]

*Mrs. Allison Asks for a Pass to New York for Herself and Mrs. Halsted.*

Goshen September 12th, 1780.

Good S'r, I would beg to know whether ther is aney applications to your Excellency, that makes in favour of my getting to New York; and as it seems to be the prevailing opinyon of

the people here, that the Campaign against New York is over, for this Season, should be glad to go as soon as your Excellency can pave the way for my getting in, and Lt. Halsted's Wife, will be my company.

Your Excellency was pleased to tel me when I saw you last, that you expected to have a conference soon with General Washington, and that you would speak to him about the prisnors, should be much obliged to you, If you will let me know If there is any incorragement for them; your Answer much oblige your verry humbl s'r

Mary Allison.

His Excellency George Clinton, Esqr.

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[No. 3218.]

*Governor Clinton Vouches for Captain Wiley's Credit.*

Poukepsie 12th Sep'r 1780.

D'r Sir, The Bearer, Capt. Wiley, is returned from the Eastward without being able to effect any Thing towards obtaining Supplies for our Troops on Credit. He is now on his Way to the Treasury in hopes it may be in a better situation to answer his Draft than when he was last with you. He tells me that without knowing that it wo'd be necessary for him to go to Albany when he left Fishkill, he has omitted bringing the Certificates with him, & as it woud put him to Trouble and Inconveniency to return for them, I have advised him to proceed without them, being convinced, that you woud make no Difficulty of advancing him the full Sum mentioned in his Warrant, taking his separate Receipt for the Certificates, till he can return them to you, & I will readily do any thing which may be proper to justify it. I am, Sir, your most obed't Ser't

[G. C.]

[To State Treasurer.]

[No. 3219.]

*Colonel Van Schaick Reports the Men of His Regiment "in a Manner Naked"—Governor Clinton Meets the Proposition.*

Albany, September 12th, 1780.

Sir, His Excellency General Washington, has directed me to march my Regiment to the Grand Army immediately after they are relieved from Fort Schuyler, The want of Cloathing amongst the men is such that it requires my utmost Exertions to procure them, altho out of the Line of my Duty. I should not give your Excellency any trouble about this matter was it not that the men are in a manner naked, & that I apprehend on their arrival at Schenectady, great Desertions will take place if we have nothing to give them. There are a small Quantity of shirts & Linnen in the hands of Mr. John N: Bleecker, one of the Gentlemen directed by a late Law to collect Cloathing for the Continental Battallions of this State, & Mr. Bleecker informs me their is some more expected. I must intreat the favour of your Excellency to furnish the bearer, Lieut. Abraham Ten Eyck, Paymaster, with an order on Mr. Bleecker to deliver all the shirts & Linnen he may have in his hands, provided it does not exceed one shirt & a pair of Overalls pr man. As the Regiment has not received any kind of Cloathing since the first of December last. it is easily judged the Condition they must be in, Should your Excellency disapprove the measure, my attachment and zeal for the service, & in order as much as in me lays to prevent mutinys and Desertions, will I flatter myself sufficiently appologize for troubling your Excellency on this subject. I am most respectfully your Excellencies most obedient humble servant

G. V. Schaick.

His Excellency Governour Clinton.

Pokeepsie Sept. 14 1780.

D'r Sir, I have just rec'd a Letter from Colo. V. Schaick of the 12th Inst. in wh'ch he informs me that he has rec'd orders for his Regt. to join the army, that they are almost destitute of Cloathing, especially of Linnen, and if they are not supplied before they reach Albany, he much apprehends that it will be impossible to prevent a Number of them from Desertion. Under these Circumstances, he solicits you to issue an order in Favor of the Paymaster of the Regiment on John N. Blecker, Esqr., of Albany for the Shirts & Overalls or Linnen still rem'g in or which come to his Hands of the Gratuities in Alb'y & Tryon County, provided it does not exceed a shirt & overall pr man. If this can be done consistent with the Justice due to the other Regts. I will do it; you will, therefore, be pleased to furnish me with a Return of what they have respectively rec'd, that I may be enabled to ascertain what Quantity ought to be given to Colo. Van Schaick's Regt.

[G. C.]

[To General James Clinton. ?]

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18 Sept. 1780.

Sir, Agreeable to your Request you have enclosed an Order for the Cloth'g in the Hands of Jno. N. Bleecker for the use of your Regt. not to exceed one shirt & one overall pr man; this your Paymaster is to rec't for and you will please to forward me a Duplicate of the Rec't which I shall have Occasion for as a voucher.

[To Colonel Van Schaick. ?]

[No. 6434.]\*

*Colonel Pawling Ordered to the Command of Fort Schuyler.*

Pokeepsie, 12th Sept. 1780.

Dear Sir, I inclose you a Letter from Col. Malcolm calling upon you to take the command of Fort Schuyler. The present garrison of that post is by the Commander in Chief's orders to be relieved by the Levies raised for the defence of the Frontiers and those stationed in Albany, Tryon and Charlotte Counties will be taken for that Service. This renders it necessary that they should be commanded by an officer whose Continuance in Service will be equal with that of those Troops and are among the Reasons which I suppose have induced Coll. Malcolm to call upon you. I have wrote to Colo. Malcolm mentioning that I doubted the Propriety of removing you from your present Station, least it might render the Inhabitants uneasy, whose Confidence I am sensible you possess. I have, however, informed him that I should forward his Letter to you but at the same Time submit to your Discretion to send Major Dewitt on that Service if you shall judge it most proper. It will be necessary, therefore, that either yourself or the Major immediately repair to Albany. I have wrote to Colo. Malcolm mentioning the Propriety of detaching from the Troops with him a Company or two as a Reinforcement to the Guards on the Frontiers of Ulster and Orange. I am, D'r Sir, your most Obed't Serv't

Geo. Clinton.

Colo. Pawling.

[No. 3220.]

*Difficulty Between Colonel Malcom and Captain Lush.*

Albany, 13th Sept'r 1780.

Sir, I find some difficulty has arose betwixt Colonel Malcolm as commanding officer and Capt. Lush as my assistant. Your

\*From Volume XXIV, Clinton Mss.

Excellency will I doubt not remember it was not only originally my opinion that a jealousy would arise in the army we were to supply, from our not being amenable to their laws in case of a real or supposed neglect or misconduct, but that we might be made so, if your Excellency should be of the same opinion; lett me request you will represent to the Legislature the propriety of a clause being annexed to the law for that purpose. I am, most respectfully, your Excellency's most obed't and very humble Ser't

Udny Hay.

Governour Clinton.

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[No. 3221.]

*Another Letter to the Governor of an Importunate Character.*

Albany, 13 Sept'r 1780.

Sir, Upon my arrival here, I found an allmost total want of every supply necessary for the army; flour, however, will soon be obtained, at least the prospect is such as gives me reason to think so; but as to beef, without some much more coercive mode is adopted than what the law has yett pointed out, I am sure we shall not be able to furnish the necessary supply.

I this day saw a small drove of Cattle from Ulster County, which I imagine must have come from Judge Wyncoop; they were eight in number, not one of them really fit to kill, and two of them so poor they could scarce walk. I am far from intimating to your Excellency that this arises from any fault or neglect of the Judges; it is owing totally to the want of patriotism in the people; must, therefore, beg your Excellency would represent to the Legislature the necessity of empowering the Assessors not only to determine the weight each Creature shall be



(agreeable to a letter I formerly took the liberty of laying before you on the subject) but that the persons assessed shall be oblidge, under some certain Penalty, to deliver their quantity in such Cattle as by proper judges shall be deemed fit for the knife.

I sett off immediately for the New Hampshire grants, and upon my return shall go to the westward where I have already taken the best steps in my power to have the people sounded respecting making voluntary sales of their grain upon the security of the State.

I am sorry to be constantly troubling your Excellency upon subjects that must be so disagreeable to you, but find myself in self defence constrained to do so, and at same time am not without hopes that the Legislature will be able in some measure to remedy the defects I mention. I am w<sup>h</sup> the utmost respect,  
your Excellency's most obed't & very humble Ser't

Udny Hay.

Governour Clinton.

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[No. 3222.]

*Expenses Attending the Construction of a Blockhouse at Palmerton.*

Saraghtoga 13th September 1780.

Sir, The seventh of August last his Excellency General Schuyler wrote a Letter to the Inhabitants of Saraghtoga District directed to Derick Swart, George Palmer, Cornelius Van Veigheten & John McCrea requesting the sense of the People might be taken with respect to the necessity and propriety of erecting a Blockhouse at Palmertown, at the same time signified to us your Excellency's concurrence and approbation in the measure; the Inhabitants were immediately called together, who readily

agreed to have a house erected with all possible dispatch; the Plan of the house is twenty feet by thirty.

At this meeting of the District on the 10th of August, there was a Committee elected and appointed to superintend order and direct the Building of said house, viz. George Palmer, Esqr., Capt. Isaac Moss, Capt. Cornelius Van Den Bergh, Holtom Dunham & William Bradshaw, which was perfected under their care and direction; apprehensive the undertaking required haste and that it was necessary to have persons employed in this Business, that would use fecility and dispatch, induced the Inhabitants to fall into this measure, not doubting but it would meet with your Excellency's approbation, and as we apprehend all expences of this kind ought to be of a publick nature, more especially when the advantages arising are for the general security, we have ventured to inclose your Excellency an account of our disbursements and time employed, that they may be laid before the Legislature of the state for their approbation, and that such allowances may be made as shall [be] deemed equitable. We are, Sir, your most obedient Humble Servants

John McCrea; Cornelius Van Veghten; Dirck Swart; George Palmer; Isaac Moss.

To his Excellency George Clinton, Esqr.

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August 14th 1780.

The State of New York Dr.

George Palmer, Isaac Moss, Cornelius Van Debergh, William

Bradshaw & Holtom Dunham employed in all 36 Days

To 50 lb. best salt pork

To 50 lb. Flower

To 40 lb. Bread

- To 8 lb. Cheese &  $\frac{1}{2}$  B. Salt  
 To 5 quarts Rum  
 To 3 yolk of Oxen 5 Days to draw timber  
 To waggon & horses for three days  
 To Abel Mills with waggon & horses 2 days  
 To Evert V Debarrak 2 days for Do  
 To Abraham Truax 2 days Do.  
 To William Ross 2 days with 3 yolk oxen Do  
 To Colo. V Veighten 2 days with waggon & horses  
 To Abraham Wendell 2 days for Do  
 John Winne 2 days Do  
 Peter Becker 2 days Do  
 Evert Cluet 2 days Do  
 To 47 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. nails of Wm. Seaymore at 2/6 hard money  
 To 293 Inch Boards taken from the Publick  
 To 105 Inch  $\frac{1}{2}$  plank from Do  
 To a Broad ax Lost owner John Mahawney  
 To 1 narrow Do lost owner Evert Van Debarrack  
 To Capt. Asaph Putman 2 days waggon & horses.

The above services were done for the Publick at our request.  
 George Palmer; Isaac Moss; Holtum Dunham, Superintendents.

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[No. 3223.]

*Colonel Alexander Webster's Plea for John Williams and His  
 Willingness to Serve as a Subordinate.*

Black Creek, Sep'r 14th 1780.

D'r Governor, As I find it Impossable for me to act both in  
 the Civel and military Department, either at this Dificualt day  
 is enough for any one man—I am willing and do rejoyces in our  
 glorious Cause, but acting in more Capacities than is in my

power; with faithfulness to perform most be hurtfull to the public. I have been often Complaining that it was, out of my power to act, if it was not made easier for me, to remedy which the offecers and Soldiers in General have Signed a petition that your Excellency and to the Honourable Council of Appointment would reappoint Doctor John Williams, Collonel of the regiment. I shall have no Objection to serve as Lieut. Colo. as the Collo. is a man of Business and can make my duty Light; at presant, I must act from Colo. to Corporal or Nothing is done; it is easy to judge what Situation I am in and I am Certain you wuld take pity on me, were you to know the fatigues I undergo; and as the officers and Soldiers are universally for the appointment, I hope the request will be Complied with, Notwithstanding what hath passed; its Certain the Colo. remains a stanch friend, and altho in no Comission, yet he hath been ready to forward every Expedition and as he hath merited the good opinion of both officers and Solders I hope your Excellency will, with the Council of Appointment take the matter into a Serious Consideration, as the reappointment will probably not only tend to the welfare of this County but also to the State in General. I am, with great Esteem, your Excellency's very obed't and Humble Servant

Alex'r Webster.

To Governor Clinton.

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[No. 3224.]

*Governor Clinton's Reply to Colonel Paterson's Letter Regarding the Operations of the Tories.*

Pokeepsie, 16<sup>th</sup> Sept. 1780.

Gent, I have rec'd your Letter of the 11<sup>th</sup> Inst. request'g the appointment [of] Com'rs for the Purpose of discovering and

defeat'g the secret Designs of the Enemy in your County; before this can be done, there must be a short Law passed, author'g it, as the Number of Com'rs directed by our present Law is already complete, and as this will take some Time, I have thought it most advisable not to detain Mr. Smith, as I shall have an Opportunity of forward'g the Commission by Mr. Knoulton on his Return from Philadelphia or by some earlier safe Conveyance. I would beg Leave to observe that as Powers to be granted to the Com'rs will be extensive, it will be their Duty to be particularly prudent & careful, in putting them into Execution; and as Congress have recommended to this State, not to exert any authority over the Inhabitants of the Tract of Land commonly called the New Hampshire Grants who do not acknowledge the authority of this State until the Controversy relative to the same is settled. I am to request that those Comm'rs when appointed do not by any act contravene the above Resolution.

[G. C.]

[To Colonel Eleazer Paterson and others.]

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Sir, Mr. Smith the Bearer of this Letter, has with him some Copies of the Militia Law, by w'ch you will observe that every Man in the State is to be properly armed, accoutred & provided with ammunition. I need not mention how necessary it is, that this Part of the Law be pointedly complied with, as otherwise the Militia can be but of little Service, & I have the fullest Confidence that you and the Officers under your Command, will make use of every Means in your Power to have your Regiment equiped, displied & put in the best Order which the peculiar Situation will admit of. I am, Sir, your most Obed't Serv't

G. C.

[To Colonel Eleazer Paterson.]

[No. 3225.]

*Mrs. Allison Repeats Her Appeal.*

Goshen Sept'm 17th 1786.

Good S'r, When I saw you last, you was pleased to tel me that Mrs. Kittletass could not be permitted to go to New York. but if there was aney other person that I could think of that it would be likely that I could get in with, your Excellency would give your permission; now, S'r, I know of no person that I think would be more likely for me to pass with than Mrs. Elsworth, and as she is verry Desirous of going in on account of her neice who is in a poor State of helth, murst beg that your Excellency wil give your permission for her and Lt. Halsed's wife to go with me, and if your Excellency will be pleased to send it by the bearer Mr. Wisnor, you will oblige me much; if it should not lay in the Line of your office to give a flag, beg that your Excellency will Dirrect me where I murst apply.

If your Excellency should disapprove of Mrs. Elsworth going, beg that you will not mention to aney person that I have applied for her. Your compliance to this request will much oblige your very humbl, s'r,

Mary Allison.

His Excellency George Clinton, Esq.

[No. 3226.]

*Mathew Gocs. Jr., Henry and Daniel Van Schaick Committed to the Custody of Aaron Burr.*

By Jeremiah Van Renselaer, Mathew Visscher and Isaac D. Fonda, Esqrs. Commissioners appointed for detecting and defeating all Conspiracies which may be formed in this State against the Liberties of America.

To Coll. John Fisher.

Whereas in and by an Act of the Legislature of the State of New York, entitled "An Act more effectually to prevent the Mischiefs arising from the influence and Example of Persons of equivocal and suspected Characters in the said State" the Commissioners appointed for enquiring into detecting and defeating all Conspiracies which may be formed in this State against the Liberties of America or any three of them, were authorized and strictly charged and required to cause all such Persons of neutral and equivocal Characters in this State to come before them and to administer to the said Persons respectively the Oath of Allegiance to the State of New York in the said Act prescribed, and in Case of Refusal to remove the Persons refusing forthwith within the Enemies Lines, And, whereas, in Pursuance of the Directions of the said Act we did cause to come before us Henry Van Schaack, David Van Schaack and Mathew Goes, Jun'r, &c. and offered to administer to them respectively the said Oath which they severally refused to take; Whereupon the said Henry Van Schaack, David Van Schaack and Mathew Goes, Jun'r, &c. were respectively required to appear at the City Hall of the City of Albany on the ninth Instant, to be from thence removed within the Enemies Lines agreeable to the further Directions of the said Act, you the said John Fisher, are hereby authorized required and Commanded to take the said Henry Van Schaack, David Van Schaack and Mathew Goes, Jun'r, &c. into your Custody and them safely convey to Fishkill in Dutchess County and deliver them respectively to Lieut. Coll. Burr or to such other Persons as is or may be appointed by his Excellency the Commander in Chief of the Continental Forces, to superintend the Removal of such Per-

sons of equivocal and suspected Characters within the Enemies Lines, for which this shall be your sufficient Warrant. Given under our Hands and seals this Seventeenth Day of September in the year, 1780.

Jer. V. Rensselaer; Mat: Visscher; Isaac Fonda.

A true Copy from the Original.

Leon: Gansevoort, Jun'r, Sec'y.

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[No. 3227.]

*Returns of Gratuity Clothing for General Gansevoort's Brigade.*

Camp York Line, 18th Sept'r, 1780.

Sir, Yours of the 14th Instant was handed me by Mr. Ten Eyck, and agreeable to your order, Inclose you, Regimental returns of Cloathing received by them respectively. Also a return of the Cloathing received from each County, the distribution, and strength of each Regiment so as to enable your Excellency to make an equal distribution of what may be still on hand. I am, with great respect, your Excellency's most Obed't Serv't

Peter Gansevoort.

To His Excellency, Governor Clinton.

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Return of Cloathing Received from Lieut. Michal Connolly, for the use of the Fourth New York Regiment, a Gratuity from the Inhabitants of the State of New York.

Shirts	Yards Linnen	Overhalls	Jackets	Shoes	Stock'gs
108	150	39	1	1	1

Some of the Shirts were very bad & most of the Overhalls, the Linnen in small remnants.

Israel Smith, Capt. P. M. & Reg'l Clo'r  
4th New York Regt.

Camp Stenerapie Sept. 17th 1780.

Fred: Weissenfels, Lt. Colo. Command't.



Return of Gratutety Cloathing Issued to the Fifth New York Battalion.

5th New York Battalion	Shirts		Overalls		Yards of Linnin		Vests	Hoes	Shoes	Hatts
	Good	Bad	Good	Bad	Good	Bad				
Total	75	27	20	18	108	30	1	1	1	

Camp New York line, Near Hackensack, 7th September 1780.

Mich'l Connolly, Regt'l Cloathier 5th New York Battalion.

Henry Dodge, Capt. Lt. Com'd 5th N. York Batt'n.

A Return of Clothing Received for the 3rd New York Regiment as a Gratuity from the State Sept'r 16, 1780.

Shirts	Overalls	Yds. Linnen	Vests	Pairs of Stockings	Hatts
160	55	213	1	1	1

N. B. twenty Shirts fifteen pair of Overalls & Eighty Yards Linnen Bad Included in the above Return.

Ph: Conine, Capt. Lt. Paymaster & Cloth'r

3d New York Regt. P. T.

Ja. Rosekrans, Maj'r Comdt. 3d N. York Regt.

Camp, Sep'r 17th 1780.

Return of Shirts Overalls &c. Received for the 2d New York Regt. being a Gratuity from the State.

Shirts	Overalls	Yards of Linnen	Vests	Shoes	Hatts
80	29	108	1	1	1

J. Wright, Capt. Pay Master P. T. Robt. Cochran, Lt. Colonel.

Return of Colect'd Cloathing by way of Gratutety For the Use of the New York Brig'd. Camp. New York line Near Hackensack, 17th Sept. 1780.

As pr the Severall receipts to the Severall Counties.

Counties	Shirts	Overalls	Yds. Linnin	Vests	Hoes	Shoes	Hatts
Albany County	51	18	114½	4	4	3	1
Ulster do	182	80	114				
Dutches do	123	68	152				
Orange do	49	13	32				
Total	<u>405</u>	<u>179</u>	<u>412½</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>

Issued to the Severall Regts. as pr Rec't.

Strength of Non Commission'd & Priv's in the Different Regiments as pr returns.

Regiments	No.	Shirts	Overalls	Yards of Linnin	Vests	Hoes	Shoes	Hatts
2d Regt.	143	80	29	111	1	1	1	
3d do	314	160	55	213	1	1		1
4th do	213	108	39	150	1	1	1	
5th do	201	102	38	138	1	1	1	
Total	<u>871</u>	<u>450</u>	<u>161</u>	<u>612</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>

Mich'l Connolly, Lieut.

450	-161	-612	-4	-4	-3	-1
405	-179	-412½	-4	-4	-3	-1
The Surplus is from Poughkepsie	<u>45</u>	<u>200</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

The Reason the Overalls fell Short Patterns of Linnin was Retrun'd for Made Overalls.

[Nos. 3228-3229.]

*Colonel Jansen Reports to the Governor His Brush with Indians.*

Shawengunck Sept'r 18, 1780.

S'r, This is to acquaint your Excellency that the Savage Enimy have been at my house this Morning, took away a White woman and three Negro man, and firing has been heard throughout the Neighborhood; myself and Wife have Escaped after Defending the house for Some time, till the Enimy Dispersed, and remain in haste, your very Humble Sevant

Joh's Jansen, Jun'r.

To His Excellency George Clinton.

GOVERNOR CLINTON CONGRATULATES COLONEL JANSEN FOR HAVING ESCAPED THE ENEMY—ORDERS COLONEL NEWKIRK AND MAJOR CLARK FORWARD.

Pokeepsie Sep'r 18 1780.

Sir, I have rec'd your Letter of today and am happy to hear that you have escaped the Enemy. I have wrote to Major Clark

direct'g him to march that Part of his Regiment which lies on the River to your assistance, unless he shall have rec'd acc'ts in the Interim w'ch may render it unnecessary; and you have enclosed a Letter to Colo. Newkirk for the like Purpose w'ch you will forward to him if you shall conceive you have occasion for his aid. Colo. Pawling with his Levies, was at Never Kill this morn'g and if quickly acquainted with the Circumstances you mention, will have it in his Power to intercept the Enemy on their Return. Colo. Cantine is also dispatched to that Qu'r to put his Regt. in motion. I am &c.

[G. C.]

[To Colonel Jansen.]

—————

Sir, I have just rec'd a Letter from Colo. Joh's Jansen inform'g me that the Savages have attacked him in his own House and that Firing has since been heard in the Neighbourhood. I have, therefore, to request that you will march to repel the Enemy as many Men of your Regt. as you can immediately collect leav'g Orders for the Rem'r to follow you. I am &c.

[G. C.]

Lt. Colo. Newkirk.

—————

Sir, I have just rec'd acc'ts of a small Party of the Enemy have'g appear'd this morning at Colo. Johnson's and of Firing being since heard in the Neighbourhood. I have, therefore, to request that you will immediately march that Part of the Regt. lying in your vicinity to repel the Enemy, unless you shall have rec'd well authenticated acc'ts of their Departure. I am

[G. C.]

Major Clark.

[No. 3230-3231.]

## COLONEL HAY WRITES TWO LETTERS.

*One in Regard to His Brother, a Prisoner in Canada—The Other  
Difficulties in the Gathering of Supplies.*

Albany 18th Sept'r 1780.

Dr Sir, I have now such information as fully convinces me my Brother has been confined in Quebec Jail from the month of March, and remained in that situation in the month of June, without even the liberty of walking in the Prison yard, or a glimpse of probability that he would be soon relieved.

Mr. Robert Lewis near this place, one whom I have known for these many years, and for whose honour and Probity as a Citizen I dare vouch to your Excellency (though I will not venture to say as much for his political Character) is desirous to go to Canada to fetch his two Daughters, whose names and age you have inclosed; if he could be permitted I am confident it ought be in his power to effect an exchange for my Brother should you have no objection to the Person that may be proposed, at any rate he would undoubtedly be able to bring me the true state of his confinement, which would not only be some relief to my present anxiety, but might perhaps put it in my power by some means to procure his release; if you, my Dear Sir, have no objection to Mr. Lewis going with a flag, which I hear is to be sent next week, be so good as write him and enclose the passport directed to the care of Mr. James Caldwell, merchant in Albany.

Doctor Smith of this place, I hear has made application for liberty to retire with his family into Canada; perhaps he might be a proper subject to offer in exchange for my Brother, unless you have some Person, who by a longer confinement, or from

some other reason, you may think a more proper object to be exchanged for the Doctor.

I am conscious you will do all you can for me consistent with propriety and that impartiality from which I know it is needless for me to request you to deviate.

Your Excellency I am convinced will easily excuse this trouble upon being informed that in the present unfortunate and affectionate Brother, I have long experienced the kind and faithful friend, the agreeable & entertaining Companion, the good & beloved Citizen, and the firm and zealous Whig, though he well knew that in the latter of these Characters he much hurt his own private interest. I am, w<sup>h</sup> every sentiment of esteem & respect, D<sup>r</sup> Sir, your most obed<sup>t</sup> & very humble Ser<sup>t</sup>,

Udny Hay.

Governour Clinton.

P. S. I am informed there are near five hundred Women & Children at Saratoga barracks waiting for a passage into Canada, and allmost starving for want both of food & Cloathing.

Mary Crawford, 13 years of age Last May, Elizabeth Lewis, 12 years of age Last December, 7 years in Montreal the 12th Sep<sup>r</sup> Inst. A flag is going next week.

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#### THE SUPPLY QUESTION.

Stillwater 18 Sept<sup>r</sup> 1780.

Sir, I have been with the Gentlemen of the New Hampshire Grants at Bennington, who have desired me to meet them again next Friday at the same place, where they are to call a council for the purpose of giving me every assistance in their power, which I now apprehend will be but little, not from want of inclination, but want of ability to putt any of their acts in

execution; yett I think it my indispenfible duty in our present embarrasfled fituation to make the tryal & wait the event, fome good may, and no harm can poffibly arife therefrom.

I muft now acquaint your Excellency that the very fame practice, which was one principal caufe of the rapid depreciacion of our continental currency, is now as prevalent as ever, I mean public officers, or other perfonating that Character, exceeding the price ftipulated by Congress; for I have fuch evidence as convinces me of it being an indifputable fact that they are purchafing Cattle, not only to the eaftward, but even from this State and the New Hampshire Grants at forty eight fhillings lawfull per hundred, many of whom pay half the value in hard money; judge then, Sir, not only how very difagreeable the tenders we are permitted to make muft be to the people, but how improbable, nay allmoft impoffible it will be for us under this difadvantage to collect the Quota demanded of the State, and how much more to make any farther purchafes.

Your Excellency well knows how much the minds of the people of this State are already foured by the low price they have been allowed for allmoft every article they have furnifhed the public, in comparifon with that given at fame time in moft of the other States, and they are now drove allmoft to defperation by being led to believe we defign to play the fame game upon them again.

In the above difadvantages againft being enabled to answer the intention of my appointment, the affeffors in feveral places have affeffed many perfons who have no more of the article affeffed than what is fufficient to ferve their familys, and fome who have not one particle thereof but what they are obliged to purchafe: In fhort, Sir, both Cattle and wheat are

every day exported from this state to the eastward in such a degree as makes it evident, without an effectual stop is putt thereto, we cannot procure our Quota of the farmer, unless by buying from Engrossers in that quarter at perhaps double the price the Congress allows.

I find many of the people about this are possessed of certificates for articles sold and services rendered to the Public many months agoe, indeed some of them several years, for which they think there is not the least probability of receiving any adequate compensation, and have, therefore, the strongest prepossession against any certificates whatever: I am really much affraid the Garrison at Fort George as well as the other Posts in that vicinity will be evacuated from a want of beef to supply the Troops who occupy them.

I must again entreat your Excellency to lay before the Legislature the necessity of adopting some mode by which I can have immediately a sum of money equal to the contingent expences that must arise in furnishing our Quota.

Tight Casks ought immediately to be procured, for if a quantity of beef is not salted upon the borders of this River, the transportation of that article from the eastward will not only be atended with immense expence, but probably, as last year, with such difficulties and delays as to greatly endanger the very existence of the army left for the defence of this State in the winter.

I take the opportunity of the delay made at Bennington to go to Tryon County, where my best endeavours shall be used for procuring immediately a large quantity of wheat; for though from the many impediments and obstacles, I am constantly obliged to encounter, my spirits are much exhausted

and my hopes of success much diminished, yet it is my determined resolution to defy the tongue of slander and malevolence to say, I have not, as far as my abilities would permit, endeavoured to prosecute to effect the duties enjoined upon and expected from me. I have the Honour to be, with the utmost respect, your Excellency's most obed't & very humble Ser't,

Udny Hay.

Governour Clinton.

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[No. 3232.]

*Colonel Jansen in a Detailed Narrative Reports His Recent Encounter with Indians.*

Shawangunk Sept'r 19th 1780.

Sir, I hereby transmit you a more particular account of the mischief done by that party of Enemy who discovered themselves at my house yesterday morning Viz:

Two young women and an old man kill'd and scalp'd; one of the former, was first taken at my House and carried about half a mile from thence where she was found dead; and three negroe Slaves they took with them; two of whom belong'd to myself and one to my brother, Thomas; as soon as some men were Collected, a pursuit was made after them, for Six or Eight Miles along the Mountains toward Mamacatinge [Mamakating]; but supposing them to be some distance ahead and our men having been without provisions all that Day, and being not able to discover their tracts any longer; which obliged them to return without receiving any satisfaction from the miscreants. I have, however, some hopes that Col. Pawling will intercept them, as he had early Intelligence of their Rout.

This affair has so much alarmed the People that live near



the Mountains that they threaten to abandon their Homes unless they get a small Guard; and as I conceive their apprehensions far from being groundless, I have, therefore, thought it necessary to order out one Class from each of the five frontier Companies of my Regiment, which I propose to station with such of the Inhabitants as I conceive to be most exposed, until I shall obtain your Excellency's directions how further to conduct myself; hoping what I have done may meet with your Excellency's approbation; and I am with the greatest Deference and Esteem your Excellency's most humb'e Serv't

Johannis Jansen, Lieut. Colo.

To his Excellency George Clinton, Esqr. Governor.

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[No. 3233.]

PROVIDING SUPPLIES FOR THE ALLIES.

*Connecticut Appoints a Commission and Requests New York to Coöperate.*

Lebanon, Septem'r 19th 1780.

Sir, I am sure of your Excellency's and your Hon'ble Assembly's concurrence in opinion with me and the Executive Council of this State that the salvation of this Country depends, under God, essentially on keeping up and supporting the Continental Army. We are, in this, and other Eastern States, greatly alarmed lest a material failure of necessary supplies should happen on several accounts—more especially by reason of the large contracts which the officers of the Fleet and army of our Great Illustrious ally, now at Rhode Island, have thought it necessary to enter into with many persons to obtain provisions for their support—those Contractors being enabled to pay in hard money and Bills of Exchange on the Treasurer of War at

Paris, and even at considerably higher prices than Congress have limited, while our purchases must necessarily be made almost wholly with Bills of Credit—has thrown our Eastern purchasers for the army of the United States into very great embarrassments, and greatly impeded their business; whereby the army is reduced to great straits, as I am repeatedly informed by letters from His Excellency General Washington, and I see no prospect of an alteration for the better, unless some Governmental measures are adopted speedily for supplying the army of our allies in some way not interfering with the means of procuring our own.

The State of Massachusetts seriously affected with the same considerations, have sent a Committee to confer with the General Officers &c. of the French Fleet and army on this subject. These gentlemen appear to be fully sensible of the difficulties and embarrassments represented to them, and perfectly ready to coincide in any measure which may be consistently adopted for supplying their army in a mode equally beneficial to our own and offer to give up their Contracts with individuals, provided they will consent & receive their supplies at the hands of the States &c.

It appears to us a matter of so great consequence that we cannot rest easy without attempting something to extricate us out of an embarrassment which seriously threatens the starving our army.

The Governor and Council of this State have, therefore, this day appointed and fully empowered three Gentlemen as Commissioners from this State to meet with Commissioners from the other New England and your States, if they shall see cause to join them, at Newport (Copy of which appointment is

enclosed) to confer and conclude upon such measure as they may judge expedient to obtain and furnish necessary supplies for both armies in a way consistent, and mutually beneficial.

20th. I expected before closing this to have been informed from Boston of the measures adopted by that State, and of a day proposed by them for such Convention, but my Express is just returned and informs that their Assembly had the matter under consideration, but not having closed any thing, thought not proper to detain him, and that the President will give me immediate information of ther result, which I shall without delay communicate to you, and in the mean time could wish to be informed of your sentiments respecting a measure of the kind. Should you think proper to appoint Commissioners for the purpose, beg leave to propose your so early attention to the subject, that no delay may happen beyond the time which may be proposed. I am, with Esteem & Consideration, Sir, Your most Obedient H'ble Servant

Jonth. Trumbull.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

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At a meeting of the Gov'r and Council of Safety at Lebanon upon the 19th Day of Sep'r A. D. 1780.

Whereas, it is highly necessary that the Provisions furnished from this State to [the] French Fleet & Army at New Port should be made by the same persons and procured upon Principles consistant with the Regulations of this State and the mode of Supplying the American army which necessary object cannot be obtained unless the Supplies afores'd be put under one direction agreeable to the genius of the Laws of this State. And, whereas, it is probable that Commissioners will be

appointed by the States of New Hampshire, Massachusetts Bay and Rhode Island and Providence Plantations to confer and agree with the proper officers of s'd French Fleet and Army with regard to the most proper mode to be adopted for furnishing them with the Supplies aforesaid, and also what further Expedients might be proper to adopt to render the Supplies for the American Army more regular certain and adequate.

It is, thereupon, Resolved, that the Hon'ble Oliver Wolcott, William Williams and Jeremiah Wadsworth, Esqrs. be and they are hereby appointed Commissioners in behalf of this State to confer with any Commissioners which are or shall be appointed by any of the United States in regard to furnishing the Supplies aforesaid. And the s'd Commissioners appointed by this act, or the major part of them, are hereby authorized and impowered in behalf of this State to stipulate and engage, if they shall judge expedient, with the proper Officers of the said French Fleet and army to supply them with such specific kinds & quantities of Provisions & other necessaries as shall be wanted for their Consumption upon such terms as shall be reasonable & perfectly consistent, in their opinion, with rendering certain & adequate the supplies wanted for the use of the American Army. And said Commissioners are hereby directed to report, as soon as it can be done, the Subject, Progress & Result of such Conferences as aforesaid, and of any Stipulations or Engagements which they shall enter into in behalf of this State for furnishing the Supplies aforesaid, and of whatever Difficulties and Obstructions they shall find attending the perfecting any Stipulations or Engagements which they shall judge expedient for this State to make that the same may be removed, and to report their Opinion (on conferring & deliberating upon the subject aforesaid)

what further measures they shall judge expedient to be adopted more effectually to provide for the American Army and the said Fleet & army of his most Christian Majesty.

A true Copy of Record Examined by

Joseph P. Cooke, Clerk.

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[No. 3234.]

*Dr. John Williams Strongly Recommended for a Colonelcy.*

White Creek, Sept. ye 19th 1780.

Hon'rd Sir, Its with great concern that I view the Broken and Destitute Stat of this Regiment and the more so by reason of our being in the fronteers and are daley threatened with an Invasion of the Enemy. I am sorey to Inform you that Collo. Webster's usefulness as a Colonel is no more, and some of the Officers have declined acting, till better Regulations takes place, so that scarce any orders can be caried into Execution. In short I dread, the Consequence should the Enemy come down as we expect we should be in the utmost confusion. The Leading men here have this mater at heart in such measure that they have spent several days in consulting what was best to be don, and have Concluded to send a Petition for the Reappointment of Doct'r John Williams; should this take place I hope things will be in a better Regulation, if not I dread the Consequence; the Peoples being so unanimous & earnest about the apointment I hope will be a means of geting the Regiment into a proper Regulation; the sooner which I can asure you will be atended with no litle trouble, I could mention a great deal more on the Subject was it not for Troubling your Excelency; however you will Preceive that we are all in Confusion and could wish the Appointment could take Place Imediety, I should not urge

but the Berer can Inform you the Reason, Collo. Webster is an Honest well meaning man but he is much better Calculated for the civil departmen than the Melitery; and some other officers. I mak no doubt, is as much to blame as the Collo. as I am knowing to scouts being ordred out and the orders not Complied with. The devision amongst the Officers is so great that unless the appointment or some other measure, adopted there can be nothing done in the Regiment. I remain, with greatest Respect and Esteem your Humbl Serv't,

Joseph McCracken.

Governor Clinton.

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[No. 3235.]

(See document 3254; pages 278–281.)

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[No. 3236.]

*Colonel Pawling Ordered to Fort Schuyler.*

Pokeepsie, 21st Sep'r 1780.

Dear Sir, Since I wrote you last,\* I have received severa<sup>E</sup> Letters from Colo. Malcom in all which he repeats in the strongest Terms the Necessity of your taking the Command of the Troops destined to relieve the present Garrison of Fort Schuyler. I proposed to him as I mentioned to you, Major DeWitt for his Service, but he informs me that this woud occasion new & insurmountable Embarassments on the Score of Rank. This being the Case, I must tho reluctantly consent to your taking that Command & you will accordingly on the Receipt of this Letter repair with the least possible Delay to

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\* See page 225.

Colo. Malcom, prepared for this Service, leaving your present Command to Major DeWitt. Malcom, on your arival at Schenectady, will order a Company as a Reinforcement to the Troops on the Frontiers of Ulster & Orange Counties. I am  
 G. C.  
 Lieut. Colo. Pawling.

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[No. 3237.]

*Lieutenant Colonel Newkirk's Vain Pursuit of the Party that Attacked Colonel Jansen.*

D'r Sir, In consequence of your Excellency's orders, dated the 18th Sept'r I marched, immediately in person with two companies, to where the road crosses the mountain to Nepo-neck, and beginning there, ranged the mountain along untill I met Major Philips, who I had ordered out with two companies to range the mountain, from Minisink road untill I should meet with him about midway between the respective formentioned roads. We made all possible search, but could make no discovery of any enemy. It is my opinion and the opinion of the most sensible in these parts, that the perpetrators of the barbarity at Coll. Johnston's were Tories and not Indians.

Your Excellency will easily perceive the propriety of my not calling out the whole Regiment, when I inform you, that Coll. Johnston was returned home with his whole Regt. after having searched, and he pursued for the enemy to no purpose before I received your Excellency's orders. Sir, I have the honor to be your Excellency's most obedient and very Hum. Ser't

Jacob Newkirk.

Hanover Sept'r 23 1780.

His Excellency George Clinton, Esqr.

[No. 3238.]

*Colonel Van Cortlandt Suggests a Way for the Officers to Procure Clothing—The Governor Unable to Help.*

Infantry Camp Septemb'r 25, 1780.

Dear Sir, The Officers of the New York Line, who are with my Regiment of Infantry, have an Opportunity of Furnishing themselves with a suit of Cloathes, at a very reasonable rate provided they can pay for them in hard Cash, the Marquis de la Fayette having contracted with a French merchant to furnish the Officers of his Division at or nearly the prime Cost in France, which will amount to four Guineas & some odd shillings pr Suit. As the Officers cannot at present raise so much, they have desired me to write to your Excellency, requesting your assistance, in such a manner, as may be most Expedient, either to be furnished from the Treasury, & Charged to the account of each Officer, or perhaps some Gentleman may be willing to lend the money, or I will obligate myself to see the money replaced to any Gentleman who will advance fifty five Guineas, which is the sum that will be wanted for Thirteen Officers serving in the Infantry, belonging to the State, to be paid either in like specie or the value thereof in Bills of Credit, by the first day of December next, or sooner if possible. Capt. Dubois will receive the money and give a Receipt.

I beg your Excellency will Excuse the Trouble we shall give you—the necessity of the Officers, & no other way of immediately relieving it, I hope will be a sufficient apology. I have the Honor to be your Excellency's most obedient & very Humble Servant

Philip Cortlandt.

His Excellency George Clinton.



D'r Sir, I have received your Letter of the 6th Ultimo & it gives me great Pain to be obliged to inform you that it is utterly out of my Power to comply with your Request. There is not one Farthing of Specie in the Treasury & my own small Resources have long since been exhausted by Disbursements, which from Time to Time I made to our Officers who are Prisoners with the Enemy. I detained the Bearer, Capt. DuBois, in hopes of being able to borrow or Purchase the small sum you ask for; but tho in this I have had the Assistance of the Lieut. Gov'r, who has taken much Trouble, I have not been able as yet to succeed. Be assured it will make me happy to serve you & the Gentlemen of your Corps. I am, with great Esteem &c.

[G. C.]

[To Colonel Philip Cortlandt.]

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 [No. 3239.]
*The Governor Engages in a Land Transaction.*

Albany, 18 Sept'r 1780.

Sir, The Inclosed was Delivered to me this day, By Mrs. Van Wie, which her Husband had left home thro Neglect the latter part of August. I am, with Great respect your Excellencies Most Obed't Serv't

Jno. F. Pruyn.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

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 Albany 28th August 1780.

D'r Sir, Agreeable to my promise when I had the pleasure of seeing your Excellency Last at my house, I have made it my Business to inform my Self about the Quality of the Lands which was to be sold at vandue, and I have bought for your Excellency on third part of the Lotts No. 3, 11, 14 & 49 Contain-

ing 1049 acres, for the sum of £40,800, on the 16th Inst. which is a very great Bargain; the Lands on a average is worth three pounds in Species; your  $\frac{1}{3}$  part will be 349 acres 2 roods & 26 perches for £13,600; for the Particulars, I refer you to Holt's paper of the 24th July, 1780; the Lotts was struck off to Colo. Lewis & Maj'r Reed. I have their promise for the  $\frac{1}{3}$  part. With great respect, I am your Excellency's most Obedient & Humb: Serv't

P. Van Rensselaer.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

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Pokeepsie 29th Sep'r 1780.

Dear Sir, Your Favor of the 10th Ultimo did not reach me before this Day. It came inclosed in one from Jno. F. Pruyn informing me that he had received it from Mrs. Van Wye, whose Husband had left it at Home thro' neglect. I am extreemly obliged to you for the attention you have paid to my Business, & am well satisfied with the Purchase you have made. As a much greater Sum is due to me from the State than my Proportion of the Consideration Money had I been happy enough to have received your Letter before the Treasurer left this I would have passed my Receipt to him for the Ammount, which I presume would have answered the Purpose & saved the Trouble & Risque of Conveying it to Albany. But as this was not the Case, I will endeavour to negotiate this Part of the Business through Mr. Tayler on his Return, which will be the most convenient Opportunity & put you in a Situation to receive a Title for the additional Trouble I must ask you to take upon yourself. I am &c.

[G. C.]

Mr. Tayler will return the first of next Week; if the Money should be wanted at an Earlier Day I will forward it immediately on hearing from you.

[To P. Van Rensselaer.]

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Poukeepsie, 26th Sep'r 1780.

Dear Sir, As Genl. Schuyler by whom I wrote you yesterday does not set out for Albany as early this Morning as he expected I have found a Moment's Leisure to inclose an Order in your Favour on the Treasurer for £340 of the New Emission Coin, equal to £13,600 my Proportion of the Purchase Money which I doubt not on being presented to him will be duely Honored. I am, with great Regard Your Most Obed't Serv't

Geo. Clinton.

Philip Van Renselaer, Esqr.

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Poukeepsie 26th Sep'r 1780.

D'r Sir, As I have occassion to pay to Mr. Philip Van Renselaer thirteen thousand Six hundred Pounds equal to £340 of the new Emission, I take the Liberty of requesting you to advance him that Sum & charge it towards my last year's Salary, for which on being advised I will transmit you my Receipt. As this Sum is wanted to make a Payment to the Treasury by Mr. Van Renselaer, my Receipt for the Money due to me I presume will be equal to Cash & it will save me the Trouble & Risque of transmitting it to Albany. I am, D'r Sir, Your Most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

[To State Treasurer.]

[No. 3240.]

*John Morin Scott Writes of the Vermont Controversy and the Hard Times.*

Philadelphia, 26th Sep'r 1780.

Sir, I sit down not to give you any agreeable Information, but meerly to give you my Opinion concerning the Event of the Controversy about the Grants if we push it to a determination. It is in short this: I believe we may carry it by the Majority of a single State. New Hampshire now represented by General Sullivan alone seems too favorable to the people of the Grants; and countenances an Idea too prevalent in Congress, that the dispute between New Hampshire and New York should be first settled by a Court of Commissioners constituted agreeably to the Articles of Confederation. The End in View is evident. It is to create delay & thereby to discourage the Subjects or our State & strengthen the Vermontees. We have, however, gone thro' the Evidence on our part, a portion of which from Mr. McKesson came just at the nick of Time. In short I am at a Loss what is best to be done. If we push for a determination we may gain it by a bare Majority; and even this depends upon the prospects we have of New-Jersey. Mr. Duane is of opinion that Maryland will be with us. I differ with him. In short it seems to be the System of the smaller States to compel the larger (the western Bounds of which are undefined) to large Cessions. This they expect to effect by embarrassing us with respect to the settled parts of the Country. General Sullivan is sick, which has suspended the Business for a few days; & I have been so much indisposed myself by a small fever hanging about me that I have not attended Congress for three or four days past. I am of Opinion the sooner we press the Matter to

its Crisis the better; For I fear the Interest ag't us is growing. Not that I imagine a Majority will expressly decide ag't us, but that it may eventually be done by procrastination.

Every account we receive from the Southward convinces us that our Troops, notwithstanding their General defeat are [\*]ing the Enemy in detail; as to News from the Eastward you are so much nearer the Source of Intelligence that you must be better informed than we are. Yesterday a Report came from Camp that the second division of the French fleet was arrived at Rhode Island, & that our army was in Motion.

I am sorry to be obliged, Sir, to tell you that the want of money will soon Occasion the State of New York to be unrepresented. Its delegates can bear their disgraceful Situation but a few days longer. To be absolutely without Money in a place so expensive as this, is intollerable. Mr. Livingston has been obliged to borrow £2000 on his private Credit to discharge his Board & defray his Expences home; and would have set off this day, had I not dissuaded him from it. I owe about £4000 for Board & have not a farthing to pay it with. Mr. Duane talks of returning home in a few days & so must I, if we do not get immediate Relief; & to get away I must endeavor to procure a Loan on my private Credit. How mortifying this will be to us & disgraceful to the State, as the Cause cannot be concealed. You, Sir, can easily judge. I am, Sir, with the greatest Respect Your Excellency's most obedient Serv't

Jno. Morin Scott.

P. S. Should it be asked as to the 30,000 dollars expended I can answer that of the whole——\* fell into my hands. Mr. Livingston had 12,000; at that Time I owed

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\*Indecipherable.

near 15.000 for Board which I paid, 900 for Major Hunt & sundry advances for General Schuyler on a warr't for 10,000 dollars of which I have not yet been able to get more than one half. From this my poverty may be judged of. To shew that a large nominal Sum is of little real value here, our Board of £4 hard per week and only water to drink. Exchange 75 for one. Add to this, Barber, washerwoman & a little necessary Liquor, in a very sickly place and then judge of the Expence. In Short I am very sorry for my Reappointment; For I would not wish to incur the Suspicion of extravagance.

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#### ARNOLD'S TREASON DISCOVERED.

*Washington Conveys the Intelligence to Governor Clinton.*

\*Head Quarters; Robinsons Sep'r 26th 1780.

Dear Sir, I arrived here yesterday on my return from an interview with the French General and Admiral and have been

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\*From Dawson's Historical Magazine.

To the president of Congress, Washington reported Arnold's treason in these words:

"Robinson's House, in the Highlands, 26 September, 1780.

Sir, I have the honor to inform Congress, that I arrived here yesterday, about twelve o'clock, on my return from Hartford. Some hours previous to my arrival, Major-General Arnold went from his quarters, which were at this place; and, as it was supposed over the river to the garrison at West Point; whither I proceeded myself in order to visit the post. I found General Arnold had not been there during the day, and on my return to his quarters he was still absent. In the mean time a packet had arrived from Lieutenant-Colonel Jameson, announcing the capture of a John Anderson, who was endeavoring to go to New York, with the several interesting and important papers, mentioned below, all in the handwriting of General Arnold.\* This was also accompanied with a letter from the prisoner, avowing himself to be Major John André, adjutant-general of the British army, relating the manner of his capture, and endeavoring to show that he did not come under the description of a spy. From these several circumstances, and information that the General seemed to be thrown into some degree of agitation on receiving a letter, a little time before he went down from his quarters, I was led to conclude immediately, that he had heard of Major André's captivity, and that he would if possible escape to the enemy; and accordingly took such measures, as appeared the most probable, to apprehend him. But he had embarked in a barge, and proceeded down the river under a flag to the Vulture ship-of-war, which lay at some miles below Stony and Verplanck's Points. He wrote me after he got on board, a letter, of which the enclosed is a copy.

Major André is not arrived yet, but I hope he is secure, and that he will be here to-day. I have been and am taking precautions, which I trust will prove effectual, to

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\*The papers contained in André's boots, copies of which were sent to Congress.

witness to a scene of treason as shocking as it was unexpected—General Arnold from every circumstance had entered

prevent the important consequences, which this conduct on the part of General Arnold was intended to produce. I do not know the party, that took Major André, but it is said that it consisted only of a few militia, who acted in such a manner, upon the occasion as does them the highest honor, and proves them to be men of great virtue. They were offered, I am informed, a large sum of money for his release, and as many goods as they would demand, but without any effect. Their conduct gives them a just claim to the thanks of their country, and I also hope they will be otherwise rewarded. As soon as I know their names, I shall take pleasure in transmitting them to Congress. I have taken such measures, with respect to the Gentlemen of General Arnold's family, as prudence dictated; but, from every thing that has hitherto come to my knowledge, I have the greatest reason to believe they are perfectly innocent. I early secured Joshua Smith, the person mentioned in the close of General Arnold's letter, and find him to have had a considerable share in this business. I have the honor to be, &c. \* \* \*

The same day, Washington wrote to Rochambeau as follows:

"On my arrival here a very disagreeable scene unfolded itself. By lucky accident, a conspiracy of the most dangerous nature, the object of which was to sacrifice this post, has been detected. General Arnold, who has sullied his former glory by the blackest treason, has escaped to the enemy. This is an event that occasions me equal regret and mortification; but traitors are the growth of every country, and in a revolution of the present nature, it is more to be wondered at, that the catalogue is so small, than that there have been found a few. The situation of the army at this time will make General Heath's presence with us useful. I have written to him for this purpose. I hope his removal will be attended with no inconvenience to your Excellency."

#### INTERESTING LETTERS FROM MAJOR TALLMADGE CONCERNING THE CAPTURE AND EXECUTION OF MAJOR ANDRE.

The following correspondence between Josiah Quincy, Jared Sparks and Benjamin Tallmadge, taken from Tallmadge's manuscripts, throws a great deal of light upon the Andre-Arnold episode:

JOSIAH QUINCY TO TALLMADGE.

Cambridge, 12 Nov., 1833.

Dear Sir, The accompanying letter has been transmitted to me by my friend Mr. Sparks, with a request that I would cooperate in ye request it contains. This I do most cordially and sincerely. I am sure you will readily aid ye labors of one who is throwing so much light upon the heroes and events of ye American Revolution—among the former of which you hold so high a rank, and to the glory of ye latter, to which you so largely contributed.

And now, my dear friend, let me recall to your recollection the many pleasant evenings passed in your society some twenty six or twenty seven years ago, when issuing from adjoining rooms, we alternately associated together and beguiled the weariness of Congressional apathy and vanity—you in telling, and I in hearing with delight of ye dangers, the sufferings and deeds of the times when, in comparison with our days, there were Giants in the land presiding its destinies. Remember what I then said to you, and which I now repeat. If you have kept a Journal of those times, if you do not choose to publish it during life, at least leave it in a state to do you justice after your decease. If you have kept none—set about at once recalling the faded reminiscences of your own hasards, of ye sloop of war you captured, of ye Fort on Long Island which you surprised, and for which Congress voted you a sword—which they had never the grace to give—of ye battle at Germantown, and ye many interviews you enjoyed with General Washington, when he used your fearless patriotism, as it was one of ye most faithful and active in the field, & on which he could rely as on the best—Heaven has spared your life and your memory—Why should you not put what remain to its best use, that of gratifying your friends, and being to yourself & your country true in your last days by your pen, as you were in your earlier by your sword? Very truly & respectfully Ye friend & obt. Sev.

Josiah Quincy

To the Honbl. Benj'n Tallmadge, Litchfield, Connecticut.

into a plot for sacrificing West Point. He had an interview with Major Andre the British Adjutant General last Week at

## SPARKS TO TALLMADGE.

Cambridge, Masstts. Nov. 12th, 1833.

Sir, Being engaged in preparing Genl. Washington's writings for the press, I have been recently investigating the subject of Arnold's Treason. As you were personally acquainted with many particulars which occurred after the Capture of Andre, I am induced to take the liberty of writing to you this letter for a little more light on two or three points. You know it has been thought very extraordinary that Colo. Jameson with the papers in his hands, which were taken from Andre's boots, and which were in the handwriting of Arnold, should have sent intelligence of this fact to Arnold himself.

In a letter from Colo. Jameson to Washington, dated Sept. 27th, I find the following passage. "I am very sorry that I wrote to Genl. Arnold; I did not think of a British ship being up the River, and expected that if he was the man he has since turned out to be, that he would come down to the troops in this quarter, in which case I should have secured him. I mentioned my intention to Major Tallmadge and some other of the field officers, all of whom were clearly of the opinion that it would be right, until I could hear from your Excellency."

By this extract it appears that you were present at North Castle when Andre was brought in; and it would also seem that you were acquainted with Col. Jameson's reasons for the course he pursued. If you will explain to me these reasons in detail, & the facts connected with them, I shall be greatly obliged to you.

Again, the Letter written by Jameson, dated Sep. 23rd, did not reach Arnold till the 25th. Can you tell me what caused the delay?

I find by a copy of Jameson's letter to Arnold, and of another to Lieut. Allen, who was Andre's guard after he was sent from North Castle, that Andre was first ordered to Arnold's Head Quarters, but that the order was countermanded while Andre was on his way, & he was sent to Col. Heldon [Sheldon] at Old Salem. Do you recollect the reason why Col. Jameson altered his mind and countermanded the order for sending Andre immediately to Hd. Quarters?

I trust you will excuse the freedom I have taken in making these inquiries, and accept the assurances of the high respect & consideration of, Your Most Obt. St,

Jared Sparks.

Hon. Ben. Tallmadge.

## TALLMADGE TO SPARKS.

Litchfield, Conn., Nov. 16th, 1833.

Sir, Your favor of the 12th instant came to hand by the last Mail. I notice your request, & presume I cannot more effectually comply with it than by furnishing an abstract from my memoranda of some of the Events of the Revolutionary War, *quorum pars fui*. No Circumstances during that eventful period made a deeper Impression on my mind than those which related to Arnold, the Traitor, & Major Andre, the Sufferer. I proceed then to remark that the 2d Regt. of Light Dragoons, Commanded by Col. Sheldon, was stationed in advance of the Army, near North Castle, & Col. Sheldon being absent. I think at Salem. Lt. Col. Jameson was the Commanding officer, and I was the Major. Early in the morning of the 23d of Sept., 1780, I marched with a large Detachment of Dragoons to reconnoitre the Country below the White Plains, down to East Chester, which was a sort of neutral Ground, from which Tour I did not return until late in the Evening of the same day. Soon after I halted, & had disposed of my Detachment, I was informed that a prisoner had been bro't in that day, who called himself John Anderson. On inquiry, I found that three Men, by the names of John Paulding, David Williams & Isaac Van Wart, who had passed below our ordinary military Patrols on the road from Tarry Town to Kingsbridge, had fallen in with this John Anderson on his way to New York. They took him aside for Examination, and discovering sundry papers upon him, which he had concealed in his boots, they determined to detain him as a Prisoner. Notwithstanding Anderson's offers of pecuniary satisfaction if they would permit him to proceed on his Course, they determined to bring him up to the Head Qrs. of our Regt. then on the advance Post of our Army, and near to



Jos. Smith's when the pian was concerted; by an extraordinary concurrence of incidents, Andre was taken on his return with

North Castle. This they effected in the forenoon of the 23rd of Sept. 1780, by delivering said Anderson to Lt. Col. Jameson of the 2nd Regt. Lt. Dragoons, who was then the Commanding Officer at said Post, Col. Sheldon being then at Old Salem, I believe under Arrest.

His Excellency Gen. Washington had made an appointment to meet the Count Rochambeau (who commanded the French Army then at Newport, R. I.) at Hartford, in Conn., about the 18th or 20th of September, and was on his return to the Army at the time of Anderson's capture. When I reached Lt. Col. Jameson's Qrs. late in the Evening of the 23d of Sept., and had learned the Circumstances relating to the Capture of s'd Anderson, I was much surprised to learn that he was sent on by Lt. Col. Jameson to Arnold's Head Qrs. at West Point, accompanied by a Letter of Information respecting his Capture. At the same time he despatched an Express with the papers found on John Anderson to meet Gen. Washington, then on his return to West Point.

I felt very much surprised at the Course which had been taken in this business, & did not fail to state the glaring Inconsistency of their Conduct to Lt. Col. Jameson in a private and most friendly manner. He appeared greatly agitated, more especially when I suggested to him a plan which I wished to pursue, offering to take the entire responsibility on myself, & which, as he deemed it too perilous to permit, I will not further disclose. Failing in this purpose, I instantly set about a plan to remand the Prisoner to our Qrs. again, which I finally effected, altho' with reluctance on the part of Lt. Col. Jameson. When the order was about to be despatched to the Officer to bring back the Prisoner, strange as it may seem, Lt. Col. J——n would persist in his purpose of sending his letter to Gen. Arnold—The Letter did go on, & was the first Information that Arch Traitor rec'd that his plot was blown up. The Officer returned with his Prisoner early the next morning. As soon as I saw Anderson, & especially after I saw him walk across the floor (which he did almost constantly), I became impressed with the belief that he had been bred to arms. I communicated my suspicion to Lt. Col. J——n, & requested him to notice his Gait, & especially when he turned on his heel to retrace his Course across the room. We soon concluded that the safest Course was to take the Prisoner to Salem to Col. Sheldon's Qrs, & I was appointed to take Charge of him. After we reached Salem, it was manifest that his Agitation & Anxiety greatly increased, & in the afternoon he asked to be furnished with pen, ink & paper, which were readily furnished, when he penned the Letter to Gen. Washington, dated "Salem, 24th September, 1780," which is recorded in most of the Histories of that eventful period. In this Letter he disclosed his Character to be "Major John Andre, Adjutant Genl. to the British Army." When I had perused the Letter, which he handed to me to read, my Agitation was extreme, & my Emotions wholly indescribable.

The papers found in Major Andre's boots did not reach Gen'l Washington until he had arrived at West Point on the 25th, nor did Jameson's letter reach Arnold until the morning of that day, & that too after two of Gen'l Washington's Aids had reached his house. While they were taking breakfast the Letter was delivered to Arnold, who knowing that the Commander in Chief would soon be there, rose hastily from his table, & proceeded with all possible Dispatch down to his barge, & directed his Men to row him down the river, carrying a white flag in his hand, until they reached the Vulture Sloop of War, then lying in Tappan Bay, a little below Kings Ferry. This was the same Vessel that bro't up Major Andre from New York. Soon after Arnold's flight Gen'l W——n arrived, but the vile traitor had escaped.

I very soon rec'd an order to bring Andre on to West Point, under a strong escort of Cavalry; & the next day I proceeded down the Hudson to King's Ferry and landed at Haverstraw, where a large detachment of Dragoons had been sent from the main Army at Tappan, with which I escorted the Prisoner to Head Qrs.—After our arrival at Tappan, I reported the fact to Gen'l Washington, who ordered a Court—consisting of 14 Gen'l officers, to sit & hear the Case of Major Andre & report their opinion of his Case.

On the 29th of Sept'r Gen'l Greene the President of the Court reported to the Commander in Chief that they had come to the Conclusion "that Major Andre, Adjutant Gen'l to the British Army, ought to be considered as a Spy from the Enemy, & that agreeably to the Law & usage of nations, it is their opinion he ought to suffer death."

Without further Comment on the measures pursued by the Enemy to obtain his

several papers in Arnold's handwriting that proved the treason. The latter unluckily got notice of it before I did—went immedi-

release, I will only remark that on the 2d of October he was executed. I walked with him to the place of execution, and parted with him under the gallows, entirely overwhelmed with Grief, that so gallant an officer, & so accomplished a Gentleman should come to such an ignominious End.

I have taken a large sheet to make it a single letter & hope these few particulars may answer your purpose. I must add a few lines to my much respected friend President Quincy, & am very truly Your most obedt. Servt.

Benj. Tallmadge.

Jared Sparks, Esqr.

TALLMADGE TO QUINCY.

Litchfield, Nov. 18th 1833.

My much valued & respected friend, I have been much gratified & delighted by the addition made by you to Mr. Sparks' Letter. I take the liberty to reply in the same way. The reminiscences of our bygone years when we endeavored to serve our Country, at Washington, sometimes serve to amuse & to beguile a long winter's Evening & often do I recollect our pleasant Interviews. But alas how changed is the present political Arena! I can hardly conceive of any inducement that could lead me again into public life. Adieu to it, forever.

I notice your remarks respecting the Events of my military life in the revolutionary War & have only to remark that to gratify my Children, I have noted by way of memoranda some occurrences which passed under my own Eye. The difficulty which most perplexed me, has been a natural tendency to run into history, which I wished to avoid.

Again by confining the narrative to my own deeds & observations, Egotism seemed to be too prominent & that I despise. The few remarks furnished for Mr. Sparks (tho' somewhat abridged) will afford you a specimen. Adieu, my dear Quincy, & believe me with unwavering affection & great Respect, Your most obedt. Servt.

Benj. Tallmadge.

Josiah Quincy, [Cambridge, Mass.]

SPARKS TO TALLMADGE.

Cambridge, Feby. 6th, 1834.

Dear Sir, I have had the pleasure to receive your very interesting letter, which you had the goodness to write in reply to my inquiries respecting Arnold's Treason. As I have obtained many original papers on that subject, both in the public offices in England, and in this country, especially the papers presenting the trials of Andre, & Joshua Smith, with full written testimonials of many persons taken down at the time—I say as I have so many materials in my hands, I am about preparing a Life of Arnold giving a detailed account of his treason. I hope you will excuse me, therefore, for asking you many questions, which might otherwise seem insignificant or unnecessary. I wish to be as accurate as possible in my statements, & at the same time to include every important or interesting circumstance. Will you have the kindness, therefore, to answer the following queries, according to your recollection?

1st. Did Andre request Jameson to send him to Arnold? Historians tell us that this act of Jameson was chiefly to be ascribed to the address & persuasion of Andre.

2d. If Jameson was not thus influenced, what arguments did he use to urge himself to this step? The thing is so strange, that it cannot be accounted for, by the facts, which have appeared.

3d. How did it happen, that Jameson's letter to Arnold, which was written on the 23d, did not reach him till the 25th?

4th. Was Andre retained at Salem till orders came from Washington to take him to West Point? or was he sent forward by Sheldon from that post?

5th. When Andre arrived at West Point or Robinson's House, did General Washington see him, or converse with him? Did Washington ever see him after he left West Point?

6th. To what commanding officer did you deliver Andre at Tappan? Was he at any time put under the command of Wayne? or did Wayne command at the post when you arrived with him at Tappan? I ask these questions, because it has been said, that

ately down the river got on board the Vulture which brought up Andre and proceeded to New York.

Andre's prediction—about the "Warrior-drover Wayne," in The Cow Chace, was verified by his being put into the charge of Wayne at Tappan.

7th. Why was not Wayne on the court of Inquiry when Andre was examined?

8th. How was Andre dressed while you were with him? In what dress was he executed? It has been said that he was executed in his full regimentals. But he had left his coat at the House of Joshua Smith. Was this restored to him before his execution?

9th. Was he buried in the same dress in which he was executed? The British Consul, who took up his bones, has insinuated, that he was rifled of his regimentals after execution, & before his burial.

Now Sir, I shall be much obliged to you, if you will answer these questions in as much detail as your leisure & recollections will permit.

You need not fear being too prolix. Indeed I should be glad if you would pursue the narrative day by day, and state all the particulars, which you can remember, respecting your conversation with Andre his appearance and conduct—and particularly the manner in which he was escorted from Salem to Tappan. As you are the only man living who can give this information, I beg you will excuse my freedom, and accept the assurances of the high respect of your obliged & Most obt. Servt.

Jared Sparks

Hon. Ben. Tallmadge.

I have in my possession the original papers found in Andre's boots—and Arnold's pass.—You are aware perhaps, that I have all General Washington's papers, and am preparing a selection for publication. Two volumes are just now issuing from the press. There will be twelve in the whole.

Among Washington's papers is a large number of letters from you, written at different periods of the war.

TALLMADGE TO SPARKS.

Litchfield, Conn., Feby. 17th, 1834.

Dr Sir, I have before me your favor of the 6th inst. & will endeavour to answer your Queries, so full within my recollections after the lapse of more than half a Century.

I have already informed you, that on the day when the Captors of Major Andre bro't him up to our Regt. at North Castle (Sept. 23d 1780) I was out on Duty in advance of the Regt. below the White Plains & did not return with my Detachm' until the Even'g of that day. After I had disposed of my Troops and had spoken with Lt. Col. Jameson, he informed me of the Capture of John Anderson & that he had bro't up and delivered over to him by his Captors. When I inquired where the Prisoner was, he informed me that he had sent him on, under Guard to Gen'l Arnold at West Point. I expressed my astonishment at such a Course & immediately entered on a course of measures to frustrate what I considered so unjudicious a procedure. My first proposal was to give me leave of absence for official object which I fully explained to Col. Jameson & which for special reasons I have not disclosed, as no public benefit could result from it. Failing in this request my next plan was to remand the Prisoner, then probably 8 or 10 Miles on his way to West Point, which I did not accomplish until late in the Evening. After the Order was despatched for the officers & Guard to return with the Prisoner, I waited impatiently for the coming morning, when for the first time I saw the face of John Anderson.

What influenced Col. Jameson to send on Major Andre to Arnold, I cannot tell, not being present with him when he sent him off; but I well remember that he expressed great Confidence in him as I believe was the Case thro' the Army. Until the papers were found on Anderson, I had no suspicion of his lack of patriotism or political Integrity myself.

To your 3d enquiry, I remark that the non arrival of Col. Jameson's Letter at Arnold's Qrs. at an earlier period, is accounted for by the Countermarch of the Officer who had it in Charge with his Guard & Prisoner. I do not now recollect the distance from North Castle to West Point, but should think it was between 40 or 50 Miles.

4th. I do not perfectly remember whether I waited for an order from Gen. Washington to bring on Major Andre, or whether we judged it best to have him sent on, so as to

I found the post in the most critical condition and have been taking measures to give it security which I hope will be to-

arrive soon after the Comm'r in Chief, who reached West Point on the 25th of Septbr. The last case is the most probable, as it was deemed unsafe to keep such a Prisoner on an advanced post, & as I think I reached West Point with Andre the 26th or 27th, & Tappan on the Day following.

5th. When I arrived at W. Point, after answering many Enquiries made by Genl. Washington, I think I asked him whether he would see the Prisoner, to which he answered in the negative; nor do I believe he ever saw him while he was our Prisoner.

When I arrived at Tappan I reported myself directly to Hqd. Qrs. and was informed that there was a house near to Head Qrs. & a Guard of Officers ready to receive the Prisoner. In their hands I left him, and in a short time, at his own request, I returned to him, & continued with him almost the whole time until he was executed, which was on the 2d of Octr, 1780.

I was well acquainted with Genl. Wayne (Mad Anthony, as we used to call him), but do not remember to have seen him while I was at Tappan. The Comm'r in Chief selected the Board of Genl. Officers to investigate the Case of Major Andre, & report the same with their Opinion to him, & no one took upon him the liberty to enquire why A. was appointed a Member of the Board & B. omitted. From the time I first rec'd Major Andre into Custody until I deliv'd him at Tappan he was clothed in a plain Country man's Dress, with a Surtout overall (rather shabby), which I think he told me was J. Smith's, at Haverstraw, where he was concealed. Soon after we reached Tappan his Regimentals were sent out from New York, in which he constantly appeared, in which he walked to the Gallows, & was executed, & in which I saw him laid in his Coffin. Mr. Buehnan the British Consul's Insinuation looks a little as if he might have been stripped of his Regimentals before he was buried. This I know was not the Case. But whether he might not have been taken up by some human Vulture after the army removed from that Quarter, who then deprived him of his Regimentals, I am willing to leave to Mr. B——n to settle by Chymistry or any other process which would dissolve metallic buttons, while a leathern string around his hair was preserved entire. I believe I have now attended to all your Queries, so far as my recollection serves me. I will now close with a few remarks, which you seem to request, and as a Historian may be entitled to receive—

I begin them by remarking that with Arnold's Character I became acquainted while I was a Member of Yale College & he residing at New Haven, & I well remember that I was impressed with the belief that he was not a man of Integrity. The revolutionary war was coming on soon after I left College, & Arnold engaging in it with so much Zeal, & behaving so gallantly in the Capture of Burgoyne, we all seemed, as if by common Consent, to forget his knavish tricks. When he was put in Command of West Point, I had official Communications with him, particularly as it related to my private Correspondence with persons in N. York, of w<sup>h</sup> you must have seen much in my Letters to Genl. Washington, now in your hands. When he turned traitor, & went off, I felt for a time extremely anxious for some trusty friends in N. York, but as I never gave their names to him, he was not able to discover them, altho' I believe he tried hard to find them out.

My narrative must of necessity be somewhat Egotistical, altho' I not unfrequently remind myself that I am not writing my own Biography, nor the history of the revolutionary war, but only noting down a few Reminiscences of one important Occurrence in that most memorable period—

With your Indulgence then I will add one more Anecdote of this Arch Traitor, & I shall have done with him, I hope, forever.

After he had got settled down in his new Situation at N. York, he addressed a letter to me by flag, in which he said many more flattering things as an officer than I should have dared to say of myself; and then advised me to quit the American cause & join the British Standard, assuring me that America could not succeed in her Rebellion against her Parent Country. To induce me to take this Step, he said he was authorized to offer me the same rank in the British Army that I held in the American. At first I confessed I felt somewhat mortified that my Patriotism could be even suspected by this most consummate Villain. I took the Letter, however, immediately to Genl. Washington, who consoled me abundantly on the Occasion.

night effectual. With the greatest respect and regard I have the honor to be Your most obt. serv't

Go. Washington.

I come now to treat of a very different Character, whose name will shine with Lustre & Glory, while that of the Traitor will be handed down with Infamy & disgrace to the latest posterity.

From the moment that Major Andre made the Disclosure of his name & true Character, in his Letter to the Commander in Chief, dated Sep'r 24th, 1780, which he handed to me as soon as he had written it, to the moment of his Execution, I was almost constantly with him. The Ease and affability of his manner, polished by the refinement of good Society & a finished Education, made him a most delectable Companion. It often drew tears from my Eyes to find him so pleasant & agreeable in Conversation on different Subjects, when I reflected on his future fate, & that, too, as I believed, so near at hand—

Since you ask for private Anecdotes, I would remark that soon after Acquaintance, being mutually disposed to have the most unreserved & free Conversation, & both being soldiers of equal Rank in the two Armies, we agreed on a Cartel, by the terms of which each one was permitted to put any Question to the other, not involving a third Person. This opened a wide field for two inquisitive young Officers, & we amused ourselves on the march to Head Quarters not a little. Many Anecdotes doubtless were related, which the lapse of more than fifty three years has consigned to oblivion, & w'h I have no desire to recollect.

My principal object was to learn the late plot. On every point that I enquired, when any other person was concerned, he maintained most rigidly the rule, so that even where that most infamous Traitor Arnold was concerned (& he out of our control), so nice was his sense of honour, that he would disclose nothing. When we left West Point for Tappan early in the morning, as we passed down the Hudson river to King's Ferry, I placed Major Andre by my side, on the after seat of the Barge.

I soon began to make Enquiries about the expected Capture of our fortress, & begged him to inform me whether he was to have taken a part in the military attack, if Arnold's plan had succeeded. He instantly replied in the affirmative, & pointed me to a table of Land on the West Shore, which he said was the spot where he should have landed at the head of a select Corps. He then traversed in idea the Course up the mountain into the rear of Fort Putnam, which overlooks the whole Parade of West Point, & with much greater exactness than I could have done; & as the Traitor Arnold had so disposed of the Garrison that little or no opposition could have been made by our Troops. Major Andre supposed he should have reached that important Eminence without difficulty. Thus that important key of our Country would have been theirs, & the Glory of so splendid an Achievement would have been his. The Animation with which he gave the Account I recollect perfectly delighted me, for he seemed as if he was entering the fort, sword in hand. To complete the Climax, I then enquired what was to have been his reward if he had succeeded. He replied that military Glory was all he sought, & that the thanks of his General, & the approbation of his King, was a rich reward for such an Undertaking.

I think he further remarked that if he had succeeded (& with the aid of the opposing General, who would doubt of success?) he was to have been promoted to the rank of Brigdr. General.

As we progressed on our way to Tappan, before we reached the Clove, where we dined, Major Andre was very inquisitive to know my Opinion as to the result of his Capture. In other words, he wished me to give him my Opinion as to the light in w'h he would be viewed by Genl. Washington, & a Military Tribunal, if one should be ordered. I endeavored to evade the Question, unwilling to give him a true answer. When I could no longer evade this Importunity, I said to him that I had a much loved Class mate in Yale College by the name of Nathan Hale, who entered the Army with me in the year 1776. After the British Troops had entered N. York, Genl. Washington wanted Information respecting the strength, position & probable movements of the Enemy. Capt. Hale tendered his services, went into N. York, & was taken just as he was passing the out posts of the Enemy; said I, with Emphasis, do you remember the sequel of this story; "Yes," said Andie; "he was hanged as a Spy; but you surely

P. S. Smith is also in our possession and has confessed facts sufficient to establish his guilt.

[To G. C.]

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do not consider his Case & mine alike." I replied, "precisely similar, & similar will be your fate!" He endeavored to answer my remarks, but it was manifest he was more troubled than I had ever seen him before—

We stopped at the Clove to dine & to let the Horse Guard refresh; while there Andre kept reviewing his shabby Dress, & finally remarked to me that he was positively ashamed to go to the Head Qrs. of the American Army in such a plight. I called my Servant, & directed him to bring my Dragoon Cloak, which I presented to Andre. This he refused to take for some time, but I insisted, & he finally put it on & rode in it to Tappan.

The Catastrophe, which ensued after we reached the army at Tappan, was narrated in my former Letter, & the principal facts are matters of history. Give me leave then to remark, that so deeply were my feelings interested in the fate of this unfortunate young Man, that I believe I have never narrated the story, nor perused the account of his merited, but ignominious Death without shedding tears of sorrow over such blighted prospects. I hope & trust this will be the last trial of my feelings in this way. I am yours, &c.,

Benjamin Tallmadge.

J. Sparks Esqr.

P. S. Altho' my views & Col. Jameson's differed so widely respecting the disposal of John Anderson, I feel it to be due to his Character & Memory to declare that I never entertained a Doubt of his Patriotism & Devotedness to his Country's Cause. In sending the Prisoner & his Letter of Information to Arnold, his Head was in fault, & not his heart. His Confidence in his Commanding General outweighed the Influence of prudent precautionary Measures.\*

\*Magazine of American History, Part II, 1879, pp. 747-756.

[For further particulars regarding Arnold's perfidy see Clinton Papers, Volume II, pages 724-728 footnote.]





THE BEVERLY ROBINSON HOUSE, GARRISON, N. Y. ARNOLD'S HEADQUARTERS



[No. 3241.]

*Major Woolsey's Return of Detachment at Schoharie.*

Weekly Return of the detachments of Foot Levies of Colo. Graham's, Colo. Jacobs & Colo. Brown's Regiments Commanded By Major Woolsey.

Schoharie September 27th 1830	Officers fit for duty						Non Commission'd	Rank & File				wanted to Complete	alteration Since Last Return				
	Feld	Commiss'd	Staff					Present at for duty	Sick present	Sick absent	on Command			on Furlough	Total		
Companies	Colonel												discharged		Rank & file		
	Lt. Colonel												Transferred		Rank & file		
	Major	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	Rank & file		
	Captains	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	Rank & file	
	Lieutenants	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	Rank & file	
Capt Lausing																	
Capt. Muller																	
Capt. Foord																	
Capt. Poole																	
Capt. Bogart Rifleman																	
Total	1	4	6	1	1	1	17	7	187	8	2	4	3	204		4	
Sick Present														Albany	2	1	Fort Adward
Absent Officer Names														Total	2	3	on Scout
Lieut. Fonda														Albany	2	4	Fort Adward

Mel. L'd Woolsey, Major.

[No. 3242.]

*In Regard to Suspects or Disaffected Persons.*

Albany 28th Sept. 1780.

Sir, The inclosed is a Copy of a Letter we have received from John D. Goes, one of the Persons who refused to take the Oath prescribed by a Law to be taken by Persons of Neutral and Equivocal Characters and who in Consequence of his Refusal was by Order of your Excellency detained for Exchange; we lately at the Request of Mr. Pell, the Commissary of state Prisoners called upon him with a view to send him down to Fish Kill, the Place appointed by Mr. Pell, notwithstanding his being under Parole, he never appeared but Left the state nor did we know the Place to which he was gone till we received his Letter.\*

Dirck Gardineer whose Situation is the same with Mr. Goes, is likewise gone off but to what Place we are not able to determine; we are however of Opinion that he lurks about his Habitation. We think it Proper to give your Excellency this Information, that (if it is necessary) such steps may be taken as may be thought proper in the present and similar Cases in future.

We beg leave further to inform your Excellency, that applications are daily made to us in behalf of the Scotch women at Fort Edward & Saratoga for a flag to go to Canada, as we are not acquainted with their situation, nor authorized to grant it, & as the Season is far advanced, and their stay here injurious to the state, we would wish to have your Excellency's advise & directions in the Premises, as also how the Women who are ordered to depart the state in Consequence of the late act of the Legislature are to get a flag as they cannot procure persons to Convey them without it. We are your Excellency's most Obed't Servants

Saml. Stringer John M. Beeckman Jer. V. Rensselaer.

To His Excellency George Clinton, Esqr.

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\*See page 196.

*Samuel Townsend's Return of Provision and Forage.*

A Return of provisions &c. remaining on hand by Saml. Townsend A. S. Agent on the 30th Day of Sept'r 1780 under the Direction Udry Hay Agent for the State of New York.

Species and Quantity														
No. Cattle	Beef		Veal	Button	Wheat		Rye	Flour			W. I. Rum		N. E. Rum	
	No. Bar's	Pounds			Bushels	Quarts		Barrels	Hundreds	Quarters	Pounds	Barrels	Gallons	Barrels
17	1	7060	49	1048	51	15	34	2	1	2	6	180	8	
Remain'd on hand Aug <sup>r</sup> 31 <sup>st</sup>														
Purchased in the month of Sep'r														
17	1	7684	49	1048	51	15	34	2	1	2	6	180	8	
Total remaining on hand last month and purchased this month														
6	1	2539	49	1018	27		31	2	1		6	180	8	
Delivered in the Mo. of Sept'r														
D'd also this Mo. 9227 lb. wt. Flour being the wt. } proceeds of 27 W's Wheat }														
Lost on Judgment of Cattle														
6	1	2560	49	1018	27		34	2	1		6	180	8	
Total D'd this Mo. 8 loss in Sep <sup>r</sup> Month														
11		4541			34	15				2				
Remaining on hand Sep'r 30th														

Bedford Septem'r 30, 1780.

Errors Excepted

Saml. Townsend Asst. State Agent

Return of Short Forage remaining on hand by Saml. Townsend A. S. Agent, on the 30th Day of Sept'r 1780 under the direction of Udry Hay Agt. for the State of New York.

Purchased in the month of Sep'r	Delivered in the month of Septem'r	Oats	
		Bush's	153 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> 153 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
Remaining on hand Septem'r 30th none			

Bedford Sep'r 30, 1780

Errors Excepted

Sam'l. Townsend, Asst. State Agt.

[No. 3244.]

*Draft of Letter and Governor's Certificates Transmitted to the Board of War with the Appointments of Officers in the Five Continental Regiments.*

Pokeepsie Sept'r 30th 1780.

Gentlemen. Agreeable to the Act of Congress of the 8th of March 1779 I have the honor of transmitting to you enclosed a certified Copy of the appointments made in the five continental Regiments of this State.

As the Power of our Council of Appointment extended only to the ordinary officers of the State, the execution of the above Resolution was of necessity delayed until Legislative Provision could be made for the Purpose.

This I conceived necessary to observe & at the same time to inform you that the appointments refer to the Date from which the several promotions took place & from which as appears by the Returns, the Officers have respectively performed Duty, lest in filling up the Commissions any mistake should be made to their disadvantage. I have the honor to be &c. &c. &c.

Geo: Clinton.

The hon'ble the board of war.

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By his Excellency Geo: Clinton Esqr. Gov'r of the State of New York &c. &c.

To the hon'ble the Board of War of the United States of America.

It is by these Presents certified that the annexed is a true extract from the minutes of the Council of appointm't of this State & that warrants agreeable to the Resolutions of Congress of the 8th of March 1779 have issued to the several officers, accord'g to their respective appointments therein specified, and

it is also hereby further certified that the several promotions are founded on Returns made by the command'g Officers of the respective Regts. wherein the vacancies happened and that the Days inserted as on which the promotions took Place were carefully taken from the said Returns.

In Testimony whereof the Seal for military Commissions, of the s'd State is hereunto affixed the 30th day of Sept'r in the fifth year of the Independence of the 3d State, 1780.

G: Clinton.

By his Excellency's Command.

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[No. 3245.]

*Petition from Divers Persons for Permission to go to Canada.*

To his Excellency, George Clinton, Esqr. Governor and Capt. Gener'l of ye State of New York &c. &c.

The petition of Will'm Frazier & famaly &c. now Resident in ye district of Kingsbury, humbly Sheweth that your Excellencies petitioners being natives of North Briton, by certain inate principles have been Anxiously Tenacious, to live in Strict obedience to his majesties laws nor have we yet seen, either by the Divine word, or ye little Light nature hath discover'd to us any Sufficient reason to Deviate or Revolt therfrom.

And whereas, by the wheells of Providence we have been placed in America, in a time of God's Impending Judgments:

And as your petitioner, (Viz Will'm Frazier, Grace Frazier, Nancy McIntosh. Nelly Grant, & her two Children: & Mary McBane & her two children: having obtain'd Liberty from G. V. Schaick commandant in Albany & from James Clinton, B. Genl. to pass to Laparia, in Canada, who on acc't of ye Inclemency of ye weather was Intercepted when they had Reach'd Ticondaroga, was Ablig'd to Return to this place. And when your Excellency was Afterwards about ye begining of June last at Fort George, your Excellency order'd me to follow to Albany for perticular orders, your Excellency being gone: Gener'l Clinton Inform'd he had your Excellencies Approbation, on this wise, that I (viz Wm. Frazier) & famaly should first go to Canada, & that provided the British commandant se fitt to send a flagg to Ty, ye Rest of Kingsbury petitioners should be sent & Genl. Clinton order'd Coll. Cortlant, to se to ye preformance thereof; but by means of Collo. Cortlant's counter orders & to Return to Albany or by some other obstruction our progression has been Retarded, & we have been troublesom to ye people in this frontier by Reason of our Substance being altogether exhausted.

And as our Children, Husbands, friends &c. are in Canada: & our harts also, & we ye objects of Charity & burdensom to the poorer part of ye Country we Humbly petition your Excellencies Compassion Indulgence to give Such Directions as in your wisdom may seam proper. We flatter our Selves we need not prolix with Reiterations; as the Season of ye year, & many other Concomitant obstacles Appear obvious. Shall only Recommend our Selves to your Excellencies mercy. And as in duty bound your petitioner Shall Ever pray.

pr order Will'm Frazier, Grace Frazier, Nancy McIntosh, Nelly Grant for her Self & two Children, Mary McBane for her Self & two Children.

Thos of your Excellencies petitioners of Kingsbury district, formerly Enroll'd & Exhibited to your Excellencies vew for ye Above Indulgence Humbly Conceive your Excellency has not forgot them, & Still petition as formerly

Eunice Sherwood 1, Louis Hoffnagle 2, Christeen Hoffagle, Debarah Morehouse 1,

Temperance Tilor 3, Rosaman Morhouse 1, Eliza'th Brownson 1, Mary Brownson 1, Levina Jackson.

the nom'r of Each of their Children under 10 E. A. Annex'd to their names.

This Schdule may Inform your Excellency that Mr. Frazier & famaly are look'd upon by the officers & principle Inhabitants Arround them, to be objects of both Charity & pity, & do Recommend them to your Excellency for Indulgence, as Requested.

Seth Sherwood, Sen'r.

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[No. 3246.]

*General Washington Relies upon Governor Clinton to Supply Flour to the Troops.*

Head Quarters Orange Town, Octob'r 1st 1780.

Dear Sir, The inclosed will show your Excellency the distress we are like to experience in a few days for the want of flour. You are so fully impressed with the pernicious tendency of so frequent repetition of want that I am sure, I need only inform you of our prospects, to engage your utmost exertions to give us the necessary supply. The exigency demands immediate measures to forward to West-point all the flour ready at the different mills. It has been mentioned to me that a defieny of barrells would retard the supplies from your State; I have given directions to have those at West-point repaired and delivered to the order of your agent. Your Excellency knows the reliance I place on the State of New York—delicacy will not permit me to say how much we must depend on you at this juncture. I have the honor to be, With the greatest Esteem and regard, Dear Sir, Your most Obed't Serv't

Go. Washington.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

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Camp Tappan, 30th Sept'r 1780.

Sir, The quantity of flour in the Magazine at Camp and in the hands of the Brigade Commissaries, will only supply the troops for to-morrow. By Letters from Philadelphia of the 26th Inst.

and from Trenton of the 27th from my Deputys, am informed there was then none on hand at those places, so that the two hundred barrells ordered from West-point is all the flour that we are now sure of. I am, therefore, under the disagreeable necessity of Informing your Excellency, that unless uncommon diligence is used in getting that article from Pennsylvania or New York, at the end of three days, the Army will be again without Bread. I am, most Respectfully, Your Excellency's  
Most Obed't Servant

Char. Stewart, Comm'y Genl. Issues.

His Excell'y Genl. Washington.

Copy.

[No. 3247.]

*Captain Thompson's Return.*

A Monthly Return of Capt. Andrew Thompson Belonging to Col. Wiessenfelts Regt.

Dates	Officers				Rank and File										Wanted to Complete				Alteration since the Last Return			
	Commiss'd Officers	Non Commiss'd Officers			Rank and File										Wanted to Complete				Alteration since the Last Return			
Orangetown Oct. 1 1780.	1	1	4	4	45	Sick Present	Sick Absent	On Command	Extra Service	On Furlough	Total	Serjents	Drum & Fife	Rank & File	Dead	Discharged	Promoted	Reduced	Total			
Total Sick Absent Sick present on Command	1	1	4	4	45						60		2			1			60			

Jacob Barrenger, Mark Coon, John Taler, Miel Luck, Abraham Ferguson, Joseph Ogdon, Hendrick Luck, —  
Deserted.  
Andrus Thompson, Capt. York Levevis.





*Major Andre*



[No. 3248-3249.]

*General McDougall Appeals for Flour—The Governor's Reply.*  
West Point, October 2d 1780.

Dear Sir, I should have written to you and the Legislature very fully; but the deranged State of every thing at this Post; and its dependencies call for every moment of my attention.

Two days since, more than half the flour at this Post, was ordered to the Grand Army, which was out of Bread near two days before it reached them, and yesterday I was obliged to send two days supply to the 1st Pennsylvania Brigade, at Kings Ferry. These necessary Draughts from the Garrison, has reduced me to five days bread, without a prospect of a supply from the Southard, before that period expires: I must, therefore, intreat you, if you can by any Means, in your power, send down a Supply; otherwise God only knows what the Consequence, may be to the Post and the State. I am, Dear Sir, Your affectionate humble Servant

Alex'r McDougall.

Governor Clinton.

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Poukeepsie 3d October 1780.

D'r Sir, The Moment I received your Letter of yesterday I transmitted a Copy of it to Colo. Hay Agent for this State. I am not informed what his present Resources are, but I have the fullest Confidence that he will make every Exertion in his Power to furnish you with a speedy Supply of Flour. It may be proper at the same time to inform you that the Place of Deposit for the specific Supplies to be furnished for the army by this State is Albany, as your Order may be necessary to Justify Colo. Hay's delivering any Part of them at a different Place.

Some Time since I received a Letter from Colo. Lewis, D. Q. Mr. Genl. at Albany a Copy of which I now inclose you. I did not conceive it proper to comply with a Request founded on Arnold's Application, but I will readily grant my Impress Warrants for such Quantity of Boards for the Use of the Posts in the Highlands as you shall certify by Letter to me to be indispensably necessary. It is a disagreeable Measure but the Necessity of the Case must Justify it. We have no Cash to buy them or any Thing else. I am, D'r Sir, &c.

[G. C.]

Genl. McDougal.

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[No. 3250.]

*Which Deals with the Legislature and the Mode of Treating Spies.*

Poukeepsie, 3d October 1780.

Sir, When I wrote you on the 16th Ultimo I expected that before this, I should have been enabled to have had appointed Commissioners in your County for detecting & defeating Conspiracies; but the Multiplicity of Important and interesting Business which at this Juncture occupies the attention of the Legislature, has hitherto prevented their making the proper Provisson & as I have Reason to expect they will very soon adjourn, I despair of their entiring upon it during their present sitting. I was not without Hopes that some of the Gentlemen named in the present Commission might have been displaced so as to make Room to insert the Names of three Persons in your County but this for a variety of Reasons is also found inexpedient. Under these Circumstances I can only advise the present Civil & military Officers to vigilence & a faithful Exertion of the Authority they are vested with, and I woud fain hope they will

in this Case be able to defeat the Designs of our Secret Enemies. I woud observe to you that if any Person who has joined the Enemy shoud be found lurking secretly in the Country, these are triable by a Genl. Court Martial as Spies & subject to capital Punishment, & it is a missdemeanor of the highest Nature to knowingly harbour or comfort them. I am with great Regard  
Sir your most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

P. S. From Accounts I have lately received from Philadelphia we have every Reason to hope a speedy & favourable Determination of the Controversy with the People of the Grants.

Colo. Paterson.

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[No. 3251.]

*The Governor Attacked with Rheumatism and Disturbed Over the Supply Question.*

Pokeepsie, 3d Octob'r 1780.

D'r Sir, I wrote you last Night in answer to yours of the 27th Ultimo by my Brother who is on his Way to Albany to take the Command in that Quarter. I am since favoured with your two Letters of the 31st of last Month & the 1st Instant. If my Health permitted I woud immediately set out for Albany; but I am so affected with the Rhumatism occassioned by my last Jaunt & the present dark Weather, that I dare not undertake the Journey. I have communicated to my Brother the Intelligence transmitted me from your Quarter & have directed him to call on Genl. Ten Broeck & Van Renselaer for a sufficient Force from their Brigades to cover the Settlements ag't the Incursions of the Enemy & repel them, & I have wrote to those Gentlemen to comply with his Requisitions.

What we shall do for Provisions (tho the Country abounds with it) God only knows. The Assessments come in so slowly notwithstanding every Endeavour to hasten them that no certain Dependance can be placed upon them. The Cattle when received are scarcely worth killing. The Mills for want of Water unable to grind the Wheat. I have this Moment, received a very pressing Letter from Genl. Heath, who commands in the Highlands, on the Subject of his Wants, by which I am informed that his sole Dependance for Bread is on this State. It is not in my Power to relieve him.

Your Letters fully confirm me in what I had some Reason to suspect on the first Incursions of the Enemy respecting the Conduct of Allen. I wish this matter may be fully investigated & I begg that it may continue to ingage your attention. Your Letter to the Commander in Chief shall be immediately forwarded. If the present alarm proves as serious as it is to be apprehended I will see you soon, if my Health will enable me. I am &c.

G: C:

Genl. Schnyler.

[No. 3252.]

*The Troublesome Question of Dealing with Tory Families.*

Johns Town, Octob'r 3d 1780.

Hon'd Sir, We are unhapily situated in this County by keeping so many Disaffected Familys amongst us and it is with regret we inform your Excellency that the act provided for sending them off appears to us very deficient. Many of these disaffected Families are not able to transport themselves ten miles (& yet as capable of doing us hurt as the Richer kind). Others are able to defray the Expences of themselves & something to spare: we

should be glad to divide what they have amongst them so as to carry the whole off but in doing of this we must act without Law. We would, therefore, pray your Excellency to give us your advice, by Lieut. Bradnor if there is no prospect of an amendment being made to the act soon.

The Necessity of their being sent off immediately is Notorious, as we are fully convinced they Harbour & give Intelligence to the Enemy daily. We have also a number of men who we believe do infinitely more damage than the Women; some of them have applied to go off. We should be very glad to know whether we are to provide a flagg to send them off or where we are to apply for one; we are With Respect Your Excell's Most Obt. Humbl. Serv'ts

Peter S. Deygert, Zeph. Batcheller.

Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 3253.]

*Petition from Tryon County for Relief.*

Tryon County 6th October 1780.

The Petition of the Inhabitants of Tryon County Humbly Sheweth,

That your Petitioners have during this Campaign Labour'd under the most dreadful Difficulties; that Several of thier principal Settlements, Viz: Conawaga, Conajohary have been Entirely Destroy'd, whereby a great Number of Families were forced to leave the County, in order to Seek Refuge in some other parts, more remote from our Cruel savage Emies, that still the greatest number Trusting in the prouidence of God; and the Protection of thier Country, did Rather Choose to stay in defence of thier Property, Rights and Liberties, than to give way, to Thoughts unbecoming a people, that is Determined to be free, and would rather share the goodwill and Dangers of thier fellow Brethren, in the County, than to be a burden upon the public.

That it most seasonably happened, by your Excellency's Paternal Care which they have so often Experienced, that Troops have been sent up to their assistance time Enough to Enable and protect them, to gather thier grain, whereof a vast Quantity stands now dispersed, all over the several settlements of thier County, stacked up in thier fields and Round the Different Forts; That this happy Circumstance, and the prospect that the Sufferers Could find Shelter, and Refuge with Those, who Enjoy thier Houses, whereof thier is a Considerable Number, have been the support of thier hopes and perseverance, But that thier firm Resolution is quite shaken, when they Find, that the time of the Troops which were sent to their protection is almost Expired, at a Time when the Enemy is in the verge of thier settlements, has in the sight of a number of the best Troops and most vigilant Officers, burn'd Kill'd and Taken Prisoners, of which almost every day brings a new Instance; that your Petitioners, have Intelligence that this is the Sixth Day, since Brandt, had left Niagara with a large body of Men, with an Intent to Invade our County, that your Petitioners Presume, if that should be the Case, as they have the greatest Reason to believe it will be some time

this Fall, then it would be in the power of the Enemy to Destroy almost all the grain Collected, besides the Rest of the settlements yet standing, if seasonable and Effectual measures is not Immediately adopted, to prevent it. Your Petitioners are, therefore, under the most Dreadfull apprehensions, and presume to lay thier Case, once more before your Excellency, appealing to your Known Humanity, Craving your Excellency's Kind Interposition with the Legislature, & the Commander in Chief, to have such relief granted as our Case requires and you in your wisdom shall see meet, Your Excellency's Humble Petitioners as in Duty bound Shall ever Pray.

Signed in behalf of the Inhabitants Tryon County.

Jacob Klock, Colo., J. Daniel Gros, Minister, Jelles Fonda, Adam Conderman, Adam  
his

Leyp, Nicholas Coppernoll, Dommas X Godman, John Kaselman, John Backus, Samuel  
marck

Vanetta left, John Snell, Henrich Laux, Willem Laux, John Ziellen, Adam Kruge,  
his

George X Relinan, Jur., Peitder K. Deygert.  
mark

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[No. 3254.]

*Reorganization of the Army by Congress.*

Circular.

Philadelphia October 6, 1780.

Sir, Your Excellency will receive herewith enclosed an act of Congress of the 21 ulto, containing a new Arrangement of the Army. Special reasons have delayed the sending it forward until this Time.

By this Arrangement the Number of Battalions is greatly reduced, and of Consequence many of the Officers now retained in the Service must retire for the present; but after just & equitable Compensation is made to them, the Saving of Expence will be very great.

Congress are extremely anxious, not only to avoid the Dangers & Embarrassments heretofore experienced by Delays in recruiting the Army until the Opening of the Campaign, but also to establish a permanent Army, of Troops engaged for the War; to consist of such Numbers as may be adequate to the Service, and at the same Time not exceed the Ability of the States to raise & support and constantly recruit so as to keep up the Number.



It is recommended to the States in the most pressing manner to have their regiments completed & in the Field by the first of January next at farthest.

The Commander in Chief will cause immediate returns to be made of the Deficiencies of each State according to this Arrangement.

You will observe, Sir, that the respective States are to select from the Line of the Army, the Number of Officers to command the several regiments to them respectively assigned; taking notice that no new Appointment is to be made, of higher rank than Lieut. Colonel Commandant, for substantial reasons supposed to be known to all the States.

But the first & immediate Object, is to complete the regiments to their full Number of non Commissioned Officers & Privates; which is recommended in the most pressing manner as of the greatest Importance. I have the Honor to be with every Sentiment of Esteem & respect your Excellency's most obedient Servant

Sam. Huntington, President.

His Excellency the Governor of New York.

ACT OF CONGRESS FIXING THE ARMY ESTABLISHMENT.

\*In Congress Sept'r 21st 1780.

Resolved, That the regular army of the United States from and after the first day of January next consist of:

- 4 Regiments of Cavalry or Light dragoons;
- 4 Regiments of artillery;
- 49 Regiments of Infantry, exclusive of Colo. Hazen's Regt. hereafter mentioned;
- 1 Regiment of artificers.

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\*Numbered as document 3235 Clinton MSS.

That each regiment of Cavalry or Light dragoons consist of six troops, and that each troop consist of 64 non-commissioned officers & privates with the same number of commissioned officers as at present.

That each regiment of artillery consist of nine companies, and that each company consist of 65 non-commissioned officers and matrosses with the same number of commissioned officers as at present.

That each regiment of infantry consist of nine companies, and each company of 64 non-commissioned officers & privates, and that the regiment of artificers consist of eight companies and each company of 60 non-commissioned officers and privates.

That the several States furnish the following quota viz:

New Hampshire 2 Regiments of Infantry.

Massachusetts Bay 10 Regiments of Infantry & one of artillery.

Rhode-Island &c. 1 Regiment of Infantry.

Connecticut 5 Regts. of Infantry & one of Cavalry.

New York 2 Regts. of Infantry & one of artillery.

New Jersey 2 Regts. of Infantry.

Pensylvania 6 Regts. of Infantry, one of artillery, one of cavalry & one of artificers.

Delaware 1 Regt. of Infantry.

Maryland 5 Regts. of Infantry.

Virginia 8 Regts. of Infantry, one of artillery and two of cavalry.

North Carolina 4 Regts. of Infantry.

South Carolina 2 Regts. of Infantry.

Georgia 1 Regt. of Infantry.

That the States select from the line of the army a proper

number of officers to command the several Regiments to them respectively assigned, taking notice that no new appointment is to be made of a higher rank than that of Lieut. Colo. Commandant.

That the States be and they are hereby called upon in the most pressing manner to have their regiments compleated and in the field by the first day of January next at farthest.

That it be recommended to the States to fill up their respective Regiments by inlistments for and during the war, but in case the full quota of any of the States cannot be compleated with such recruits by the first day of December next; that it be recommended to such State or States to supply the deficiency with men engaged to serve for not less than one year unless sooner relieved by recruits inlisted for the war, which they are requested to exert their utmost endeavours to obtain as speedily as possible and in order thereto it is further recommended, that the officers at camp be empowered and directed to use every prudent measure and improve every favourable opportunity to inlist for the continuance of the war such of the men belonging to their respective States as are not engaged for that period whether now in the field or hereafter, from time to time joining the army; and that a recruiting officer from each corps be kept in the State to which the regiments respectively belong to inlist recruits for the war as well as to relieve those who are engaged for a shorter or limited time as to supply casual deficiencies.

That two dollars be granted to the recruiting officer for every able bodied soldier he shall inlist for the war who shall join the army; and that a sum not exceeding fifty dollars be allowed as a bounty to every such recruit.

Extract from the minutes.

Chas. Thomson, Sec'y.

[No. 3255.]

*Colonel Varick Unjustly Under Suspicion from Arnold's Perfidy.*

Rob. House, Oct. 6th 1780.

Dear Sir, Your Excellency will please to Pardon the Liberty I take of inclosing my Letters to you. They are on Business of Importance to myself & I will be much obliged to Colo. Lush or Benson to forward them.

Should Genl. Schuyler have left Poughkeepsie for Albany, I will esteem it a very particular Favor to have my Letter to him forwarded by the very first safe Conveyance.

An anxious regard for my reputation, which may receive Injury from Arnold's perfidy,\* induces me to address my Letters under Cover to your Excellency that I may rest assured of the Letters coming to Hand & of receiving answers from those Gent'n, if at the Legislature. An Inquiry is to take Place into my Conduct, in which Genl. Schuyler's Testimony will be of the

\*In the fall of 1780 a Court of Inquiry was held to consider the relations of Col. Varick with Arnold, and to what extent he was conversant with Arnold's plot to surrender West Point to the British. General Schuyler wrote to the Court a letter in behalf of Colonel Varick from which this extract is taken:

"That I reflect with satisfaction on the propriety of that Gentleman's conduct in every point of view; that I had such entire confidence in his attachment to the Glorious Cause we are engaged in, that I concealed nothing from him, and never once had reason to repent that I reposed too much trust in him; that I am so far from believing him capable of betraying his Country, that if even testimony on oath was given against him, it would gain little credit with me, unless the persons giving it were of fair and unblemished characters. Upon the whole as I have always found him to be a man of strict Honor, probity & virtue, so I do still believe him to be."

The Court unanimously reported their opinion—

"That Lieutenant Colonel Varick's conduct, with respect to the base peculations and treasonable practices of the late General Arnold, is not only unimpeachable but we think him entitled through every part of his conduct to a degree of merit, that does him great honor as an officer and particularly, distinguishes him as a sincere friend of his Country."

Which was approved as follows:

"Head Quarters, Camp Totowa,  
Thursday, November 16th, 1780.

The Commander in Chief, is pleased to accept and approve the following report of a Court of Inquiry, held at West Point, the 2d instant, to examine into the conduct of Lieutenant Colonel Varick, in his connexion with the late Major General Arnold, during his command at West Point and relative to his desertion to the Enemy.

Alexander Scammell, Adjutant General.

Colonel Van Schaick, President; Lieutenant Colonels Cobb and Dearborn, Major Reid and Captain Cox, Members."

first Importance to me, it will commence as soon as he can attend, as his Testimony will open the Scene. I rest assured of the report being favorable, but am only sedulous about the Terms it may be expressed in. This will in great measure depend on the Consequences & personal Knowledge of my witnesses.

As it is to be published to the world, to disappoint the malevolence of the envious, the disingenuous & the uninformed, I should wish my Innocence & past merit stated in the strongest Terms possible. With every Sentiment of regard & respect, I remain, Dear Sir, Your Excellency's Obed't & Very H'ble Serv't,

Rich'd Varick.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

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[No. 3256.]

*Providing for Flour for American Prisoners in New York.*

Philadelphia, October 7, 1780.

Sir, Your Excellency will receive herewith enclosed the Copy of an Act of Congress of the 6 Instant, requesting the Executive of the State to deliver to the Order of Mr. Abraham Skinner, Commissary Genl. of Prisoners, two hundred Barrels of Flour, (in Part of the Supplies called for from that State) for the use of the Prisoners in New York. I have the Honor to be, with the highest Sentiments of respect your Excellency's most obedient servant

Sam. Huntington, President.

His Excellency The Governor of New York.

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In Congress Octo'r 6th 1780.

Resolved, That the executive of the State of New York be requested to deliver to the order of Abraham Skinner, Commis-

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sary Genl. of prisoners, two hundred barrels of flour (in part of the supplies called for from that State by Congress) for the use of the prisoners in New York.

Extract from the minutes.

Chas. Thomson, Sec'y.

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[No. 3257.]

*The Governor Answers Washington's Request for Supplies.*

Pokeepsie, 8<sup>th</sup> Oct'r 1780.

D<sup>r</sup> Sir, I am favored with your Excellency's Letter of the 30th [1st] Instant, and communicated the Contents of it to the State Agent, who informs me that he has made use of every Means in his Power for hastening on the Supplies from this State for the army and I have Reason to hope they will arrive in Time to relieve your Necessities. The providing of the Flour Casks your Excellency mentions, will greatly tend to hasten this Business as it was not in the Power of the agent to procure them speedily as the peculiar situation of the army required.

[G. C.]

[To Gen. Washington.]

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[No. 3258.]

*Colonel Malcom Routs a Band of Indians.*

Pokeepsie 9th Oct'r 1780.

D Sir, I have rec'd your Letter of the 26th ulto. but have been constrained by the Hurry of public Business to defer answer'g it till the present.

The Vermont Faction by exercising the Powers of Government increase their Party by interesting Individuals in their Claim, while our Friends become dispirited by the extraordinary

and repeated Delays which Congress make in the settling of that Controversy: it is, therefore, my Opinion that it is our Interest in a very particular Manner to hasten a Determination by every possible Exertion although it should preponderate in our Favor only by the vote of a single State.

It gives me Pain to be informed of your pecuniary wants, as I fear it will not be in the Power of the State to afford you a reasonable & adequate Relief; the Treasury has been long totally exhausted nor can I devise what Measures can be taken to replenish it. For my own Part, I have since the last Session of the Legislature expended in the public Service, the small Remains of my own Private stock & contracted large Debts which I have not the least prospect of being soon able to discharge. The Legislature are, however, now sitting and they appear disposed to make the greatest Exertions not only to draw forth the Resources of this State but to give greater Energy to Government of the United States than it at present possesses and more suitable to the Temper of the Times and the critical Situation of our public affairs & I woud fain Hope that while they manifest so much Zeal for the public Service, they will not be unmindful of the Situation & Services of their own Servants. I have nothing new worth communicating. Our Friend Malcom on his Way with a Part of the Levies of this State to relieve the Garrison of Fort Schuyler, fell in with, charged & routed a Party of the Savages. They left two Dead on the ground about thirty Blanketts Kettles &c. I am, with great Esteem, & Regard, D'r Sir, your most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

[To John Morin Scott.]

[No. 3259.]

*Fredericksburgh Assessment on Tories Whose Sons have Gone to the Enemy.*

A Tax on Those Inhabitents of Fradricksburgh Precinct who have Sons gone off to and joined the Enemy. Pursuent to a Law of the Lejuslature of the State of New York, Passed the 9 of October 1780.

Names of Persons	Nos.	Joind	Poundage	£	S	D
Daniel Bull	1			5		
Josiah Brown	1			5		
John Lounsbury	1		358	13	8	6
James Ackles	1			5		
Widow Crofford	3			5		
Jean Foster	1			5		
Daniel Brundage	1		334	12	10	6
Charles Sarlne	1		178	6	13	6
Robert Hughson	1		325	12	3	9
John Nelson	1			5		
Widow Obrion	1			5		
John Craft	2		140	10	10	
Henry Wooden	1		300	11	5	
				£101	11	3

The Above Tax List is a True Copsy. Test Reuben Ferris, Sup'r.

[No. 3260.]

*General Greene to Visit the Governor at Poughkeepsie.*

Headquarters, West Point, Octo. 10th 1780.

Dear Sir, As I find from enquiry that I can go to Poughkeepsie and back again in a day, I propose to do myself the honor of waiting upon your Excellency on Thursday, if the weather is fair, and nothing happens between this and then, that forbids it.

The garrison this night is without an ounce of flour; nor have we any certain account of any coming to our relief.

I beg my compliments to Mrs. Clinton, and am, with great respect & esteem your Excellency's most Obed't humble Ser.

N. Greene.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.



[No. 3261.]

See document 3272.

[No. 3262.]

*For the Relief of Tryon County.*

Kingston 11th October 1780.

Sir, I have this Moment received a Petition dated 8th [6th] Instant subscribed by yourself & other Inhabitants of Tryon County. In Answer to which I am happy in being able to inform you that Legislative Proviision is made for calling out a Part of the Militia for a certain Period for the further Defence of the Frontiers, and Orders are accordingly issued for this Purpose, which I trust will reach you before this can, as they were forwarded some Days since. The Sense of the Members representing the Frontier Counties were [was] taken as to the number of Men necessary for this Service, & I trust, therefore, the Force ordered to be raised will prove competent. The greatest Fear I have is, that it may not be brought into the Field as early as Exigencies may require. In this Case, I must entreat the best Exertions of the Militia of Tryon County, untill those intended for their Relief can be collected & be assured of every Effort on my Part for your Protection. I am &c.

[G. C.]

Colo. Klock.

[No. 3263.]

*Passport for Dr. Smyth and Family to Go to Canada.*

Albany 11th Oct'r 1780.

Sir, We have taken your Case into Consideration and as you are a weak and infirm man and in no way of Business here to support yourself and Family, we have no Objection to yourself wife son and black servant going to Canada, provided you obtain Permission from the commanding officer of this Department, and give security to send

out in Return for yourself son & immediately upon your arrival in Canada Peter Hanson, and Adam Forde of Tryon County Prisoners, there. We are your humble Ser't

Mat. Visscher, Isaac D. Fonda, John M. Beeckman, Commiss'rs for Conspiracies.

Dr. Smyth has given us the necessary security for the performance of the above.

Mat Visscher, John M. Beeckman, Isaac D. Fonda.

To Dr. George Smyth.

Dr. Smyth with the several persons of his family within mentioned, have permission to pass to Canada, by the Route most convenient for him.

Albany, Oct'r 13 1780.

W. Malcom, Col. Comdg. N. Dept.

To all officers commanding in the American army on the Northern Frontiers.

[No. 3264.]

### FORT GEORGE THREATENED.

*A Large Force of Indians and Tories Make Their Appearance on the Tryon County Frontier.*

Albany, 12<sup>th</sup> Oct'r 1780 6 p. m.

Dear Sir, I this Moment arrived and am now at Colo. Malcolm's Quarters. Major Hughes in a Letter to him of the 10<sup>th</sup>, which I have now before me says that an Indian Deserter there, just arrived brings Intelligence that a large Body of British Tories and Indians under S'r John Butler & Brant were, the Night of the 8<sup>th</sup> Inst. at Oneida, from Niagara on their way to Stone Arabia and ultimately for Fort Schuyler; that they were furnished with Mortars & Cannon & a large Number of Shells (one of which the Indian brought in his Blanket). Major Hughs says every Preparation is making to receive them.

The Enemy have also appeared to the Northward. Lt. Colo. Livingston in another Letter to Colo. Malcolm (also before me) dated yesterday 5 O'Clock A. M., says he had that moment rec'd a particular account of the taking of Fort Ann; that Capt. Sherwood command'g there was summoned by Major Carleton of the Enemy; he refused; but upon their parad'g their Forces amount'g to 850, British Indians & Tories, in view of the Garrison they surrendered Prisoners of war. Colo. Livingston writes that his Intelligence is that Carleton with his Party are now at

Fort George & are to be joined by a Party from Ballstown under Command of Sir John; and that he means if he can with safety to his Post march to the Relief of Fort George.

Thus stands the acc'ts from our Northern & western Frontier. Colo. Malcolm has transmitted them to you by an Express to Pokeepsie this Morning, but upon my inform'g him that your Excellency was probably at Kingston, he is gone for another Express and has desired me to write your Excellency the above acc'ts, so as to have them in Readiness to be dispatched as soon as the Express can be obtained.

This Brigade is ordered to march immediately and are now prepar'g to be disposed of as Colo. Malcolm & Genl. Ten Broeck shall think best for the Defence of the Frontiers. Colo. Malcolm has made a requisition to Genl. V. Renselaer for 300 men and intreats your Excellency if possible to have the men hastened on by your Excellency's Orders.

The Scarcity of Provision and the total uncertainty of obtaining Supplies is truly alarming. If any means can be fallen upon to supply the Troops now ordered out and those already on the Frontiers Colo. Malcolm requests your Excellency's Interposition, as without Supplies the Militia must disband as soon as they take the Field. And if Reinforcements of men can be obtained from any other Quarter than those already mentioned, Colo. Malcolm conceives they will be wanted provided they come with sufficient Supplies of Provision.

Colo. Livingston in a Letter of today, says he is surrounded by the Indians & Tories, who have invested the Fort for the last twelve Hours; that they had not yet ventured an attack. That he had sent out a Party of 20 men who were obliged to return, the Enemy proving too numerous; that they were burn-

ing ab't 7 miles from the Fort; that he had only 60 men fit for Duty and the Enemy supposed 400. I am with the highest Respect & Esteem your Excellency's most obed't ser't

Stephen Lush.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

The foregoing is a tolerable exact state of things. I have sent a letter to Co. Clock requesting him to turn out the Tryon County Brigade. It is necessary that we be able to advance with 1000 men, the posts at the same time guarded. Genl. Renslaer is my only dependence. Will you come up—it is necessary. It is yet impossible for me to know whether to go No. or west—provisions—if possible send some from Esopus &c. & do urge Genl. Renslaer to send some on. Come up. Gen. Broeck's Brigade is disposed off some to Schohare, to Fort Ti & some F. Edw'd.

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[No. 3265.]

*Articles of Capitulation on the Surrender of Fort George to the Enemy.*

Articles of Capitulation between Major Carleton command'g a Detachment of the King's Troops and Capt. Chipman commanding at Fort George.

Article 1st. The Troops in the Garrison to surrender themselves Prisoners of War.

Article 2d. That the women & Children be permitted to return to their Homes with two waggons & their Baggage.

Article 3d. Each Officer shall be allowed their Servants.

Article 4th. No Indian to enter the Fort until a British Detachment take Possession of the Fort.

Article 5th. Major Carleton passes his Honor that no Levies in the Fort shall be lost nor any Person be molested.

Article 6th. Each Soldier to carry his Knapsack.

Article 7th. Ensign Barrett shall be permitted to return home with his family & the regimental Books on giving his Parole to Major Carleton.

John Chipman, Capt. Comdg. 2d Batt'n;

James Rickman, Lt. 29th Regt;

Wm. Johnston, Lt. 47 Regt;

Ch'r Carleton, Major 29th Regt. &c. &c. &c.

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[No. 3266-3267.]

THE ENEMY APPEARS AT THE NORTHWARD.

*General Van Rensselaer Orders Out His Brigade—The Outlook in the Mohawk Valley.*

Claverack, Oct'r 13th 1780.

Dear Gov'r, Inclos'd I send you a copy of a Letter from Colo. Malcomb, in consequence of which have ordered the whole Brigade to march with the greatest dispatch, and intend to set off from this to morrow morning; have requested the agents of the State in this Quarter to forward on all the Cattle and flour they can collect. I am, Dear Gov'r, your most obed't

Robt. V'n Rensselaer.

To his Excellency George Clinton.

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Oct'r 14th 1780.

D'r S'r, I have this moment rec'd your Letter of yesterday. I perfectly approve your ordering out your whole Brigade; my orders of yesterday were for 800 but those of this morning were for your whole Brigade. I must beg you to hasten them on with

all possible speed & take them all the Povision that can be collected. I expect to set out for Albany tomorrow morning if not this Evening. I am &c.

G. C.

B. G. Rensselaer.

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Albany, Oct'r 13th 1780.

Sir, A very considerable body of the Enemy appeared on Tuesday at Fort Ann which was instantly given up by Capt'n Sherwood; they came on to the River and burnt a Number of Houses, about Fort Edward; yesterday they returned towards Lake George. Genl. Ten Broeck's Militia above Albany are ordered to Fort Edward.

This Morn'g I have an Express from Fort Schuyler, informing that Sr John, Butler and Brandt with a very large Body were at Oneida, that they had Cannon, Mortars, and Shells with them; an Ind'n Deserted and went into the Fort with this Notice and carried a five Inch Shell with him as an evidence. I have consulted with Genl. Tenbroeck, and he joins in opinion with me, that it is proper to have assistance from you of at least 800 men. I beg, therefore, that you will be pleased to give your orders accordingly; unless we have reinforcements immediately, no doubt but Fort Schuyler and all that remains of the fine Country, the Mohawk River, particularly Stone Arabia will be destroyed. It is also necessary that Cattle and flour come forward not only for your subsistance but for the Troops already here. It is a fact that we have no Beef, nor is there either wheat or flour collected notwithstanding my consent and most pressing Solicitations.

I am perswaded that you will see the propriety of marching the Troops forward instantly; you know little is to be depended

on in this Quarter and the Levies are necessarily scattered so that it is impossible to collect any Body of them without leaving some valuable part of the Country exposed.

I have wrote to the Gov'r this Morn'g, but at that time did not imagine the enemy were so formidable. Yours, very respectfully

W. Malcomb, Colo. Commdt.

To Genl. Rensselaer.

[Copy]

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[No. 3268.]

*Lieutenant Colonel Ezra Badlam's Letter for Permission to Export Flour.*

Totoway, 14th October 1780.

Sir, I wrote to your Excellency, some time last Spring, (in behalf of Major Peters, Captain Drew, Captain Alden, and myself) requesting your Excellency would be pleased to grant us a Permit for Eight Barrels of Flour, to Pass to the State of Massachusetts Bay; but for certain reasons, your Excellency could not grant it at the time, but gave encouragement that one should be granted, as soon as the difficulties, which then prevented, were removed.

If the difficulties are now removed, should be glad your Excellency would be Pleased to grant us a Permit for Eight Barrels, as we have precured it; and have an opportunity to have it transported. I am Sir with every sentiment of Esteem your Excellency's most obedt. very humble Servant

Ezra Badlam, Lt. Colo. 2 Mass. Regt.

Governor Clinton.

[No. 3269.]

*The Governor Apprises Washington of the Latest Raids of the Enemy and Asks for Continental Troops.*

Poukeepsie, 14th October 1780.

Dear Sir, I transmit your Excellency inclosed Copies of several Letters I received last Night at Kingston, from Colo. Malcom, Lieut't Colos. Lush & Livingston. They contain the only Accounts I have of the disagreeable Situation of our affairs to the Northward & Westward. I shall immediately set out for Albany, in employ'g every Means in my Power to oppose the further Progress of the Enemy & should Fort Schuyler be invested as there is Reason to apprehend, I will endeavor to succour that Post. Your Excellency will be informed by one of Colo. Malcom's Letters, that Van Schaack's Regt. is left Albany & on their Way to join the army, so that our whole Dependance at present must rest on the Militia. The Levies raised for the Defence of the Frontiers compose the Garrison of Fort Schuyler & Mohawk River, and at Schohary & are of Course very much dispersed.

If it was possible for your Excellency to spare some Continental Troops on this Occassion they woud inspire the Militia with Confidence & enable us to repel the Enemy. The Want of Supplies of every kind in that Quarter will greatly embarrass every Measure & I fear that with our utmost Exertions we shall fail in collecting a sufficiency of Provisison for the Troops that it may be necessary to keep in the Field in this Emergency. It is a little remarkable that we had not the least Intelligence from the Grants of the approach of the Enemy, tho' they passed their Settlements in Boats on their way to Fort Ann; this enterprize of the Enemy is probably the effects of Arnold's Treason & when



they are informed that the capital Object of it is discovered & defeated, it is to be presumed they may be discouraged in prosecuting the full extent of their Designs tho' I think we ought not to place any relyance on this Presumption. I am &c.

G: C:

His Excell'cy Genl. Washington.

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[No. 3270.]

*Governor Clinton's Reasons for His Inability to Meet General Greene.*

Pokeepsie, Oct. 14th 1780.

Dear Sir, I have rec'd your Letters of the 9th & 10th Inst. & am unhappy that it was not in my Power to have met you at Pokeepsie agreable to your appointment. I rec'd the information too late for the Purpose. I should do myself the Pleasure of waiting upon you at W't P't but from the Information contained in the Papers inclosed in the Letter to his Excellency Genl. Washington, (which I send under a flying Seal for your perusal & to be forwarded by Express) I find it absolutely necessary to proceed to Albany & intend to set out this evening or in the morning. The almost total want of every species of Supplies I fear will prove fatal to us. We have not a single continental Troop there & our whole dependence is in the militia & this to oppose a very formidable body of regular Troops. I am, with great Esteem D'r S'r yours &c.

G: Clinton.

Major Genl. Greene.

forward'd by Capt. Belding.

[Nos. 3271-3272-3261.]

*President Huntington Forwards to Governor Clinton Several Copies  
of Acts of Congress.*

Philadelphia, October 16, 1780.

Sir, Your Excellency will receive herewith enclosed a Copy of an Act of Congress of the 14 Instant, in Answer to the Letter of the 21 of September from the Senate & Assembly of New York: signifying their Approbation that the State of New York may substitute Flour in Lieu of any quantity of Beef which may be deficient on the first Day of November next, of the Quota allotted to that State agreeable to the restrictions & Proviso expressed in the Act.

Your Excellency will also observe that the Application for the relief of the Treasury of the State of New York cannot be complied with, for the reasons assigned in the enclosed Copy above mentioned.

I have also enclosed the Copy of an Act of Congress of the 10 Instant, respecting such unappropriated Lands as may be ceded or relinquished to the United States, pursuant to the recommendation of Congress of the 6 of September last. I have the Honor to be, with the highest respect, your Excellency's most obedient humble Servant

Sam. Huntington, President.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

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In Congress Oct'r 14th 1780.

The Committee to whom was referred the Letter from the Senate and House of Assembly of the State of New York of the 21st September delivered in a report which was read whereupon Congress passed the following resolution.

Whereas the State of New York was required by an act of Congress of the 25th Feb'y last to furnish eleven thousand two hundred Ct. Wt. of beef: and whereas it will be of public advantage to procure flour as near as possible to the military posts & quarters of the army.

Resolved, That Congress do agree that the State of New York according to their proposal set forth in the letter above mentioned may substitute flour in lieu of any quantity of beef which may be deficient on the first day of November next, of the quota allotted to the said State at the rate of four dollars and an half for every hundred weight of flour, and five dollars and an half for every hundred weight of beef, provided nevertheless that the said State shall continue to provide & deliver the quantity of beef requested to be furnished by the Committee of Congress lately with the army in their letter of the second of June last and eleven hundred & twenty five head of beef cattle in addition thereto.

The Committee to whom was referred the application of the State of New York and the motion of Mr. Livingston for the relief of the Treasury of that State report as their opinion

“That if the application should be granted the like benefit may be claimed for other States; that there is reason to fear that a compliance with such demands would involve the United States in the greatest difficulties, and that it cannot therefore be complied with.”

Resolved That Congress agree to the said report.

Extract from the minutes.

Chas. Thomson Sec'y.

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\*In Congress Oct'r 10th 1780.

Resolved, That the unappropriated lands that may be ceded or relinquished to the United States by any particular States

persuant to the recommendation of Congress of the 6th day of Sept'r last shall be disposed of for the common benefit of the United States & be settled and formed into distinct republican States which shall become members of the foederal union & have the same rights of sovereignty, freedom & independence as the other States. That each State which shall be so formed shall contain a suitable extent of territory not less than one hundred nor more than one hundred & fifty miles square or as near thereto as circumstances will admit.

That the necessary & reasonable expences which any particular State shall have incurred since the commencement of the present war in subduing any of the British posts or in maintaining forts or garrisons within and for the defence, or in acquiring any part of the territory that may be ceded or relinquished to the United States shall be reimbursed.

That the said lands shall be granted & settled at such times & under such regulations as shall hereafter be agreed on by the United States in Congress assembled or any nine or more of them.

Extracts from the minutes.

Chas. Thomson Sec'y.

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[No. 3273.]

#### THE ARMY IN A CRITICAL CONDITION.

*Commissary General Blaine Reports to the President of Congress  
That the Magazines Are Destitute of the Necessaries of Life.*

Philadelphia, 17th Octo'r 1780.

Sir, Permit me thro' your Excellency to remind Congress about the supplies of our army which gives me much real concern and uneasiness; they are now fed from day to day, and

scarcely a week has passed this three months, that they have not been one or two days wanting either bread or beef.

Your magazines are now destitute of Flour, Bread, Beef, Pork, Fish, Salt, Rum and none upon the continent, to my knowledge, can furnish one day's supply. The States of New Hampshire and Massachusetts-bay are our principal dependence for Beef; the French being stationed at Rhode Island has deprived the agent of that State from giving any assistance; indeed he is hard put to it, to find the continental troops on that Station, and the State officers of Connecticut told his Excellency Genl. Washington, at Hartford that little could be expected from that State.

I have no relief from the State of New York for the main army; they have not been able to furnish their frontier posts with Beef. I have had frequent applications for supplies, & they have actually had two or three hundred head of cattle from the committee of Massachusetts-bay. Jersey can furnish but little Beef and not a large quantity of flour; their quota of supplies must be furnished between this and the first of January, I believe there is not above one quarter of their supply of meat due. Pennsylvania as yet have delivered very little flour, no salt nor do I know of their buying any cattle. Sickness prevented my going to the State of Delaware and Maryland, therefore, can't inform you what is done in those places. The enclosed copies of Letters will shew you the situation of the Southern department. Major Forsyth, my deputy, I expect here every moment who will give you further information,

All the garrisons & posts in the middle department are destitute of provisions, and no means in my power of relieving them. The season is now advanced and passing, in which quantities

of Beef ought to be procured and laid in at these places, otherwise the troops must disband for want of subsistence.

I am distressed to think how the army is to be kept together thro' the winter; it will be impossible without large quantities of beef is laid in upon the North River contiguous to West Point, and at the magazines in Jersey; there is a very poor prospect at present, as the daily support of the army leaves none for that purpose. The supplies of fresh meat must undoubtedly fail in the winter, and without large magazines of salt meat are procured in due time the army cannot be fed,—those are matters which require immediate consideration & if delayed may be attended with the most serious consequences, which cannot be remedied.

There are large demands against me since last Spring and early in the Summer, part for the seizure of rum by order of his Excellency General Washington, at the time when our army march'd from Morristown against the Enemy when in Jersey, which he gave me express orders to settle and pay for. All the persons, receivers of Cattle and Butchers who are in my employ with the army, have received no pay since my entering upon the business of the department; those with the former sums will amount to two hundred thousand pounds, which I beg and request Congress to enable me to pay, without which it will be impossible for me to stay in camp.

Since the month of July and last of September in the vicinity of the army, and garrison of West Point, there has been seized from sundry persons above twelve thousand gallons of rum, and orders & certificates given upon me for payment; the people are very importunate for their money and give me great trouble. What can I do with them under present circumstances? The

want of rum in the army causes great uneasiness among the soldiery, more particularly when there is the least scarcity of provisions, and the consequence of not having a regular supply, causes seizures and those generally at thirty or forty per cent above the price it might be procured at.

The present mode of procuring supplies from the States has left no method pointed out for my Government, or directions in fixing the pay of my deputies & such other persons as may be occasionally employed in the department. I wish Congress to point out a regular line for my future conduct, and fix the pay of the persons I have engaged. Some of them have been employed a considerable time and are desirous of knowing what they are to have for their services. I have the honor to be with much respect your Excellency's most Obedt. & most humble serv't

Eph. Blaine.

His Excellency Saml. Huntington, Esqr.

[Copy]

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[No. 3274.]

*General Heath Ordered to Command at West Point—Reinforcements for the Frontiers.*

West Point, October 17th 1780.

Sir, Major General Greene, a day or two since, ordered Colonel Gansvoort's Regiment to the assistance of the upper Counties; they embarked yesterday but the wind has since been so fresh down the River as to prevent their sailing. I have this day ordered Weissenfels Regiment immediately to embark and sail for Albany, there to receive the orders of your Excellency or the commanding officer. I hope these Regiments will arrive in sea-

son to curb the incursions of the Enemy. Colonel Vanschaick arrived here this day with the Regiment under his command. I wish he had been detain'd, if it was necessary. His Excellency General Washington has ben pleased to honor me with the command of this post and its dependencies. Your Excellency can well form a judgment in what state this post is at present in respect to provisions, Fuel and forage, and the obstructions which the approaching cold season will soon throw in the way of obtaining them. While I assure you that the Interest of the State of New York and the security of this important post shall have my every attention. I earnestly request the continuation of your assistance, the salutary effects of which, for the public service, I have often experienced and on which at present I principally depend. I have the honor to be with the greatest respect your Excellency's most obedient Servant

W. Heath.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

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[Nos. 3275-3276.]

*The Enemy Destroys Schoharie.*

Dear Sir, The Letter of which the inclosed is Copy was delivered me this Morning. The Express who brought the Letter advises that Colonel Veeder directed him to inform Mr. Glen that 150 of the enemy in Addition to the Number mentioned in his Letter, were in the upper part of Schohary.

I shall in an Hour or two, as nearly as I can estimate, have between 6 & 700 Men; fifteen Head of Cattle intended for Fort Schuyler arrived here yesterday. I have ordered six to be killed this Morning to victual the Troops for two Days, and as I shall in all probability be necessitated to make use of the Rest and



want an additional Number, your Excellency will preceive the Necessity of directing the Agent to take Measures for replacing those destined for the Fort. The Cattle are extremely small and I am informd will not at an Average neat [net] more than two hundred wt. per Head.

As I have been disappointed in procuring the Horses & waggons I intended, I shall immediate march to Fort Hunter and upon my Arrival take such Measures as Circumstances will admit of to intercept the enemy's Retreat.

The express who brought Colo: Veeder's Letter says that Major Woolsey sallied from his garrison yesterday and killed five and took 2 of the enemy. The prisoners are British soldiers. I am, very respectfully, your Excellency's most obed't Servant

Robt. V'n Rensselaer.

Schenectady Oct'r 18<sup>th</sup> p A. M.

Lower Fort Schohary, Oct'r 17th 1780.

Dear Sir, The Enemy have burnt the whole of Schohary; the first fire was discovered about the middle Fort 8 O'Clock this morning; they passed by this post on both sides at 4 O'Clock this afternoon; they took the whole of their booty and moved down to Harmen Sitneys; they have fired two swivel shoots thro' the roof of the church. I have sent three scouts to make some discoveries about the middle Fort at different times this day, and none have as yet returned; no express has arrived at this post from either fort; by what we have seen of the Enemy we suppose their force to be between 5 or 600, mostly regulars & Tories.

V. Veeder, Lt. Col.

3 O'Clock at night. The express says there were 150 more of the Enemy at the upper part of Schohary.

H. Glen, Esqr.

P. S. I have directed Colo. Veeder with all the Force he can collect from the different garrisons (so as not to weaken them too much) to hang on the enemy's Rear, but to avoid an engagement and I hope be able to be at Hand to support him.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 3277.]

*The Governor's Measures for the Defence of the Frontier.*

Albany 18<sup>th</sup> October 1780.

D<sup>r</sup> Sir, I wrote you yesterday, since which I have seen your Letter to Genl. Ten Broeck giving an account of the Enemy's appearance near White Creek. They are also at Schohary in very considerable Force, have'g artillery with them; they have compleated the Destruction of that Settlement. Thus circumstanced I have been obliged to divide the small Force that could be raised immediately from the lower Parts of this County to oppose the Enemy at Balls Town and Schohary, and as yet it is impossible to do more than detach Colo. Schuyler's Regt. to the assistance of the Militia in your vicinity; this I have directed Genl. Ten Broeck to do and they are to march immediately. Before I left Pokeepsie I wrote Genl. Washington accounts of the Enemy's appearance on our Frontiers & the Capture of Forts Ann & George and pressed the Necessity of send'g some Troops for our Relief. I am &c.

P. S. I this morn'g wrot to Genl. Washington, repeat'g my Request for Relief and immediately after this is done, I mean to set out for Schenectady, leav'g G. T. Broeck in Command here, with orders to forward you further assistance as soon as a sufficient number of Militia shall come in to render that measure proper. You will immediately order Colo. Stephen Schuyler's

Regt. to Saraghtoga, to join the Militia collecting there, and assist in the Protection of the Inhabitants in that Part of the Country ag't the Incursions and Depredations of the Enemy.  
Genl. Schuyler.

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[No. 3278.]

*Colonel Staats Estimates the Enemy's Strength at One Thousand, Including Two Hundred Indians.*

Lower Fort, October 18th 1780.

This moment your Exceclency's Letter came to hand: two Prisiners from Sir John's army, arivd at the same time, with the following Inteligenc, that Eight O'Clock this morning, Johnson, Butler and Brant, movd with their army from Sidnyes saw-mill down the Mohawk Road to the said River, where they where to joyne the Party of the enemy from the Norward, of which their strenght by the acco'nt of the Prisoners, is one thousand men, of which where 2 hundred Indians; the Rest Rigular Troops and Torys: another Party of 150 where gone to Katskill: the Posts at this Place are safe.

Barent J. Staats, Lut. Colo.

To his Exceclency George Clinton, Esqr.

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[No. 3279.]

*The Enemy Ravaging the Country Near Fort Hunter.*

Mohawk River, 6 Miles East of Fort Hunter, Octo'r 18th 1780

6 P. M.

Sir, This Moment General Rensselaer is advised by express, that the enemy are burning the country in the Neighbourhood of Fort Hunter. Their Force could not be ascertained when

the Man came away. Genl. Rensselaer intends to push on by Moon Light, as soon as he possibly can; perhaps your Excellency may deem it advisable to order the Militia now at Schenecyady to march up, so as to cover our Retreat should we experience a Defeat, which we have, however, no Idea of at present, as the Militia evince not a disposition to engage as pomisses a happy Issue. I have the Honor to be your Excellency's most obed't Serv't

J. Lansing, Jun'r.

[To G. C.]

[No. 3280.]

*The Governor Notifies Washington of the Situation Along the Frontier.*

Albany, Octo'r 18th 1780 10 P. M.

Sir, I wrote to your Excellency from Poughkeepsie on Saturday last and communicated to you the accounts which I had then received from this Quarter. The next day I set out for this place and arrived here on Monday. Upon my arrival I found the main Body of the Enemy which appeared in the Northward had returned by the way of Lake George and that part of the Country seemed again to be in a State of Tranquility. Yesterday morning, however, I was informed that a Party had made its appearance at Ballston, and destroyed some Buildings there, and about noon we received accounts that the Enemy were at Schohary and it is now confirmed that they have destroyed the whole of that valuable Settlement. Their Numbers of one Division are computed at about 600 and the account of the other Division is uncertain. They have artillery with them. Major Woolsey who commands . . . of Levies made a Sally from one of the small Forts there and took two Regulars

and killed five Savages. By what Route they came, or mean to return, I have not been able to ascertain.

Yesterday morning I ordered Genl. Van Rensselaer with some Troops to Schenectady, with Directions as soon as he could make the proper Discoveries and if his Force should appear competent to march and endeavor to intercept them. By a Letter from Gen. P. Schuyler at Saratoga, I am informed that the Enemy yesterday burnt the Settlement of White Creek in Charlotte County, and the Smoke was discoverable from the Height near his House. The Post at Fort Edward after the Removal of the Stores is evacuated; the Levies who were stationed there having insisted that their Time of Service is expired and Colo. Livingston the Commanding Officer with the other Officers are now on their Return. I have ordered out the whole of the Militia from this part of the State; a considerable part are already in the Field and I shall leave this immediately for Schenectady in order to make the necessary arrangem'ts.

From this State of matters your Excellency will perceive the necessity of sending a Force, if it can possibly be spared, for the Defence of this part of the Country. No Dependence can be placed on the militia's remaining long from Home, and the three months Levies will soon be dismissed, so that without some farther Protection, Schenectady and this Place will be our Frontiers.

I received no Intelligence from the Grants, either whether the Enemy have done any mischief there, and whether their militia is turning out for our assistance.

[G. C.]

[To General Washington.]

[Nos. 3281-3282.]

*Colonel Webster Calls upon Governor Chittenden for Militia.*

Bennington, 8 o'Clock evening 18th Oct. 1780.

Sir, I enclose to your Excellency a Copy of a letter I this moment received (by Express) from Colo. Webster, requesting the assistance of the Militia of this Neighbourhood to his assistance.

I have called for the assistance of the Militia of Berkshire County, who have attended in the late alarm, are still in the north, watching the motions of the Enemy.

I have, nevertheless, sent for Berkshire Militia to call on me as soon as may be, who I shall send immediately to your assistance, unless I have counter advice from your Excellency by the time of their arrival. I am, Sir, your Excellency's obed't hum'le Servant

Thos. Chittenden.

P. S. This State are always ready to cooperate in any measures to frustrate the designs of the common enemy.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

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White Creek, 18th Oct'r 1780.

Dr Governor, This morning about 10 o'Clock, I rece'd an express from Capt. Childs of Granvil, begging for assistance as he was informed by the return of a flagg that the Enemy lay at Tyconderoga and Independence, in number 150, besides a riinforcement they had got; then I immeadiately ordered the Regiment to march for assisting the frontiers; but one hour after this, rece'd an express from Cambridge that the Enemy had burned Ball Town, & were on their way either for Stillwater, or Saratoga and were in number 500 strong. I must, therefore,

beg your assistance either at this place, Saratoga or fort Edward or we may all be cut off. Genl. Allen is informed of the above information; his Excellency Gov. Clinton is at Albany and Desired me to inform your Excellency as above. & request your assistance in order to git ahead of the Enemy if possible. I am, your very obt. Hum. Serv't

Alex'r Webster, Col.

Gov. Chittenden.

[No. 3283.]

### WASHINGTON'S GLOOMY OUTLOOK.

*Temporary Enlistments Detrimental to the Cause and Expensive—*  
Circular *A Catalogue of Evils.*

Head Quarters, near Passaic Falls, 18th October 1780.

Sir, In obedience to the orders of Congress, I have the honor to transmit your Excellency the present state of the troops of your Line, by which you will perceive how few men you will have left after the 1st January next. When I inform you also that the troops of the other lines will be in general as much reduced as yours, you will be able to judge how exceedingly weak the army will be at that period, and how essential it is the states should make the most vigorous exertions to replace the discharged men as early as possible.

Congress are now preparing a plan for a new establishment of their army which when finished they will transmit to the several States with requisitions for their respective Quotas. I have no doubt it will be a primary object with them to have the levies for the War, and this appears to me a point so interesting to our Independence, that I cannot forbear entering into the motives which ought to determine the States without hesitation or alternative to take their measures decisively for that object.

I am religiously persuaded that the duration of the War and the greatest part of the misfortunes and perplexities we have hitherto experienced are chiefly to be attributed to the System of temporary enlistments. Had we in the commencement, raised an army for the War, such as was within the reach of the abilities of these States to raise and maintain, we should not have suffered those military Checks which have so frequently shaken our cause, nor should we have incurred such enormous expenditures as have destroyed our paper Currency and with it all public credit. A moderate compact force on a permanent establishment capable of acquiring the discipline essential to military operations would have been able to make head ag't the enemy without comparison better than the throngs of militia which at certain periods have been, not in the feild, but in their way to and from the Feild; for from that want of perseverance which characterises all militia, and of that coercion which cannot be exercised upon them, it has always been found impracticable to detain the greatest part of them in service even for the term for which they have been called out, and this has been commonly so short, that we have had a great proportion of the time, two sets of men to feed and pay, one coming to the army and the other going from it. From this circumstance, and from the extraordinary waste and consumption of provisions, Stores, Camp equipage, arms, Cloathes and every other article incident to irregular troops, it is easy to conceive what an immense increase of public expence has been produced from the source of which I am speaking. I might add the diminution of our agriculture by calling off at critical Seasons the labourers employed in it, as has happened in instances without number.

In the enumeration of articles wasted, I mention Cloathes.



It may be objected that the terms of engagement of the levies do not include this; but if we want service from the men particularly in the cold Season we are obliged to supply them notwithstanding, and they leave us before the Cloaths are half worn out.

But there are evils still more striking that have befallen us. The intervals between the dismissal of one army and the collection of another have more than once threatened us with ruin, which humanly speaking nothing but the supineness or folly of the enemy could have saved us from. How did our cause totter at the close of 76, when with a little more than two thousand men we were driven before the enemy thro' Jersey and obliged to take post on the other side of the Delaware to make a shew of covering Philad'a, while in reality nothing was more easy to them with a little enterprise and industry than to make their passage good to that City, and dissipate the remaining force which still kept alive our expiring opposition!

What hindered them from dispersing our little army and giving a fatal blow to our affairs during all the subsequent winter, instead of remaining in a state of torpid inactivity and permitting us to hover about their quarters when we had scarcely troops sufficient to mount the ordinary Guards?

After having lost two Battles and Philadelphia in the following Campaign for want of those numbers and that degree of discipline which we might have acquired by a permanent force in the first instance, in what a cruel and perilous situation did we again find ourselves in the Winter of 77 at Valley Forge, within a day's march of the enemy, with little more than a third of their strength, unable to defend our position, or retreat from it, for want of the means of transportation?

What but the fluctuation of our army enabled the enemy to detach so boldly to the southward in 78 and 79 to take possession of two States, Georgia and South Carolina, while we were obliged here to be idle spectators of their weakness—set at defiance by a Garrison of six thousand regular troops, accessible every where by a Bridge which nature had formed, but of which we were unable to take advantage from still greater weakness, apprehensive even for our own safety?

How did the same garrison insult the main army of these States the ensuing Spring and threaten the destruction of all our Baggage and Stores, saved by a good countenance more than by an ability to defend them? And what will be our situation this winter, our army by the 1st January diminished to a little more than a sufficient Garrison for West Point, the enemy at full liberty to ravage the Country wherever they please, and, leaving a handful of men at New York, to undertake expeditions for the reduction of other States which for want of adequate means of defence will it is much to be dreaded add to the number of their conquests and to the examples of our want of energy and wisdom?

The loss of Canada to the Union and the fate of the brave Montgomery compelled to a rash attempt by the immediate prospect of being left without troops, might be enumerated in the Catalogue of evils that have sprung from this fruitful source. We not only incur these dangers and suffer these losses for want of a constant force equal to our exigencies, but while we labor under this impediment it is impossible there can be any order or oeconomy or system in our finances. If we meet with any severe blow, the great exertions which the moment requires to stop the progress of the misfortune, oblige us to

depart from general principles to run into any expence or to adopt any expedient however injurious on a large scale to procure the force and means which the present emergency demands. Every thing is thrown into confusion, and the measures taken to remedy immediate evils perpetuate others. The same is the case if particular conjunctions invite us to offensive operations; we find ourselves unprepared, without troops, without magazines, and with little time to provide them. We are obliged to force our resources by the most burthensome methods to answer the end, and after all it is but half answered: the design is announced by the occasional effort, and the enemy have it in their power to counteract and elude the blow. The prices of every thing, men, provisions &c. are raised to a height to which the Revenues of no Government, much less ours, would suffice. It is impossible the people can endure the excessive burthen of bounties for annual drafts and substitutes increasing at every new experiment: whatever it might cost them once for all to procure men for the War would be a cheap bargain.

I am convinced our system of temporary inlistments has prolonged the War and encouraged the enemy to persevere. Baffled while we had an army in the Field, they have been constantly looking forward to the period of its reduction, as the period to our opposition and the season of their successes. They have flattered themselves with more than the event has justified; for they believed when one army expired, we should not be able to raise another: undeceived, however, in this expectation by experience, they still remain convinced, and to me evidently on good Grounds, that we must ultimately sink under a system which increases our expence beyond calculation, enfeebles all our measures, affords the most inviting oppor-

tunities to the enemy, and wearies and disgusts the people: This has doubtless had great influence in preventing their coming to terms, and will continue to operate in the same way. The debates on the ministerial side have frequently manifested the operation of this motive, and it must in the nature of things have had great weight.

The interposition of neutral powers may lead to a negotiation this winter. Nothing will tend so much to make the Court of London reasonable as the prospect of a permanent army in this Country, and a spirit of exertion to support it.

'Tis time we should get rid of an error which the experience of all mankind has exploded, and which our own experience has dearly taught us to reject—the carrying on a War with militia, or, which is nearly the same thing, temporary levies against a regular permanent and disciplined force. The Idea is chimerical, and that we have so long persisted in it, is a reflection on the judgment of a nation so enlightened as we are, as well as a strong proof of the empire of prejudice over Reason. If we continue in the infatuation, we shall deserve to lose the object we are contending for.

America has been almost amused out of her liberties. We have frequently heard the behavior of the militia extolled upon one and another occasion, by men who judge only from the surface, by men who had particular views in misrepresenting, by visionary men whose credulity easily swallowed every vague story in support of a favorite Hypothesis. I solemnly declare I never was witness to a single instance that can countenance an opinion of militia or raw troops being fit for the real business of fighting. I have found them useful as light parties to skirmish in the Woods, but incapable of making or sustaining a seri-

ous attack. This firmness is only acquired by habit of discipline and service. I mean not to detract from the merit of the militia. Their zeal and spirit upon a variety of occasions have entitled them to the highest applause; but it is of the greatest importance we should learn to estimate them rightly: we may expect every thing from ours that militia is capable of, but we must not expect from any, services for which Regulars alone are fit. The late Battle of Campden is a melancholy comment upon this doctrine. The militia fled at the first fire, and left the Continental troops surrounded on every side and overpowered by numbers to combat for safety instead of Victory. The enemy themselves have witnessed to their Valor.

An ill effect of short enlistments which I have not yet taken notice of, is that the constant fluctuation of their men is one of the sources of disgust to the officers. Just when, by great trouble fatigue and vexation (with which the training of Recruits is attended) they have brought their men to some kind of order; they have the mortification to see them go home, and to know that the drudgery is to recommence the next Campaign. In Regiments so constituted, an officer has neither satisfaction nor credit in his command.

Every motive which can arise from a consideration of our circumstances, either in a domestic or foreign point of view, calls upon us to abandon temporary expedients and substitute something durable, systematic and substantial. This applies as well to our civil administration as to our military establishment. It is as necessary to give Congress, the common Head, sufficient powers to direct the common forces, as it is to raise an army for the War, but I should go out of my province to expatiate on Civil affairs. I cannot forbear adding a few more remarks.

Our finances are in an alarming state of derangement. Public credit is almost arrived at its last stage. The people begin to be dissatisfied with the feeble mode of conducting the War, and with the ineffectual Burthens imposed upon them, which shew light in comparison with what other nations feel are from their novelty heavy to them. They lose their confidence in Government apace. The army is not only dwindling into nothing, but the discontents of the officers as well as the men have matured to a degree that threatens but too general a renunciation of the service, at the end of the Campaign. Since January last we have had registered at Head Quarters more than one hundred and sixty resignations, besides a number of others that never were regularly reported. I speak of the army in this Quarter. We have frequently in the course of this Campaign experienced an extremity of want. Our officers are in general indecently defective in Cloathing. Our men are almost naked, totally unprepared for the inclemency of the approaching season. We have no magazines for the winter; the mode of procuring our supplies is precarious, and all the reports of the officers employed in collecting them are gloomy.

These circumstances conspire to shew the necessity of immediately adopting a plan that will give more energy to Government, more vigor and more satisfaction to the army. Without it we have every thing to fear. I am persuaded of the sufficiency of our resources if properly directed.

Should the requisitions of Congress by any accident not arrive before the Legislature is about to rise, I beg to recommend that a plan be devised which is likely to be effectual for raising the men that will be required, for the War, leaving it to the Executive to apply it to the Quota which Congress will fix. I flatter myself, however, the requisition will arrive in time.

The present Crisis of our affairs appears to me so serious as to call upon me as a good Citizen to offer my sentiments freely for the safety of the Republic. I hope the motive will excuse the liberty I have taken. I have the honor to be, with the highest Respect, Yr. Excellency's most obt. and humble Serv't

Go. Washington.\*

His Excellency Gov. Clinton.

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[No. 3284.]

*Colonel Henry B. Livingston to George Clinton—Important Letters Lost.*

Johns Town 11 O'Clock.

D'r Sir, I just now rec'd yours; we have been here about half an Hour and the men much Fatigued but I shall march them as requested in about an Hour. An accident happened to your express sent to Saratoga via Johnstown: he was Challenged by my advance; forcibly past them, thinking we were the Enemy and threw away his pocket Book, Containiing your Letters which could not be found; as want of knowledge of the Country, prevents my guesing at the Contents. I can take no other measure, than that of acquainting your Excellency. I believe we shall be able to procure Cattle at this post. I am, D'r Sir, your Humble Serv't

H. B. Livingston.

P. S. Your Express is two much fatigued to return: the man I send you may be depended upon.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

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\*This letter of General Washington to Governor Clinton differs in several minor verbal respects from the circular which is printed in the Writings of George Washington edited by Worthington Ford, Vol. VIII, pages 502-508.—STATE HISTORIAN.

[No. 3285.]

*Colonel Livingston Proceeds by the River Road.*

Johnstown 1 O'Clock.

D'r Sir, I have rec'd your two Letters the one dated four and the other five Miles from Fort Hunter. We set out immediately for Colo. Klock's. Capt. Gano is with us, and we have replaced his garrison with the lame men and some unarmed. We shall proceed by the River Route, as we are informed by Capt. Gano that it is impossible to take our waggons the other Road, and we cannot spare a guard sufficient for their security if we send them alone. We have had no Intelligence of the Enemy's movements except thro' your Excellency. I am, with Respect, your Excellency's most obed. ser't

H. B. Livingston.

His Excellency Gov. Clinton.

[No. 3286.]

*Colonel Dubois in Pursuit of the Enemy.*

11 O'Clock.

D'r Coll, We are now as far as Fall Hill Bell's House, in full pursuit of the Enemy; they pass'd this place sum half an hour high; they spoke with some people here, and said that they had 1200 pick'd men and could go where the pleas'd; after they pass'd this a smart firing was heard, supposed to be at the fort as they pass'd the Germain Flatts; I have three more prisners of their party; no Time must be Lost, in pursuing them. Sir John is wounded through the thigh; they Enquired of Esqr. Bell particularly, concerning the strength of Fort Scuyler and their Numbers there; the Left all their Cattle behind them where they Cross'd the River. Esqr. Bell supposed their Numbers to be



about 400; they Divided at the Fall Hill one part by Germain Flats the other by Andrus Town. I am, yours sincerely,

Lewis Duboys.

Genl. Ranslear.

[No. 3287.]

*General Van Rensselaer Close upon the Enemy—Colonel Brown Reported to Have Been Defeated.*

Canajoharie opposite Frey's 11 A. M.

Sir, This Morning about nine I arrived so near the Enemy's Rear as to afford me a prospect of engaging them before Noon. They have, however, by the Celerity of their Movements affected their Escape to Stone Arabia, part of which is now in Flames & the whole will probably share the same Fate, before I can possibly support the distressed Inhabitants. I intend to ford the River immediately and march in quest of them, but harrassed and fatigued as my Force is by a long March, I am apprehensive I shall not be able to pursue them with that Dispatch which is necessary to overtake them. No Exertion, however, shall be wanting on my part to effect it.

Two prisoners who were brought in at Fort Hunter informed Mr. Cuyler that Sir John intended to return by the way of Crown Point; that he had left his Boats in the Onondaga Lake but had since altered his intended Rout to Crown Point by the way of Stone Arabia. I am, your Excellency's obed't Servant

Robt. Van Rensselaer.

Dubois will join me at Wahradth's about a Mile above this. I am this Moment informed that Colonel Brown who with a party opposed the Enemy was defeated. His Loss is not ascertained. The Enemy are it said between 600 & 1000 strong. His Excellency Gov. Clinton.

[No. 3288.]

*The Enemy Only a Mile in Van Rensselaer's Advance.*

Sir, The Enemy are by the best Intelligence I can collect and from their Burnings about a Mile in Advance of my Brigade. I have about 900 Men including about 50 [?] Indians. I shall pursue with as much Dispatch as is consistent with Safety to the Troops under my Command. I am, your Excellency's obed't Servant,

A Deserter who arrived this afternoon advises that the Enemy's Force does not exceed 500 Men.  
Mohawk River about 2 Miles above Fort Rensselaer, North Side of the River  $\frac{1}{2}$  after 5 P. M.

[No. 3289.]

*General Ten Broeck Despatches Expresses to Colonels Van Bergen and Snyder.*

Albany, 19th Oct'r [1780] 1 O'Clock in the morning.

Sir, Your Excellency's letter I have Received with the Inclosed note from Lieut. Col. Staats;\* have wrote to Col. Van Bergen & Col. Snyder the Intelligence it Contains & an Express will go with it Instantly. I have nothing farther from the northward since your Excellency left this, nor from Ballstown; if any Cattle come they will be forwarded Immediately, I will deliver Colo. Hay your message. I Remain, with great Esteem, your Excellency's most Obedient Humble Servant

Ab'm Ten Broeck.

His Excellency, George Clinton, Esq.

\* See Staats to Governor Clinton, page 305.

[No. 3290.]

*Cattle and Flour in Transit from Albany to Schenectady.*

Albany, 19th Oct'r [1780 ?] 4 O'Clock P. M.

Sir, Mr. Benson's favor of this date, I have Received & have delivered Dr. McCrea's note to Dr. Treat; he is Preparing the necessaries & will send them on Immediately. Thirty head of Cattle & 50 Barrells of Flour are this moment going on to Schinectady. My Exertions shall be used in forwarding on Provisions as fast as they come. I beg your Excellency's Pardon for opening the Inclosed Letter from General Schuyler. I wish I was able to Comply with his Request. I need not tell your Excellency that it is Impossible Considering the weak state of my Body. I shall Continue to do every thing in my Power to forward the Service. I have sent him a Copy of Mr. Benson's letter & have wrote in the most Pressing manner to the Colonel, his Brother, now in his march to Saratoga to Push on & Endeavor to Intercept Sir John if he should Escape Genl. Rensselaer. I Remain, your Excell'cys most Humble Servant

Ab'm Ten Broeck.

P. S. Ab't 150 men of Livingston's militia are now Crossing the Ferry. I shall hurry them on.

His Excellency George Clinton.

[No. 3291.]

*Colonel Stoutenburgh Ready to Impress Supplies from Private Families.*

Albany, 19th October, 1780.

D'r Sir, I acknowledg the rec't of your favour of this Date, it affords me great Satisfaction that I am able to inform your Excellency that it is in my Power to comply with your demand

of both Cattle and flour, (without proceeding to an Immediate Impress from private Families,) most of the latter is already on the Road; the Cattle will be sent on from here early tomorrow morning, they consist of 30 head of fine Cattle; if your Excellency thinks it necessary after this Supply to proceed to Impress from Private Families, I stand ready to Execute your Commands; in the mean time, shall wait your Excellency's further orders, while I am with the most Sincere Esteem & Regard, your Excellency's most Obedient Hum. Serv't,

Isaac Stoutenburgh.

His Excellency Gov. Clinton.

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[No. 3292.]

*Flour and Cattle Arrive at Fort Herkimer.*

Fort Harkermer, Saturday 1 O'Clock.

Sir, Col. Livingston is just arrived; he tells me Proviissions are coming on, booth flower & Cattle. I have Procur'd a Number of baggs & Impress'd some good Horses and shall be on as soon as Possible. Col. Hay will be here with more Provititions in about three Hours. I am &c.

J. Dyckman.

Gov'r Clinton.

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[No. 3293.]

*Colonel Duboys in Vigorous Pursuit of the Enemy.*

Fort Harkerman 1 O'Clock [October .. 1780.]

D'r Sir, I am here; pursued the Enemy so close that I prevented them from Burning or Doing the Least Damage to the Inhabitants; from what I can Learn by the Inhabitants, the

Enemy is not above four miles in front of us; my men much Fatigued, without Provisions. I must here make a halt, untill I can get some provisions to Refresh them,

The Enemy is very much fatigued, They travelled almost all night, without any Refreshment; they must make a halt.

This moment, I Rec'd Information that the Enemy is at a place Call'd Shoemaker's Land, about four miles from here; Genl. Ransler this moment appears in Sight with the Militia.

The Enemy are Bending their Course for Buck Island. I am  
your

Lewis Duboys.

P. S. My men have agreed to march without eiting. I expect to catch them in 3 ours thime.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

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[No. 3294.]

*List of Ordnance and Stores Captured from Sir John Johnson.*

A Return of Ordnance & Stores taken from the British army, Comm'd by Sir John Johnston. Fort Rensselaer Oct'r 19th 1780:

1 Piece Brass Ordnance 3 pd. with Emplim'ts Comp.; 23 Rounds, Round Shott fix'd; 10 do Canister; 1 Quadrant; 2 Powder measures; 1 hand Saw; 1 four pd. wt.; 1 half do; 1 Quart'r do; 1 Scale beam; 1 mallet & set; 20 fuses; 1 Seane marlin; 2 Port fires; 1 Cole Chisel; 1 augur; 1 Punch; 1 Seane Quick match; 100 wt. Corn Powder; 1 Drudging box.

Jo. Driskill, Lieut. Artillery.

[No. 3295.]

*Impress Warrant to Henry Glen and Colonel Wemple.*

By his Excellency George Clinton, Esquire, Governor of the State of New York &ca. &ca. &ca.

To Colo. Abraham Wemple, & Henry Glen, Esqr. or either of them Greeting.

The Emergency requiring the same, you are hereby authorized & required to impress forty Head of Fat Cattle & Sixty Barrels of Flour, for the Use & Service of the Army for which this shall be your Warrant.

Given at Scheneectady, this 19th October, 1780.

Geo. Clinton.

The Provision impressed is immediately to be forwarded to the Troops under my Command.

Geo. Clinton.

[No. 3296.]

*Sir John Johnson Escapes Again—The Situation in Saratoga County.*

Saratoga, Octo: 20th 1780.

Dear Sir, Your Excellency's favor of yesterday morning from Caghawaga I had the pleasure to receive at five in the afternoon. I am happy to learn that Sir John Johnson has been overtaken and put to rout; when your letter arrived, we had about 150 men at Fort Edward and as many more had arrived here about ten in the morning; those at Fort Edward without any beef, and those here with none but what I could furnish them, all my cattle fit for the knife are already killed and I have sent to try and collect some more, but I fear a supply will arrive too late to push a party in pursuit of the enemy who

were at Ballstown. I have, however, sent to Fort Edward on the subject, but with little hopes that any will move from thence; one of the enemies party, who stole into the Country and was taken, informs that Major Carlton intended to remain at Tyconderoga and to push for White Creek as soon as the militia should be retired; the prisoner calls himself an ensign and came from New York in August last. Another villain is gone past here, who corroborates the account as some Tories advise with whom he lodged.

The panic that has siezed the people is incredible; with all my efforts I cannot prevent numbers from deserting their Habitations, and I very much apprehend that the whole will move, unless the militia will remain above until a permanent relieve can be procured. I am D'r Sir, most sincerely your Excellency's  
Obed: Hu. Serv't

Ph: Schuyler.

His Excellency Gov. Clinton &c.

The women and Children whose husbands are gone to Canada still remain here; they will be an intolerable burthen to the Country if they remain in it all winter. I beg your Excellency as soon as you can spare time to turn your attention to their disposition.

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Albany, Oct'r 26 1780.

Sir, I have been favored with your Letter of the 20 Inst. We are just returned from the Pursuit of Sir John, tho unfortunately without that complete Success, which I informed you we had Reason to expect after the Engagem't at Canajoharie. There are, however, ab't 40 Prisoners and the Enemy have lost their Baggage & artillery; this action also stopt them in their Devastation & obliged to fly with precipitation.

Colo. Gansevoort's Regt. has marched to your Frontier; this I doubt not will give you immediate Protection and a Proportion of the Levies will be ordered to that Part of the Country as soon as they are raised.

The necessary Passports for the women & Children you mention, shall be made out immediately, after I am furnished with their Names and the steps taken prescribed by the Law made for that Purpose.

[G. C.]

[General Philip Schuyler.]

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[No. 3297.]

*The Exposed and Defenceless Condition of the Northern Frontier.*

Saratougea Oct. 20th 1780.

Dear Gov'r, Inclosed you have a Copy of the Request of a Council of the offerces and Inhabitants of White Creek and the Parts adjacent theirto. Maj'r McCracken and myself went on as far as Stilwater, but haveing understud that your Excelency was gone to the westward we Proceed no further. I need not take up time to inform your Excelency of our Defensless Situation, and the Danger that we are in, but rest asured that your Excelency will take all Proper measures to Protect us and supply us with necessarys of Defence.

We have no surtain Intellygence in whut Position the enemy is in to the northward, but by all accounts they are at Tycon-taroga or theirabout. I am, with Respect and esteem, your Excelency hum. S't

Ebe'r Russell.

[To G. C.]



[No. 3298.]

*A Day of Prayer and Thanksgiving for Delivery from Arnold's  
Perfidy.*

Circular.

Philadelphia, Octo'r 20th 1780.

Sir, Your Excellency will receive herewith enclosed a proclamation recommending Thursday the seventh day of December next to be observed as a day of thanksgiving & prayer. I have the honor to be with the greatest respect your Excellency's most Obed't humble serv't

Sam. Huntington, President.

His Excellency, Gov. Clinton.

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 Proclamation.

Whereas it hath pleased Almighty God, the father of all mercies, amidst the vicissitudes & calamities of war to bestow blessings on the people of these States which call for their devout and thankful acknowledgements; more especially in the late remarkable interposition of his watchful Providence in rescuing the person of our commander in chief and the army from imminent dangers at the moment when treason was ripened for execution; in prospering the labours of the husbandmen and causing the earth to yield its encrease in plentiful harvests, and above all in continuing to us the enjoyment of the gospel of peace.

It is, therefore, recommended to the several States to set apart Thursday the seventh day of December next, to be observed as a day of public thanksgiving & prayer—that all the people may assemble on that day to celebrate the praises of our divine benefactor—to confess our unworthiness of the least of his favours, & to offer our fervent supplications to the God of all grace—

that it may please him to pardon our heinous transgressions and incline our hearts for the future to keep all his laws—to comfort and relieve our brethren who are in any wise afflicted or distressed—to smile upon our husbandry & trade—to direct our public councils and lead our forces by Land and Sea to victory—to take our illustrious ally under his special protection, & favor our joint councils and exertions for the establishment of speedy and permanent peace—to cherish all schools and seminaries of education, and to cause the knowledge of Christianity to spread over all the earth.

Done in Congress, this eighteenth day of October, 1780, and in the fifth year of the Independence of the United States of America.

Sam. Huntington, President.

Attest Chas. Thomson, Sec'y.

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[No. 3299.]

*Joseph Packwood's Letter—Employed by the French Admiral to Purchase Supplies.*

Fish Kills Oc'r 21, 1780.

Please your Excellency: The enclos'd is a desire of his Excellency, Monsieur la chevalier de Ternay, Admirall of the French Squadron at Newport, Rhode Island, and also Generall Heath, that I may be Employ'd and am, to purchase one thousand Barrels of Flower, in this State, for the use of the Army and Navy. I have contracted with Matthew Van Benschooten, for the afore-said Quantity, and beg your Protection. I am with due respect your Excellency's most Obedient and most Hum'e Serv't

Joseph Packwood.

His Excellency Geo. Clinton, Esqr.

[No. 3300.]

*Colonel Klock Directed to Call Out Tryon County Militia—Colonel Bellinger to Send 20 Men of His Regiment to Fort Dayton and 20 to Fort Herkimer.*

Fort Renselaer, Oct. 23d, 1780.

Sir, The late Invasion of the Enemy has delayed the raising of the Troops which were intended to relieve the Levies in this County; and it will be some days hence before any Troops can be collected for the Defence of the several Posts on the River; you will, therefore, order out from the County Militia such number of men to those Posts as the Officer commanding the Department shall require, and you may be assured they will be relieved as soon as possible. I am &c.

[G. C.]

To Col. Klock, commanding the militia in Tryon County.

(Copy)

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 Fort Herkemer, Octo. 23d 1780.

To Colo. Bellinger;

Sir, Until Troops can be raised for the Defence of the County, it is necessary that the Militia be detached to hold the Frontier posts. You will, therefore, order Twenty men of your Regiment into Fort Dayton, and the same number into Fort Herkemer, this day. There will be officers left at those Posts to direct the Duty, and your men will be relieved as soon as possible. I am &c.

[G. C.]

[No. 3301.]

*Colonel Vrooman Ordered to Garrison the Schoharie Forts.*

Head Qrs., Fort Herkimer, 23d Oct'r 1780.

Colo. Vrooman is without Delay to embody as many Men of his Regiment as he shall deem sufficient for the garrisoning of

the several small posts at Schohary, & for keeping out scouts on that part of the western Frontier, and to station them as he shall esteem best for the protection and security of the Inhabitants and to relieve them occasionally. Such of the Levies raised for the Defence of the Frontiers as are in that Quarter are to remain there and be continued in their present Service.

By order of his Excellency, the Gov'r.

Stephen Lush, A. D. Camp.

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[No. 3302.]

*Systematizing the Gathering of Army Supplies.*

In Congress Oct. 24th 1780.

Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on the letter of the 17th Instant from E. Blaine, Commissary General of Purchases, Whereupon,

Resolved, that Colo. Blaine, Com'y Genl. of Purchases, be directed to make accurate returns to Congress of the supplies furnished by each State since the last day of December last.

That the State Agents transmit to the commander in chief, and to the Com'y Genl. respectively, monthly returns of all the provisions which shall be drawn into their hands, specifying the articles & magazines or places where they shall be deposited. And as this regulation is of the utmost importance to the safety of the army and the success of military operations, it be earnestly recommended to the several legislatures to enjoin it as a duty on their State Agents under penalties which will enforce a prompt & punctual obedience; and that the com'y General transmit copies of all such returns to the board of war without delay; and that he also lay before Congress a general monthly

return of all provisions which shall hereafter be furnished by the States.

That a copy of the letter of Colo. Blaine & its enclosures, be transmitted without delay to the several States, who are hereby requested to take into their serious consideration the present want and distresses of the Army; That they furnish & forward by means the most efficacious, the supplies requested from them respectively, and that this subject from the advanced season of the year, the critical state of our affairs; and the calamities consequent on the dissolution of the army ought in the opinion of Congress to engage the unremitting attention of the States.

Extract from the minutes.

Chas. Thomson, Sec'y.

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[No. 3303.]

*Colonel Webster Reports the Movements of the Enemy on Lake Champlain.*

White Creek, Oct'r 24th 1780.

D'r Governor, Ever since the 10th Instant we have been all armed and embodied. Ever since our return from Fort Edward the alarms came both from the westward and north. I keep out Scouts betwen Fort Edward and Skeinsborough and shall continue till otherways provided for. I received last night a letter from General Allan, a copy of which I should a sent your Excellency, if the want of paper had not prevented me, but this much he says: the enemy my scouts have discovered them and been reconitring their motions from Saturday; yesterday eight days ago their shipping lay off Mount Independence; they moved down the Lake lay awhile at Putnam's Point. A large body of them at the same time occupied the westward

shore, as appeared from their fires and passing to and from their shipping; they moved from thence to Buluagge and Grog Bays, Rayment's Mills and its Vicinity; the last scout informs that they reconitred those bays and other parts of the lake from the beautiful relm in Panton, but discovered none of the enemy on their shipping, tho 5 of their Vessels had been discovered in those bays the day before; they further add that they herd a brisk firing of small arms down the Lake but it being foggy they could not see the enemy; this contains the particulars. Date Oct'r 22nd 2 of the Clock P. M. 1780.

Sir, as I have wrote to you before and have received no answer and as we jointly joined officers and principle Inhabitants in Council and sent Major McCracken and Squire Russel with our resolves to your Excellency, and as they by hearing of your being at Schenactedy only wrote and sent the resolves, I can only add I do my best to keep the people from moving off and act upon the defensive till I here from your Excellency; being in great heast [haste] most begg to be excused, and remains your Excellency's Very Ob'dg Humble Servant

Alex'r Webster.

His Excellency George Clinton.

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[No. 3304.]

*Disastrous End of an Expedition Sent to Destroy the Euemy's  
Boats on Onondaga Lake.*

Extract of a Letter from Capt. Jona. Lawrence, Jun'r., to Colo. Saml. Drake, dated at Fort Schuyler, Oct'r 24th, 1780:

"On the 22d Inst. agreeable to Orders from the Gov'r & Cool. Malcom, a Party of 2 -2 -4 & 50 Privates commanded by Capt.

Vroman, Joshua, the other Capt. was sent out in order to harrass the Enemy's front & flank & if possible to destroy the Boats in Onondaga Lake, which could it have been effected, would have been the means of the whole of their force falling into the Hands of Genl. Rensselaer who was following them in their Rear. On their arrival at Canasheaga, they found the Enemy had just moved off, & that 7 men of the Party had deserted, & finding the Enemy to be numerous by their Tract & the militia not pursuing their Rear so close as they had Reason to expect, the Officers agreed to retreat back to the Fort; they had returned three miles destroying the Indian Settlements when unfortunately, my unhappy friend with the Party were surrounded by about 500 who they discovered not until the Enemy gave the Indian Shout. Two of the Party, after the Enemy begun to disarm them, pushed thro' them, who fired several Shots, but fortunately they escaped; one of them was my man, who Joshua, had taken as a waiter; he arrived about an Hour since."

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[No. 3305.]

*Inhabitants of Schenectady Petition That Their Regiment be Allowed to Remain at Home to Protect Their Own Frontier.*

To His Excellency, George Clinton, Esqr. Governor of the State of New York &c. &c. &c.

The memorial of the Inhabitants of the Town of Schonectady Humble sheweth That Col. Wempel has received order from General Ten Broek for to send Several men from his Regiment to Fort Rensselaer.

And, whereas, the present situation of this place is become a frontier Town, which we have reason to believe the Enemy aims to destroy, and which we your memorialist are a good deal concerned about, particularly when we Consider the Different Settlements round about us, if we turn our eyes to the north, we find a Settlement called Galloway, and another called Peasly, who are all enemies to the Country and even Balls Town a great part of them; To the southwest from us we have the Hellebergh, which are likewise mostly Tories, at which places the enemy may lay conceald untill they find an opportunity to destroy this place. And one half of our Regiment are joining to these Settlements.

We, your memorialist, therefore, humbly pray that your Excellency will take our Situation in Consideration and grant that our Regiment may remain at Home to defend this place. And as Balls Town is likewise exposed to great Danger of an other

attack of the enemy we lying nearest to them might on occasion be a great assistance to the good people of that place.

And we your memorialists as in duty bound shall ever pray Schoneclady Octob'r 14th 1780.

Gerret G. Lansing, Mindert Wemp, Claus Hall, Lancaster Conner, William White, Hendrick Brouwor, Ab'm G. Lansingh, Jno. G. Lansingh, jur.—And'w McFa[ ]; Abraham Fonda, Corn's Z. V. Santvoord, Jesse D. De Graaf, John Sters, Saml. Thorn, John Marsalis, Albert Meebie, Gerrit Joh, Lansing, Arent Vedder, Alex'r McMichael, Ch's Miller, Ant. Bradt, Henry Kortright, Dav. Burns, Alb. S. Veader, Abram Groot, Simon Degraff, Nicolas Degraf, Jesse Peak, Cornelis Dae Graaf, Ham. Mynderse, Eldert Ament, Hendrik H. Veeder, Simon J. Antwerp, Thaddeus St. John, Joseph Yates, James Stuart, Reuben Simonds, Ab'm Yates, Simon Vroman, Barnardus F. Schermerhorn, [...] Van Denbogart,

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[No. 3306-3307.]

### THREE SPIES CONVICTED.

*Two Sentenced to be Hanged and the Third Repriced by the Governor.*

State of New York.

General Orders—Octo. 25th 1780.

A General Court Martial whereof Lieut't Colo. Command't Weissenfels is President and Lieut. Colo. Livingston, Major Davis, Major Price, Capt. Norton, Capt. Magee, Capt. Marselis, Capt. Heermanse, Lieut. Hyatt, Lieut' Van Hoevenburgh, Lieut. Andrew Heermanse, and Lieut't Bloodgood are members, is to meet immediately at such Place as the President shall appoint for the Trial of all such offenders as shall be brought before them.

John Lansing, Jun., Esqr. to act as Judge Advocate.

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State of New York.

At a general Court Martial convened by order of his Excellency Governor Clinton, at Albany the 25th Day of Oct'r 1780 for the Trial of all such offenders as shall be brought before them.

Lieutenant Colonel Command't Wiesenfels, President.

Members.

Lieut. Colonel Livingston,	Capt. Hermanse,
Majors Davis,	Lieuts. Hyatt,
Price,	Van Hoevenbergh,
Capt. Norton,	Vreeligh,
Magee,	A. Hermanse,
Marselis,	Bloodgood,

John Lansing, Jun'r., Judge Advocate.

The president, Members and Judge Advocate being duly sworn, Jacob Schell was brought before the Court and charged by the Judge Advocate with being a Spy, under the Act of the Legislature of this State entitled "An act subjecting all persons who shall come out from the Enemy & secretly lurk in any part of this State to Trials by Courts Martial as Spies."

To which Charge the prisoner plead Not guilty.

Leonard Gansevoort, Esqr., Sec'y to the Commissioners of Conspiracies sworn.

Quest. Did the prisoner make any, and what Confession in your Hearing?

Ans'r. The prisoner confessed he belonged to Captain Richard Duncan's Company in Sir John Johnson's Regiment; that on the 22d Day of January, 1777, he the prisoner went to New York; that he was with Sir John Johnson in his late Expedition as far as Onondaga, at which place Sir John called him out of the Ranks and granted him.



permission to go and see his Family; that he was ten Days travelling from Onondaga to the Helle-Bergh; that Sir John Johnson charged him to tell the Inhabitants (meaning as the witness believes the Inhabitants of the United States) that if they remained quietly at Home they would not be injured; that when he the prisoner came to the Helle Bergh upon inquiring whether Capt. Van Aernum was at Home, he was informed he was not; that he, thereupon, sent word to Capt. Van Aernum's wife that he would surrender himself whenever the Captain returned; that upon being informed that Captain Van Aernum was returned he surrendered himself as a prisoner of war; that upon being particularly interrogated whether he conceived himself a Deserter he answered, that he was no Deserter, and if he might be permitted to remain at Home he would behave himself peaceably & quietly.

Quest. Do you know whether the Helle-Bergh, the prisoner mentioned, is in the State of New York?

Ans'r. I have frequently heard there is such a place in the County of Albany in this State and know of no other place of that Name.

The prisoner being requested to make his Defence, alleges that his Inducement for coming into the Country was, his having left a distressed Family who stood in Need of his Assistance; that he could not take Arms in Favor of the Americans because he was not clear of the British Army; that he meant, if he was detected, to surrender himself prisoner of war and intended to behave himself peaceably if he might be permitted to remain in the Country.

The Judge Advocate suggested to the Court that Capt. Guy Young was a material witness on the present occasion, with the Nature of whose Testimony he was entirely unacquainted till after the prisoner had made his Defence, he begged the Court would permit his introduction as a witness.

Thereupon the Court orders that he be admitted accordingly.

Capt. Guy Young sworn.

Question. Did you hear the prisoner confess whether he intended to remain at Home or not upon his Return?

Ans'r. He informed me yesterday, that if the Militia had not been flocking in, he would have got clear and that he intended to return to a place appointed for that purpose; that he thought it was better to surrender himself a prisoner of war than to be killed on the way.

Quest. Do you know a place called the Helle-Bergh.

Ans'r. I do. It is about 15 Miles from the City of Albany. I believe it is in the State and it is the place of Residence of Capt. Van Aernum the person who brought the prisoner to Albany.

The prisoner then being again called upon to proceed in his Defence repeated his former Allegations.

The Court upon considering the Evidence are of the opinion that the prisoner is guilty of the Charge exhibited against him & sentence him to be hung by the Neck till he be dead.

Then the Court adjourned till to Morrow Morning 9 O'clock.

26th Oct'r 9 A. M. Court met according to Adjournment.

John McMullen was brought before the Court & charged by the Judge Advocate with being a Spy under the above mentioned Act.

To which he plead Not guilty.

Samuel Stringer one of the Aldermen of the City of Albany sworn.

Quest. Do you know the prisoner. Ans'r. I do.

The Judge Advocate then delivered Mr. Stringer a paper purporting to be the Confession of the prisoner and asked Mr. Stringer whether he recollected having signed that paper as a Magistrate.

Ans'r. I signed it as a Magistrate. The prisoner made the Confession before me contained in it voluntarily, and after its being read to him he acknowledged it to be right and subscribed it. The paper marked No. 1 is annexed to these proceedings.

Quest. Do you know whether Stilwater is in the State of New York?

Ans'r. There is a place called Stilwater in this State about 24 or 26 Miles from Albany, I know of no other place of that Name & believe that to be the place the prisoner alluded to in his examination.

Quest. Did the prisoner on his examination confess that he had enlisted the six Men mentioned in his Confession before or after his arriving in this State?

Ans'r. I understood that he was sent to St. John's to enlist, and that he had enlisted the six Men at that post.

The Court upon a Consideration of the evidence are of opinion that the prisoner is guilty of the Charge exhibited against him & sentence him to be hung by the Neck till he be dead.

James Van Driesen was then brought before the Court & charged by the Judge Advocate with being a spy under the Act aforesaid.

To which the prisoner plead not guilty.

Samuel Stringer, Esqr., sworn.

The Judge Advocate put into Mr. Stringer's Hand a paper purporting to be the examination of the prisoner and asked him whether that examination was taken before him and if so in what Manner that Confession was taken? The examination No. 2 is annexed.

Ans'r. The prisoner in his examination before me, made the Confession contained in that paper voluntarily and after its being read to him subscribed it in by presence. The prisoner made no Defence.

The Court upon considering the evidence are of opinion that the prisoner is guilty of the Charge exhibited against him & sentence him to be hung by the Neck till he be dead.

Resolved, unanimously that, as Van Driesen one of the prisoners has intimated to this Court that he can make Discoveries advantageous to the United States, it be recommended to his Excellency, the Gov'r to grant a Reprieve to the said Van Driesen, to afford Time to enquire into the Nature & extent of his Discoveries.

Then the Court adjourned without day.

Fred: Weissenfels Lt. Colo. Commandant 4t N. Y. R. President.

City of Albany in the State of New York SS.

John McMullan being examined says that he formerly did belong to Colonel Sheldon's Corps of Light Horse. That he was sent out along to patrol, and was captivated by the enemy. That he then enlisted in Colo. Emerick Corps of Light Horse in the British Service. That he soon after procured a man to enlist in Emerick's Corps in his stead, and obtained a Dismission. That all his Happen'd in the Spring of the year after the Surrender of General Burgoyne and his army. That he remained in the City of New York and on Long Island until some time about July last. Then he left New York with Thomas Man, and met George Gosby & proceeded up through this State of New York & went to Canada. That George Gosby joined them near Dobbs Ferry. That they arrived at St. Johns on the eleventh day of August last. That Thomas Man in their way up the east side of Hudson's River went into a House on the east side of the Highway at some distance from Poughkeepsie Court House & got provisions, that this was done in the Night. That he the examinant got Bread and dried Fish bro't to him from his mother's House in his way Northward. That soon after his arrival in Canada he was appointed an ensign in Ebenezer Jessup's Corps. That he was at St. Johns and engaged men for the Service in the British army as they arrived there. That he came out with the Party under Major Carleton who were lately at Fort Ann and destroyed part of Charlotte County. That he left the Party near Lake George. That Major Jessup gave him permission to leave the party and come into the Country; that he was to return by the first opportunity. That he had not any written permission or Furlow. That he came to the House of one Tinkey, near Batten Kill, where he was concealed about two Days and two nights. That Tinkey knew that he had come from the British army. That Tinkey told him of a Canoe to cross Hudson's River. That the said Tinkey did not charge him any thing for his lodging & provisions at his House. That he left the House of Tinkey in the Evening intending to proceed to see his mother and was apprehended a little below the place called Stillwater; that he was apprehended a little before day light in the morning. That he had engaged Six men in the Service, but has not as yet received a Commission.

John McMullen.

Taken the 25th of October 1780, Before me.

Saml. Stringer, Alderm'n.

James Van Drie-en, being examined says that he was born in Oswego in Dutchess County; that he removed to Newtown about six years ago; that he joined Burgoyne's Army in 1777 at Fort Miller, and remained with him till he surrendered, that he then went home to Newtown, that he took an oath of allegiance to the State of New York before he went to Burgoyne; that Governor Skeene administred an oath to him while

with the British Army in which he swore to be true to King George; that while there he was employed as an artificer and received Pay; that since Burgoyne's Surrender he has remained at Newtown and worked at different Places; that some Time in the month of May about the 10th of the month, McIntosh Van De Bergh's Son in Law sent him word that Moffat was going to pilot a Party to Canada; that Capt. Joshua Losey also informed him that Moffat was going & that Moffat with his Party was to meet at John Ostrander's and that Losey with his Party was to be at Saragotoga Lake, where both Parties were to join; that Moffat sent one William Totten to old Moore to ask him whether he had seen a Party of men; that Mr. Moore sent an answer that he had not seen any; that Moore's Son went Part of the way with them; that after being fired upon by a Party of militia they separated and he proceeded to Canada; that when he arrived in Canada he joined McAlpine's Corps (which he was enlisted in at the Time he was with Burgoyne); and that he bore Arms while in Canada; that he came out in the late Expedition with Major Carleton and was with the Party while the action at Bloody Pond happened, and was at the taking of Fort Ann and Fort George; that he left Major Carlton's Party at Lake George; that when he made application to Major Jessup for leave to go and see his Family, the major informed him that he would send a Man with him whose Name is McMullen and that McMullen was going into the Country; that Moffat was also coming but when Moffat understood that the Examinant was to come he persuaded Major Jessup not to let the Examinant go, upon which his leave was countermanded that he afterwards came away without leave; that the Examinant travelled alone sometimes along the Road till he came to William Vrooman's House near the Fish Creek to Saragotoga; that the first House he came to he found a woman to whom he made himself known, who said she was glad to see him, and would do him all the good she could; that the woman said her Husband was from Home and that he the Ex't has since heard he lay in garrison at Palmertown; that the woman sent to Vrooman's House for Vrooman to come over, that Vrooman's wife came and took the Exam't over to the House; that when he came there Vrooman was not in the House (as he supposed because he was afraid of being taken); that Vrooman after a while came in and was very kind to him; that the Examinant on asking whether he could not proceed safely along the main Road was answered by Vrooman that it was dangerous, but that he would bring him to Brisben's House and that he reckoned if he was once there that Brisben would put him on safe way to get along; that he has understood that Brisben's Christian Name is James and that it is the same man who is now in Confiement with him; that when they came to Brisben's House & Vrooman made known to Brisben who the Examinant was, Brisben appeared a good deal dissatisfied and said he would have nothing to do with him; that Vrooman then brought the Examinant on the main Road near Col. Van Veghten; that Brisben while the Ex't was at his House, asked him whether he was hungry and said he would not turn away a man that was hungry; that two young Fellows from the Scotch Patent joined Major Carrilton's Party at Fort George; that the Name of the one he understood was young Archibald McNeal and the Name of the other was Gillechrist.

his  
James X Van Driesen.  
mark

Taken before me this 23d Day, of Oct'r 1780.

Saml. Stringer, Alderman.

Lewis Van Antwerp says James Van Driesen took a Bounty of thirty Pounds to enlist in the 9 months Service, and afterwards deserted to Canada; that he offered three half Johannis's to the guard to let him escape.

State of New York.

General Orders Albany Oct'r 26 1780.

Field Officer of the Day Major Davies.

Tried at a Criminal Court Martial whereof Lt. Colo. Commandant Weisenfells was President, Jacob Shell, John McMullen and James Vandriesen charged as Spies and under an act of the Legislature of this State entitled "An act subjecting all Persons who shall come out from the Enemy & secretly lurk in any Part of this State to Trials by Court Martials as Spies" severally sentenced to be hanged by their Necks until they be dead. His Excellency the Governor approves of the Proceedings and confirms the Sentences. Shell & McMullen are to be hanged at the Common Place of Execution near the Barracks this afternoon at four O'Clock. Vandriesen is respited for the Space of

fourteen Days. The Field Officer of the Day will give the necessary Directions for the Executions.

The Continental Troops, Levies and the City Regiment of Militia, are to parade at three O'Clock and attend at the Place of Execution.

Genl. Orders.

The execution of James Van Driesen,\* lately tried by a Genl. Court Martial whereof Lt. Colo. Comdt. Weissenfels was Presid't, convicted as a spy & sentenced to be executed accordingly, is further respited until the first Day of December next.

Hd. Qrs. Pokeepsie Nov'r 3d 1780.

[No. 3308.] †

*Address of Corporation of Albany to Governor Clinton.*

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 respectful address of the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of Albany. May it please your Excellency.

We the Mayor Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of Albany, beg leave to congratulate your Excellency, on your safe return to this place.

It affords us the highest Satisfaction, that your Excellency has, by the Suffrages of the people, at the last general Election; been continued as chief magistrate of the State; and we reflect with pleasure, on the prospect of a continuation of those civil and Religious Liberties, which we in common with other our fellow citizens, have enjoyed, under our free constitution, and your wise administration.

While we lament the late cruel Depredations committed by a barbarous and savage enemy on the Frontiers of this State, it gives us infinite pleasure, that your Excellency (ever attentive to the preservation and protection of its inhabitants, and to punish the Insolence and cruelty of the Foe), has manifested a Disposition, and exerted your Endeavor, to repel their Incursions; and altho unsurmountable Difficulties have arisen against effecting the compleat capture of their Forces; yet we congratulate your Excellency on their defeat at Conajohary, by the militia and Levies under the command of Brigadier General Rensselaer; and permit us to add that our Happiness is increased, by the consideration, that the Enemy were restrained from the completion of their purposes, by the vigorous pursuit of your Excellency with the Troops; whereby many valuable Buildings and great Quantities of Grain, devoted to Destruction in the minds of the Enemy, were preserved.

We wish your Excellency every Happiness in public and private Life; and whatever the Enemies to our peace and mankind in general, may conceive from the intriguing schemes of their enterprizing Politicians; we trust that good Providence, which has so often protected the people of the United States of America, from the secret arts and machinations of the Enemy, will abate their pride and confound their Devices.

In Testimony of the high sense we entertain of your Excellency's Zeal and Fidelity in promoting the public good, we beg leave to present your Excellency with the Freedom of this city.

By order,

Ab'm Ten Broeck, Mayor.

Albany Octob'r 26th 1780.

\*See page 358.

†[Note on this document in pencil: "The reply to this may be found next volume No. 3343, which is out of place, having no date. H. A. H." (Henry A. Homes)].

[No. 3309.]

*Colonel Gansvoort Marches to the Defence of the Northern Frontier.*

Albany, Oct'r 26 1780.

Sir, I am favored with your Letter of the 20th Inst. Colo. Gansvoort has marched his Regt. for the immediate Defence of the northern Frontiers and as soon as the Levies are raised, a Proportion of them will be ordered for the same Purpose. This I hope will give you Security and preserve the Country ag't further Incursions of the Enemy. The Inhabitants of Charlotte County may rest assured of an equal attention to their Safety with those of any other Part of the State. I am &c.

[G. C.]

Ebenezer Russell, Esqr.

[No. 3310.]

*Marching Orders for a Regiment.*

Albany, Oct. 26 1780.

Sir, To morrow you will march your Regiment for Schenectady. The following day you are to detach the Levys incorporated with your Regiment to the German Flatts. The officer who shall command them will receive Instructions from Colonel Malcom, who as he has some Time past commanded in the Department, is best acquainted with the posts to be occupy'd & the means of obtaining Supplies &c. You will hold yourself ready to march with the residue of the Regiment on the shortest notice. I am, Sir, your very Hbl. serv't

[No. 3311.]

*Dr. George Smyth Asks Leave to Go to Canada.*

Albany, 26th Oct'r 1780.

Please your Excellency. By virtue of the Inclosed Copy, I have Divested myself of all my Effects, even my House, and the

flour I had to support my Family. I am new Confin'd to my Roome and yard, because I attempted to proceed on my Journey; all which, I suppose, derives from the malice and inhospitable machinations of a Private Enemy in the Board, &c.

I Humbly and most Submissively intreat your Excellency, to have Compassion on my Distress'd, and in every way, Disagreeable Condition. Bereft of every means to give me Comfort; no House to Cover me, and a Helpless family, with my own infirmities will, I hope, attract your Excellency's Commiseration, to grant me Permission to retire. I have the Honor to be, with prayers for your Wellfare, your Excellency's Most Obt. and very Humble Serv't

Geo. Smyth.\*

His Excellency, Governor Clinton.

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[No. 3312.]

*Details for the Reorganization of the Army on Washington's Plan.*  
Circular.

Philadelphia October 26, 1780.

Sir, Your Excellency will receive herewith enclosed, Copy of an act of Congress of the 21 Instant, which makes some Alteration in the late Arrangement of the Army and the Numbers of each regiment of Infantry requested by the resolution of the 3 Instant, as also in the Cavalry.

The whole of the Troops are to be enlisted during the war and join their respective Corps by the first Day of January next.

The Officers who will be reduced by this arrangement as well as those who shall continue in Service, are entitled to half pay during Life.

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\* See pages 287-288.

You will receive from the Commander in Chief the proper returns to ascertain the Deficiencies of Troops in the respective States.

It may not be improper to add that the enclosed resolution was adopted in Consequence of a Letter from the Commander in Chief expressing his Sentiments on the Subject in pressing & explicit Terms. I have the Honor to be, with the highest respect your Excellency's most obedient & most humble Servant.

Sam. Huntington, President.

His Excellency The Governor of New York.

In Congress Oct. 21st 1780.

Congress resumed the consideration of the report of the committee on Genl. Washington's letter of the 11 Inst. Whereupon,

Resolved, That the several regiments of infantry requested from the respective States by a resolution of the third instant be augmented and consist of,

One colonel, one Lieut. Colonel, & one major where the full Colonels are continued or

One Lieut. Colonel commandant and two majors where the colonels are not continued.

9 Captains; 22 Subalterns; 1 Surgeon; 1 Surgeon's Mate; 1 Serjeant Major; 1 Quarter Master serjeant; 45 Serjeants; 1 Drum Major; 1 Fife Major; 10 Drums; 10 Fifes; 612 Rank & file.

That there be one Captain & two subalterns to each company, and that the four supernumerary subalterns shall each have the rank of Lieutenant, one of which is to reside in the State to

which he belongs to enlist & forward on recruits, one drum & one fife from each regiment to attend the recruiting officers, the other three supernumerary officers to do the duty of the Paymaster, Quartermaster & Adjutants in their respective regiments.

That the regiments of artillery be augmented to ten companies each.

That instead of 4 regiments of cavalry there be four legionary corps consisting of 4 troops of mounted dragons & two of dismounted dragoons each consisting of 60 Privates with the same number of commissioned and non commissioned officers to each troop as at present.

That there be two partizan corps, consisting of three troops of mounted and three of dismounted dragoons of fifty each, one of which corps to be commanded by Colo. Armand & the other by Major Lee, and officered by appointment of the commander in chief with the approbation of Congress and that the commander in chief be authorized to direct a mode for compleating, recruiting & supplying the said corps.

That the whole of the troops be enlisted during the war and join their respective corps by the first day of January next.

That the commander in chief & commanding Officer in the southern department, direct the Officers of each State to meet and agree upon the officers for the regiments to be raised by their respective States from those who incline to continue in service and where it cannot be done by agreement, to be determined by seniority, & make return of those who are to remain, which is to be transmitted to Congress together with the names of the officers reduced, who are to be allowed half pay for life.

That the officers who shall continue in the service to the end



of the war shall be entitled to half pay during life, to commence from the time of their reduction.

Extract from the minutes.

Chas. Thomson, Sec'y.

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[No. 3313.]

*General Schuyler and the Defence of the Northern Frontier.*

Saratoga, Octo. 27<sup>th</sup> 1780.

Dear Sir, Yesterday I received the Inclosed; part of Colo. Gansevoort's regiment marched Immediately and the remainder moves this morning. I question wether the Enemy will make a second Incursion this way, but I have my apprehensions for White Creek. I intended to have done myself the honor to have waited on your Excellency at Albany; but should the Enemy make a penetration, my presence here will be absolutely necessary. The militia at Fort Edward have killed their last Cattle and I fear they will not be supplied in this quarter. I, therefore, intreat that some may be sent from below.

Mr. Macfarlan informs me that the Indians at Schenectady will be destitute of provisions in a few days and that Colo. Hay gives no hopes of a supply; permit me to intreat your Excellency's Intervention. I wish your Excellency could take a ride to this place before you return to Poughkepsie.

I opened the Inclosed from Colo. Webster, apprehending it might contain some Information and knowing you was then to the westward.

The women and children which are here, if they do not go to Canada, must be removed into the Country as they cannot possibly subsist here. If they are sent to Canada, I wish Jacob Snyder and Abraham Mills' families were detained, and that

your Excellency would order it so; their husbands have thrown out some threats which they say will execute as soon as their families are out of our possession. I am, Dear Sir, with perfect Esteem & regard your Excellency's most obedient Hum. Serv't

Ph: Schnyler.

His Excellency Gov: Clinton &c.

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[No. 3314.]

*Colonel Van Woert Estimates the Enemy's Force at Twenty-five Hundred Strong.*

Albany, 29th Oct. 1780.

Sir, The inclosed is Copy of a Letter I received last Night from Collo. Van Woert; in Consequence of it I have ordered my Brigade to march immediately (except three Regiment Vizt. Vroman's, Wemple's and Cuyler's). The Latter as they may be soon collected, to march at the shortest Notice; the other two I intend to leave Home unless there is an absolute necessity for them.

As soon as I get any farther Accounts I shall send them to your Excellency. With Great Regard and Esteem, I remain your Excellency's most obedient humble Serv't,

Ab'm Ten Broeck.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

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(Copy)

Cambridge, Oct. 28th 1780.

I have just now received an Express from Collo. Webster from Granvil, that a Body of the Enemy have landed at Skeensborough yesterday at one O'Clock in the afternoon. As the Enemy seem determined to burn White Creek without assistance from farther parts, we wont be able to hinder them to push down.

Their Force seems to be two thousand five hundred strong, to the best Intelligence I can get. I got word likewise that the Enemy had possession of Castle Town and for that Reason I dont expect assistance from the Grants. This from your humble Serv't

Lewis Van Woert, Collo.

The Honble. Genl. Ten Broeck.

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[No. 3315.]

*The Governor Forwards a Concurrent Resolution of the Legislature to the Delegates in Congress.*

Pokeepsie Oct'r 29th 1780.

Gentlemen, Agreeable to the Request of the Legislature, I do myself the honor of transmitting you, their concurrent Resolution of the 10th Instant. The Incursions of the Enemy on the northern & western Frontiers, whither I was under the necessity of repairing immediately on the rising of the Legislature, prevented my forwarding it sooner & the same Reason prevented the forwarding of the Dispatches, which accompany this, from the Legislature. I have the Honor &c.

Geo: Clinton.

The Honble. The Delegates of the State of New York: In Congress.

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[No. 3316.]

*The Governor Informs James Duane of the Devastation Along the Mohawk Valley.*

Pokeepsie, Oct'r 29th 1780.

Dear Sir, I returned late last Evening from Tryon County & have only time at present, by Mr. Ray who just stop'd here on

his way to Phila., to acknowledge the Receipt of your Letter by Mr. Knolton, who arrived the Even'g before I left home. Colo. Benson informs me of the receipt of another Letter from you by Mr. C. . . . . which was forwarded to me at Albany; but which as I returned by water I have not yet received.

I must refer you to the enclosed Paper for an acc't of our and the Enemy's Proceed'gs on the Frontiers as far as it respects men: but I have the mortification to inform you, that for want of a permanent & adequate force & before a suff't body of the militia could be assembled to prevent it, the whole of the valuable Settlem't of Schoharie & a part of the Settlem't of Balls Town & almost the whole of the Intermediate Country on both sides of the Mohawk River from Fort Hunter to Fort Rensselaer at the upper end of Cannojoharie, including the settlement of Stone Arabia are burnt & laid waste; on a moderate Computation we have losst at least 150,000 bush'ls of wheat besides other Grain & forage & 200 Dwellings. Schenectady may now be said to become the limits of our western Frontier, the first Object worth a new Enterprize.

I am not surprized at the Conduct of Congress with respect to our dispute with the People on the Grants; for upwards of a year past it has appeared to me that they were encouraged & supported in their Revolt & that Delay was studied to strengthen their opposition. There were many, however, who firmly believed that Congress would take up the matter & decide upon it & enforce their Decision agreeable to their Resolutions of June last. The Evasion of it and the encouragement afforded to the Revolters has given universal Disgust to all Ranks of People, & in confidence I cannot but inform you that the most sensible among us begin to be [                    ] of a pre-

meditated intention to make a sacrifice of this State to answer the political views of others & of Interested Individuals, & I should not be surprised, tho' I may be mistaken, if these Jealousies should so far prevail as that at the next meeting of the Legislature, our Delegation should be withdrawn & the Resources of the State which have hitherto so lavishly been afforded to the Continent, be withheld for our own Defence.

Yourself, Mr. Floyd, Mr. Scott, Mr. L'hommedieu & Genl. McDougall are appointed Delegates for the ensuing year & by the next convenient opportunity your Commission will be transmitted. I have the honor to be &c.

Geo: Clinton.

P. S. I lodged at Colo. Livingston's the night before last & I have the Pleasure of inform'g you that Mrs. Duane & the family are well.

The honble, James Duane, Esqr.

Since writing the above, I am informed, tho' not officially, that a Detachm't of Sixty men who were ordered to march from the Garrison of Fort Schuyler to hang on the enemy's flank in their Retreat, unfortunately before they discovered the Enemy, fell in with their main body & the whole of them two excepted, are made Prisoners. I am in great Hopes, however, that this Account is not true as the Orders given to the Party by Maj'r Hughes was couched in the most cautious Terms; they were to proceed with the greatest Circumspection & not to hazard any Thing that might endanger their Retreat.

[No. 3317.]

## OUR VICTORY AT KINGS MOUNTAIN.

*Col. John Lamb Forwards Washington's Congratulatory Order to Governor Clinton.*

West Point, 29th Octob'r 1780.

Dear Sir, I sincerely congratulate you on the happy Success of our arms in Carolina; the particulars of which, are contained in the inclos'd Extract, from Genl. Washington's orders, of the 27th Instant.

We are anxiously waiting to hear, what success you have had, in driving Johnson, and his Blood-Hounds, out of the State. I am with every Sentiment of Respect, Dear Sir, your Excellency's Most Obedt. Hum'e Serv't

John Lamb.

His Excellency, Governor Clinton.

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Extract from General Orders, Totowa, 27th October 1780.

The General has the pleasure, to congratulate the army, on an important advantage, obtained in North-Carolina; over a Body of 1400, British Troops, and New Levies, Commanded by Colo. Ferguson. The Militia, of the Neighbouring Country, under Colonels, Williams, Shelby, and others, having assembled to the amount of 3000, Detached 1600, of their number on Horse-back, to fall in with Ferguson's Party, on its way to Charlotte; they came up with them, at a place called Kings-Mountain; advantageously Posted; and gave them a total defeat; in which, Colo. Ferguson, with 150 of his Men, were Killed; 800, made Prisoners, and 1500 Stand of arms taken;—On our part, the loss was very inconsiderable; we have only to regret, that, the brave Colonel Williams, was mortally wounded. This advantage, will in all probability, have a very happy influence, on the successive

operations, in that Quarter. It is a proof of the Spirit, and resources, of the Country.

Alex'r Scammell, Adj't. General.

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[No. 3318.]

*Difficulties in Maintaining Extreme Frontier Posts During the Winter.*

Poughkeepsie, Oct'r 30th 1780.

D'r Sir, Your Letter of the 17th Inst. reach'd me, on my Pursuit after Sir John Johnson, ab't 14 miles above Fort Herkimer. Gansevoort's & Weissenfels' Regt. did not reach Albany until the Enemy were driven out of the Country & those to the northw'd had recross'd the Lakes returned as far as the neighborhood of Ticonderoga.

The Inhab'ts on the northern Frontiers, from the easy access the Enemy had among them, were greatly distress'd & Colo. Gansevoort, before my return to Albany from the west'd by the advice of Genl. Ten Broeck, marched his Regiment to cover that part of the Country & prevent its being abandoned. Weissenfels marched to Schenectady; the Levies incorporated into it & whose times expire ab't the middle of Dec'r, were immediately to march to Fort Herkimer to keep open the Communication with Fort Schuyler. The Regt. itself will remain at Schenectady until a competent supply of Provision can be procured for the garrison of Fort Schuyler during the winter and to escort it up. A very inconsiderable part of the Supplies for this Service is as yet provided and unless particular Attention is paid to this Business, as the Season for water transportation in the course of a m'th will be over & it will be impossible to forw'd it by land, the Post must in the course of the winter be abandoned. The news

Papers will give you a pretty just account of the late Progress of the Enemy on the Frontiers, except as to the Devastations committed by them which it might not be so prudent to publish. They have destroyed at least 200 Dwellings & 150,000 bushels of wheat, with a proportion of other Grain & Forage; though by the rapid Pursuit after them, a considerable Tract of Country which would [have] shared the same Fate, was saved.

I shall be happy in rendering you every assistance in my Power in the execution of your important Command; but believe me, Sir, the distresses of this State are such that unless those which have experienced less of the war make greater Exertions than they have lately done, there will great Difficulties in maintain'g even your Post. I find Weissenfels Regt. exceed'gly Deficient in point of Clothing for the Climate to which they are destined. I should have been glad, therefore, if some other Regt. better provided, could have been ordered for that Duty, especially as I find from this consideration & because the Troops of this State conceive it a hardship to be obliged perpetually to garrison that Post, it is become extremely disagreeable to them. If the Direction of this matter does not lie with you, I shall be obliged by your communicating this Sentiment to his Excellency, the Commander in Chief. I remain with great Respect &c. &c.

Geo: Clinton.

The hon'ble Major Genl. Heath.

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[No. 3319.]

*General Ten Broeck Countermands Orders to His Brigade.*

Albany 30th Oct'r 1780.

Sir, I wrote your Excellency yesterday, since which I have Received accounts which seem to Contradict those of Col. Van-



Woert sent you. The Enemy had not Landed but are Still near Skeensborough; whether they will come into the Country is uncertain. I have Countermanded the Orders Issued in Consequence of Col. Van Woert's Information, and directed the whole Brigade to be ready to march at the Shortest notice. I Remain, your Excellency's most Humble Servant

Ab'm Ten Broeck.

His Excellency George Clinton.

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[No. 3320.]

THE LATEST RAID OF THE ENEMY.

*Severe Losses Incurred—Governor Clinton Forwards a Detailed Report to the Commander-in-Chief.*

Pokeepsie, Oct'r 30th 1780.

Dear Sir, My last Letter was dated at Albany & communicated the disagreeable Intelligence of the Destruction of Schoharie & Part of Balls Town, ab't 12 miles No. E't of Schenectady, since which I have not been able to write to your Excellency. As I then proposed, I immediately left Albany in order to take the necessary measures for check'g further Incursions of the Enemy. On my arrival at Schenectady I was advised that the diff't Parties of the Enemy at Schoharie & Balls Town had left those Places; the former moving towards the Mohawk River & the latter shaping their course towards Sacondaga. Genl. Van Rensselaer who had arrived at Schenectady before me at the head of ab't four or five hundred Militia & with orders to act according to Emergencies on receiving this Intelligence, immediately moved up the River in hopes of being able to gain their Front, but this proved impracticable as their route was much shorter & their Troops more enured to march'g; they reached

the River at the confluence of the Schoharie Kill ab't six miles ahead of him, & recommenced in that fertile Country their Devastations by burn'g the Houses & with marks of the greatest barbarity, destroy'g every Thing in their way.

Under these Circumstances I was exceedingly perplexed. The militia under Genl. Rensselaer were inferior in number to that of the Enemy. The few I had with me were too far in the rear to sustain them & not much could be expected from the militia of the Country, through which the Enemy passed, their whole attention being engaged in the preservation of their Families & the Levies were necessarily very much dispersed at the diff't Posts to cover the frontier Settlements ag't the Incursions of small Parties. Genl. Rensselaer, however, continued to move on & being soon after joined by Colo. DuBois with between 3 & 400 Levies & 60 of the Oneida Indians, pursued the Enemy with vigor; he came up with them and attacked them at Fox Mills (26 miles from where the Enemy first struck the River) about Sunset. After a considerable Resistance they gave way & fled w'th Precipitation, leaving behind them their Baggage, Provisions & a brass three Pounder with its ammunition.

The night came on too soon for us to avail ourselves of all the advantages which we had Reason to promise outselves from this action. The Enemy took advantage of passing the River at a Ford a little above where they again collected & renewed their march up the River with great celerity & it became necessary for our Troops, who had marched upw'ds of 30 miles without halting, to retire from the ground to refresh themselves. The Pursuit was, however, renewed early in the morning & the Enemy so closely pushed as to prevent their doing any farther mischief.

The morning after the action, I arrived with the militia under my immediate Command: but they were so beat out with fatigue, having marched at least 50 miles in less than 24 Hours, as to be unable to proceed any farther. I, therefore, left them & put myself at the head of the advanced Troops & continued the pursuit till within ab't 15 miles of Oneida, & if we cou'd possibly have procured Provisson to have enabled us to have persisted one or two Days longer, there is little Doubt but we might have succeeded at least so far as to have scattered their main Body & made many Prisoners, but there was no supplies, but such as I was obliged to take from the Inhabitants on our Route & these was inadequate & the Collection of them attended with Delay, nor could the Pack Horses with the small Quantities procured in this disagreeable manner, overtake us in so rapid a march through a perfect wilderness. I was, therefore, obliged tho' reluctantly to return, most of the Troops having been near two Days utterly destitute & unable to proceed. Sir John, Brandt & Butler, immediatly after the action at Fox Mills, left their Troops & with a Party of Indians on Horseback, struck across the Country & went towards Oneida, taking their wounded with them. We discovered where they joined their main body again near the waters of the Susquehanna ab't six miles on this side where we quitted the pursuit. Brandt was wounded through the foot.

The Enemy's Force under Sir John, from the best account I have been able to collect, amounted to 750 picked Troops from the 10th & 34th British Regts, Hessian Yaugers, Sir John's Corps, Butler's Rangers & Brandt's Corps of Indians & Tories & the Party that appeared at Balls-Town, of ab't 200 chiefly British & by some acc'ts it appears they intend'd to form a junction at

Johns Town. In the diff't Skirmishes, a considerable number of the Enemy were killed; the exact amount I am not able to ascertain. We have taken ab't 40 Prisoners, recovered most of those they had taken from us at Schoharie & other Places, with the negroes, Cattle & Plunder. Our principal Loss is Colo. Brown of the Bay Levies; he by false Intelligence, was led into the fire of the whole body of the Enemy, & fell with 39 of his & the militia & Levies of this State & two made Prisoners.

The account I formerly transmitted your Excellency respecting the Enemy to the northw'd was as far as I have since been able to learn, nearly true. The little Post & garrison of Fort Ann appear to me to have been surrendered thro' Treachery or Cowardice. Capt. Chipman the command'g officer of Fort George, having on the first alarm sent out his whole garrison (supposing the Enemy to consist of only ab't 30 Indians & Tories only) except 14 men, obtained a very honorable Capitulation before he could be induced to surrender.

The Losses we have sustained by these diff't Incursions of the Enemy will be most severely felt; they have destroyed on a moderate Computation, 200 Dwellings & 150,000 bushels of wheat with a proportion of other grain & forage. The Enemy to the northw'd continue in the neighborhood of Crown Point & the Inhabitants in consequence of their apprehensions of Danger are removing from the northern Parts of the State. Colo. Gansevoort by the advice of Genl. Ten Broeck marched to cover that part of the Country & Colo. Weissenfels march'd to Schenectady where his Regt. will continue to escort a suff't supply of Provisions to Fort Schuyler, a very inconsiderable Part of which is as yet provided & unless particular attention is paid to this Business (as the Season for water Transportation in the course

of a month will be over & it will be impossible to forw'd it by Land), the Post must in the course of the winter be abandoned.

The Levies incorporated in this Regt. whose Times expire ab't the middle of December, were immediately to march to Fort Herkimer to keep open the communication of Fort Schuyler with the Country. This Regim't with the others of this State are so exceed'gly destituté in point of Clothing (notwithstand'g every attempt of the state to supply them) that I could have wished some other Regt. better provided ag't the severe Climate had been ordered to garrison that Post especially as I find from this consideration & because the Troops of this State conceive it an hardship constantly to garrison it, this Duty is become extremely disagreeable to them.

I forgot to mention that when we arrived at Fort Herkeimer, a Letter was dispatched to Major Hughs commdg. at Fort Schuyler, giving him an acc't of the Force & Route of the Enemy & of their Boats lying at Onondaga Lake, that he might, if he found it consistent with the safety of his garrison, send out a small Party to annoy the Enemy on their march. By his Letter to Colo. Malcom, I find he dispatched a Party of sixty men for this Purpose, with orders to use the utmost precaution ag't surprise or any thing that might prevent their returning to the Fort. Since my Return from Albany, a Report prevails that this Party were ambushed by the Enemy & defeated: but from Major Hugh's cautious orders & as I have no official acc'ts, I do not credit it. I have the Honor &c.

[G. C.]

P. S. The Enemy bro't with them two brass mortars for 4 $\frac{1}{2}$  shells which they concealed on their Route from Schoharie. From some discoveries we are in hopes of find'g them.

[To General Washington.]

[No. 3321.]

*Tryon County Prisoners Confined in Fishkill.*

Poughkeepsie, Oct'r 30th 1780.

Sir, I send under the care of Capt. Hendrickson thirty one Prisoners of war taken in Tryon County; which I have to request you will cause to be secured in the Provost at Fishkill. Capt. Hendrickson will deliver you a List of their names 'to be reported to the Commiss'y of Prisoners. The[y] were captured by the militia & Levies of this State. I am &c.

Geo: Clinton.

The command'g Officer, Fishkill.

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Rec'd in Fish Kill, Provost, from Capt. Steephen Hendrickson, thirty Prisoners of war this 30th day of Oct. 1780.

Danl. Clapp, Capt. Lt.

[No. 3322.]

*Governor Clinton Orders General Ten Broeck to Afford Every Protection to the People on the Grants.*

Pokeepsie, Oct'r 31st 1780, 9 O'Clock A. M.

D'r Sir, I have this moment rec'd your Letter of yesterday with the enclosed Intelligence of the return of the Enemy to the northw'd. I approve your Conduct on the occasion and wish that the Regts. you have ordered out, may be forwarded without the least Delay.

Notwithstand'g the Conduct of the People on the Grants, I wish every Protection in the Power of the State may be afforded them ag't the common Enemy. You will be pleased to forward to me by Express, every material account you receive of the Enemy's Progress that I may take the necessary measures accordingly. I am &c.

Geo: Clinton.

Brig'r Genl. Ten Broeck.

[No. 3323.]

*Quota of New York Under the Army Reorganization Bill.*

Pokeepsie Oct'r 31st 1780.

Sir, I have to acknowledge the Rec't of your Excellency's circular Letter of the 18th Inst. cov'g a Return of the Troops credited to this State, and also your Letter of the 21st enclos'g Mr. Duer's Letter with the Information respect'g Mr. Smith.

The Legislature previous to their rising, Provided for the Completion of the quota of cont'l Troops of this State during the war & charged me with the execution of it, whenever it should be [necessary to] ascertain the number to be raised by this state.

By the new arrangem't of the army, a Copy of which has been transmitted me by the Presid't, the quota assigned this State is 2 Regts. of Infantry & one of artillery. From the Return transmitted by yr. Excellency, it would appear that our Deficiency is 313: but lest I may have misapprehended the Return or erred in my calculation, I wish to have the number ascertained by yr. Excellency, before I issue my orders for raising the men, especially as they are to be apportioned to the different Counties & any Misstake in the agregate Number wou'd be productive of Embarassm'ts & Delay. The moment I am favored with your Excellency's answer on this Subject, the Business will be commenced, & I have little Doubt that it will be effected in due Season. I am unhappy to find that Congress have left an open'g for temporary Inlistments in their new arrangem't. Experience has taught us that there are States who will avail themselves of it by which our Hopes of a permanent army will be defeated.

I will deliver the Information respect'g Mr. Smith to the

Commiss'rs for detect'g Conspiracies, who will be able to make such inquiries as to ascertain the Truth of it; at any rate it may be proper to direct his removal from his present Residence.

Since writing the above I rec'd the enclosed Information from Genl. Ten Broeck. I have in consequence ordered out a considerable body of militia to that quarter. Gansevoort is properly situated to aid in oppose'g the Enemy. I have the honor to be &c.

G: C:

His Excellency Genl. Washington.

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[No. 3324.]

*An Alarming Message from General Schuyler.*

Saratoga, Octo. 31<sup>st</sup> 1780.

(Secret)

Dear Sir, The Conduct of some people to the Eastward is alarmingly mysterious; a flag under pretext of settling a cartel with Vermont has been on the Grants. Allen has disbanded his militia, and the Enemy in number upwards of 1600, are rapidly advancing towards us; the night before last they were at Putnam's Point. Intreat Gen. Washington for more Continental troops, and let me beg of your Excellency to hasten up here. I am, D<sup>r</sup> Sir, Sincerely yours &c.

P. Schuyler.

[To G. C.]

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[Nos. 3325-3326.]

*Judges Morris and Yates Recommend a Pardon for James Van Driesen.*

\*Albany October 31st 1780.

Sir, Accordingly to your Excellency's request, we have privately examined James Van Driesen, the person under sentence of death, which Examination we herewith inclose; From his

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\* See pages 334-333. .



Behaviour and other circumstances, we believe the facts therein stated are true. If any dependence can be placed on what he says as to himself, he really deserted from the Enemy, with a design not to return to them again.

We have added from his confession the reports prevailing in Canada, and amongst the Tories here respecting Coll. Eaton Allen, and altho' his confession cannot amount to proof, yet it may possibly lead to some means of discovering the truth or falshood of it.

Many persons are mentioned in his examination who have afforded aid and assistance to those who have gone off or returned from the enemy. Mr. Visscher who was the only commissioner present, conceives his information of the utmost importance, and intends to take such measures with the Board, as to frustrate, their farther attempts, and to bring them to punishment.

Upon the whole, it appears to us that his confession is candid, and submit to your Excellency whether its importance, will merit a pardon. We really wish it. We are with the greatest respect & esteem your Excellency's most obedient humble serv'ts

R'd Morris, Robert Yates, Mat: Visscher.

P. S. A report prevails and seems to be well grounded that the enemy are with two hundred more on the Mohawk River.

The Sheriff desires us to remind your Excellency, of the pardon which was promised to Stephen McGinnis.

His Excellency George Clinton, Esqr.

Examination of James Van Driesen.

James Van Driesen on being examined says, That one John Twifely formerly of Dover, left Canada some time before Major

Carleton and Party, that he went to recruit at Spencertown, that he is a German, speaks the English, Dutch and German Languages; about five feet, nine Inches high; light Hair; long Visage; looks middling old in the face, that William Teachout of New York informed the Ex't that Twifely had been at that place; that the Persons who are sent from Canada to Recruit and gain intelligence report at the following places, at Joshua Losee's back of New Town; John Lantman's and old Defoots at Hosick; Abraham Hayard at Ballston, and at one Hicks's at New Town, who moved there last spring and whose two sons are with the Enemy; that William Moffat, is now also in the Country for the like purpose; that he takes his Rent generally thro' the Scotch Patent; that s'd Defoot and James O'Niel generally come into the Country to Recruit and gain intelligence; that the latter has been at old Hans Snyder's at Saratoga; that during this Summer five Persons have at different Times brought dispatches from New York to Canada one of whom was a young man who had served his Time with Dr. Stringer; that the Lansings of New City are looked upon in Canada as Friends to the Brittish King, and understood they had befriended Persons on their way to Canada; that Roff and Kline are also looked upon in Canada as friends to the King; that Abraham Ostrander and John Grigs were sent into the Country by Major Carleton at Cumberland Bay and received their directions from Major Jessup; that he does not know what directions he received, nor does he know the places they were to go to; that John Gibson's wife informed the ex't that Ostrander and Grigs had been home; that Lieut. Fraser, of Ballston, went to that place at the same time when Ostrander &c; that David Palmer has been Recruiting in the Country and

is a Serjt. major in Roger's Corps; that this Palmer has recruited at New Town and that the said Palmer informed the Ex't he had been at Hicks's aforesaid, and at Alexander Brevoort's; that it was currently reported in Canada that Philip Lansing when he arrived there had brought a great number of news Papers, and that Dr. Smyth's Son had been in the Country and in the City of Albany & had been sent by authority; that Joseph Bettis often goes into the Country; that his places of Rendezvous is at Ballston, New Paisly and Hellebergh; that he went from Canada with Sir John Johnson last Spring, left his Party and went into the Country; that on his return he brought with him four men besides a Prisoner; that one man whom he taken he had let go on his taking an oath; that he has often heard the Tories (who left the Country) in Canada say that Esqr. Campbell, Glen. Duncan and one Van Eps of Schenectady who has a negro in Canada are friends of the Brittish King; that Moffat and McMullen left the Brittish army at Fort George, and that from what passed between the Ex't and one Tinkney now in goal, said Tinkney knows where Moffat now is; that the most of the Persons who are sent into the Country, get their intelligence at or near Stillwater, but at whose House he does not know; that Jotham Beemus and Ezekiel Ensign near that place are generally reputed in Canada as friends to the King and much talked off as such; that last Spring when the ex't went to Canada with Moffat and while at the Scotch Patent, Moffat sent to Philip Lansing and to Stillwater for Intelligence; that Gillis a son of old Gillis at the Scotch Patent was sent for the purpose; that when Moffat and Party left Scotch Patent, they crossed the North River at Archibald McNeil's at whose House they arrived in the night and when in Bed; that after they had

been there some time McNiel got out of Bed, came to them in the Kitchen talked with them, told them of the Party who had been after them and getting their Packs; that McNiel was in private Conversation with Moffat, but the examinant did not hear it; that when they left McNiel's, wanted the party to swear; at all events not to discover they had been at McNiel's, which they refused, and then made them promise not to mention it as also that they had been at Gillis's at the Scotch Patent; that Doctor Ducolon is in Canada and was some time since with one Caleb Classen employed by the Enemy to detect the Canadians; that from what he understood the Plan was thus executed they gave themselves out as friends to the United States, that they were sent for intelligence and were near their return; that by this means they obtained Letters from the principal merchants and Inhabitants of Quebec, Montreal &c. after which the Letters were delivered to the Commander, Ducolon and Classon secreted, and a number of the Persons apprehended and secured, and that he understood upon Major Carleton's return the whole concerned would be apprehended; that when they left the Country to go to Canada and on their arrival at Crown Point where the Shipping lay, they fired five or six guns as a signal; that this was returned by firing a swivel when Moffat (with whom he went) Hoisted a white Flag and the Captain hail'd them; that Moffat answered, Friend; that immediately, thereupon, two Boats with twelve men in each armed came towards shore, that Moffat and party had grounded their arms and Packs, and he Moffat walked out dressed in green as the Pilots in general are; that while in Canada and since his return into the Country, he heard the Tories say that Collo. Ethan Allen was making Interest among the Inhabitants of the Grants, to join the British

army, and that he has been about this business ever since he was exchanged; that two of the Ruyters who lived at Hosick, and one whose name is John, together with John Best, often are sent into the Country to recruit and gain intelligence; as also one Muckle Miles, whose name he thinks is James, and whose Parents live at Ballston often is sent for the same purpose.

The above examination was taken in presence of the Honorable Mr. Chief Justice Morris, and Mr. Justice Yates.

Mat: Visscher.

[No. 3327.]

*Abstract for Second Regiment of Artillery, September and October, 1780.*

Pay Abstract for the Officers non Commissioned Officers and Privates of the 2d Regiment of Artillery commanded by Colonel John Lamb, who are credited to the State of New York, and are now in actual Service; for the Months of September & October, 1780, exclusive of Subsistance.

Number & Rank	Pay per Month	Time paid for Months	Total Pay	Remarks.
1 Colonel	100	2	200	
1 Major	62 1/2	2	125	
1 Pay-master	30	2	60	
1 Quarter Master Sargeant	11.23	2	22.46	
1 Drum Major	10.38	2	20.76	
5 Captains	50	2	500	
4 Capt. Lieutenants	33.30	2	266.60	
8 Lieutenants	33.30	2	533.30	
14 Sargeants	10	2	280	
9 Corporals	9	2	162	
7 Bombardiers	9	2	126	
12 Gunners	8.60	2	208	
6 Drums & Fifes	8.60	2	104	
69 Mattrosses	8.30	2	1150	
	Total		3758 32 90 Dollars	One Matross omitted in the Abstract for August Included

P<sup>c</sup> Hubbell Pay Master New York Regt. Artillery.

John Lamb, Colo. 2nd Regt. Artillery.

[No. 3328.]

*General Schuyler Discredits the Militia.*

Saratoga, Nov: 1st 1780.

D'r Sir, Inclose you a letter for General Washington, the want of paper obliges me to refer you for Information to that letter.

The militia who were ordered to remain at Fort Edward have left it to a man, and I apprehend that unless reinforcements of militia come up from below, that Colo: Gansevoort will be obliged to abandon that post; little is to be expected from the militia of this district as they attend to the removal of their Familys, a general consternation having taken place since the manoevre on the Grants. I make use of every Exertion to allay their apprehensions but with little Effect; your presence in this quarter is extreamly necessary at this Critical Conjunction. I most earnestly wish General Washington could afford us some more Continental troops.

The women and children who are here and whose husbands are with Enemy are extreamly burthensome and detrimental. I think it would be best to send them to New York, if they cannot be forwarded to Canada and if their friends do not come and take them off.

I am, D'r Sir, with best wishes your Excellency's most Obedient Hum. Servant

Ph: Schuyler.

Eleven O'Clock A. M.

I have unsealed this letter to inform your Excellency that we have just now Intelligence that the Enemy were yesterday seen approaching Skensborough. It is, therefore, of the highest Importance that every measure should be taken to hasten on

the militia. If this Intelligence be true the Enemy will probably be at Fort Edward tomorrow, or at White Creek.

I believe it will be prudent to make the suspicions of the Grant business as little public as possible.

His Excellency Governor Clinton &c.

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[No. 3329.]

*Discomforts of Living in Upper Westchester County—Again the Problem of Supplies.*

Head quarters West Point Nov'r 1, 1780.

Sir, I had the honor to address your Excellency on the 17th ultimo. You were then at the northward, and I know not whether my letter ever reached you, which induces me to enclose a duplicate.

The present State of our provisions borders on want, and our prospects of future supplies are serious and alarming. Our principal dependance, especially for Flour, must be on your state. I most earnestly request that your agent may be enabled to afford such supplies in season as will be adequate to the necessities of the Troops, at least. I wish it may be possible to replenish the magazines, of the utility of which, none can better judge than your Excellency.

Finding the people much distressed, and under great apprehensions in the upper part of Westchester County, I have afforded them such assistance as I think will insure them protection. I have ordered one hundred regular Troops to patrol on Croton between Hudsons River and Pines Bridge. Lt. Colonel Jameson with the 2d Regim't of Light Dragoons and one hundred Infantry are at Bedford. These, with the militia that are ordered out, I think will be sufficient force on the Lines.

I cannot close this without representing to you the wanton abuses that are practised on the Lines, by persons who stile themselves refugees &c. which are loudly complained of both by the officers and well affected inhabitants. These people are represented as devoting themselves to an almost continual plundering of the Inhabitants below the Lines in a manner disgraceful to the laws of humanity, honor or arms. I am informed that there is great reason to suspect that some of these people have driven off the Cattle of the Inhabitants above the Lines, and having got them on the other side of Croton, have kindled fires, discharged muskets &c. and then drove the cattle up, pretending that they had defeated a party of cow boys, and retook the cattle, which they claim as lawfull prize, and sell at vendue. Thus plunder being the object, every one who is exposed, when it can be done with impunity will be plundered. I submit this to your Excellency's consideration, and as soon as I am honored with your pleasure, will take such measures as will effectually correct and prevent such scandalous practices in future. I have the honor to be, with great respect and esteem your Excellency's most obedient Servant

W. Heath.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

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*General Washington Informs William Denning that Waste is One of the Greatest Faults in Supplies.*

Sir

Head Quarters, Prekaness 2 Novem'r 1780

I was a few days ago favored with yours of the 21st ulto. I have not the least doubt but there is too general an inattention to the care of Stores at most of our Magazines and Distant posts, but it is much to be regretted that the Deputies residing



at those places have so many plausible pretences for throwing the ill condition of what can be found in their possession upon those from whom they received them. In the article of flour particularly, which is most subject to waste, the fault in a great measure originates with the Miller who is shamefully careless of the make and security of the Casks. The notice, however, which you have taken of what came under your own inspection, will I hope, be attended with good effects, as it will put the head of the Department upon making inquiry into the apparent causes of neglect, when you saw the provision, and giving directions for more care in the future.

Col'o Stewart has always appeared to me to be active and dilligent in the prosecution of his business, but it is possible that there may be want of conduct in some of his Deputies. I can myself in some measure, account for the Condition of the Stores at Hacketts and Pittstown when you last saw them. They had just then been removed in the greatest hurry from Morris Town to avoid the destruction with which they were threatened by the move of the Enemy into Jersey. What the Deputy told you of the Impossibility of procuring Guards to secure and assist in storing the provisions was absolutely true. Our strength has scarcely ever allowed of making the necessary detachments for the safety of our Magazines, but just at the time to which you refer; our whole collected Force in Jersey did not amount to one half of that of the Enemy.

I shall take occasion to mention the substance of your information to Colo Stewart and shall desire him to have matters put under better regulations in future. I shall at the same time let him know, that what you have done is not with intent of criminating him, but from what you very properly conceive to be the

duty of every good citizen—to represent to the proper authority what he sees amiss in public affairs.

I am with great Respect, Sir, Your most ob't Serv't,

G: Washington.

To William Denning Esq.

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[No. 3330.]

*General James Clinton Ordered to the Command of Albany.*

Pokeepsie, 2d Nov'r 1780.

Dear Sir, Your Favour of the 27th ulto. did not reach me until my Return to this Place. Genl. Ten Broeck gave me Reason to expect the Pleasure of seeing you in Albany which induced me to continue there a Day longer than I intended; having been called from Home so soon after the rising of the Legislature as to prevent me from carrying into Execution any Part of the public Business with [which] they had charged me, it was necessary that my absence should be as short as possible; otherwise I should have done my Pleasure of waiting upon you at Saratoga; be assured I found myself much disposed to the Jaunt.

My Brother is now on his Way to take the Command at Albany; but has no Troops with him, nor can I learn that he has reason to expect any. Orders for raising Levies for the Defence of the Frontiers were issued before the Legislature rose. Those for the Northward from this County have marched some Days since, but it is to be feared the Late call of the Militia to the Northward & Westward will delay this Business in Genl. Ten Broeck's & Rensselaer's Brigades.

I am uninformed of the mode in which the Indians are to be supplied with Provisions; if through the State Agent I will readily give him any proper Directions on the Subject which you may

conceive necessary. But if through Mr. Farlan who if I recollect Right informed me, he was appointed to supply them I cannot possibly Interpose. The Winter Supplies for Fort Schuyler is yet to be collected. Wisenfelts Regt. which is to garrison that Post, waits at Schenectady to escort them up & unless they can be procured very soon (of which there is but little prospect) the Post I fear will be abandoned.

I have signified to my Brother, my Consent to the Removal of the Women to Canada whose Husbands are with the Enemy in that Quarter, those mentioned in your Letter excepted, & I have taken the Liberty of recommending him to you for your Advice as to the most proper mode of conducting this Business. That which will be attended with least Trouble & Expence must be preferred, as there is no Provision for this Service. I am &c.

[G. C.]

[To General Schuyler.]

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[No. 3331.]

*The Peculiar Case of Adam Shades—Captain Blecker's Account of Shoes and Deserters.*

Albany 2d Nov'r 1780.

Sir, Agreeable to Coll. Cortlandt's Orders, I have the Honor to transmit your Excellency an Account of Shoes deliverd the Drafts from the State of New York, together with a List of some Deserters; the Intention of this Return is, that Stoppages be made for the Shoes, that they might be replac'd.

Among the Prisoners which were lately sent down from the Westward, I am inform'd that a certain Adam Shades is included. This Man is enlisted in my Comp'y for the war, and was unfortunately, made Prisoner by the Savages on the 3d July

1777. I have frequently been told by Persons, which have return'd from Canada, during his Captivity with them, that he refus'd with great Firmness, to engage with the Enemy; however. I suppose from his long Confinement, severe Treatment, & the Expectation of being able to make his Escape he has undertaken their Service. This being effected, I make no doubt, was he permitted to return to his Regiment, he would do his Duty as a faithful Soldier. I am, your Excellency's very humble-Servant

Leon. Bleeker, Capt. 3d N. York, Regt.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

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S Acc't of Shoes d'd the Levies 23d Sept'r 1780:

Capt. Fowler's Comp'y—Serjeant Duboys, Jacob Ronduss, Thos. Sun, Stephen Smith, Edm'd Weatherhead, Will'm Bussing.

Duboys'—Thomas West or Nut, James Cornhill, Abiather Odle.

Delavan's Comp'y—Ezekiel Greag, Jno. Campbell, Jos'h Jones, Jos'h Bennett, Will'm Barrett, Cornelius Hageman, Jno. Bay, Sam'l Church, David Quick, Jno. Cunningham, Thomas Airs.

Bleeker's—Andrew Stoutenburgh, James Slouter, Cornelius Van Sice, Jno. Nicolls, Robert Knowlton. One pair Each.

Deserted from My Comp'y 6th Aug't '80—Stephen Little Eleazer Corey, Jonathan Tallman, Isaic Hoard.

Little & Corey took public Arms, Accoutrements & Ammunition with them.

Leon Bleeker, Capt. 3d New York, Regt.

[No. 3332.]

*Captain Benj. Walker Receives \$200 from Congress on the Credit of the State—Baron Steuben Ordered to the Southern Department.*

Philadelphia, 2d Nov'r 1780.

Sir, Major General Baron Steuben whom I have the honor to attend, has lately rece'd orders to repair to the Southern Department of the Army.

The distressd situation I was in, obliged me to state my Case to Congress, in which I informed them that by the generous Compensation, the State of New York had made to their Officers, I had a Claim on the state for near two thousand Dollars & requested them to advance me two Hundred Dollars on account. Congress have accordingly made me this advance & charged it to the state.

I thought it my Duty to acquaint your Excellency of this matter, & am with the greatest respect Your Excellency's most Obed't & very hum. Serv't

Ben Walker, Cap. 4 N. Y. Reg.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 3333.]

*Andre's Coparcener, Joshua Hett Smith, Confined at West Point.*

Head Quarters, West Point, Nov'r 2d 1780.

Sir, I was this morning honored with yours of the 30th ulto. I sincerely feel for the unfortunate Sufferers from the late depredations of the Enemy in the Northern Counties of this State, as well as for the public, who must unavoidably share in the consequences; and I fear it will be my lot to experience no small part of them.

I most heartily thank you, for your assurances of assistance. I assure you, Sir, it is a principal consolation to me, under those disagreeable aspects, which at present hang over our prospects of supplies. But I will hope the best.

Colo. Weisenfells regiment was pointed out to me, by General Washington, to garrison Fort Schuyler. I have this morning submitted that paragraph of your letter to his Excellency's consideration.

General James Clinton is ordered to take the command at Albany. He left this place a day or two since. From his knowledge of that part of the Country, and attention to business, I flatter myself he will seasonably take every step that may be necessary in that Quarter.

We shall be in extreme want of a large Quantity of boards, and shingles, at this Post, for covering the Troops, and for the security of the Post. I fear the D. Q. M. G. will not be able to procure them, especially in season, without some extra assistance from your Excellency. Colonel Hughs, will be able to inform you, what quantities will be necessary and I beg leave to solicit your assistance in such way as you may think proper.

We have no news of consequence at present; whenever I obtain any shall do myself the honor of communicating it to you.

Joshua Smith is just sent here to be confined; should you demand him, it is my duty immediately to deliver him. I have the honor to be, with the greatest respect, your Excellency's most Obedient Servant

W. Heath.

[To G. C.]

[No. 3334.]

## ALARMING RUMORS FROM THE NORTH.

*The Enemy Reported 1,600 Strong—Difficulties in Securing Supplies in Albany and Tryon Counties.*

Poughkeepsie, Nov'r 3d 1780.

Dear Sir, I am favoured with your Letter of the 1st Instant, enclosing a Duplicate of that of the 17th ulto.; which was delivered to me in Tryon County & answered on the 30th. Udy Hay, Esqr., our Agent, is using every possible Exertion to collect the quota of supplies to be furnished by this state & to prevent a Failure; he is possessed of my impress warrant authorizing him to seize indiscriminately in every District to the amount of whatever they may be deficient in deliv'y of the proportions allotted to them. The Desolations lately committed by the Enemy in Tryon & Albany Counties, must necessarily have retarded this Business in that Quarter, & the amazing Quantities of Grain destroyed, will not only disenable us from adding to the supplies required, but will, I fear, reduce us to great Difficulties even in raising the present quota. I mention this lest too great Dependance should be placed upon this State.

I am oblinded to you for the Attention you are pleased to pay to the safety of West Chester County & the Security which will be afforded to the Inhabitants by the Measures you have taken. I wish it was in my Power to direct effectual Measures for the prevention of the Abuses so justly complained of in that County. I have repeatedly represented them to the Legislature, but owing to the peculiar Situation of that Country, they have not been able to make any adequate Provisson on the Subject. And every Measure that has been hitherto taken to

prevent, has rather increased the Evil, so that I am utterly at a loss what Directions to give concerning them.

By two Expresses who arrived last Night from Albany, I am informed that the Enemy under Major Carlton are returning from Ticonderoga, towards Skeensborough with Reinforcement of 500, their Force amounting now to 1600, so that we hourly expect to hear of further Depredations. I have again ordered out the Militia to meet them & Gansevoort's Regt. is in that Quarter. I am, D'r Sir, in great Haste, with Sentiments of Respect & Esteem, your most Obed't Serv't

G: Clinton.

Major Genl. Heath.

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[Nos. 3335-3336-3337.]

SCHUYLER'S PATRIOTIC APPEALS.

*He Reports the Advance of the Enemy to Lake George and Tries to Stimulate the Militia—Two Brigades Ordered Forward.*

Pokepsie, 3d Nov'r 1780.

Dear Sir, I have the Honor of transmitting your Excellency a Letter from Genl. Schuyler which came inclosed to me under a flying Seal. The Intelligence it contains, has induced me to order out Genl. Ten Broeck's & Renselaer's Brigades of Militia to oppose the Enemy & cover the exposed Settlements; but I fear they will move slowly, as they have but just Returned from the Frontiers, whither they were called by the late Incursions of the Enemy. I have subjected them to the Directions of Brig'r Genl. Clinton & to prevent as much as possible the Consumption of Provisison, have requested him to dismiss them the Moment the public Service will admit.



Your Excellency will be informed by Genl. Schuyler's Letter of the very extraordinary Conduct of Colo. Allen & the Jealousies it has occasioned. With the first Intelligence I had of the Approach of the Enemy under Sir John & Carlton I received a Piece of Information that gave me some Reason to suspect that there had been an unwarrantable Communication between Certain Persons in that quarter & the Enemy at St. John's. But as the Evidence was not direct, I then conceived it most prudent for obvious Reasons to be silent on the Subject. There are, however, some other Circumstances exclusive of Colo. Allen's Conduct came to Light since, which will induce me to collect & forward the whole to your Excellency as early as I shall have it in my Power. I am extremely distressed lest the frequent Alarm & Incursions of the Enemy will occasion the abandonment of all our Northern Frontier Settlements, unless their present apprehensions are removed by a more permanent Force in that Quarter than can be afforded them from the Militia.

I have not yet any Official account of the Detachment sent out of Fort Schuyler, but from a Passage in a Letter this moment received from Colo. Malcom, there is too much Reason to apprehend that the Report of their being captured by the Enemy is too true.

Your Excellency's Letter of the 29th Instant accompanying the Proceedings ag't Joshua Smith is this moment received. The moment I can find Leisure to peruse them, they shall be returned with an answer on the Subject. I am &c.

G: C:

His Excellency Genl. Washington.

GENERAL TEN BROECK FORWARDS GENERAL SCHUYLER'S BULLETIN  
TO GOVERNOR CLINTON.

Albany, Nov'r 3d 1780 1 P. M.

Sir, The original, of which I do myself the Honor to enclose your Excellency Copy, was a few Moments since delivered me. I have in Consequence very pressingly repeated my Request to Genl. Rensselaer to march his Brigade to this place with all the Expedition possible and desired him to come up and take the Command of such Militia as can be collected. The whole of my Brigade have been under marching orders since my last to your Excellency. I am now renewing the orders to them to push on.

I have transmitted the Intelligence received to Genl. Fellows, and recommended it to him to march his Brigade the shortest Rout to Saratoga & to advise me of the Rout he takes instantaneously.

I have desired Genl. Rensselaer to take whatever provisions he can procure on his March. I have the Honor to be, your Excellency's most obedient Servant.

Ab'm Ten Broeck.

P. S. I have little or no prospect of provisions from the Agent.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

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GENERAL SCHUYLER APPEALS TO THE MILITIA.

Saratoga, Nov'r 1780, 6 O'Clock in the morning.

Gentlemen, I have this moment received authentic Intelligence that the Enemy on the Day before yesterday were busy in drawing their Batteaus into lake George; that they have probably crossed the Lake yesterday, & that they may be ex-

pected to arrive about Fort Edward to Day. If the militia will come up, we shall certainly give the Enemy a fatal blow; let me, therefore, entreat you, Gentlemen, by every consideration that can influence the heart of man, not to lose a single moment's time, but to march Instantly untill you reach this place. I am, Gentlemen, your most Obed't Serv't

Ph. Schuyler.

To all Officers of militia, militia men & others.

The People from the Grants are marching to our assistance in great haste, but they will come too late unless you oppose them in front.

[Copy]

SCHUYLER'S SECOND APPEAL—A COURIER'S QUICK TRIP BETWEEN  
OLD SARATOGA (THE PRESENT SCHUYLERVILLE) AND ALBANY.

Saratoga, 3d Nov'r 1780 2 O'Clock P. M.

Gentlemen, In that serious moment which threatens to involve you and your Country in one general Scene of ruin & desolation, it is matter of the most painful reflection to remark the Torper and indifference which prevails in those who ought to fly with rapidity to repel a cruel and blood thirsty Enemy; some Days have elapsed since the alarm was given, repeated expresses have been sent, and serious requisitions made to hasten on the Militia and still few very few have arrived. The Enemy are now at Fort George & advancing; the Force of the country is amply sufficient to make them repent of the Enterprize; shall we then, my Dear Fellow citizens and Countrymen, neglect the glorious Occasion?

Heaven forbid! Let us not have the reproach to bear of being cowardly Spectators of the Enemy's insults and depredations,

but come on, I entreat you! March with rapidity and join the few here! Let not rain prevent you!

Freemen must not think hard to ensure their Freedom by a little Trouble; no not even by a great deal of Trouble; it is a blessing you cannot purchase at too high a price. I am gent.  
your most Obed't Hum'e Servant,

Ph: Schuyler.

Sir, The preceding is a Copy of a Letter from General Schuyler directed to the Militia on the way to Saratoga and to me. You will from thence see the necessity that every person of the Militia should immediately march to Saratoga with all possible dispatch. I am, Sir, your most Obed't Servant

Ab'm Ten Broeck, B. G'l.

Albany 3d Nov'r 1780. 6 O'Clock P. M.

All Persons are requested to furnish the Express with a Horse if he should apply, & a good Horse.

By order of Genl. Ten Broeck.

Jer'h Lansingh, Major Brigade.

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[No. 3338.]

*Josiah Throop's Ambition to Serve His Country.*

New Lebanon, Nov'r 3d 1780.

Sir, Every Motive of Ambition Duty and Gratitude, called on me to be with the first of those who voluntarily followed your Excellency on the late alarm. But I was in the height of an Inflammatory fever when I heard of the Death of my friend Colo'l Brown, which added a keen torture to the Excruciating pains of the Pleurisey. But when I heard the manner in which the Enemy escaped our people I was Capable of no other Sensation but the pain that gave me dureing that fit.

Ever since I despaired of an Expedition against Nove Scotia, I have set my heart on Tryon County for a Settlement for my Self and family. The late Devastation there is no discouragement to me the least; gladly would I have been with Colo'l Harper the last Summer; I would have Pledged my night cap against Brandt's at a game of Dodging, the luckiest Dodger should have had both. If your Excellency should concert any measures for the Stated defence of that Country, Please to remember him who is willing to defend what he wishes to enjoy.

I am now just able to sit up but mending fast; count it among my misfortunes that I have no Opportunity to assure youre Excellency how sincerely I have the Honour to be, Your Excellency's and the Zeal to be my Country's Devoted Humbl. Serv't

Josiah Throop.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

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[No. 3339.]

*James Clinton on His Way to Albany—The Governor Willing to Go,  
Though Suffering from Rheumatism.*

Poughkeepsie Nov'r 4th 10 O'Clock A. M.

D'r Sir, I have this moment rec'd yours of yesterday by Express, inclosing a Copy of the Information transmitted by Genl. Schuyler. My Brother passed thro' this Place yesterday morn'g for Albany where he is to take the Command. I communicated to him the Intelligence I had then rec'd respect'g the approach of the Enemy on the northern Frontier & vested him with authority on the pres't emergency to call upon the whole or such proportion of your & Genl. Rensselaer's Brigade as should be necessary to oppose the Enemy & cover the frontier Settlements; If proper & timely Exertions are made, which from your

early Intelligence of the approach of the Enemy I hope may be the case, I do not apprehend that they will in the first instance attempt to penetrate the Country: but it is greatly to be feared that they may occupy Fort George, which I am informed was not perfectly destroyed, until the militia is wearied out & their Provisions exhausted, & then having a secure Retreat commence their Depredations; this, therefore, as well as to oppose their progress in the first instance, ought to be attended to. My brother will reach Albany this Evening & will of course make the proper disposition of the militia as they arrive. I have written to Genl. Rensselaer, by the Return of the Express, to hasten him on with his Brigade, & if I should learn by the next Express that my presence is necessary in Albany, I will, tho' full of Pain with the Rheumatizm & harrassed by pressing applications from the posts below, attempt to get there. I am

[G. C.]

Brig'r Genl. Ten Broeck.

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Pokeepsie, 4th Nov'r 1780.

D'r Sir, The Information received from Genl. Ten Broeck by the Express, who will deliver you this a Copy, of which I am informed he transmitted you, renders it absolutely necessary that you should repair to Albany with your Brigade with the least possible Delay. Brig'r Genl. Clinton, by whom I wrote you yesterday, is to Command at Albany & will make the proper Disposition of the Troops as they arrive. Your Letter of yesterday is received & the matters therein ment'd will be duely attended to. I am &c.

[G. C.]

B. Genl. Van Renselar.

[No. 3340.]

*Colonel Pawling Requests the Return of Money Taken from Two Prisoners.*

Marbletown Nov'r 4th 1780.

D'r Sir, The Party which was with me, at the taking of Hoff & Cole, claim a Right to the money, taken from those Prisoners. I hear several of them murmur much about it. Their reasoning is, that they think themselves as well entitled to the money, on the other Effects which have been converted to their Benefit. I wish, if your Excellency shou'd think proper, you wou'd be pleased to return the money to me & send it in Care off Mr. Van Deusen, or otherwise transmit me a Receipt for it, that I may thereby give them the Satisfaction of not having pocketted it myself—four Guineas, & six hard Dollars, with a bundle of paper money was what I gave Mr. Benson. I am, D'r Sir, with Esteem Your most Obed't Hum. Serv't

A. Pawling.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

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 Pokeepsie 5th Nov'r 1780.

Dear Sir, I have received your Letter of yesterday. The Paper Money taken on Hoff and Cole was delivered to the Sheriff of your County before I left Kingston. He was directed to count it in your Presence & give you his Receipt for it. I never opened it, therefore, know not the amount of it. I conceived as he had Charge of the Prisoners & was liable for the Expence incurred in keeping them several Days at Tavern, he was the most proper Person to deliver the Money to. The Hard Money remains in the Pockett Book in which it was delivered to me unopened. I have no Claim to it; but if Hoff & Cole shoud be considered as

Prisoners of War & exchanged as such, I should not in that Case conceive it either Consistent with Justice or Policy to deprive them of it. If as Spies or Murderers, Humanity should not render it necessary to deliver it to them to relieve their necessities while under Confinement. The Captors without determining the Question of Right may have it. I do not wish to be troubled with the Possession of it & to you as Commanding Officer of the Post near which they were taken, I will cheerfully deliver it taking your Receipt; but in this Case I cannot authorize or even advise you to distribute it. I am &c.

[G. C.]

[To Lieutenant Colonel Pawling.]

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[No. 3341.]

*General Heath's Comments on the Policy That Permits Our Flour to Leave the Country.*

Headquarters West Point, Nov'r 5 1780.

Sir, I was yesterday honored with yours of the 3d Inst; am sorry to hear that the Enemy are again in motion towards the Frontiers, as many defenceless inhabitants will probably be rendered very miserable by it: however, as Gansevoort's Regiment is nigh at hand, and the militia of that part of the country very spirited, I hope they will be able to give a good account of them. We have a report this evening that the enemy have landed at or near Portsmouth in Virginia; it is also said that another embarkation is talked of at New York.

We are in great want of Flour; the whole Garrison has been without this day, and a part of it for several days. I am informed that large quantities of Flour are sent and sending to the



Eastward; some of which it has been hinted will be sent from America. Is it not ill policy to allow our country to be drained of provisions, when it every day grows more apparent, that if the war continues, America will become more and more the seat of it, and at present her army are but just kept from starving. It is hard to forbid men's buying and selling, but it is harder for an army to endure pinching hunger. I have the honor to be, with the greatest respect and esteem, your Excellency's most obedient Serv.

W. Heath.

Governor Clinton.

[No. 3342.]

*The Governor Awaits Official Information in Regard to the Fate of the Detachment Sent Out from Fort Schuyler.*

Poughkeepsie Nov'r 5th 1780.

D'r Sir, I have the Honor of enclosing to your Excellency the Intelligence I have received since my last. Genl. Schuyler in another Letter to the militia officers of the 3d at 2 O'Clock P. M. mentions that the Enemy were then at Fort George & advancing.

Thro' miscarriage of Letters or some other means, I have not yet rec'd an official acc't of the Fate of the Detachm't sent out from Fort Schuyler; but there is too much Reason to believe the disagreeable acc't of them contained in the enclosed extract of a Letter handed me by Colo. Drake, whose son was of the Party, is true, & if so, their misfortune was occasioned by a Departure from the most explicit orders. I have the honor to be &c.

G. Clinton.

His Excellency Genl. Washington.

[No. 3343.]

## WASHINGTON TO CLINTON.

*New York's Quota under the Army Organization—The Situation in the North and the South from the Commander-in-Chief's Standpoint.*

Head Quarters Prackness, Novemb'r [6th] 1780.

Dear Sir, I have received your several favours of the 18th, 30th and 31st ulto. I congratulate you upon your safe return from your late excursion, and upon the success which attended General Ransalaer's attack upon the enemy in their retreat. It is to be regretted that your Excellency was not near enough with the Reinforcement to take advantage of their situation. The damage, which has been done, will, I fear, be severely felt by the public as well as by individuals. We had the most pleasing prospects of forming considerable Magazines of bread, from the Country which has been laid waste, and which, from your Excellency's letter, is so extensive, that I am apprehensive we shall be obliged to bring flour from the Southward to support the troops at and near West-point. You will be pleased to give me your opinion upon the quantity of flour that may yet, with probability, be procured above, in the course of the Winter, that I may form some calculation of the quantity which it will be necessary to draw from Jersey, Pennsylvania and Maryland.

I am very sorry that the troops of your State should look upon it as a hardship to do the garrison duty of Fort Schuyler. I had always allotted it to them, as thinking it would be agreeable to both officers and men to guard their own Frontier, especially, when they were not continued an unreasonable time upon the tour. The Frontier posts of Pennsylvania and Virginia have been constantly garrisoned by their own Regiments, which have not been relieved these two years. The troops of the line in

general are, in point of Cloathing, upon a footing with the rest of the Army, which is very bare, and which has a poor prospect of being well supplied. But as Colo. Weissenfelds Regiment is going to a distance, and where he will not have an opportunity of drawing those temporary supplies which the troops with the main Army sometimes do, I have given orders to have it as well furnished as our Magazines will admit.

I have appointed Brigadier General Clinton to take the command in the Northern department, and have ordered him to repair to Albany for that purpose. I am convinced he will second every measure which may be thought expedient for the security of the Frontier.

I am much obliged to your Excellency for the attention which you promise to pay to the provisioning Fort Schuyler. I daily expect four or five hundred Barrels of salt beef from Connecticut; as soon as they arrive upon the North River, part of them shall be sent up to Albany for the Garrison of Fort Schuyler. I desired Governor Trumbull to hurry them on that they might be got up in all this month.

I am very happy to find that the Legislature has vested your Excellency with the power of complying the requisitions of Congress for Compleating the new Army. I find that the Resolve of the 3d of Oct'r had only reached you, and that your calculation of the deficiency of 313 men had been founded upon that. Congress, by a subsequent act of the 21st, have made some very material and salutary amendments, the principal of which are—giving half pay for life to the officers, confining the term of service expressly to the War, and augmenting the number of men in each Regt. to 612 Rank and file. I, therefore, state your exact deficiency at 449 men, upon the following principles:

2 Regiment of Infantry Rank & file.....		1224
1 Regt. of Artillery non com'd & privates.....		650
		<hr/>
		1874
Rank and file for the War by Return transmitted .....	1121	
Already in Lamb's Regt. which is the one which will be apportioned to the State .....	304	1425
	<hr/>	
	deficiency	449

This, your Excellency will be pleased to observe, is the deficiency in figures, but when we come to take into the computation the casualties that will happen between this time and the junction of the recruits—the number of men sick in Hospitals and upon extra service, many of the first incurables, and of the last so detached that we shall never find them, the deficiency which, there will be in the number of Recruits voted, and other unforeseen deductions, it will appear plainly, that if the assessment is laid at 449 only, the Regiments will want very considerably of that strength, which is absolutely necessary to make our Combined Continental force any ways adequate to the probable services of the next Campaign. I would therefore, beg leave to recommend to your Excellency to lay your assessment at 100 men more than the apparent deficiency. I am convinced it will be found cheaper and in every respect more eligible to compleat the matter at one stroke, than to have a second tax to lay.

Our affairs to the Southward put on a more pleasing aspect since the defeat of Colo. Ferguson. Lord Cornwallis was retreating precipitately from Charlotte, and giving up a fine district of Country which he had in possession. But the diversion

which General Leslie will occasion, by taking post in Virginia, will, I fear, operate against the formation of the Southern Army, and will embarrass us on the score of supplies. Another embarkation is preparing at New York, which I have no doubt is also intended for the Southward, as, without considerable Reinforcements, they must abandon their late conquests in that quarter. I have the honor to be, With the greatest esteem,  
Your Excellency's Most Obed't humble serv't

Go. Washington.

His Excell'y Gov'r Clinton.

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[No. 3344.]

*John Sloss Hobart Transmits News from Connecticut.*

Sharon, 6th Nov'r 1780.

Dear sir, Your Fav'r of the 4th Inst. by Coll. Bostwick was handed to me last evening; am very sorry that I am not to expect Genl. Schuyler's company at Hartford.\*

By what I hear, the gentlemen from the Eastward will meet, with a disposition to make every possible exertion. The Legislature of this State intended to adjourn on Saturday last for two or three weeks to wait the result of the Convention. They have adopted the Maryland Idea on the subject of the Confederation; they have determined to compleat their Bat'ls [battalions] to serve for 3 years or during the war; and they have laid a tax of 6d on the pound to be paid in provisions, not more than one half in flour, the remainder in Beef or Pork to be salted and stored in each town. 'Tis computed to produce about 9,000 Bls.

I am informed that the French Intendant has made his contracts for flour to serve 'till the first of May, in which case I

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\* See Volume V, pages 255-257.

think 'twill be a needless expense to go to Newport; however, if your Excellency should be of a different opinion please to send me your directions by the post to Hartford.

Mrs. Hobart joins me in our best respects to Mrs. Clinton and says she is not much obliged to your Excellency for sending me to New Port this cold weather. I am with equal Esteem and Respect, your Excellency's most obed't h'ble Serv't

Jno. Sloss Hobart.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

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[No. 3345.]

*Colonel Weissenfels Appeals for Apparel for His Men, His Officers and Himself.*

Fort Renselar Novemb'r 6th 1780.

Sir, When the news wass recieved of the Enemy being about the German Flats, I concieved it my Duty to move as far as this Place, and send Major Davis, to take the Command of the Escort, with the Provisions to Fort Schuiler; the Supplies hetherto Provided for that Place, are so smal that I feel much anxeciity in my Breast.

The naked Condition of my men grieves me, and the means to supply them at a great Distance, together with the uncertainty of a great number of officers, being left out of the Service induces me to stai here my self, till the Express returns, with your Exellency's answer.

Not the least doubt is left me, that I and many officers more, will be left out of the army, now established; therefore, Pray, in behalf of my self. and my officers (who have waited upon me in a Body for the purpose of making this Request) that your

Excellency would not suffer us, after so long, and I presume faithfull Service. to be loaded with hardships, which others, who may be appointed ought to bear.

If I can be of any Service here upon the Frontiers, I waite your Excellency's Command. I am, with great Respect, your Excellency's most obidient most humble Servant.

Fred: Weissenfels.

P. S. I have ordred the Major with the troops to return to this Place, after he has delivered the Provisions.  
His Excellency Governor Clinton.

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Pokeepsie 9th Nov'r 1780.

Sir, I am favoured with yours of the 6th Instant. The inclosed extract of a Letter\* from his Excellency Genl. Washington will evince that I was not unmindful of the Situation of your Regt. I am sorry that my application to his Excellency in your Favour (which was made the Moment I arrived here) coud not be complied with; at the same Time I am Happy in the Hope that the Troops through this Interposition will be rendered as comfortable in respect to Cloathing as Circumstances of our Public Stores will admit, & that this Consideration will induce both Officers & Privates to perform the Duty assigned them with alacrity. The new arrangem't is come to Hand; if I can possibly make Leisure I will transmit you the [ ] of it that may be left out. It put the Officers in a Situation that leaves them no Room to complain. The number will be few. I am &c.

[G. C.]

[To Lieutenant Colonel Weissenfels.]

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\* See page 384.

[No. 3346.]

*Depredations of the Enemy Seriously Cripple New York's Supply Resources.*

Poughkeepsie Nov'r 6th 1780.

Sir, I have to acknowledge the Receipt of your Excell'ys several Letters of the 3d, 6th, 7th, 16th, 20th & 26th with their respective enclosures; all of which except the last, was left at my office during my absence in Tryon County, whither I was called by the appearance of diff't formidable Parties [of] the Enemy on the frontiers of this state. The several matters recommended in these Dispatches will be duly attended to.

The Enemy in their late Incursions have destroyed by much the greater part of Tryon County (which had before escaped their Ravages) with the valuable settlem't of Schoharie and Part of Balls Town & the settlements north of Saratoga. These were esteemed the principal grainaries of the state; & with them we have lost on a moderate computation between 150 & 200,000 bush'ls of wheat with a Proportion of other grain & forage. The quota of specific Supplies allotted to this State was, by act of the Legislature, apportioned among the several Counties & Districts, the assessments have been made & every proper means are taking for collecting in the same. But a considerable deficiency must arise by the Destruction of the above settlements; I conceived it, therefore, my Duty to inform Congress of this, lest by too great a Relyance on this State they may be disappointed & the army suffer for the want of due Supplies. I have the Honor to be &c.

G: Clinton.

His Excell'cy Saml. Huntington, Esqr. Presid't of Congress.



[No. 3347.]

*The Governor Suggests a Bounty of Only Twenty Pounds be Offered.*

Pokeepsie 6th Nov'r 1780.

Dear Sir, By the Law for the Army during the War, the Penalty imposed on a Class who shall not agreeable to Law, furnish a Man is £30 in Specie or Bills of the new Emission. This, therefore, is the highest Bounty that can be offered & as offering this Sum in the first Instance, may establish it as the Bounty below which no Class will be able to procure a Recruit, I woud advise that £20 only, which is the Bounty established by Law be offered at present. I, am Sir, your most Obed't Serv't

G. C.

Capt. Moody.

[No. 3348.]

*Washington Orders the Balance of General Clinton's Brigade to Albany.*

Head Quarters Prekaness, 6th Nov'r 1780.

Dear Sir, The moment I received yours of the 3d, I gave orders to General Heath, to detach the remaining three Regiments of the York Brigade to Albany, there to put themselves under the command of Brigadier General Clinton, who has orders to dispose of them as circumstances may require. Should you receive information that they are not necessary above, you will be pleased to communicate it to General Heath, that their march may be countermanded.

Your Excellency will perceive by the inclosed to General Schuyler, under flying seal, that I have given discretionary powers to seize and secure a certain person, should it appear

upon further investigation necessary. I am, with the highest respect and esteem, Your Excellency's most Obed't H'ble Servant

Go. Washington.

His Excellency Gov. Clinton.

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[No. 3349.]

*The Governor Advances \$455 to Pay the Bounty of Twenty Recruits.*

Pokeepsie 6th Nov'r 1780.

D'r Sir, I have paid Capt. Norton equal to 455 Dol's in Bills of the new Emission towards the Bounty of twenty men inlisted by him to serve in the 4 N. York Continental Regt. during the War. In this I have robed Peter to pay Paul, as not a single Farthing of the money appropriated to this Service has come to my Hands. I woud, nevertheless, have paid him the whole, but I have not Cash to do it. I must request, therefore, that you will discharge the Deficiency as soon as possible. As we shall soon have to compleat our Quota of Troops, to leave the present Bounties unpaid may have a bad effect by injuring that Service. Yours Sincerely

G. C.

Gerard Bancker, Esqr., Treasurer State N. York.

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[No. 3350.]

*General Heath Orders Two Line Regiments to the North.*

Head Quarters West Point, Nov'r 7th 1780

Sir, I have just ordered the 1st & 5th New York Regiments to embark with all possible expediton & proceed for Albany.

I request you would be pleased to communicate to me the earliest intelligence, you may from time receive from that

Quarter. I have the honor to be, with the greatest respect your Excellency's most Obed't Servant

W. Heath.

Please forward the letter addressed to Brigadier Genl. James Clinton by Express.

His Excellency, Governor Clinton.

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[No. 3351.]

*Contradiction of the Rumors from the North.*

Albany, 7th Nov'r 1780.

Sir, The Inclosed is an answer to Colonel Hay's letter; he sent one at the same time to Mr. Chitendon at Bennington but has sent no answer. I have opened the letter by Colonel Hay's direction; have taken a Copy of it which I shall send to Genl. Clinton who is at Saratoga. The account that the Enemy were drawing their Boats into lake George & that of their being at Fort George & advancing is Contradicted; by the latest accounts the Enemy were at Ticonderoga & between that & Crown Point. I expect momentarily to hear from Genl. Clinton & hope to receive orders to Dismiss the militia. We have no Beef to give them. I Remain, your Excellency's most Obedt. Humble Serv't

Ab'm Ten Broeck.

His Excellency George Clinton.

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[No. 3352.]

*Colonel Lush Discredits the Alarming Stories from the North—His Sardonic Ending of a Letter to His Chief.*

Albany 7 Nov'r 1780.

Dear Sir, Colo. Malcolm whose Express carries this will doubtless furnish your Excellency with a true State of our

Northern accounts. All the Militia of this County except'g the western Regts. are now at Saraghtoga or marching there. Genl. Fellows' Brigade from Berkshire are also hastening to our Reinforcement, and by the best Intelligence we have rec'd, the Enemy are still at Ticonderoga; nor can we hear that they manifest an Intention of venturing down lower into the Country; it is said Fires have been seen by our Scouts near Bloody Pond, 4 miles on this side Lake George, but not a word of the appearance of an Enemy there.

I fear the Curses of the Multitude will fall upon the Heads of those who have drawn out the poor militia men from their Homes at this Season of the year upon the authority of acc'ts rec'd from an Ebenezer Allen, whom nobody knows. The Defection of Genl. Allen (so called) will probably be alledged as the Reason; but will this operate so as to satisfy the Minds of those who judge only from ostensible Causes?

Genl. Clinton went to Saraghtoga yesterday. I hope the Militia may be soon dismissed, if the acc'ts are as we have received them, unless it is meant to keep them as a Body of Observation.

The Council of the new state as they term themselves, are now trying Allen upon an Impeachment containing eleven articles; whether they are in Jest or Earnest it is impossible for us to determine.

When your Excellency left the City, you requested me to write for a pass for a sister of Mrs. Lamb to go to New York. Colo. Benson will be pleased in a Moment of Leisure to send me the usual Passport; her name is Sarah Davison. I am, with my best Respects to Mrs. Clinton, your Excellency's most obed. ser't

Stephen Lush.

P. S. We have been for this ten Days in constant Terror. Plots, Conspiracies, Conflagrations, Alarms, Burning of the City, Destruction of Schenectady &c. &c. &c. are the only Subjects of Conversation at present. A Chimney took Fire the other Evening, and it was instantly determined the Enemy were in the midst of us.

S. L.

His Excellency George Clinton Esqr.

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 Poughkeepsie 9th Nov'r 1780.

D'r Sir, I am this Moment favoured with yours of the 7th. I am happy at any Rate that the late alarm is not likely to prove so serious as was at first apprehended. It is at the same Time to be regretted that better Information had not been procured and the Country saved the great Expence and Trouble which it has occasiond. It is an Hour of Jealousy & apprehension & it is to be feared there is too much Reason to suspect the Conduct of some of the Leaders on the Grants. If Allen is guilty of unwarrantable Practices with the Enemy, he is not alone. The present Tryal I have no Confidence in. It may be calculated to save appearances & this is most likely. I have only to add that I am yours sincerely

G. C.

[To Lieutenant Colonel Lush.]

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 [No. 3353.]
*The Governor Writes Washington of the Affairs at the North.*

Poughkeepsie, Nov'r 8th 1780.

D'r Sir, I have rec'd your Excellency's favor of the 6th Inst. The last accounts from the northw'd are of the 3d which have been transmitted. If from farther Intelligence it should appear

unnecessary for the Troops ordered up to proceed, I will immediately inform Genl. Heath of it.

This will be handed to your Excellency by Capt. Molton of Colo. Warner's Regt.; as he is an intelligent man & has been stationed to the northward & may be well acquainted with the measures lately pursued on the Grants, he will perhaps be able to give your Excellency some Information on those matters. Your Excellency's Letter giving the Deficiency of the quota of our Troops is also come to hand & will be duly attended to. I have the honor to be &c. &c.

G: Clinton.

His Excellency Genl. Washington.

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[No. 3354.]

*Governor Clinton Averse to Repealing the Law Prohibiting the Export of Flour—Joshua Hett Smith Committed to Goshen Gaol.*

Poughkeepsie, Nov'r 8th 1780.

Dear Sir, I am favor'd with yr. Letters of the 5th & 7th; those to Brig'r Genl. Clinton were immediately forwarded to him by the Express who bro't them. The last accounts I have from the northw'd were dated on the 3d in the afternoon when the Enemy were said to be at Fort George & advancing, their number about 1600. I will immediately on the Rec't of it, transmit you whatever further Intelligence I may receive from that quarter. I am exceeding sorry to hear that the Troops under your immediate Command are again in want of Flour. Our agent Colo. Hay is now to northw'd using every exertion for collect'g in the quota of that part of the State for the Purpose of supplying the Troops in that quarter & furnishing a compent Supply

for the garrison of Fort Schuyler: which at present is not provided for longer than the 1st Jan'y. When he returns to this Place, which I expect daily, I will urge him, to the utmost of his Power, to procure as much as possible for the Posts in the Highlands.

The Prohibition on the exportation of Flour meal & grain out of this State has existed three years; which, altho to their great Prejudice, the Inhabitants from a desire to feed the army cheerfully submitted to. I cannot take upon myself to judge of the expediency of repealing the Law under our present Circumstances. I can only inform you, Sir, that it was repeatedly & strongly solicited by some of our neighbouring States to the eastw'd & recommended by Congress, before it was complied with. I take the Liberty of enclosing a mittimus from the Commiss'rs of Conspiracies for the committment of Joshua H. Smith to the gaol of Orange County & as I have no guard for the Purpose but from the militia, who might not be so proper, I have to request, Sir, that you would be pleased to direct his being sent thither under a safe guard & with the mittimus delivered to the Keeper of the gaol at Goshen. I am &c.

G: Clinton.

Major Genl. Heath.

[No. 3355.]

*Thomas Moffat Respecting Mr. Brewster's Exchange.*

Blooming Grove 8th Nov'r 1780.

S'r, The Inclosed Letter from Lieut. Brewster I Rec'd last Evidening by the contents of which you will observe that he is exceedingly Solicitous to be released from his Imprisonment and to obtain that desirable end, had requested my Interest

with your Excellency which has occasioned me to trouble you at this Time.

And although I am sensible your Excellency has paid every attention towards procuring the enlargement of the prisoners belonging to this State in general, and in particular those taken at Fort Montgomery, that was consistent with the Dignity of your office and the good of the commonwealth; yet as Lieut. Brewster has proposed a method for his enlargement that I have not before thought of I hope your Excellency will try the experiment if it should not appear improper. I am, with every mark of Esteem, your Excellencies most Obedient and very Humble Servant

Thos. Moffat.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

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[No. 3356.]

*The Governor Recommends Dismissal of Militia Consistent with Safety.*

Pokeepsie, 9th Nov'r 1780.

D'r Sir, I am favoured with yours of the 7th. Its inclosure is delivered to Colo. Hay. I am happy to learn that the late alarm is not likely to prove so serious as was at first apprehended. There are many obvious Reasons to wish how soon the Militia may be dismissed & the moment, therefore, it can be done consistent with safety they must be discharged. I am your most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

Brig'r Genl. Ten Broeck.



[No. 3357.]

*Circular Letter from Congress Calling Upon the States to Furnish  
Their Proportion of Supplies Without Delay.*

(Circular)

In Congress November 9th 1780.

Sir, Fully convinced of our inability to obtain the grand object of the federal union without the vigorous exertions of the several States, we have thought it our duty to make the requisitions contained in the enclosed resolutions; and we wish our constituents to be impressed with the necessity of a speedy and punctual compliance. For although by the blessing of providence, we have been conducted thus far in a war with a powerful and enraged enemy, yet the events of the present year have not enabled us to speak the language of triumph. This indeed may be attributed to a variety of causes, but we cannot refrain from observing, that the unpunctuality of the States in their supplies of men, money & provisions is not one of the least.

It is unnecessary to point out the public wants and distresses. They are too well known; too generally felt. Hitherto the war has been carried on principally by emissions of paper money. This being depreciated and Congress having in compliance with the general inclination & voice of their constituents, resolved to stop farther emissions, we are compelled to call upon the States for taxes and specific supplies.

An opinion seems to prevail that foreign loans can be obtained, and we perceive with regret that some are disposed to place too great reliance on this resource. Duty compels us to be explicit with our constituents on a subject of such interesting importance. Every effort has been made for the purpose of procuring Loans; but without sufficient success to justify a relaxation of our own most vigorous exertions.

It is to be observed that a powerful armed neutrality appears to be formed in Europe determined to support the freedom of Commerce. Should overtures of peace be the result of a convention of the neutral powers, is it not our interest, is it not our indispensable duty to be prepared for such an event? Our object is of the greatest magnitude; the security freedom and Independence of the United States: and experience evinces that no nation can promise itself a safe and honorable peace which is not in condition to maintain a war with vigor. We are confident there is no want of ability in the States to do this. Can arguments then be necessary to call forth every internal resource which may contribute to put a happy period to the war? Is it not high time to expel from our country an enemy whose progress is marked with blood and desolation and whose successes inspire them only with redoubled vengeance?

The estimates may appear large but we conceive them to be absolutely necessary. To the utmost of our power we have endeavoured to correct abuses in the public expenditures. We have called for the aid of the respective executives. Again we recommend this essential object to their attention. Nothing on our part shall be wanting which may contribute to promote the strictest oeconomy in dispensing the supplies now required.

We have only to add our earnest desire that no time may be lost, and should the Legislature of your State not be in Session on the receipt of this letter that it may be immediately convened.

By order and on behalf of the United States in Congress assembled.

Saml. Huntington, President.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[Nos. 3358-3359.]

*Governor Clinton to General Ten Broeck in Regard to Men Detailed to the Quartermaster-General's Department.*

To His Excellency Governor George Clinton, General and Commander In Chief of the Militia of the State of New York, and Vice Admiral of the Navy of the same.

May it please your Excellency;

The great necessity at present for an immediate supply of Forage, wood, Coal, &c. Induces me to petition your Excellency to obtain permission, if I should not be supply'd, that I might be permitted permission to purchase it or some person.

And likewise, I beg your Excellency would be pleased to grant that in time of alarms, I may be permitted a sufficient number from the Wood Cutters, Blacksmiths, Coopers, Colliers & Carpenters, may be so detain'd as will be necessary to carry on the business of those different branches. I beg your Excellency would consider our Situation, the Season far advancing and in all probability the service will suffer. I am, your Excellency's most Obedient and most Hum. Serv't,

Nicholas Quackenbush.

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Pokeepsie 9th Nov'r 1780.

Sir. I refer you for answer to your Memorial this Day delivered me to the inclosed Letter to Genl. Ten Broeck left open for your persusal, which you will please to seal & deliver.

With respect to the Purchase of Forrage Wood & Coal I am not authorized to give any Directions. I am, Sir, &c.

[G. C.]

Mr. Nicholas Quackenboss, A. D. Q. Genl.

Pokeepsie 9th Nov'r 1780.

Sir, Mr. Quackenboss, Asst. D. Qur. Master Genl. at Albany, has represented to me by Petition, the Difficulties he labours under in conducting the Business of his Department, owing to the Persons necessarilly employed under him, being called out on every Alarm with the Militia. I do not like Exemptions; but it may at the same Time be attended with dangerous Consequences to derange the Staff Departments & obstruct the public Business especially when they are destitute of Cash. I have, therefore, to request that you will from Time to Time, give such Indulgences to such Persons of your Brigade as shall be employed in the Quarter Master's Department, as may be necessary to promote the public Service. This is recommended by Congress & has, heretofore, been practised. Indeed, however, disagreeable it seems unavoidable. I am &c.

G. C.

Genl. Ten Broeck.

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[No. 3360.]

*Henry Wisner's Letter for Permission for His Daughter and Mrs. Tredwell to Go Into New York.*

Goshen, 10th of November 1780.

Dear Sir, This will be delivered to you by Mr. Evrett, who will wait on your Excellency for the purpose of obtaining permission for his wife and my neighbour Mrs. Tredwell to pass to New York. You may probably Recollect that I have in a former letter Represented the situation of my familie to you, at which time I informed you that their affairs ware in such a situation, that Rendered it absolutely necessary for some one of them to goe to Long Island if posable. We Conceiveing that a permition might be obtained this fall from your Excellency, purposed to

Mrs. Tredwell to send to her friends for a Permission for Mrs. Evrett and herself which she has obtained. I shall, therefore, Consider it as a perticular favour, if with propriety it can be done to grant such permission.

My wife's circumstances is something singular, as her Children ware young when she came here and are now growe up: their Estates turned into Cash and put out to intrest, which has not been Collected for five years past, her Children now want each their parts which Cannot be obtaind, unless some of the familie can goe in. I am, Sir, your Humble Servant

Henry Wisner.

[To G. C.]

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[No. 3361.]

*Major Tallmadge Applies for a Parole for Mr. Jayne and Furnishes the Governor with Information Regarding the Perfidy of Francis Van Dyke.*

North Castle, Nov'r 11th 1780.

Sir, At the Request of Mr. William Jayne, who was some time since bro't off from Long Island, I take the liberty to trouble your Excellency with a Line. It may be necessary to premise that he, (Mr. Jayne) together with Doctor Punderson, were bro't off from Long Island some time in July last, for the purpose of procuring an Exchange for Messrs. Jno. Smith & Wm. Philips, who were taken on Long Island, by the Enemy, some time before. An Exchange for the above Gentlemen has been proposed, which for certain Reasons, the Enemy have tho't proper to refuse, so that the purpose designed by the Capture of Mr. Jayne and Doctor Punderson cannot at present be answered.

Induced thereto by a letter from my Father, now at Brook Haven (Long Island) I would request that your Excellency would be pleased to let the above Mr. Jayne return home on Parole, as I have abundant reason to believe that he has never been a very acting man, or a Person of influence against the Interest of these States. I have no doubt, if he could obtain this indulgence, he would implicitly obey any Directions your Excellency should think proper to give.

I am in duty bound to observe that sometime about the 22d ulto., a detachment of our Regt. taking Post near Pines Bridge. I went with several other Officers, to the House of Joseph McKull, where we found one Francis Van Dyke, from Poughkeepsie, who was permitted to escort some Tory Families to our Lines. As we arrived at McKull's a little after midnight, and being in the uniform of some of the Enemies Corps, the Family & Vandyke took us to be a detachment of the Enemy. In Consequence of this, several of them, but Van Dyke in particular unbosomed himself very fully. Among other things he gave us all the information he could respecting West Point, the Country &c. Supposing us on an Expedition against West Point, he voluntarily related to us what he knew of the Garrison & the Consequences which would attend the Reduction of that Post. He also promised to assist in making your Excellency a Prisoner, & secreting any Party which might be sent up on that Purpose. In the fullness of his heart he told us that he was going below with a flagg, and that although he was prohibited by your Excellency's instructions going below our Lines with his Waggon, yet as both the Waggon & horses were the Property of a Refugee, then with the Enemy, he intended to deliver them to him, and on his Return declare that the Enemy had taken them from

him. He said many things respecting the Characters of Persons in the Country, who were friendly to the Enemy; and in fine, as far as his knowledge served him, endeavoured to explain our Situation at large and appeared to wish the ruin of our Cause. I should have secured him in the morning, but being undeceived respecting his Visitants, when I was absent, he took a very abrupt leave.

I tho't it my Duty to mention these Circumstances, that such measures may be taken as the Laws point out. I have the Honor to be, With great Respect, your Excellency's most Obed't Serv't

Benja. Tallmadge.

P. S. Mr. Isaac Webber, a guide on the Lines, was present when the whole Conversation passed with Vandyke, & can give further information if required.

Governor Clinton.

Pokeepsie 21st Nov'r 1780.

Sir, I am this Moment favoured with yours of the 11th Instant & thanks for the Intelligence it gives me respecting Van Dycke. Agreeable to your Request I have directed Mr. Pell, State Com'y of Prisoners to permit Jayne to return to Long Island on Parole. I am, Sir, with great Regard your most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

[To Major Tallmadge.] \_\_\_\_\_

[No. 3362.]

#### DEPRESSING TALES FROM THE NORTH.

*General Clinton writes to the Governor as to the Conduct of His Department.—Capt. Adiel Sherwood's Experiences as a Captive.*

Albany, Nov'r 12th 1780.

D'r Brother. I am just arrived from Saratoga, where I have been detain'd since the 6th inst. till the return of Major Rose-

crans, who had been sent with a Flag, as well with a view to treat with the Enemy respecting the Scotch women, as to ascertain, if possible their Situation. The Major with his men had access to every part of their camp, and informs us that all the shipping had gone down except one Schooner; that their whole force consisted of about four hundred chiefly British; that they were encamp'd ten miles below Crown Point, and waited orders to return.

Major Carlton consented to send five boats, which were half the number requir'd, as far as Skeensborough, where they were to wait 'till the 14th inst. and receive such of the Families as were included in an enclosed List. In consequence of which, upwards of two hundred of them were sent off yesterday in waggons as far as Fort Ann; but as the road from that to Skeensborough is impassable with waggons, many of them unable to walk, and the Season so intently cold, I have every reason to fear, many of them must unavoidably perish on the way. Captain Humphries with upwards of sixty Levies, and Mr. V Vecten, D. W. M. Genl. were sent to assist them on.

The conduct of the People of the Grants appears very suspicious; they have appointed a committee to confer with a Flag from Carlton, the object is uncertain, the ostensible one, a Cartel; very heavy charges have been thrown into the Assembly against Genl. Allen, who, report says, is dismissed from command; this probably will render him more desperate.

It is difficult to determine what Line of conduct to pursue in this department. All the Supplies, for a considerable time past, have been procured by impress: this will soon become insupportable, beside the uncertainty and delay attending the measure. I fear for Fort Schuyler; how long we can maintain it must de-



pend on the exertions of Col. Hay. The river has been so low that Weissenfels has not got farther than the Little Falls. I wish the Ice may not detain him there. There is not an atom of Hay or Grain in store; about one hundred Cords of wood and five Barrels of Flower compose the stores in this place, & not as much cash as will pay an Express for carrying you this.

By Letters from Head Quarters, I understand the First and Fifth Regiments, are on their way to this place; as the alarm which occasion'd their sudden movement has subsided, and as it is his Exc'cy instructions that the troops, in that case, should instantly return, I have dispatch'd orders to the commanding officers for that purpose; but as their rout is uncertain, by reason of the weather, my Letter may probably not meet them. I have to request, that you woud enclose them a copy of this Paragraph if they should not have pass'd Poughkeepsie. I am, Dear Brother, your affectionately

James Clinton.

P. S. Mrs Campbell, Mrs. More & families & some others have been sent, via Castletown. The warents for Gansevoort's officer have been received.

Gov'r Clinton.

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The following is a paragraph of a Letter from Genl. Washington of the 5th inst. just received.

“His Excellency the Governor promises to give every assistance in procuring provision for Fort Schuyler. You will be pleased to make that a primary object, and endeavour to have the Supply thrown in, in the course of this month.”

The necessity is pressing, & requires every Exertion. Yours  
&c.

J. C.

On Board the Carleton 17th October 1780.

Dear Sir, It is with regret I rite from this place, but my situation will admitt of no other; have not had the least reason to complain since a prissenor, but have ben used with the greatest politeness. You have doubtless heard the poticulars of my giving up the garrison at Fort Ann, to Maj'r Carleton, who was at the head of Seven Hundred Seventy Eight men, cheafly British. I have with me seventy five men, officers enclued, which was the whole of my garrison, and not to exceed 10 rounds of amonission pr man, my communication cutt off, and without the least hopes of release for some time; it is not only chagreaning but hart breaking, even to relate the dolfull tail; however after consulting my officers and some of my most prinsible men, agreed to capitulate, and give up the garrison and consider myself and men as prissenors of war.

Could have made some resistance as long as my powder and ball lasted, but when that was exhausted, what men that should then survived would have bin masecred by the savages; this being my situation, hard as it was, agreed to sign the articules, haveing liberty to send the women and children to their respective homes. My men are devided, so as I am not able to give an exact account of the number of my men and the militia apart. Maj'r Chipman is also prisenor hear with about forty men, from Fort George; have sent pr the barer a few lines to Mrs. Sherwood; you will do me poticular favour to send it her by the first safe hand.

I am in a poor situation to continue in this cold climet this winter, haveing no cloze with me but what I brought on my back, and destitute of any money. Must consequently suffer greatly; if no way is Devized by our Legislative body for the release of

the State priseners. My men are very bad clad and most part of them without shoes.

You will please let Mr. Gillet know that my accounts of Issuings for this month is destroyed, but the number of men are about the same of last month. I am, Sir, with Esteem your very Humble Serv't

Adiel Sherwood.\*

Colo. Livingston.

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[No. 3363.]

*Mrs. Colden Permitted a Pass to New York.*

By His Excell'cy Geo: Clinton Esqr. Gov'r &c. &c.

Permission is hereby granted to Mrs. Colden with her family & Effects, (males capable of bearing arms excepted), & provisions for the Passage to pass to New York in the Sloop Polly Martin, navigated with two Hands whose names are mentioned in the margin, [James Totten, Charles ——] on her obtain'g a Flag for the Purpose from Major Genl. Heath. The Sloop is to stop at West Point & if Genl. Heath should not be there Genl. McDougal will permit her to pass the Pemart's wharf at Peeks Kill Landing, when the master will wait on Genl. Heath at Continental Village. The master & Hands with the Sloop will make no longer stay at New York than shall be absolutely necessary for the purpose of landing the Passengers & Effects & no Person or Effects are to be brought out with the Return of the Sloop. without his Excellency's the Gov'r's Permission on any pretence whatever.

Given &c. the 12th Nov'r 1780.

G. C.

By his Excell'cys Command

R. Benson Secy.

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\* See page 292.

[No. 3364.]

*Governor Clinton Informs John Sloss Hobart He Should Proceed to Newport.*

Nov'r 13th 1780.

Dear Sir, I have only a Moment's Time to acknowledge the Receipt of yours of the 6th Instant, and to give it as my Opinion that you ought to proceed to New Port unless by your writing from Hartford to the French [Intendant] informing him of the Nature of your Commission you may receive such Answer from him as to render it unnecessary. I am &c.

G: C:

Judge Hobart.

[No. 3365.]

*Abuse of Ships' Papers Captured by the English.*

Circular,

Philadelphia November 13, 1780.

Sir, Congress having received Information from the Honorable, the Minister of France, of Inconveniencies & Injuries received by our Allies, resulting from the Abuse the British make of Papers & Clearances they take in American Prizes, by personating the Officers & Commanders named in such Papers, being fully acquainted with the Language & manners of our Officers and Seamen &c.

In Compliance with the request of the Minister of France, Congress have adopted the enclosed resolution, in order to detect such Abuses in future; and I am to request your Excellency's Attention to the necessary Measures for carrying the same into effectual Execution. I have the Honor to be, with the highest respect, your Excellency's most obedient Servant

Sam. Huntington, President.

His Excellency The Governor of New York.

[No. 3366.]

*A Grand Foraging Expedition Meditated Below the Lines in Westchester County.*

Head Quarters West Point, Nov'r 13th 1780.

Sir, I was last evening honored with yours of the 9th pr Colonel Hay; at the instant I was writing you on the same subject. I think a very considerable advantage may be derived from a grand Forrage below the Lines, and will do every thing in my power to carry it into effect. A very considerable number of Teams will be necessary, & I request your aid to the Quarter-master's department, in such way as may be speedy and effectual. I will endeavour to order out a sufficient covereing Party. The Militia of that County will probably be wanted to assist in guarding, loading & driveing the Teams, Cattle &c., as there must be some small Parties interspersed among the Teams, as well as to form a proper chain for the security of the Forragers. I wish it may take place as soon as matters can possibly be got in readiness.

I cannot see the least inconvenience in shifting the Inhabitants, above & below the Lines, in the manner you propose; as this is a matter immediately under your jurisdiction, I have nothing to say further, only to assure you, that in this, or any other case, which you may think conducive to the interest of the State, you may depend upon every assistance in my power to effect it if necessary.

I thank you, Sir, for your intelligence from the Northward. We have no news in this Quarter. I have the honor to be, with the greatest respect your Excellency's Most Obedient Servant

W. Heath.

His Excellency Governor Clinton,

[No. 3367.]

*General Knox Points Out an Error in Number of Artillerymen Assigned to New York.*Head Quarters Passaic Falls, 14<sup>th</sup> Novem'r 1780.

Dear Sir, Since my letter of the 5th on the subject of the number of men necessary to compleat the Quota of your State, I have recollected a matter, in the composition of Colo. Lamb's Regt., which I wish had been attended to at that time. Two independent Companies of Pennsylvania, consisting at present of only 39 men, have been for some time past annexed to that Regiment, and are included in the number of 304 of which the Regt. as it now stands, consists. They have been always returned as part of the Quota of Pennsylvania; have been adopted and supplied by that State. They would have been, heretofore, annexed to Colo. Procter's Regt. but for some difference between the officers on account of Rank. There is a necessity for doing it now, as Lamb's Regiment has two Companies more than the establishment allows, and Procter's wants two to compleat it. The inclosed, which is the Copy of a letter from General Knox on the subject, is more full, and to which I would beg your Excellency's reference.

From the above state, your Excellency will perceive the necessity of your making an addition of 39 men to your assessment, as Colo. Lamb's Regiment will be lessened, so many, by withdrawing the Companies beforementioned.

I have received your Excellency's favors of the 5th and 8th. By hearing nothing further from the Northward, I am in hopes the advance of the Enemy has been checked. I have the honor to be, with very great Regard, your Excellency's most obt. and humble Serv't

Go. Washington.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

(Copy)

Camp Bergen Country 13 Nov'r 1780.

Sir, I take the liberty to state, for your Excellency's consideration and decision, the case of two Companies now in Colo. Lamb's Regt. of Artillery. These Companies originally commanded by Captains Lee and Porter were raised in the State of Pennsylvania, have always been returned to the Board of War as part of the quota of that State, and for a considerable time past adopted by it, and received the benefits of stores, clothing &c.

It has been the anxious desire of the government of Pennsylvania to have these Companies annexed to Col. Proctor's Regt. also raised in that State, and which is deficient in the number of Companies. The affair has been agitated in the Board of War and referred to Congress, and finally by the Board of War to your Excellency on the 14th of last August; as appears by the Letters and Papers herewith returned, which I received from Col. Harrison some time ago, in order to make the annexation requested. The reason which has hitherto prevented was a point of delicacy to Colo. Lamb, in taking away from his Regiment, against his consent, two Companies which had been a part of it from its first formation—and an opinion that a near arrangement of the corps would take place; when the State of Pennsylvania might be gratified without an injury to the service.

In the Arrangement lately published, the Regiments of Artillery are reduced from twelve to ten Companies. These two, taken from Colo. Lamb's would reduce the Regiment to its establishment. Col. Proctor's Regt. has but eight Companies, & these two added (having two others incorporated viz. late Coren's and Jones's) would complete the number equal to the establishment.

I beg leave to observe on this state of the case, that if the two Companies should still remain in Lamb's Regiment, the service would be deprived of the number they contain, which to be sure is small, both consisting only of forty men for the war. As the State of New York is obliged to raise one Regiment of Artillery, the State of Pennsylvania (being also obliged to raise a Regiment) would consider these men as part of the present demand.

I beg your Excellency's speedy determination, and am, with the highest respect, your most Obed't Serv't

H. Knox.

His Excellency Genl. Washington.

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[No. 3368.]

*Colonel Weissenfels to Start for Fort Schuyler, with Supplies.*

Fort Renselar, 15th Novembr 1780.

Sir. I Recieved your Excellency's Paket by Captain Norton, with the Warrant, and the Letter by the Express, What ever I, and the officers have whished to know, is fully explained, and no Doubt left us, but that we have a Pattron in your Exellency, who is distinguishing and redressing every grievance. I schall march to Morrow, with the Provisions I have been able to collect, and do my self the honor of Transmitting the State of the Garrison, by Major Hughes. I am, with the greatest Esteem, your Excellency's most obedient most humble Serv't

Fred: Weissenfels.

P. S. I aknowledge your Excellency's Promiss respecting my Family with gratitude.

[To G. C.]



[No. 3369.]

*The War Office Requests Monthly Returns of Supplies.*

War Office Nov'r 15, 1780.

Sir, It is recommended in the resolution of Congress of the 25th of Feb'y last "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 (the Board suppose the quantities delivered by the State Commissioners)' in each preceding month."

For want of such returns, the Board are extremely embarrassed in forming a judgment of the prospects the army have of being supplied; nor will it ever be in their power, if not furnished with them, to check the accounts of the Issuing Commissaries by knowing the quantities received from the States. It is also extremely difficult to direct the march of Troops without information of the Supplies obtained and places of deposit.

They, therefore, take the liberty to request, that your Excellency will be pleased to order the person in your State, whose business it is to make them, to be punctual in transmitting the returns agreeable to the resolution above recited. I have the honor to be, with the highest respect, yr. Excellency's most obed. Hble. Serv't

by ord. Ben Stoddert, Secy.

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

[No. 3370.]

*Colonel Malcom Uncertain Whether He Holds a Commission.*

Pokeepsie Nov'r 15th 1780.

Gentlemen, I inclose you the Copy of a Letter from Colo. Malcom, who lately commanded the Levies raised by this State

to reinforce the Army. The Embarrassm'ts the Service meets with from the Disputes concerning Rank will apologize for the Trouble I now give you, in requesting that you will be pleased to lay the above Letter before Congress & obtain their Sense on the Subject of his Claim & transmit the same to me by the first Conveyance. I have the honor to be &c. &c.

G: Clinton.

The hon'ble the Delegates from New York in Congress.

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Schenectady, Oct. 31 1780.

Sir, When the additional Regiments were Reformed, mine being upon that establishment was Reduced. My Commission not being Revok'd, and an act of Congress (June 1778) having been made in my favor, I have considered myself still in Service, held myself constantly ready, & taken commands as they occasionally offered. But I have lately been told that my name is not on the Register of the war office, & therefore my Rank called in Question. This obliges me to appeal to Congress.

My present Command will soon expire; it is possible that my services may again be wanted. I, therefore, could wish to know precisely my Situation. If Congress shall have dismiss'd me no doubt but they will on your Excellency's application declare it. I am very sorry to give you the trouble, but as a Subject of the State, I am confident that you will favor me with your interposition. As the Campaign is now closing it is a proper time to ask an explanation. I have the Honor to be, with the greatest Respect & Regard, your Excellency's much obliged & very Hbl. Ser't

W. Malcom.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 3371.]

*Congress Directs Governor Clinton to Take Canadian Families in  
New York State under His Protection.*

Philadelphia November 16, 1780.

Sir, Your Excellency will receive herewith enclosed, the Copy of an Act of Congress of the 10 Instant, requesting your Excellency to cause an Enquiry to be made into the Circumstances of the Canadian Families residing in the State of New York, and to take them under your Protection; and to give them such Assistance, further than what they have already received, at the Expense of the United States, as you shall Judge necessary. I have the Honor to be, with the highest respect, your Excellency's most obedient Servant

Sam. Huntington, President.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

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In Congress Nov'r 10th 1780.

The Committee to whom was referred the letter of 1st from Genl. Washington delivered in a report, whereupon

Resolved, That Congress approve of the order given by the commander in chief to brig'r Genl. Clinton to supply the Canadian families residing in the State of New York with a ration for each individual; and that the governor of the said State be requested to cause an enquiry to be made into their circumstances to take them under his protection and to give them such further assistance at the expence of the United States as he shall judge necessary.

Extract from minutes.

Chas. Thompson, Secy.

[No. 3372.]

*Capital Punishment to be Inflicted on Those Who Supply the Enemy with Provisions.*

Circular,

Philadelphia, November 17, 1780.

Sir, Your Excellency will receive herewith enclosed, the Copy of an Act of Congress of the 14 Instant, representing the criminal Practice carried on by Individuals from some of the States, in supplying the Enemy with Provision:

“And recommending to the Legislature of the respective States; where it hath not been already done; to enact Laws inflicting capital Punishment on all such Persons as shall directly or indirectly supply the Enemy with Provisions, or military or naval Stores and adopt the most vigorous Measures for the Execution of such Laws.”

I have the Honor to be with Sentiments of the highest respect your Excellency's most obedient & humble Servant

Sam. Huntington, President.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 3373.]

*Famine Threatened at West Point.*

Headquarters West Point, November 17th 1780.

Sir, This post is on the eve of great distress for want of Provisions; not a barrell of Flour or a single Beef ox at the post. We have been fed with accounts for six or eight days past that two or three hundred Barrells of the former were ready at Rinebeck &c. and vessells were immediately sent for it, but we hear no more of it. I have written to Coloney Hay and others, and earnestly request your aid, for immediate relief both

of Flour and Beef Cattle. I have the honor to be, with the greatest respect & esteem your Excellency's most obedient Serv't

W. Heath.

Governor Clinton.

[No. 3374.]

A RISKY TRANSACTION.

*Mr. L'Hommedieu Suggests Raising Ten Thousand Pounds in Cash for the State at the Peril of His Reputation.*

Middletown, Nov'b 17. 1780.

S'r, Not seeing any probability of our State's being able to procure cloathing for our Troops this winter, or to raise any considerable sum in specie by the sale or mortgaging of confiscated Estates, Colo. Floyd, Mr. Hobart and myself have concerted measures for procuring from the East end of Long Island, for the use of the state, about ten thousand Pounds in cash, and as much in cloathing, the particulars of which Colo. Floyd will inform you. In transacting this Business, it will be difficult to save our Reputations, and prevent popular clamor, unless great precaution be used. By a conversation we have had with the Gov'r of this state, we have every Reason to expect the assistance & Protection of him & his Council upon a formal application from the Governor of the State of New York. I do not see why the act empowering the Governor to grant warrants of Impress &c. (tho' I have not the act by me) will not justify your sending a proper person with a small Force perhaps 8 or ten men, to impress those articles for which we have agreed and to give certificates for the same, and at the same time, as the articles must be brought into this state, to request Governor Trumbull's assistance upon which he will

furnish as many Boats & men as may be necessary to transport the Goods. This appears to me, to be the most feasible and unexceptionable mode of conducting the Business. Probably you may think of some other mode which will better answer the purpose, which we shall gladly pursue. As there is great probability of procuring considerable of the cloathing & money, I should be glad as soon as may be, to be informed what measures you will adopt in order to assist in procuring those articles, that I may know how to proceed, if I should be informed that the goods were ready. It is certain that without the assistance & protection of this state, they cannot be procured, & they will give no assistance or Protection without an application from you for that purpose. I expect Mr. Hubbart and Mr. Benson will return in about eight or ten days, by whom I shall write, if any thing material in this Business occurs between that time & now. I have the Honor to be, with the greatest Esteem & respect your Excellency's most Humble Servant

Ezra L'Hommedieu.

His Excellency George Clinton, Esq.

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[No. 3375.]

*General Clinton Declares Colonel Weissenfels "Remarkably Slow"*  
—*The Quakers.*

Albany Nov'r 19th 1780.

D'r Sir, The Bearer William Lees, of the Denomination of shaking Quakers, who has been confined on suspision by the Commissioners here and has been enlarged, has made application to me respecting his sister, Ann Standivin, who, he informs me. has been confined some time past in or near Poughkeepsie, on a similar account.

You are better acquainted with the circumstances relating to her, than I can be; you can best determine what is to be done with her, and if nothing material has been proven against her, I shou'd suppose she may [be] released agreeable to their requisition.

There is nothing in this Quarter worth communicating. The times of the Enlistments of those Levies under the command of Major Hughes will in all probability expire before or very soon after they are relieved by Col. Weissenfels, who has been remarkably slow in his progress to the Fort. None of the six weeks men have yet arrived, except a few from Dutchess County, owing, as I suppose, to the late alarms. It will, therefore, be necessary to make application to Head Quarters for a body of men sufficient to keep up the communication on the Mohawk River, as the 3d Regiment is stationed at Saratoga and its appendages. I am, with perfect Esteem, Dear Brother, yours sincerely

James Clinton.

Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 3376.]

*Lieutenant Colbrath Makes Requisition for the Balance of Bounty Men for Recruits.*

Albany 20th November 1780.

Sir, The pressing Impertunities from the men I Inlisted last Summer by order of your Excellency for the 3d N. York Regt. I am Constrained to apply for the Balance of the account Rendered last August, of 410 dollars of the New money.

If it could be convenient for your Excellency to order the payment of said Sum, it would oblige, Sir, your most Obedient & Humb. Serv.

W. Colbrath, Lieut. 3d N. York Rigt.

To his Excell'y Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 3377.]

*The Governor Directs General Clinton to Abolish Sutlers—Prisoner McGinnis Ordered Liberated—Spy Van Driessen Further Reprieved.*

Pokeepsie 20th Nov'r 1780.

D'r Sir, I Two Days since received your Letter of the 12th Instant. I apprehended great Difficulties (from what I experienced myself) in procuring a Competency of Provisson for the Northern Department, & therefore, pressed Colo. Hay & his Assistance to use every possible Exertion to collect the necessary Supplies in Season & the more effectually to enable him, granted an Impress Warrant authorizing him to seize to the ammount of the Deficiencies of the assessments in the Different Districts. This was giving every assistance in my Power & fully complying with my Promise to the Com'r in Chief. Colo. Hay now informs me that a sufficient Number of Cattle are now on their Way to you & that he has promising Prospects of being able to afford you a competent Supply of Flour.

I am informed that the public Service is much Injured by a Number of Idle Persons becoming Suttlers in the different small Posts on the Mohawk River & the Morals of the Inhabitants who have fled into them for safety, debauched. I have to request, therefore, that you will issue your orders possitively prohibiting the Practice in future. There is a certain McGinnis in Albany gaol, confined in Consequence of the Sentence of Court Martial, whom I promised in Consideration of his executing the two Spies lately convicted at Albany, to liberate. I thought the Sheriff woud of Course have discharged him, but I am informed this is not the case. I request, therefore, you will order him to be released and Vandriessen to be further reprieved until the first of February next. I have no news. Your Family were



well the last I heard of them. I am, with great Regard, yours affectionately

[G. C.]

The Grass Hopper came down with Colo. Malcom, but none of the ammunition or Stores taken with it. The Colo. tells me they were plundered; cant we find out by whom that they may be punished.

Genl. Clinton.

[No. 3378.]

*Certificate of Dutchess County Supervisors of the Number of Men to be Raised by Each Regiment During the War.*

This is to Certify to his Excellency, George Clinton, Esquire, Governor of the State of New York &c. &c. That the Supervisors of the County of Dutchess having been convened for the purpose of apportioning the said County's Quota of Troops, to be raised to serve in the army of the United States, in pursuance of an act of the Legislature of this State Entitled "An act to Compleat the Quota of Troops of this State to serve in the army of the United States during the War." passed the 9th of October last did on the 17th Instant meet and apportion the same, on the several Regiments in the said County in manner following to wit.

To Colo. Morris Graham's Regiment	23 men;
To Do Roswell Hopkins do	21 do;
To Do Abraham Brinckerhoff's do	26 do;
To Do John Freer's do	19 do;
To Do Field's do	19 do;
To Do Henry Ludenton's do	14 do;
To Do James Vanderburgh's do	15 do.
	Total 137 men.

Poughkeepsie November 20th 1780.

Pr, Teunis Tappen, Sup's Clk. of the County of Dutchess.

[No. 3379.]

*Sheriff Nicoll Intervenes for Mrs. Wood, Whose Husband is a  
Captive.*

Goshen, Nov'r 20th 1780.

Dear S'r, Mrs. Wood Received a letter from hur Husband, Capt. John Wood, Dated the 19th of Oct'r at Fort Shammale, in which he signifies his being in a poor State of Helth; how this lette came and by whome she knows not. Your veri Polite and obliging behavior to Mrs. Wood since the apsence of hur Husband, Indused hur to apply to me to write to know wheather you have Received any Intelligance from Capt. Wood and wheather you have any Prospect of haveing him Exchanged. She heares that there has bin some women exchanged lately from Canady. Mrs. Wood Requests you would wright to those women to know wheather they saw Capt. Wood or know how he is and in what Maner he is Confined.

My Compliments with Mrs. Nicoll to your Lady and Fammaly.  
I am, with Respect, your most Obediant Humble Servent

Isaac Nicoll.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 3380.]

*The Governor Explains Disadvantages That Might Attend Mr.  
Ludlow's Visiting New York.*

Pokeepsie, 20th November 1780.

Sir, In answer to your Request of my Permission for your Father, Mr. William Ludlow, to go to the City of New York, it may be proper to observe that his volluntary going into a Place within the Power of the Enemy, may render him Obnoxious to the Laws of the State, & it woud, therefore, be improper in me to

grant him a Permission for that Purpose. His Age & Infirmity I am sensible, render it immaterial where he resides; this added to the good Oppinion I entertain of him woud readily induce me to consent to any Thing consistent with the Duties of my Office to oblige him. He now resides in New Jersey; your Sisters have my Permission to go into New York, and if after what I have above promised, the old Gentleman should think proper to accompany them, I shall not conceive it my Duty to prevent it. I am &c.

G: Clinton.

Mr. Gabriel W. Ludlow.

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[No. 3381.]

*Colonel Weissenfels Reports His Arrival at Fort Schuyler.*

Fort Schuyler, 21st [November] '80.

Sir, I have the honor to agvaint your Exellency of my arrival at this Post; the Severe Spell of Frost prevented my making use of Boats and I wass under a Necessity, to employ Waggons, to transport the State Stores; some Provision I had Collected and Baggage of the artillery and the Regiment. This Conveiance has been represented to me as impracticable, but by mending the Roads as I went along, I found it not only Practicable, but, Tollerable Easy. The State of the Garrison, is verry deficient, both for the mentainance of the Troops, and Defence; for Particulars on these heads, I beg leave to referr your Exellency to Major Hughes, who is verry Capbable of giving all the information necessary. I am, with the greatest Respect, your Exellency's most obiedient most humble Serv't

Fred: Weissenfels.

His Exellency Governor Clinton.

*Return of Provisions and stores on hand at Fort Schuyler, under the Care of Enoch Leonard, A. C. Issues in the N. Department Nov'r 22nd 1780.*

Barrels of			Salt			Boxes of		No. of	
Flour	Salted Beef	Rend' Tallow	Hog's	Tirce	Barrels	Hard Sope	Candles	Cattle	Hides
59	40	8	6		1	20	3	2	101

The above Return is just: Errors Excepted: P. Enoch Leonard, A. C. I.

[No. 3382.]

*Lieutenant Hallet Entitled to State Commissary Supplies.*

Poughkeepsie, Nov'r 21st 1780.

Sir, Lieut. Hallet of Moylan's Dragoons is now with the Governor & informs him that by some Omission he is not included in your return as a Subject of this State & that in consequence, you decline issuing to him the allowance, of necessaries, made by the Legislature. His Excellency directs me to inform you that Lieut. Hallet, to his knowlege, is a Subject of this State & that he actually is serving as Lieut. in the above Corps, and is of course entitled to the abovementioned allowance, which he thinks you may safely issue to him, without waiting the Directions of Capt. Wiley on the Subject. I am &c.

Robt. Benson, A. D. C.

Mr. Victor Bicker, Jun'r.

[No. 3383.]

## JOHN R. LIVINGSTON A SUSPECT.

*His Affidavit to Prove His Relations with Arnold Were Not of a Treasonable Nature.*

Boston, Nov'r 22d 1780.

Sir, Upon finding in the Journals of Congress of Sep'r last, a Letter of mine refered to your Excellency, I cant help troubling you with these few Lines, and with the inclosed affidavit, which I made as soon as I found my Letters to that infamous Traitor Arnold was found among his papers; my reassons for being thus early was, that I knew misrepresentations might be made to my prejuidce, and I am the more happy in doing it as I find that Congress have in some measure taken it up, and seem by their resolve to wish you to get farther information.

In my affidavit you will find that I have been as explicit as possible, and come as near every perticular as the distance of time will permit me to remember. Since the above resolve of Congress, I have been extreemly unhappy indeed, as they seem by the refering of my Letter to you, to think me an accessary in Arnold's Villany, altho the distance of time which is more than two years, and no mention of any thing but on commerce in my Letter or my agreement could induce them to have that Idea; but I flatter myself my Oath will clear every part of my conduct up to your Excellency, and that humanity will induce you to represent this affair in such a light to Congress as to take off the prejudices they may have formed to my disadvantage, and to induce them to represent it in a proper manner by some future resolve, for as it now stands people imagine that I must have had some transactions with him to the prejuidce of the publick, which God knows I am innocent of nor ever intended,

as I profess myself a whig and call myself as staunch a one as in America, which principle I would sooner loose my Life than deviate from in the least. I remain, with the greatest respect,  
Your Excellency's most Obedient & very hum'e Serv't

John R. Livingston.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

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Boston, November 21st, 1780.

Whereas, Prejudices to my disadvantage, may have arisen from malicious reports and misrepresentations of my being once concerned in business with the Infamous Arnold, I have thought proper, by the following testimony by me subscribed, to let the world know, the truth of facts relative to that affair; which to every Person of Ingenuity and Candor acquainted with the situation of General Washington and Count D'Estaing, who were at that time before New York; and other circumstances, which then rendered an attempt to purchase Goods there, excuseable, will not only sufficiently excuse my conduct; but effectually obviate every suspicion that might arise against me, in the minds of such as shall examine any papers relative to my small commercial connexion with the very Infamous Person afore-named.

I John R. Livingston, late of the State of New-York, now of Boston, in the County of Suffolk & Common-Wealth of Massachusetts, hereby, testify & declare, That in the [year] of our Lord, One Thousand, Seven Hundred and Seventy Eight, soon after the battle of Monmouth; and at the time Count D'Estaing with his squadron first came on the coast, I went down to Philadelphia, where I saw General Arnold, (who at that time, was in high repute,) and there proposed to him, to purchase a large quantity of Goods in New-York, if they could be procured upon credit,

to remain there until the City was taken; (an Event at that time which was generally thought would soon take place), and in case said goods were bought, and the City taken, said Arnold was to protect them, as he would have it in his power to do, being an Officer of Distinction in the army; upon which an agreement, to the purport aforesaid, was entered into by said parties, in consequence of which, I wrote four letters into New-York, to one of which only, I received an answer, by which I was informed, That no Goods could be had there upon credit; but was advised to send in money, which I never did, nor was there ever any sent in by said Arnold to my knowledge. I farther declare, That since the time of my sending the purpose of the letter I received from New-York, to said Arnold; and receiving his answer thereto, which was in the month of September or October, in the year of our Lord, One Thousand, Seven Hundred and Seventy Eight, I never have received any letter from him, nor have I had any message from him, or held any conversation with him, the said Arnold, on any account whatever, excepting once, when a very reputable Member of Congress, was present during the whole time of my being in company with said Arnold, which was not more than, (if so much as) one hour; since which, I have never seen him.

John R. Livingston.

Common-Wealth of Massachusetts,  
County of Suffolk.

Boston, Novem'r 21st 1780.

John R. Livingston, Esquire, personally appeared, and made oath to the truth of the afore-written testimony, by him subscribed; and taken at his request.

Before Joseph Gardner, one of the Justices of the peace, in and for said County of Suffolk.

ClerMount 10th Dec'r 1780.

Dear Sir, I enclose you a Letter from my brother John; if you should think it proper to communicate the contents of it to the President of Congress, you will I dare say, do him the justice to accompany it with such an account of his attachment to the cause of his country as will serve to defeat the malicious design with which it was communicated. This I trust his unequivocal conduct upon every occasion has left your Excellency no doubt about. I am, Dear Sir, your Excellency's Most Obt. Hum: Serv't

R. R. Livingston.

His Excellency, Gov'r Clinton.

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[No. 3384.]

VERMONT'S UNEQUIVOCAL DEMAND.

*That the New York Legislature Fully Relinquish the Claim for Jurisdiction Over the Grants.*

State of Vermont, In Council, Arling Nov'r 22d, 1780.

Sir, Inclosed I transmit your Excellency a Copy of my Letter to Congress of the 25th of July last, and on a full Examination of the Controversy between the State of New York and this State, and duly considering the present peculiar Circumstances of both States, I am induced to make a positive Demand on the Legislature of the State over whom you preside, to give up and fully relinquish their Claim to Jurisdiction over this State. And also propose to them to join in a solid Union with this State for mutual Defence against the British Forces which invade the American States, particularly such Part as make Incursions on the Frontiers of the two States, from the Province of Quebec.

Such a Union for the reciprocal advantage of both govern-



ments I am willing to ratify and confirm on the Part of this State.

Colonel Ira Allen who delivers this, waits your answer to these Proposals.

In Behalf of the Council and General Assembly. I have the Honor to be with great Esteem, your Excellency's very Obedient Humble Servant,

Thos. Chittenden.

His Excellency, George Clinton, Esquire; Governor &c. &c. of the State of New York, to be communicated to the Legislature thereof.

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Bennington, 25th July, 1780.

Sir, Your Excellency's Letter of the 10th ult. inclosing several acts of Congress of the 2d and 9th of the same month, I accidentally receiv'd the 6th Instant, have laid them before my Council and take their advice thereon, and now beg your Excellency's Indulgence while I treat on a Subject of such moment in its nature, and which so nearly concerns the Citizens of this State. However Congress may view those Resolutions, they are considered by the people of this State, as being in their Nature subversive of the natural Rights which they have to Liberty and Independance, as well as incompatible with the Principles on which Congress ground their own Right to Independance, and have a natural and direct Tendency to endanger the Liberties of America, which have hitherto been defended at great Expence both of Blood and Treasure.

Vermont's Right to Independance has been sufficiently argued, and the good Consequences resulting to the United States from its first assuming Government clearly vlicated in sundry Pamphlets, which have been officially laid before Congress.

I beg leave to refer your Excellency to "Vermont's Appeal" &c. particularly from the 32d to the 42d Page, in which among other Things is contained, a particular answer to the Resolutions of the 24th of September, referred to in the Resolves of the 2d of June last, and a Denial of the authority of Congress over this State, so far as relates to their Existence as a free and Independent government.

I find notwithstanding by a Resolution of the 9th ult., that Congress have assigned the 2d Tuesday of Septem'r next to judge absolutely of the Independance of Vermont as a separate Jurisdiction. Can Congress suppose that this government are so void of Reason as not to discern, that the Resolves of the 2d and 9th of June aforesaid (so far as the authority of Congress may be supposed to extend to this State) are directly levelled against their Independency.

Vermont as beforementioned, being a free and Independant State, have denied the authority of Congress to judge of their Jurisdiction. Over the Head of all of this, it appears that Congress by their Resolutions of the 9th ulto. have determined that they have power to judge the Cause, which has already determined the Essence of the Dispute; for if Vermont does not belong to some one of the United States, Congress could have no such power without their Consent, so that consequently determining that they have such a power, has determined that Vermont, has no Right to Independency; or it is utterly incompatible with the Rights and prerogatives of an Independent State, to be under the Controul or arbitrement of any other Power.

Vermont have, therefore, no other alternative; they must either submit to the unwarrantable Decree of Congress, or continue their appeal to Heaven Et to arms. There may in future

be a Tryal at Congress, which of the United States shall possess this Territory, or how it shall be divided among them (but this does not concern Vermont) and it is altogether probable, that there have been proposals for dividing it between the States of N. Hampshire and New York, the same as the King of Prussia, the Empres of Russia, and the Empres of Hanover, divided Poland between those Powers, with this difference only, that the former are not in possession of Vermont. The Cloud that has hovered over Vermont since the ungenerous Claims of New Hampshire and Massachusetts-Bay, has been seen, and its motions carefully observed by this Government, who expected that Congress would have averted the Storm, but disappointed in this, and unjustly treated as the people (over whom I preside, on the most serious and candid Deliberation) conceive themselves to be in this affair, yet blessed by Heaven with constancy of Mind and some friends, as an honest, valiant, and brave People, are necessitated solemnly to declare to your Excellency, to Congress, and to the World, that as Life, Liberty, and the Rights of this People intrusted them by God are inseparable, they do not expect to be justified in the Eye of Heaven, or that Posterity would call them blessed if they should tamely surrender any Part. Without Doubt, Congress have (previous to this) been acquainted that this State hath maintained several Posts on its frontiers at its own Expence, which is well know to be the only Security to this Quarter of the frontier Inhabitants, of the State of Massachusetts Bay and New Hampshire, and it is highly probable that Albany, and such parts of the State of New York as lies to the northward of that, would before this Time have been ravaged by the Common Enemy, had it not been for the indefatigable Exertions of this State, and the Fears which the

Enemy have been, and are still possessed of, that their Retreat would be intercepted by the Troops from those Posts, and the militia of this State. Thus by guarding the Frontiers, has this State secured the friendship of a part of the private gentlemen and yeomanry, even of those States, whose Representatives it seems, are seeking its Destruction; and having the general approbation of disinterested States, this People are undoubtedly in a condition to maintain government; but should they be deceived in such Connexions, yet as they are not included in the 13 United States, but conceive themselves to be a separate Body, they would have still in their Power other advantages; for they are if necessitated to it, at Liberty to offer, or accept Terms of Cessation of Hostilities with Great Britain, without the approbation of any other man, or body of men; for one proviso that neither Congress, nor the Legislatures of those States which they represent, will support Vermont in her Independance, but devote her to the usurped government of any other Power, she has not the most distant motives to continue Hostilities with Great Britain, and maintain an important Frontier, for the Benefit of the United States, and for no other Reward than the ungrateful one, of being enslaved by them.

True, Vermont has taken an active Part in the War, subsisting between the United States and Great Britain under an expectation of securing her Liberty, considering the Claim of G. Britain to make "Laws to bind the Colonies in all Cases whatsoever without their Consent" to be an abridgment of the natural Rights of Mankind; and it appears that the said Resolves of the 2nd and 9th of June, are equally arbitrary, and that they furnish equal Motives to the Citizens of Vermont, to resist the one as the other. For if the United States have de-

parted from the virtuous Principles, upon which they first commenced the War with Great Britain, and have assumed to themselves the Power of usurping the Rights of Vermont; it is Time, high Time for her, seriously to consider what she is fighting for, and to what purpose she has been more than five years last past, spiling the Blood of her bravest Sons.

This government have dealt with Severity towards the Tories, confiscated some of their Estates, imprisoned some, banished some, and hang'd some, etc. and kept the Remainder in as good Subjection as any State belonging to the union. And they have likewise granted unto worthy Whigs in the neighbouring States, some part of their unappropriated Lands, the inconsiderable avails of which, have been faithfully appropriated for the Defence of the Northern Frontiers, which eventually terminates in the Support of the Interest, and securing the Independance and Sovereignty of the United States; and after having faithfully executed all this have the mortification, to meet with the Resentment of Congress circulated in Hand Bills, and in the N. York public Papers, representing their Conduct "In contravening the good Intentions of Congress, as being highly unwarrantable, and subversive of the Peace and Welfare of the United States." Those Resolves serve only to raise the aspiring Hopes and Expectations, and to revive a languishing Flame, of a few Tories and Schismatics in this State, who have never been instrumental in promoting the Common Cause of America.

With regard to the State of Massachusetts Bay, they have not as a legislative Body, laid any Claim to the Territory of Vermont; nor have they enacted Laws, judicially authorizing Congress to take Cognizance thereof, agreeable to the aforementioned Resolves; a majority of their legislative Body, con-

sidering such Pretensions to be an Infringement on the Rights of Vermont and, therefore, the State of Massachusetts-Bay, cannot be considered as a party in this Controversy; and as to the State of New Hampshire, although they have judicially authorised Congress to make a final adjudication of their late started, and very extraordinary Claim to the Territory of Vermont, yet by securing back to original Proceedings between the two States, it appears that the general Court of New Hampshire had, previous to laying their said Claim, settled their boundary Line with the State of Vermont, and established Connecticut River for the Boundary between the respective Governments, and so far as the approbation of the government of New Hampshire can go, have previously conceded to the Independance of Vermont; the particulars of which are too prolix to be given in this Letter, but are exhibited at large in a Pamphlet entitled "A concise Reputation of the Claims of New Hampshire and Massachusetts Bay to the Territory of Vermont" etc. which is herewith transmitted, as a Bar against the Right of New Hampshire to a Tryal for any Part of Vermont. The Government of New Hampshire, ever since the Royal adjudication of the boundary Line between them and the government of New York in 1764, have cast the Inhabitants of the contested Territory, out of their Protection, and abandoned them to the Tyranny of New York, and have very lately over the Head of the settlement aforesaid, laid Claim to the said Territory, and enacted Laws as aforesaid, to enable Congress to judicially determine the merit of said Claim.

How glaringly illegal, absurd and inconsistent, must their conduct, as a Legislative Body, appear in this Respect? Such irregularities among Individuals, arise from the Ill Govern-

ment of the Human Passions, but when it takes place in public Bodies it is unpardonable, as its Influence is more extensive and injurious to society. Hence it appears that (legally speaking) neither of the States of New Hampshire or Massachusetts Bay, can be with propriety considered as parties in the Controversy; and consequently, New York alone is left a Competitor with Vermont, even admitting that Congress are possessed of sufficient authority to determine those Disputes, agreeable to their Resolutions, which by this Government is by no means admissable.

Notwithstanding the Usurpation and Injustice of neighbouring Governments towards Vermont, and the late Resolutions of Congress, this Government from a principle of virtue, and close attachment to the Cause of Liberty, as well as a thorough Examination of their own policy, are induced once more to offer Union with the United States of America, of which Congress are the legal Representative Body. Should this be denied, this State will propose the same to the Legislatures of the United States seperately, and take such other measures as self preservation may justify.

In Behalf of the Council, I am, Sir, your Excellency's most Obed't Humbl. Servant

Thos. Chittenden.

To his Excellency Samuel Huntington, Esqr. President of Congress.

A true Copy. Attest,

Thomas Tolman, P. Secry.

[No. 3385.]

*The Governor Provides for Vacancies Consequent upon the Expiration of the Term of Service of Officers of the Levies.*

Poughkeepsie, Nov'r 23d 1780.

Gentlemen, As the Times of the service of the Officers who at present command the Levies on the frontiers of Ulster & Orange, will soon expire & the Levies last raised from your Regts. for that Service will be without Officers, I have to request that you will order out of your Regiments, a Captain & two Lieutenants (such as you shall agree on) to take the command of them. Let them apply to Lieut. Colo. Pawling, at Warsing by next Thursday at farthest who will give them the necessary Directions. Major Hatfield is directed to order a Lieut. from his Regt., I am &c.

G: Clinton.

Lieut. Colos. Jansen &amp; Newkerk.

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 [Nos. 3386-3387.]

*General Heath Discovers Irregularities with a Flag Permitted by the Governor—The Latter Indulgent.*

Head Quarters West Point, Nov'r 23, 1780.

Sir, Yesterday afternoon the Sloop Sally, Capt. Bogardus came too off the Fort, when the Capt. presented me your permission for several women and Children to go within the Lines by Land, or into New York in a Flag, if there was one returning; there not being one of the latter at this time in the river, I told Capt. Borgadus that he should this day have permission to go as far down the river with the familys as Tarrytown, & directed the Officer of the day to search the vessell & report which he did. Your Excellency will find the report enclosed.

I have thought it my Duty to detain them, untill I know your Excellency's pleasure; whether all the provissions they have



shall be permitted to pass; whether Mrs. Graham & Children are to pass on the order of the Justice that she go in, or that your permission is also necessary, & what is to be done with Mrs. Ball. Your pleasure when signified will be most strictly attended to. The women had a large number of letters some sealed and others open. I inclose one to your Excellency for the following reasons: first, as it is possible, you may not know that the family are in the State while the man is in the actual service of the Enemy, and, Secondly, as it points out the safest way, as it is expressed of sending things out.

I request your Excellency would order the report of the Officer to be returned, as it is the original. If there is no objection, Mrs. Wray's Letter if returned shall be handed to Mrs. Sniffin.

Our grand Forrage is to take place this afternoon & will be compleated tomorrow morning. The covering Party consists of about 1500 regular Troops & some of the Militia. It is expected near 200 Teams will be employed; hope the consequences will be advantageous both to the State & army.

The inclosed from Major Platt to Colonel Tupper was handed to me the last evening. I hope the news is true. We have a report that another embarkation is taking place at New York. I have the honor to be with the greatest respect your Excellency's most Obedient Servant.

W. Heath.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

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THE GOVERNOR'S REPLY.

Pokeepsie 24th Nov'r 1780.

Dear Sir, I am this Moment favoured with yours of yesterday inclosing the Report of Lieut. Colo. Conway [?] and am much obliged to you for your attention. It was represented to me

that there was a Flagg from the Enemy in the River near your Post when Mrs. Sniffin &c. had my Permission to go within the Enemy's Lines & as I expected, they would had this been the Case have been taken on Board in an open Boat, I did not conceive it necessary to use my Precautions ag't their taking an Excess of Provision with them. It is my Opinion that they be indulged with sufficiency only for their Passage or Journey. Their Husbands or Friends who are with the Enemy may provide for them when they arrive at New York. It is extremely wrong in Bogardus to attempt to take any Inhabitant of the state to New York without having my Permission, and I am sorry to believe that the Error did not proceed from Ignorance. I thought I discovered some Time since a strong Desire to get a Flagg to conduct the Women who have my Permission to New York by Water from Fishkill & I am induced to believe that other Purposes were to be answered by it. For this Reason I wish Bogardus may not be permitted to proceed even to Tarry Town, unless a Trusty Officer is put on Board his Sloop & the Hands changed. All the Women mentioned in your Letter as they are so far on their Way may be permitted to proceed. They are an Incumbrance and I wish to get rid of them. I detain Mrs. Wray's Letter because she has attempted to run it. It is known that her Husband is in the Enemy's Service. Her Relations are all within & Whigs & this I presume has procured the Indulgence of continuing in Albany.

I sincerely hope your Forrage may be attended with Success & advantages equal to your wishes & that the Southern news may soon be confirmed. The Report is inclosed. Yours with much Respect & Regard.

[G. C.]

[To General Health.]

[No. 3388.]

*Arthur Jarvis Permitted to Send His Family to New York.*

Woodbury, 25th Nov'r 1780.

S'r, By Mrs. Albany I understand that your Excellency (to whom she Mention'd her Mother's Intentions of Return'g to New York) approv'd of it, and was Kind Enough to promise her your kind protection, for w'ch your Excell'y has the kind Thanks of the Family; in Consequence of your Excell'y Encouraging promise, I have made application to the Gov'r & Council of this State for a permit and obtain'd one for my whole Family, and shall, as soon as I can conveniently get ready, return to the City. Mrs. Blaau, whose greatest Happiness depends upon the Company of her Sister, begs your Excell'y (whose Friendship was never wanting when Requested) to grant a permit for her when sent for, which she Intends when arriv'd at New York. Mrs. Blaau & Family join in Love to you and Family. I am your Excell'ys Most Obd. Humble Serv't

Arthur Jarvis.

His Exc'y, Geo. Clinton, Esqr.

[No. 3389.]

## GENERAL IMPRESS WARRANTS SUGGESTED.

*Colonel Hay's Radical Proposition to Insure Provisions for the Army.*Head Quarters Passaic Falls 27<sup>th</sup> Novem. 1780.

Dear Sir, I take the liberty of inclosing your Excellency an extract of a letter which I have just received from Colo. Hay, and of assuring you at the same time that the prospects of the army, especially of that part of it which is to winter in the Highlands, were never so alarming in respect to the want of Bread, as at this time. We carry with us, from this ground, tomorrow, every pound which the Comm'y General is possessed of, and I

cannot learn from him, that he has a single Barrel in magazine in Pennsylvania or Jersey. I shall leave the Pennsylvania and Jersey Troops in Jersey, to depend upon precarious supplies from that State, and what may, in the course of the Winter, be brought from Pennsylvania, Delaware and Maryland.

The mode proposed by Col. Hay is, I confess, disagreeable, and what ought not to be practiced, but in extremity. We seem to have arrived at that point; and if your Excellency views the thing in the same light that I do, I cannot but hope that you will give a sanction to the measure, upon the footing which Colo. Hay has placed it, or upon some other which will as effectually answer the end.

Did the season admit of waiting till we saw whether a supply of Flour could not possibly be obtained from the Southward. I should not be so solicitous about the matter, but when it is considered that the first spell of bad weather may render both the Rivers and mountains impassable, I think not a moment ought to be lost in adopting and carrying into execution such measures as seem most likely to afford support to the army in their intended Cantonments. The difficulty which we had to keep it together last Winter, makes me dread a repetition of the same trial, this—if, to the want of Cloathing and every comfort, that of provisions is added. I have the honor to be, with the warmest Sentiments of Respect and Esteem, Dear Sir, your most obt. Serv't

Go. Washington.

His Excellency Gov. Clinton.

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Poughkeepsie, 23d Novem'r 1780.

Sir, The still distressed situation the garrison of West Point is in for want of provisions, especially Flour, which it has be-

come my province to furnish, alarms me greatly: nor can I rest satisfied, 'till I relate to your Excellency some of the many causes, which I may venture to affirm has prevented me from collecting before this time, the greatest part of the quota of that article demanded from this State, and to propose at same time the only remedy, which to me, now appears to remain.

As to the causes, the want of the money to pay contingent Expences (though the Legislature has taken large strides to procure me some) has not been one of the smallest. It is unnecessary to trouble your Excellency with a detail of the many disadvantages which arose from the disappointments I met with in that way. I shall only beg leave to assure you that two thousand dollars of the new Emission is all the money I have yet been furnished with; nor did I receive even that, 'till about three Weeks ago. The excessive scarcity of money in the State is another cause; for as we purchase totally upon Certificates, it will be easily believed that those who have for years past, had nothing else for all the services they have performed for the public, without being able to receive any Value for them, will not voluntarily part with more of their property on the same terms, especially when they want some of the necessary Articles of Life, which, by being shut out from all their own ports, they must obtain by the medium of Cash or Barter, from other States. But what gave the fatal stab to all my hopes was the law passed last Session for taking off the Embargo, ever since which time, there have been a swarm of Speculators, from the Eastern States, purchasing with hard money, or exchanging for articles the people of this State were excessively in want of.

Previous to the Embargo being taken off, I took the liberty of memorialising the Legislature on the subject, imagining I fore-

saw the evil consequences that would arise therefrom, but the clamours of the people, that they were not only hemmed in by the enemy from the whole of the outward trade they formerly enjoyed, but restricted to a degree totally unknown to the other States, in the sale of the very articles they raised themselves, were so great, that they prevailed.

I can now, Sir, see only one way by which the impending evil can possibly be evaded, which is by obtaining a General Impress Warrant from His Excellency the Governor of this State, for all the Wheat and Flour, bought therein, with an intent to sell again, 'till six thousand Barrels, including what shall be ready of the Quota of the State and not consumed, is procured: and I flatter myself if a requisition of this nature is made by your Excellency it will be complied with. If something similar to this is not done, before the Winter Communication is shut up, or a supply of Flour does not come from the southward, I dread the consequences that must arise. The measure itself will rather be popular & the traders will be the chief sufferers thereby.

The season is so far advanced that if the utmost possible expedition is not used in prosecuting the measure I have proposed, should your Excellency adopt it, I am afraid the River will be in such a State as to prevent the transportation, of what we get, by Water.

The above is an extract of a letter of the 23d Novem. 1780 from Colo. Udny Hay to Genl. Washington.

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[No. 3390.]

*Colonel Drake Captures Hughson and Asks for a Court Martial.*

Peekskill, 27th Nov'r 1780.

Sir, I have to inform you that on the 20th Inst. one of my Patroles took Sylvanius Huson, a noted Villian and Cow Thief,

who had been stealing Cattle & had taken three Inhabitants, one of whom Doc'r Brewer a worthy neighbour of mine, was mortally wounded (of which he died since) in their attempt to pass; this Fellow Hughson, is now at West Point & I wish to have a General Court Martial appointed to try him for Man & Horse Stealing as both can be prov'd against him. If your Excellency thinks good write a Line to Genl. Heath, he will appoint Jno. Strong, Esqr. Judge Advocate for that Post to officiate in this Business, as he knows a great deal of this Fellow's Conduct and has the Proceedings upon his Trial when Genl. McDougall commanded here.

Be pleased to send the appointm't P. the Express & leave a Blank for the President to fix a Day of Trial & Place. I am, with great Respect, Your Excellency's most obed't & very hum'l Serv't

Samll. Drake.

P. S. I wou'd take it as a great Favour to know if there was any Intelligence from my Son Joshua & the Prisoners taken at Fort Schyler, or if there was any Flag passed or to pass relative to them.

His Excellency Geo. Clinton, Esqr.

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[No. 3391.]

*Mrs. Turbull and Her Exchange.*

Sir, You will be pleas'd to accept of Mrs. Borom in exchange for Mrs. Clopper & myself. She is granted permission either to take with her, or dispose of her Effects as may be most agreeable to Herself.

And give me leave to assure you, Sir, that it affords us the most singular satisfaction to have the wish't for opportunity of

complying with our Promis. May I request the remainder of our Furniture to Pass down the North River the first accasion; be pleas'd to make my best Regards to Mrs. Clinton & the Family, & believe me with respect yours,

Catharine Turnbull.

New York Nov'br 27th 1780.

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[No. 3392.]

*Success of the Foraging Expedition—The Case Against Captain Bogardus.*

Head Quarters West Point, Nov'r 29th 1780.

Sir, I was yesterday honored with yours of the 24th inst.; not hearing from you, & some of the Children, on board Capt. Bogardus's Sloop falling sick, & the whole represented to be in a suffering condition; the day before yesterday I gave permission (after ordering the Capt. to put on shore the woman, who had not received leave or order to go to New York) for the vessel to proceed to VerPlank's Point; & desired Colo. Livingston to put a guard on board & let her proceed to the mouth of Croton, & land the women Children & effects. I am happy to find this step so nearly to coincide with your pleasure respecting them.

A very considerable quantity of grain & hay was brought off by our Forragers from West Chester County; more might have been secured had the number of Teams been greater. We have no news of consequence. I have the honor to be, with great respect & esteem your Excellency's most Obedient Servant

W. Heath.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.



[No. 3393.] .

*James Duane's Suggestions Touching the Quota of Troops from this State.*

Philad'a, 29th Novem'r 1780.

Dear Sir, I had the Honour of writing to your Excellency yesterday. Col. Blaine being detained gives me the opportunity of adding that the Resolutions of our Legislature respecting their Quota of Troops to be provided for, remain still under Commitment. It is really difficult to establish an equal Rule of Justice in that Respect. I have thought of laying down this principle: that the Person who had gained a legal Settlement in any State at the period of his Inlistment should be transferred to that State. With respect to the artificers: that they should all be provided for by Congress; not only on account of the Inequality of their pay; but because the Burthen woud otherwise fall most heavily on the states which had large Capitols.

How these Rules especially the first woud operate or whether they woud give Satisfaction ought well to be considered and I wish for your Excellency's Sentiments as soon as possible.

Our Vermont business remains quiet; but is not forgotten. I foresee there must be a Rehearing; as there is a considerable Change in the House not for the worse; nor will the late Conduct of these distracted People, if it is true that they have made a truce with the Enemy, gain them Favour. I shall do my duty at every Event.

I enclose your Excellency the papers of the day, and have the Honour to be, with every Sentiment of Respect and personal attention, Dear Sir, your Excellency's affectionate and most Obedient Servant

Jas. Duane.

His Excellency Governour Clinton.

[No. 3394.]

*Return of Men to be Raised in Albany County to Serve in the Continental Army during the War.*

At a Meeting of the Supervisors of the City and County of Albany at the House of Abraham Bloodgood, in the City of Albany on the 29th Day of November in the Year of our Lord 1780.

The Board apportioned the Number of two hundred and nineteen Men, the Quota of the City & County of Albany, directed to be raised by an act entitled "An act to complete the Quota of the Troops of this State, to serve in the army of the United States, during the war" passed the 9th Oct'r 1780, among the several Regiments of Militia in the following Manner vizt.

Colo. Livingston's Regiment		30 Men;
Colo. Cuyler's	Do	18;
Colo. Ph: P. Schuyler's	Do.	12;
Colo. Quackenbush's	Do	10;
Colo. Wemple's	Do	22;
Colo. Henry J. Van Rensselaer's	Do	12;
Colo. Van Ness's	Do	12;
Colo. Killiaen Van Rensselaer's	Do	10;
Colo. Stephen J. Schuyler's	Do	9;
Colo. Vrooman's	Do	12;
Colo. Van Alstyne's	Do	14;
Colo. Van Bergen's	Do	12;
Colo. Whiting's	Do	9;
Colo. Yates's	Do	17;
Colo. Van Schoonhoven's	Do	12;
Colo. Van Woert's	Do	3;
Colo. McCrea's	Do	5

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Total 219, Men

Leonard Gansevoort, Clerk.

[No. 3395.]

*Colonel Clyde's Tales of Disaster, Including the Enlistment of His Apprentice.*

May it please your Excellency, About ten days ago Lieut. Smith, of Capt. Brown's Company of Artillery, Enlisted an apprentice Lad of mine named James Simons, who was bound to me by his father, & had two years and Seven months to Serve; he was in the Seven months Service at Fort Schuyler; as soon as I was Inform'd that the Lad had Inlisted I follow'd him to Albany but unfortunately arrived a few hours after the Company had Sailed for West Point, by which I was prevented of obtaining any Redress, if I was Intituled to it; my Circumstances will not permit me to follow any farther. I, however, have taken the liberty of Representing this affair to your Excellency, & flatter myself that if in your power, afford me the Relief I am Intituled to.

The whole of my Personal property was destroy'd at Cherry Valley; a Crop I had Raised on the Mohawk River is again Burnt by the Enemy; the taken of a person from me who was & could be usefull to me is an additional distress to which I was not Intituled.

If my apprentice could be annex'd to one of the Regiments of this State and the County of Tryon Credited for a man so that I might Receive a Compensation, I should be much better satisfied than at present. Your Excellency Interposition in this affair will much oblige your most obed't Humble Servant

Saml. Clyde.

Albany, 30th Nov'r 1780.

Gov. Clinton.

[No. 3396.]

*Return of Flour Seized.*

A Return of Flour Seized and Delivered for the use of the army of the United States, being part thereof Seized in June & part in July last, but Remained unsettled until this Month by Hendk Wyckoff.

Time when Seized	* Of whom	Where Deposited	Flour				Prices of		Total Amt
			Barrels	C	Qrs.	lb.	Flour per C	Cask	
1779 In June & July Nov'r 27	Henry Schenck Daniel Outwater, who has been to the Enemy	Cornelius Van Sicklelen and Tennis Van Bunschooten's Mills William Hoogland's Barn	66	128	1	12	24	1944	2
			1	1	2	24	19	33	15
Total Seized			67	130	0	8	£	1977	17

Fishkill Nov'r 30th 1780.

(Errors Excepted)  
Hendk Wyckoff

N. B. 24 bbls. of the above ment'd flour of H. Schenk were Return'd the 6th of last June } as seized, but unsettled  
17 Do Do Do } as to the forfeiting  
Do Do Do } thereof.

25 Do being the Remainder were seized in June last at the time of the General alarm, but have not been Return'd untill now, by Reason of not being able to obtain a Bill or Invoice of the Weight untill lately, as the above flour of Mr. Schenk was not seized agreeable to an act of the Legislature of this State in that case made and provided, Mr. Schenk has been paid £16 pr C for said flour & 24/ pr Bbl. for the Cask Cont'g s'd flour agreeable to said act this flour I have Deliv'd for the use of the army at £19 pr C and 24/ pr Bbl so there Remains £3 pr C Due to this State, Amounting to £385—7—10½

The above ment'd Bbl. flour of Mr. Outwater was a Bbl. of old flour being his property at the time he went to the Enemy, and was seized by Request of Theod's Van Wyck, one of the Commis-sioners for Sequestration & Deliv'd for the army's use, Amount'g to, (as above)

33-15— 5  
Due to the State £419—3— 3½

[No. 3397.]

*List of Persons for Exchange.*

List of Persons who have signed Certificates and request to be exchanged.

William Hogan*	William Shepherd* bondsman for Dr. Smith's exchange
Ralph Spooner*	Joshua Bloore* Do for Parson Stuart
Zachariah Overmogh*	when their Bonds are complied with
James Bramblee*	Consent will be given to their Exchange
Isaac Lawson*	James McCann
Thomas Brown*	Joseph Johnson
William Somer*	George Collier
	Adam Gordon

William Hutton } Those Persons have made application  
George Rodgers } some Time ago to be exchanged but have  
not yet signed certificates.

## List of Prisoners of War.

Hazelton Spencer, Ensign in Sir John Johnson's Regiment  
James Parks, Roger's Rangers.

William Empie, Sir John Johnson's Corps } taken near  
Randel Hewit, in Coll. Claus' Service } John's Town

Samuel Bagnell, of Butler's Corps

John Hodkison, of Jessup's Do

Ephraim Ayres, belonged to the Navy on Lake Champlain was taken by Arnold in year 1775.

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Wm. Hogan for David Abail

Wm. Somer for Peter Shart

Zachariah Overmore for Capt. Harris

Anthony Abell, Peter Miller, Jeremiah Snyder, Elias Snyder, Frederick Sammons, Jacob Newkerk, William Newkerk, David Abell, Peter Short.

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A Receipt for Women and Children Delivered Lt. McDonald of the British Novem'r, 1780.

Names of the Scoch women who are to be sent to the Enemy:

Minis McDonald and four Children; Mr. John McDonald wife and one Child; Robert Dixen wife and two children; James McPherson's wife; William McCloud's wife and three children; Dunckin McDonald wife and fore Do; Alexander McDonald's wife and three Do; Alen McDonald's wife; Rovey McDonalds and three Children and a Servent; Jon. McDonald's wife and three Children; Anguis Cammorin's wife and two Do; Alexander Cammorin's wife and three Do; John Cammorin's wife and three Do; Alexander Chisolom wife and fore Do; Alexander McDonald's wife and five Do; Petter Grant wife and two Do; Jon. Merken-son's wife and Child and Seven Brothers and Sisters; Donald McLean's wife and three Children; John McDonald's wife and Seven Do; John McDonald's the Elder wife and two Do; Even McDonald's wife and one Do; Dunckin McPherson's wife and one Do; Locklen McPherson's wife; Donald Camaran's wife; John Frail wife and three Children; John McGrure wife and two Do; John Loney wife and four Children; Caleb Peck's wife and one Child; John Peskel wife and three Children; Philip Shaver wife and 6 Do; John Merrykson wife and 4 Do; Dunckin Merrykson wife and 2 Do; John Frasor wife and 2 Do; Angus McKay's wife and 3 Do; Donald McKay's wife and 3 Do; Philip Bross wife and 2 Do; Thomas Graham's wife and 4 Do; Alaxander Makipherson wife and 6 Do; Donald McGruer wife and 6 Do.

Total one hundred and fifty nine.

Received the above Number of Famileys from Capt. Humphery, by me

Allan McDonell, Leut.

[No. 3398.]

*Returns of Men for Defence of Frontiers.*

Returns of Heads of Classes delinquent to raise mon "To complete the Quota of the Troops of this State, to serve in the Army of the United States" by an act passed 9th Oct'r 1780.

Remarks

John Jackson John M'Dowell Peter Gale Samuel Webb Who shall be dealt with according to Law in such Case provided.

Return of Heads of Classes furnishing the present Levies, for Defence of the Frontiers.

Names		Remarks:
Benj. Ludlum	Abijah Yalverton	Each has furnished a Man complete. All engaged till the first Day of January next & no longer.
David Gardner	Rich'd Ginnings	
Coe Gale	Joshua Wells	In Number 24.
Isaac Carpenter	John Owen	
James Carpenter	Samuel Smith	None delinquent.
James Everett	Utter Van Tuyle	
Gideon Salmon	Joseph Holstead	
Abel Gale	John Bradner	
Nathaniel Roe	Will'm Huff	
John Bradner	Andrew Wilson	
Joseph Drake	Thos. Akely	
Daniel Benton	Wilhelemus Cole	

[No. 3399.]

*Colonel Hughes' Letter Respecting Boards, Shingles and Glass at Albany.*

Albany, Decem'r 1st 1780.

Sir, The Bearer, Capt'n Hall, has two hundred White Pine Boards for your Excellency's use. He is order'd to Land them at Poughkeepsie.

The Warrants your Excellency was pleased to favour me with, have not been carried into execution. It was not requisite. Boards enough could be bought, the Difficulty lay in getting them transported. Few were willing to turn out voluntarily, unless they could be assured of their Money, as soon as the Work was compleated, which could not be complied with. To attempt an impress, was only to discover our Want of Force to effect it, and a Defeat would have been worse than not attempting, as it would have disaffected many without producing one good Consequence. I applied to the Corporation of the City, who have not turn'd out a single Team yet. This being my Situation, I have made a Virtue of necessity, by holeing up the Disagreeableness of being obliged to use coercive Measures, if a proper assistance was not given me, without. Indeed, this seemed to be the only alternative.

General Clinton, in order to give weight to the application, honoured me with his Company, to Schenectady to which, I have Reason to believe, was owing a very considerable Part of my Suggess. What I have obtained has been altogether from the westward. A want of water has prevented my succeeding up the Hudson.

Shingles are very scarce in this Quarter. I have not been able to procure more than five or six thousand, Sir.



All the Glass I have been able to procure yet, has been but about Forty Panes, which are gone down. I have heard of more, and intend to purchase, if Paper will effect the Purpose. I have the honour to be, with the greatest Respect, Sir, Your Excellency's most Obedient and very Humble Servant

Hugh Hughes.

His Excellency Governour Clinton.

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[No. 3400.]

*Hughson Likely to be Tried as a Spy.*

Dec'r 2d 1780.

D'r Sir, I am this moment favored with your Letter of the 27th ulto. If the Charges ag't Hughson are as you mention in your Letter, man & Horse stealing, they are not cognizable before a C't martial. By the late act of the Legislature. a Person having gone over to & joined the Enemy & afterwards coming out & secretly lurk in any Part of the State is subject to be tried by a C't martial as a spy. If, therefore, you can Certify to me that Hughson is of that Character & give me the particular Detail of his Character, I will order a C't martial for his Trial.

No Flag is yet, nor can be now sent, until the lakes are frozen, if one had been sent tis not probable we shou'd have by its return of Capt. Drake as it is most likely he may have carried to Niagara.

[G. C.]

[To Colonel Drake.]

[No. 3401.]

*Colonel Woodhull's Return of Persons Assessed Whose Sons Have Gone Over to the Enemy.*

Dear S'r, Pursuant to the Directions of an act Passed the ninth of October, 1780, for filling up our State Batallions During the war, Inclosed your Excellency has a Cobby of a Tax List of Persons whose Sons have gone of to and Joined the Enemy; in Haste, I am with Great Regard your Excellencies moste Obd. Serv't

Jesse Woodhull.

Decembr. 2d 1780.

[To. G. C.]

A List of Persons assessed for their Sons going to & Joining the Eenemy.

	£	S	d
David Smith	25	0	0
the wife of George Fowler	10	0	0
Capt. John Bull	15	0	0

Assessed by us this Second Day of Decembr., 1780.

Nathaniel Saterly, William Moffit, Seth Marvin, James Runnels, Eebenezzer Woodhull, Assessors for the Precinst of Cornwell Orange County.

[No. 3402.]

*Information Concerning Persons Who Assist the Enemy.*

Fort Dayton, Dec'br 2d 1780.

Sir, By one of ouer Inhabitants here, who has been lately exchanged, named Georg Weber, I have been informed of one named Row, living towards the Blue Mountains behind Sopsis; saide Row Receives all the letters from the Enemie and does

send them to the disaffected and likewise the letters directed to the Enemy are forwarded by him; and in Shinectidy, the wife of Adam Hellmer, who is with the Enemy bears the same office, where one McDuggal shall do the writings for; and Rudolph Shoemaker furnishes the Enemies Scouts with Provision. This Intelligence comes from a Prisoner out of Montreal, who is not exchanged yet, and begs that his name might not be mentioned for fear of his Sufferings by the Enemies; wherefore I have the pleasur of acquainting your Excellency thereof, that such measures might be taken for to prevent such Correspondence, since it is out of my Power to gain any other prouve, till by the man, who expects to be exchanged by the first opportunity, the affaire might be clearer laid before you. I Remain with due Respect your Excellency's most obdt. Hble. Serv't

Wm. Petry.

The following Persons bes me to Remember them to your Excellency to be rememberd when any Exchange should be mad as: Peter Piper, Frederik Dornberger at Montreal; John Frank, Lorentz Frank at Quebec; Span Knebel at Montreal; John Hanse, Barend Hanse at Quebek.  
To His Excellency Georg Clinton, Esqr.

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[No. 3403.]

SUPPLIES FOR THE FRENCH FLEET.

*Mr. Daniel Parker Discovered in a Reprchensible Proceeding by Colonel Hay.*

Poughkeepsie, 2d December 1780.

Sir, Your Excellency will no doubt remember that in the beginning of October last I made an agreement with Mr. Daniel

Parker for a Quantity of Wheat to be paid in salt, an agreement which at the time it was made was generally Imagin'd to be much for the benefit of the Inhabitants of this State, and which had both parties strictly fulfilled their respective Covenants to each other, wou'd undoubtedly have proved so, but the Embargo on that article being very unexpectedly taken off, prevented me from delivering the wheat at the Time agreed on, and Mr. Parker or his agent has voluntarily detained from me the Salt which he was to pay for the flour he had received, as will appear in one Instance by an affidavit of Mr. Chandonett's, which I now enclose for your Excellency's perusal, and in several others that will be produced hereafter, in short, Sir, such evasive answers bordering upon Falshood have been given by some of these Persons with whom he is connected, that I begin to suspect they design to get as much Wheat or flour into their possession as possible, and then put me to the disagreeable necessity of suing him within the State of Massachussets, probably at the City of Boston, where it wou'd be uncommonly expensive, perhaps impossible to collect the proper Evidences on my part, every one of whom live within this State; As, therefore, the agreement originated within this State, as there has been a palpable and Voluntary Breach on the part of Mr. Parker with respect to the delivery of the Salt, I wou'd request your Excellency to grant an Impress Warrant for such Salt, Wheat or flour of Mr. Parker's found within this State as may be adequate to the Wheat he has received from me as Agent of this State, and for repayment of the Damages that have accrued to the State by the non fulfillment of his part of the Agreement; Should he think himself aggrieved, he has free recourse to all the remedy he can possibly have a right to claim, as every witness he can wish to produce

will be within the State, and we shall by that means be both on an equal footing, which wou'd by no means be the Case should I be obliged to sue him at the Distance of two Hundred Miles from this.

I must request your answer to this as soon as possible, as without your Interposition the State may incur a considerable loss. I have the honour to be with the utmost Respect Your Excellency's most Obed't & very humble Servant

Udny Hay.

Governor Clinton.

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This Agreement made and entered into at Poughkeepsie, in the State of New York, this second day of October one thousand seven hundred & Eighty, between Daniel Parker of Watertown, in the State of Massachusetts Bay Merchant, and Udny Hay, Esqr. Agent for State of New York—Witnesseth,

That the said Udny Hay Esqr. doth hereby covenant and agree to deliver unto the said D. Parker, Eight Thousand and Four Hundred Bushel of good Merchantable Wheat, at the several Mills within the State of N. York, that the s'd Parker may direct, which are in good order and accustomed to grind in the Month of October, unless the s'd Hay can direct to those that are within a shorter distance of Hartford, in the State of Connecticut, and in like good Order, Twelve hundred Bushels of the same to be delivered within Ten Days, Twenty four hundred Bushel more within Sixteen Days, and the remain'g Forty Eight hundred Bushel within Thirty Days from this Date, and in Case s'd Mills should be farther Distant from Hartford, in the State of Connecticut, than s'd Hartford is from Claverack Landing in State of N. York, the s'd Hay doth agree to transport the Flour which shall be made from s'd wheat, to such place as shall be within that Distance at his own Expence, and should any of the Wheat be manufactured at a Place short of that Distance, the s'd Parker shall allow the Difference of Transportation at the same Rate he pays to others, and the s'd Hay doth agree to pay unto the s'd Parker on Demand, in Cash or Flour, at the Option of the s'd Hay, the Cost of as many good Merchantable Casks as will Contain such a quantity of Flour as can be made from Eight thousand Four hundred Bus's of wheat, and to receive of the s'd Parker, if he chuses to deliver it to him, of which he shall give the s'd Hay Notice, within Twenty Days, all the Bran or Cornel that may be left in the Manufactories from the Wheat, at the rate of one shilling hard Cash pr Bus'l payable in wheat at Eight shillings pr Bushel, delivered as aforesaid all which Flour, together with two hundred hundred weight, which the s'd Parker hath Purchased of Isaac Clason, he shall have legal permission to Transport out of this State; and the s'd Parker doth agree to deliver unto the s'd Hay in Claverack, in the State of N. York, fourteen hundred Bus's of good Merchantable Rock Salt in Casks, the last of which shall be delivered within fifteen days after the Delivery of the whole Quanttly Flour, all the Salt to be deliver'd in the above, and same proportions as the Flour may be.

For the due performance of this agreement, the said Parties have hereunto set their Hands and Seals, and do bind themselves to each other in the Penalty of three Thousand hard Dollars; it is agreed that the s'd Flour of Clason's shall not be permitted to go out of the State, and that the s'd Hay shall deliver the s'd Parker in lieu thereof, six hundred Bus's Wheat for Salt at the same rate, and on the same Conditions as the above Eight Thousand Four hundred Bus's of Wheat. It is further agreed that the s'd Hay shall deliver the s'd Parker five hundred and fourteen Bus's wheat,

at the same place, and on the same Conditions, as the above Wheat, which the s<sup>d</sup> Parker agrees to receive as full pay for all the Flour Casks due him pr this Agreement.

Signed, Danl. Parker : : :

Udny Hay : : :

This Instrument was signed, Sealed and deliver'd in presence of us this Second day of October 1780.

Signed, Jno. Barnes  
Saml. Cooke.

Under present Circumstances, and from a desire of accomodating the Fleet & army of our allies, I will consent to every thing necessary on my part for carrying the above agreement into Execution, except that part of it which Respects the flour said to be purchased from Clawson, which cannot be countenanc'd, as he must have transgress'd the laws of the state in purchasing Flour with Intent to be sold again.

Signed Geo: Clinton.

We also consent

Signed Zeha Platt, Isaac Stoutenburgh.

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Manor Livingston, 16th Nov'r 1780.

Sir, I have rec'd a parcell of Salt in my Store from N. England, which those who brought it informed me was for your use, and as I have 50 Bus: of Salt arrived at Mr. William Elleston's, at New Windsor from Philad'a I should be very glad to exchange that quantity with you, and take so much of yours out here, as this will save Charges to both of us; must suppose you will have no Objections to the Proposal.

I will on your answer send my Order to Mr. Elleson to deliver it, & in the mean time if you agree to it; please to let him know not to send mine on, that you will get my Order for it; am, Sir, your most H. Serv't

Signed Robt. Livingston.

Colo. Udny Hay.

Poughkeepsie 20th Nov'r 1780.

Sir, Your favour of 16th Inst. is just now rec'd. I am willing Immediately to come into your Proposal about the Salt, provided there is not a less quantity than three hundred Bushels arrived at your Store (as nearly that quantity must go to Albany) and your Salt is of equal good Quality with mine. The Bearer of this Major Chandonet, will bring your answer to, Sir your respectfully Obed't & very humble Serv't

Signed Udney Hay.

Colo. Livingston.

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I hereby solemnly Swear and declare, that I was sent by Udney Hay, Agent for the State of New York, to Colonel Robert Livingston, on purpose to know what Salt had arrived at his Store for him; the said Hay, from Mr. Danl. Parker of Water Town, Merchant, and that Colonel Livingston, on twenty first of November last being interrogated by me on that Subject, answered Mr. Parker had sent some Salt to him to be exchanged for Cashes; but had sent none to be Delivered to Colonel Hay.

F. Chandonet.

Sworn Before me this 2d Dec'r 1780.

Peter Tappen, J. Peace.

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[No. 3404.]

*Captain Jonathan Lawrence Ordered on Temporary Duty in the Southern Part of Orange County.*

Genl. Orders Dec'r 3d 1780.

Capt. Jona. Lawrence will take the command of the Detachm't ordered out for 45 Days & such voluntier Parties in the southern part of Orange County, as shall from time to time turn out to

oppose the Enemy & protect the Settlem'ts in that qr. He is to suffer no Person to go within or come out of the Enemy's Lines without his Excell'ys special Permission, & to seize all Provisions & other necessaries which may be going into & all Goods & merchandise coming out from the Enemy & transmit to his Excell'cy the earliest Intelligence he may receive together with a Report of his Proceed'gs. Capt. Lawrence is at liberty with voluntier Parties occasionally, to go over into the lower parts of Westchester County, tak'g the necess'y precaution as to the officer command'g on the Lines there, & to govern himself by the above Directions with respect to Orange County.

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[No. 3405.]

*Concerning Supplies for the Southern Army.*

Circular,

Philadelphia, December 4, 1780.

Sir, Your Excellency will receive herewith enclosed, the Copy of an Act of Congress of the 30th Ulto, recommending to the several States immediately, to inform the Commissary General (Coll. Ephraim Blaine) or the Deputy Commissary, that is, where he acts to the Southward, of the names of the principal Agent or Commissioner in the respective States for supplying the Army, and to oblige them to give Information from Time to Time to the Commissary General, or his Deputy with the southern Army as the Case may be, of their Prospects of complying with the requisitions made to them or the respective States.

The live Stock to be furnished by the several States is to be delivered to such Store keepers within each State, at such Times & in such quantities as the Commissary General or Deputy Commissary shall direct, under the regulations of Congress of the



15th of July last. With every Sentiment of Esteem & respect, I have the Honor to be your Excellency's most obedient & most humble Servant

Sam. Huntington, President.

His Excellency, The Governor of New York.

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In Congress, Nov'r 30th 1780.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the several States immediately to inform the Commissary General and Deputy Commissary of the names of their principal Agent or commissioner respectively for supplying the army, and to oblige them to give information from time to time to the Commissary General or the Deputy Commissary with the southern army as the case may be of their prospects and how far they shall be able to comply with their requisitions.

That the live stock to be furnished by the several States be delivered to such storekeepers within each State at such times and in such quantities as the Com'y General or the Dep'y Com'y shall direct under the regulations contained in the act of Congress of the 15th July last for the delivery of all other public property.

Extract from the minutes.

Chas. Thomson, Secy.

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[No. 3406.]

*Colonel Thomas Thomas Asks Protection for the People of Crompond and Vicinity.*

North Castle, Decemb'r 4th 1780.

May it Please your Excellency, The Continental Troops that have laid on our Frontiers for our Protection have gone into

Winter Quarters Captain Sackett's Company discharg'd, and Capt. Stevenson's Men will go Home in a few days, as the Time they were called out for, is almost expired; could wish that your Excellency would issue Orders to call out about seventy Men from the County of Westchester to rendezvous at North Castle, and about fifty from Dutchess County to rendezvous at Croton Bridge or Crompton Pond, to give Protection to the good People at Crompton Pond, and the people in that vicinity; unless something of the Kind is immediately done, we shall soon be in a horrid & distressed Situation; beg that your Excellency will answer my Request or endeavour to provide some Way for our Security; and could wish that your Excellency would send to me, the Arrangement of the Militia of Westchester County in General Orders. I am, with Esteem, Your Excellency's most obt. & very humble Serv't

Thos. Thomas.

His Excellency George Clinton, Esqr.

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[No. 3407.]

*Colonel Thomas' Proceedings to Remove Suspected Persons Away from the American Lines.*

North Castle, December ye 4th 1780.

May it please your Excellency, The civil and military officers with the most respectable Part of the Inhabitants belonging within the Compass of Colo. Thomas's Regt. of Militia, met a few days since agreeable to appointment, and chose a Committee composed of nine Persons to consider on the Propriety of removing the dissaffected Families off of the Lines, of such, whose Continuance among us would be of the most dangerous Consequences to the good and virtuous People in this Quarter; upon

maturely deliberating on the Matter, universally consented to remove them, giving them orders to remove either above or below the Lines prefixed by your Excellency by virtue of a Law of the Legislature of the State to act in their discretion and Choice; such as move below the Lines to go below the Town of Eastchester, and such as move to the Northward of the Lines to go twenty Miles into the interior Part of the Country, giving such Persons as wish to move below Liberty to dispose of their moveable Effects previous to their departure to some Persons resident within the Lines prescribed as afores'd. As the Preservation and Security of the good People in this Part depends upon the Exertions of the Populace, and as the suppression and removal of the notorious dissaffected is the only Resource we can fly for the attainment of our Ends, thought proper as being highly consistent with Justice and our duty to act as afores'd. Our Proceedings we think it proper to transmit to your Excellency, to let you know in what Manner we have conducted, being very conscious ourselves that it is the only Measure we could pursue to effect our Salvation. We would wish to have no Persons on the Lines to give Intelligence to or correspond with the Enemy. We are now as it were in a State that we are in a greater Part of the Time without any other assistance but what we have among ourselves, consisting of the Militia of the Place; would wish to have your Excellency's opinion respecting our Proceedings, as a Receipt of your approbation will ever be acknowledged by your most obt. & very humble Serv't

Thomas Thomas.

[To G. C.]

[No. 3408.]

*Colonel Weissenfels' Report, Covering Returns of Men and Stores at Fort Schuyler.*

Fort Schuyler, 4th Decmr. 1780.

Sir. I have the honor to inclose, the Several Returns, which I conceive my Duty to transmit your Excellency, necessary for to discover, the internal State of this Garrison. The importance of this Post, in all its Consequences, makes it necessary, that I should Contribute, to the speedy and Effectual Supplies, in every particular.

I beg leave, therefore, to observe, that I have taken notice, of a mode, very Prejudicial to the Safety of this Post, to state the Supplies, by superficial Calculations as to both quantity and quality, when they are sent of, from Schenectady, without considering the inevitable Casualties that may happen to them, Witness the 60 Barrels of Flower, destined for Fort Schuyler, which were left at Fort Herkema without guard or direction, who were nearly half consumed, and the Rum half water.

I have Experienced the random Calculations, since I left Schenectady, that instead of Provisions sufficient for Febr. this month will Finish the whole, except I use more oeconomy, than heretofore when a Pound and  $\frac{1}{4}$  of each specie was delivered, even to the Day I came here which on my arrival I immediately prohibited.

As to the External State of the works, your Excellency will allow me to declare, that by early in the Spring repairing some small Breaches here and there in the Curtains and Placing Horizontal Pikets in the Ditch, or Schevous de Friese, [chevaux de frise] it is defensible, in the most Extensive Sense, against a

Siege, by 3000 men, and even an Escalade, provided the garrison consisted of 7 or 800 men.

The houses which where an hospital and stable, which have been pulled down and the young growing orchard, cutt down will be some ill conveniency to this Place.

My men are verry naked, which makes Duty verry severe. I do not expect to remain in the Service, and only wish, that I may not be left to take the trouble and anxiety for others, who will enjoy the honor of the Service. I am, with great Esteem, your Excellency's most Obiedient most humble Servant

Fred: Weissenfels.

[To G. C.]



[3408-4.]

*Provision Return.*

Return of Provisions & Stores Rem'g on hand at Fort Schuyler  
under the Care of Enoch Leonard Asst. Com'y of Issues the  
1st of Dec'r 1780.

Pierces of	Barrells of				Boxes of		Salt			No. of	
	Rlce	Flour	Salted Beef	rend'd Tallow	Pease	Hard Soap	Cand's	Hhds.	Pierces		Bbls.
½	64	40	7	14	19	3	6			1	113

Fred'k Weissenfels, Esqr, Lt. Colo. Commdt.

Fort Schuyler 2 Dec'r 1780.

The above Return is just.

Errors Excepted.

To His Excellency Governor Clinton. P. Enoch Leonard, A. C. I.

N. B 52 Days Bread }  
39 Days Beef } 240 Men.

[3408-5.]

*Quartermaster General Stores.*

A Return of The Quarter Master Genl. Stores at The Garrison of Fort Schuyler December 1st 1780.

Remains	6	3	1	10	2	1	8	140	137	90	6	1	4	100	1	6	3	2	10	4	1	4	4	4	6	8	2	4	6	2	4	6	2	3
	Chalk Lines	Iron Stores	Rheams of Paper	..... Pair	Dozen Files	Cask nails	Sythes	Picks	Spades	Bill Hooks	Cross Cut Saws	Part of a Chest of Carpenters tools	Broad Axes	Narrow Axes	Adzes	Iron Squares	Frows	Crow Bars	Barrs Iron	Barrs Steel	Sett Blacksmiths Tools	Waggons	Setts Geers	Horses	Grnd stones	Barrels Tarr	Whip Saws	Stock Locks	Spruce Bear Kettles	Hand Saws				

N. B. Fifty of the above axes bad.

A True Copy of the Original.

Danl. Tucker, D. Q. M. G.

To His Excellency Governor Clinton.





[No. 3409.]

*Captain Moodie in Behalf of Several Men Whom He Wishes to Retain in His Company.*

Honored Sir, I received at Fort Plain your favour pointing out to me the Laws of the state respecting the Enlistment of men; the short stay of the Levies after our arrival rendered it out of my power to Enlist any but one Christoph'r Midler. I directed to give in his name to your Excellency. Should be glad if possible that in the new arrangement it might be admitted that the following men now in the 4th New York Regt. be allowed to join my Comp'y; they have requested me to beg this favour of your Excellency in their behalf, viz. Serjant Thomson, Serjant Goldsmith, Serjan Howel, Drummer Samuel Haley, George St. Laurance, Robert Ward, John Snowden, John Van Horn, Serjant Conklin: The serjants urge that they are Inlisted during the war and as the Regt. are to be Broek up and new formed, they must of Consequence be red[u]ced and ther pay too & our Matrosses pay in the artillery are Exactly the same the have now; if your Excellency would grant them this favour it should be ever acknoledged by them & I am led to belive that it could be by no means hurtfull to the service.

As the state fills both Infantry and artillery and the Defence of this post will depend Considerably on our Core and green hands, although sent in time cannot be equal to those Veterans Lt. Williams comes to recive the recruts for my Comp'y which I beg may be sent as soon as possable & I would further begg that provitions may be forwarded with all Expedition; their is a Nigh prospect of want; thank Major Hughs for that; his Conduct here is simelar to Sir John's lower down the river; wanton destruction has marked his steps; it stands him in hand for his

Credit to try if possible to clear his Character; should have wrot more fully relating the state of the garrison, but the Express is waiting; so conclud with remaining your Excellency's very hum'l Servant

And'w Moodie.

Fort Schuyler, 4th Decmr. 1780.

His Excellency' Governor Clinton.

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[No. 3410.]

*Relative to Families Who Are to be Removed Below the Lines—The Problem of Feeding Them.*

Head Quarters West Point, Dec'r 5th 1780.

Sir. You were pleased some time since to signify to me your pleasure that a number of disaffected Persons above the Lines should change places, with some well affected, who are below the Lines. Yesterday Colonel Drake sent up a List of Persons who were to pass down. I have directed the officer commanding on the Lines, not to offer them molestation in passing with their families, or effects, or provissions unless the quantity is very large, and not in such case, if they have your permission, or consent for carrying down such quantity.

Colonel Hyette this moment informs me, that a board of Civil & Militia Officers of the County, have lately met & have formed a resolution, that the Inhabitants who move down, shall have six months provission for their families; that such part of the six months provissions as are in the hands of the Families below may be exchanged as far as that will go, and the deficiency taken down; as it is probable the families below have no large quantity of provissions, and the quantity proposed, I think very liberal. I have thought it my duty to represent it to your Excellency, as I

am apprehensive that the quantity of provisions proposed has not been reported to you. Whatever your pleasure may be, whether to determine the quantity yourself, or rest it entirely with the Civil or Military of the State, and their Certificate to be the Criterion, will be strictly observed by the Officer on the Lines.

Permit me to request your answer as soon as may be agreeable. I have the honor to be with the greatest respect, your Excellency's most Obedient Servant

W. Heath.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

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[No. 3411.]

*Several French Officers, Unable to Call on Governor Clinton,  
Forward James Clinton's Letter of Introduction.*

Count De Cutine, Marquis De Laval, Count de Deux Ponts, & Fleury, are very sorry to be depriv'd of the honour of waiting on His Excellency, & delivering to him the inclos'd Letter:

The ice has prevent'd their coming to Pookepsie as they intend't; they hope to have the honor to see his excellency when they return from Philadelphia.

I have the honor to be with great Respect your excellency's most obedient humble servant

Fleury.

New Windsor 5th 9ber 1780.

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Albany, Dec'r 1st 1780.

D'r Sir, Count de Cutine Brig'r, Marquis de Laval Col., Count de Deuxpouts. Col., Major Fleury, and Capt. de la Larbiere, are gentlemen of distinction in the French army on their Tour to Virginia, via, Head Quarters and Philadelphia. At their partic-

ular request, I woud beg leave to recommend them to your especial attention, and as they woud wish to be introduced to the principal Personages in the different States thro' which they intend to pass, request that you would take the necessary Steps for that purpose. Major Flury, who speaks English, will introduce them to you by name, and convey your Sentiments to them. I am, with great Esteem, yours sincerely

James Clinton.

Gov. Clinton.

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[No. 3412.]

*A Lamentable Outlook for Provisions for the Army in Albany.*

Albany, Dec'r 5th 1780.

D'r Sir, Your favor of the 20th ulto. is now before me. However great the Exertions of Col. Hay and his assistants may be, it is a melancholy certainty, that they have not been attended with the desired success. It has been with the utmost difficulty that scanty, very scanty supplies (peticularly of flower) have been furnished from hand to mouth to the few Troops stationed in this quarter. I have spoken to Lush repeatedly, who tells me nothing can be done without money. Where Mr. Stotenburgh is, I know not. I have not seen him these three weeks.

I presume you are apprised that the remaining part of the New York Brigade are on their way to this Place. Col. Hay is notified of it, and he knows that there is not as much flour in this whole Department exclusive of Fort Schuyler, as will furnish them with one day's allowance, an alarming truth, especially at this time when we expect to compleat our army, and which, when duly considered, will necessarily excite the most strenuous Exertions.

Seventeen of the new Levies from Dutchess County, deserted a few Days since from Saratoga on account of the scarcity of provisions; the remainder of them I sent off to Fort Schuyler as a guard to fifty head of Cattle.

I have discharged McGinnis and reprieved V Driesen agreeable to your request. I am, with great Esteem, yours sincerely

James Clinton.

Gov. Clinton.

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[No. 3413.]

*Touching the Proposition of Shoes for the Army.*

Newburgh, 6th Decem'r 1780.

Sir, Enclosed your Excellency will receive the copy of a letter from Lieut. Connoly, Paymaster to the fifth Regiment, respecting shoes delivered to the Levy's; some of the other Regiments have issued Shoes in like manner. These shoes are charged to the State, and as Congress have forbid the delivering of any articles of clothing to Levy's, they no doubt must be paid for by the State. I beg that your Excellency would let me know whether the Paymasters shall make them pay for the articles of clothing received from the public, and if at the price current in the Country when Issued; and who the money shall be paid to after its kept.

During the course of the present year I have delivered to the four Regiments in Brigade, nearly five pairs of Shoes per man; if the demand (for shoes) be as great the ensuing year, I apprehend the Supplies will fail. I, therefore, applied to Mr. Curtinius, and received from him, a few sides of Soal Leather, which I purposed to issue to the different Regiments for half-soals. When I receive any articles from the State, for their

Troops, not a part of their bounty cloathing, I am to apply to the executive authority of the same for directions. Will your Excellency be pleased to inform me, whether, or not I shall deliver the leather to the Troops; and if I do on what conditions. I am, sir, Respectfully your Excellency most Obedient most Humble Servant

Jas. Black.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

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Sir, I have been nessecetit to Issue a few Pr Shoes to the Levis anex'd to our Regt; be ples'd to let me know what I must do in that Case.

Mich'l Connolly.

West Point, Dec. 5th 1780.

To Capt. Black, S. Cloathier.

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[No. 3414.]

*For the Protection of the People of Westchester.*

Pokeepsie Dec'r 6th 1780.

Sir, I have received your two Letters of the 4th Inst. With this you will receive an Order for drawing forth 70 of the militia, of Westchester County for the protection of the Inhabitants, which (as I have not been lately furnished with Returns of all the Regts.) you will apportion among the diff't Regts. accord'g to their comparative strength. Unless I can prevail upon His Excellency, Genl. Washington, to give a Company or two for this Service, I will issue my order to Genl. Swartwout to embody 50 Men of his Brigade, but as he is possessed of my Orders for compleating the Continental Battallions, I am apprehensive he may at this Juncture, meet with great Difficulty in

yielding a Compliance with this New Demand & at any Rate it will be attended with Delay; you will, therefore, in the Interim dispose of those of your County in such Manner as to afford the best general Protection to the Inhabitants.

I sincerely wish that the step you have taken with the disaffected on the Lines may be attended with the salutary Effects you expect. Your good sense will readily dictate the Impropriety of expressing my Approbation of any Measure not authorized by Law. I, am with great Regard, your's &c.

[G. C.]

[To Colonel Thomas.]

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[No. 3415.]

. A Bill.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton

To Michael Wells, Dr.

To 21 days work @ 10/ p day £10:10

Dec. ye 6th 1780.

pd. the Contents the 15th Dec'r 1780 in presence of Colo. Benson.

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[No. 3416-3417.]

*Colonel Drake's Communication in Regard to the Removal of Suspects and Provisions Allotted Them—The Governor's Reply.*

Peeks Kill, December 6th 1780.

Sir. I am under the nesesity of trubling of you with the State of our affairs; the Civel and military met together and Considered who was dangros parsons and who in thair opinion did harbor the cow boys; we ordered such who we thought dangrous to remove, and apinted five of the Civel and military officers



to se them go of and what thay should carry of that exchanged teams with the twiggs from blow; we agreed that they should carry six month provishons with them, if they had not received a sufisence from the parson below, one cow to fore in a famely and so in proposhon and two old horses.

Ginll. Heath refuses to let the famely pass his gards with the above articels; we shall be carfull of what they carry below; all that we request of you, Sir, is to desire Ginll. Heath to order his gard to promit the parsons to pass his gards, which will be for the safty of this Quarter; or we shall be under the Nesesity of leving the County. I remain your very Humbel Servent

Samll. Drake.

To His Ex'l Gorge Clinton.

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[No. 3417.]

Dec'r 7th 1780.

Sir, I have rec'd your favor of yesterday. I have not the least Doubt that Genl. Heath to whom I have formerly written on the subject, will readily give to the families who are to remove below the Line, in exchange for the Whig families who remove up, his pass for the Purpose, with as much Provisions as he shall conceive necessary for their immediate Subsistence. Six months Provisions would undoubtedly be too much to be taken down in the first Instance; it would be an object for the Enemy who would undoubtedly take it from them the first Opportunity, trust'g to our Humanity to afford them a new Supply. I dare say Genl. Heath on seeing this Letter, will from time to time on proper application, grant them his Pass for such further Supplies as may appear reasonable. I am &c.

G: C:

Colo. Drake.

[No. 3418.]

*General Heath Skeptical Over Flags from New York.*

Head Quarters West Point Dec'r 7th 1780.

Sir, Yesterday a Flag arrived at Kings Ferry from New York with several Women & Children, their effects &c. One or more of them had your permission, I beleive to come out; others are said to have been rigerously treated of late, & have been sent out. I am jealous that some of them have brought out presents, from people in New York, for their friends in the Country; but where they are mixed with the effects of those who come out, it is almost impossible to detect them. By some of the letters, there are some such articles. The women Children &c. being very uncomfortable on board, were yesterday by order of Colonel Livingston taken out of the Flag, and put on board a periauger. The former was to return immediately, the latter I shall direct to Poughkeepsie to your orders. There is only one Letter for your Excellency, which I take the liberty to inclose. The others will be sent up with people. I have the honor to be with the greatest respect your Excellency's most Obedient Servant

W. Heath.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 3419.]

*Colonel Weissenfels Interviews an Oneida Indian and Forwards the Result to Governor Clinton.*

Fort Schuyler, 9th Decembr. 1780.

Sir, The Sixth instant, two Onidas, three women, and two Children the Family of Jacob Reed, arrived here, under the Sanction of a Flagg from Niagara, he answered to the inclosed interrogations, which I have the honor to transmitt and judge it

proper to send said Jacob to the Comissioners of Conspiracy's for their further Examination and intelligence.

I dont know, what Confidence can be placed, in an Indien, but am sure to view Circumstances and things on both sides, is verry Propre, as it will ennabe us to steer clear of difficulties, and prevent a sanguine mind, from a Lethargic Frame.

This important Post, is verry indifferently supplied; to bear the loss of one single Convoy of Provisions, especially Flower; hoever, I hope this will not be the Case. I conceive it my Duty to send for as much Corn as I possiible can, keeping an exact account, and destroy the rest, having but four Sleights to make use of. Your Exellency will permitt me to repeat the account, that my men are verry naked. I can hardly muster 20 fitt to go on the Corn Expedition. I have the honor, with the greatest respect to be your Exellency's most obiedient most humble Serv't

Fred: Weissenfels.

His Exellency Governor Clinton.

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Interrogations by Lieut. Colo. Command't Weissenfels, to Jacob Reed, an Onida who Returned from Niagary with his wife and Children, his two sisters, and his Cousin; arrived at Fort Schuylar, December 6th 1780:

Q 1st. When did you Leave Niagara? A. The 12th of November.

Q 2nd. What Detained you so Long by the way? A. I came in a Canoe and was Oblidged to stop frequently to procure provision by hunting.

Q 3d. What ware your Intentions when you Left Niagary with your family? A. To Live and die with my Brothers, and my Country.

Q 4th. Who was with you when you came away? A. My wife and Children, two Sisters, and my Cousin.

Q 5th. When you went away from Onida how many of your Nation went with you? A. I believe about twenty warriors.

Q 6th. What is become of them? A. One was killed, I heard with Sir John, and five with myself are Returned.

Q 7th. Who persuaded the Onida Nation to forsake their Country and joine the Enemy? A. Captain Brant, Peter and Schonada.

Q 8th. Can you Inform what force is in Niagary? A. Four hundred Tories, and Sixty Brittish, Commanded by a Captain.

Q 9th. How many Indians? A. I believe 1200, weoman and Children Included.

Q 10th. Who Commanded the Tories? A. Colonel Butler.

Q 11th. Who Commands the Indians? A. Colonel Guy Johnson and Brant.

Q 12th. Are the Brittish Troops and Tories all in the Fort? A. The Brittish only; the Tories are the other side the River in Barracks.

Q 13th. Where are the Indians? A. Round about the Fort, Except some Senacees, who have Returned to their Settlement, now Destroyed by Genl. Sullivan's army.

Q 14th. Were there any scouting parties out when you came away? A. Three parties of Senacees, Tuscaroras, and Mohawks.

Q 15th. Do you know their Route? A. Not Exactly but towards the Mohawk River.

Q 16th. How Long had been out when you Left Niagary? A. About 10 Days.

Q 17th. Did you hear of any parties Coming out this winter? A. All the six Nations mean to Come out when the snow will

bear them and Lay at Onida where there is Corn and by parties mean to Intercept the provisions sent up to Fort Schuylar.

Q. 18th. How strong in warriors? A. Between five and Six hundred.

Q 19th. Are the six Nations well provided? A. Well in every sense of the word.

Q 20th. Did you find the Corn standing at Onida? A. All in good order except the white Corn.

Q 21st. What vessels of force are there at Niagary? A. One sixteen gun frigate and three small Sloops.

Q 22nd. What is become of the prisoners Lately taken at Stone Rabia, Tryon County? A. They were sent away with Capt. Powers, to Bucks Island and it is said are Cast away, as Drums, hen Coops, Tables, &c. are dailey Cast on Shore on the Lake.

Q 23d. Have the Six Nations heard of the French Alliance and their Troops and Ships at Rhode Island? A. But very Superficial, as they wish to know the truth.

Q 24th. What Expectation had Sir John, Brant, and Butler, in this Last Execution? A. It was said that they meant to Destroy Schanectady which will now take them another Campaign.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

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[Nos. 3420, 3421.]

*John Tayler Recommends John N. Bleecker as the Successor of John Welles, Commissioner of Accounts, Deceased.*

Dear Sir, The death of John Welles, Esqr, one of the Commissioners of Accounts has left a vacancy in that office. I In- close a Letter from John N. Bleecker, Esqr., of this city who

wishes to be appointed & solicits your Interest in his behalf; from the opinion I have (founded on a Long acquaintance) of the abilities & Integrity of this Gentleman, I make no doubt of his Supplying Mr. Welles's place in Every Respect, agreeable to the Wishes of Congress & should your Excellency think proper to Recommend Mr. Bleecker, it will be a favour which he will gratefully acknowledge. The legislature's meeting in this City affords a Pleasure to Margery, who has not been well for some time. She wishes to be kindly Remember'd to yourself & Mrs. Clinton, & believe me to be, Dear Sir, with every friendly wish.

Your most obed't Servant

John Tayler.

Albany, 9th Dec'r, 1780.

Gov. Clinton.

Albany, 9th December 1780.

Sir, By the death of Mr. John Welles, one of the Commissioners of the Chamber of Accounts for this department, it will become necessary to have his place filled; a number of accounts, I understand are already in that office for Examination, and as Mr. Edward Chin is the only person left with the Charge of the office & Consequently not able to do the business, I have taken the liberty to address your Excellency on this Subject, & permit me, Sir, to ask for your recommendation in my favour to Congress to fill that place, and give me leave to refer you to John Tailer's Esqr's letter respecting my Character &c. Should your Excellency be willing to grant me this request, I would beg leave to suggest that the Sooner the application is made the greater will be the Certainty of Succeeding. I am, your Excellency's most obedient & most Humble Se't

John N. Bleecker.

His Excellency, George Clinton, Esqr. Governor and Commander in Chief of the State of New York.

[No. 3422.]

*Washington Writes Clinton in Consequence of a Sensational Story  
Regarding Flour.*

Head Quarters New Windsor, Dec'r 10th, 1780.

Dear Sir, I have the honor to inclose to your Excellency a Letter this moment received from Mr. Stevens, Commiss'y of Issues at Fish-Kill; I must submit to you the propriety of suffering this flour to be exported, or the necessity of detaining it, under the present circumstances of the Army.

It is with the utmost regret, I am compelled to represent to you, the distressed situation of the Troops on this River for want of bread, and the disagreeable prospects before us. The Army has been served for several days past, with but a small pittance of their Rations,—there is no flour in the Magazines,—and I cannot learn from whence the next supply is to be derived. Under these circumstances, it is impossible for me to be responsible for the important Posts on this River, or even to assure myself the Troops can be kept together from one day to another.

I have therefore to entreat your Excellency, that the most vigorous and effectual measures may be instantly adopted for procuring relief. I will not presume to recommend the mode, but only to observe, that unless some spirited exertions, or coercive means, are immediately made use of, for obtaining a supply; I can see nothing but ruin stare us in the face. I have the honor to be, with the most perfect respect & esteem, Your Excellency's most Obed't H'ble Serv't

Go. Washington.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

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Fishkill, 9th Dec'r 1780.

Sir, Mr. Jesse Wilson informs me there is about eight Tunns of flour in Mr. Joshua [Carmon or Cannon] Mill, about twelve

miles East of this place, and that he heard a certain Thomas Williams, a trader and refugee from Long Island, agree for twenty teams, that have lately been discharged, to carry the same to Derby, in Connecticut, where Williams says it is to be put on Board for the purpose of transporting to Road Island. The teams go from this place at twelve o'clock to-day.

I believe Mr. Wilson to be a man that can be depended upon, and if the flour can be obtained, for the army's use, it certainly will be relieving us in a distressing time. I have the Honour to be, your Excellencies most Obedt. Ser't

Nath'l Stevens, D. C. Genl. Issues.

His Excellency General Washington.

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[No. 3423.]

*Judge John Haring's Views on the Possibilities of Contraband Transactions Between the Lines.*

Orange Town, December ye 11th 1780.

Sir, About a Dozen yards Check linnen and two pounds tea has been brought before me by one of Captain Lawrence's rangers for Condemnation. These goods were taken from a Mr. Vreedenburgh coming from the other side the river as he landed on this Shoar. Mr. Vreedenburgh left the City of New York at the Commencement of the war; has resided between Tarrytown and Dobbs Ferry and was now removing with his Family to this place. It seems an order has been Issued some weeks since, by some Officer or Officers of our army, that the Whigs residing at or near Tarrytown should remove, and that Mr. Vreedenburgh was now Complying with that order. There is no positive proof that the goods came from the City of New-



York, but the Soldier insists that Tarrytown is in the power of the Enemy if not within their Lines. I have put off the trial and laid the goods by untill I can be informed how the lower part of West Chester County is looked upon; Should be extremely glad of your Excellency's Opinion upon the Subject. I am informed that Mr. Vreedenburgh has been a prisoner with the Enemy and has suffered much from the Cow-boys. The Duty I owe my Country obliges me to inform your Excellency that officers Civil and military undertake to grant Passes to Tory women to Cross to Philipsburgh when it must be Clear that these women aim at nothing else but to get into New York and return without running the risk of being taken by the Jersey Militia.

I have some reason to Suspect continental troops, who serve as a Water Guard, of being Concerned in getting women to and from the Enemy. I think it is highly necessary, that all intercourse between the Inhabitants of this place and Tarrytown should be prevented; and it is probable that an Order of that kind to Capt. Lawrence might have a good effect, for as long as every one goes and Comes when they please, an underhanded trade will be Carried on, not only in bringing out goods but in Carrying in provisions. I am, Sir, your Excellency's most Obedient and Very Humble Serv't

John Haring.

P. S. I find by a late law that those who have sons gone off to the enemy are to be assessed for it. Last year a son of Mr. H. Bell went on board of one of the Enemies vessels in the North River and is not return'd; the boy was about 13 years old; his Father is a Friend to his Country. I beg your Excellency's Opinion whether the spirit of the Law includes Mr. Bell.

J. H.

Gov. Clinton.

[No. 3424.]

*Mrs. Jones Brings Letters Out from New York.*

Claverack Land'g, 11 Dec'r 1780.

Sir, A Parcels Letters I brought out of New York were handed to Coll. Livingston to be Transmitted to you, Sir, for perusal,—Request you will please to Deliver them to the bearer or such as you approve that I may forward them to the Persons Directed.

Mrs. Van Alen & her Spouse Desires their best Respects to you, Sir,—and believe me to be, With great Respect, yr. H'ble Serv't

Marg't Jones.

His Excellency George Clinton, Esqr.

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Madam, I am extreemly sorry that I was from Home when you arrived at Pokeepsie & that my Family was deprived of the Opportunity of shewing that attention which they sincerely wished. The Letters which have come to my Hand addressed to your Care are delivered to the Bearer, except a few for Persons in this Neighbourhood, which shall be carefully delivered. Mrs. Tappen & Mrs. Clinton join in best Respects to you, Mr. & Mrs. Van Allen, with Madam your most Obed't Serv't.

G. C.

[To Mrs. Jones.]

[No. 3425.]

*Arnout Acts as a Lieutenant for Three Years—No Commission—  
Under Arrest.*

Goshen, 11 Decem'r 1780.

Inclosed I send your Excellency a Copy of Lt. Arnout's Arrest. I never knew that my orders was Disobeyed untill the

Levies was Chiefly Returned and their times Expired. I am informed that Arnout thinks I have no wright to Arrest him because he had no Commission; wish to have that matter Explained; to my knowledg he has Acted in the Charrecter of a Lieutenant almost three year and yesterday was the first time that I knew he had no Commission. I am with great Esteem your Excellencies most obedient Serv't

Moses Hetfield, Major.

His Excellency George Clinton, Esqr.

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Sir, You will Consider your self under an Arrest for Disobedience of orders; not attendint at Waysink the 30 of Nov'r to take Charge of the troops then their for the Defence of the frontiers; by that means the troops Returned before their times Expired, without Leaf & Left the Fronteers Exposed to the Ravage of the Enemy.

Moses Hetfield, Major.

Goshen 6 Decem'r 1780.

Nathan Arnout, Lieut. in Capt'n Littel's Company.

a Coppy.

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[No. 3426.]

*Captain Thomas Machin's Recruiting Orders from the Governor.*

Pokeepsie, Dec'r 12th 1780.

S'r, On your obtaining Permission from the command'g Officer of your Regt. for the purpose you will employ yourself in recruit'g men for the Regt. of Artillery in the Service of the United States assigned to the quota of this State. You are authorized to offer exclusive of Lands & other emoluments, which the Troops engaged to serve during the war are entitled

to, a Bounty of 50 Dollars in Bills of the New Emission to each able Bodied Man fit for active service. Pursuant to an act of the Legislature entitled "An act to complete the quota of the Troops of this State to serve in the army of the United States during the war" the proportion of men to be raised in each Regt. in this State is assigned & the Regim'ts are divided into Classes each of which are, under a certain Penalty, to deliver a man. It is, therefore, my desire that you give every assistance in your Power to as many Classes as you can attend to in recruiting their men. You will keep acc't of your expences in this Service, distinguishing such part as may accrue in enlist'g men for the Classes, which it is expected will be defrayed by them, & you will make returns to me weekly of the names & Descriptions of men enlisted & if for any what Class they are engaged for. By my Genl. Orders of Nov'r last, an officer is to attend to receive the Recruits, from the diff't Classes, at New Burgh, & I expect you will pay a proper Share of attention to this Business at that Place. I am, Sir, &c.

[G. C.]

Capt. Machin.

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[No. 3427.]

*Evidence of Friction Between General Heath and Governor Clinton.*

Pokeepsie, 12th December 1780.

Sir, I am favoured with your Letters of the 5th & 7th Inst. I am unhappy that any Considerations of Conveniency to Individuals should have induced a Deviation from a long Established Rule by suffering Persons from within the Enemies Lines not having Permission from the State to pass your Post and come into the Country. The Evils which may Result from the

Practice if pursued, are obvious & should the present Example encourage an undue Intercourse with the Enemy which I have hitherto taken the greatest Pains to prevent, I shall not esteem myself answerable for the Consequences. It is true that some of the Persons who were on Board the Flagg, having by their attachment to the Country experienced Rigorous Treatment from the Enemy, were entitled to a kind Reception, but it is equally true that there were others who had wantonly transgressed the Laws of the State & deserved not the least Countenance & these I am informed were received with marks of particular attention.

I inclose you a Copy of my Letter of the 7th Current to Colo. Drake on the Subject of yours of the 5th which conveys my Sentiments so fully as to render it unnecessary to add. I am, Sir, with great Respect

[G. C.]

Justice to Lieut. Williams induces me to mention that he has executed his Command with great propriety of Conduct.

[To General Heath.]

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[No. 3428.]

*The Governor to General James Clinton in Regard to Recruiting.*

Pokeepsie, Dec'r 12th 1780.

D'r Sir, I have rec'd your Letter of the 5th; that inclosed to Genl. Washington I delivered to him myself at New Windsor. I am sorry to hear that the Troops to the northw'd are not better supplied with Provisions, and have at Genl. Washington's Request, issued my Genl. Impress warr'ts for the purpose of collecting & recommended it to Colo. Hay to cause them to be carried into immediate execution.

The enclosed was handed to me by the Genl. to peruse & forward to you. I wish Major Davis may be sent to me as soon as possible. You will appoint an Officer to recruit in each of the Counties in this State; those for the Counties of Albany, Tryon & Charlotte, you will direct to proceed immediately into the County for which they may be appointed & endeavor to agree with the different Classes to recruit a man for them on their promise to advance or pay such sum as may be necessary for the Purpose. I wish Capt. Norton, may be appointed for Dutchess, & Lieut. Connoly for Ulster County, & such others for Westchester & Orange as you think best qualified for the Service in those Counties. On their call'g on me, which I wish may be as soon as possible, I will give them their Directions. The Recruiting Officers must be directed to make Returns to me by every Opportunity, the Number & Names of their Recruits & Regts. for which they are engaged. I am &c.

[G. C.]

[To General James Clinton.]

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 [No. 3429.]

*Colonel Pickering Forwards a Belated Resolution Regarding Forage.*

Newburgh, Dec'r 12, 1780.

Sir, In consequence of a letter of mine to Congress representing the distress likely to ensue from the want of forage, I rec'd the direction contained in the inclosed resolution. It arrived at such a time as prevented my transmitting it to every state, immediately on its reception; and it appeared less necessary in regard to New-York, as I was convinced that no measure in the power of its executive to procure a supply of forage was left untried. I now transmit the resolve in obedience to the

direction of it, & with a hope that the Legislature will devise still more effectual means to draw forth such quantities of forage as 'tis in the ability of the state to supply. I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect your Excellency's most obed't servant

Tim: Pickering, Q. M. G.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

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(Copy)

In Congress November 10th 1780.

Resolved that the Quarter Master General immediately apply to the Executive authority of the States nearest to the Quarters of the main Army, to furnish such quantities of Forage as may be in their power, to enable him to lay up proper magazines for the use of the army, and that he also apply to the more distant States to furnish the intermediate posts with forage, for the purpose of transporting Provisions & Stores to the army and provide forage for the horses removed from the army.

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[No. 3430.]

*Westchester County's Quota.*

Salem, Westchester County Dec'r 12th 1780.

Sir, pursuant to your Excellencies Warrent of the tenth of November last, and a Law of this State to Complete the Quota of Troops of this State to serve in the Army of the United States dureing the war, passed the ninth of Oct'r 1780, I have Convened the Supervisors of Westchester County who at their meeting have apportioned the Number of men Quotaed on this County as follows, viz: The Ridigiment of Coll. Thos. Thomas

four; the Regiment of Coll. Saml. Drake Six; and the Regiment of Coll. Thad'us Crane, Seven. I am, your Excellencies most Humble and Obediant Serv't

Abijah Gilbert, Clerk of Supervisors.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

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[No. 3431.]

*Colonel Hamman's Suggestion for His Method of Exchange.*

Flat Lands, Long Island, December 13th 1780.

Dear Sir, I would beg leave to present your Excellency, with the following facts, and request your attention for a moment:

I have lately received a most melencolly account of the distresses of my wife and family, by a letter from my Daughter.

I am the only officer of my rank, that remains a prisoner here and I stand informed, that there is a Colonal Floyed, who is a prisoner to the State of New York; he was taken from this Island about two years ago, and was permitted to return home on perole. I have also heard that he has lately been taken of again, by a party of our People, who at the same time captured several other officers. I applyed yesterday to our Commissary General of Prisoners, for his Influence to effect my exchange for Colonal Floyed, but he Informed me that he had not received a Return of him, nor of the prisoners taken with him, and advised me to apply to your Excellency for your Influence to effect my exchainge for Colonal Floyed; this is what I now most earnestly beg you would find expedient to bring about, as Speedily as possible.

There is also a Captain Ogdon, Lt. Fowler and Ensign Hyat, prisoners to our State; they belonged to Colonal James Del-







THE ODELL HOUSE ROCHAUDEAU'S HEADQUARTERS, DOBBS FERRY, N. Y.

lency's Core, and a Ensign Vincent, of Col. Robinson's Core: these have been Indulged with a perole to return to New York, while a number of our Prisoners are Detained here, and not one Indulged with a perole to Return home altho many have aplyed, particularly Lieutenet Jacob Van Tassel, whose house has been burned, and his wife and Children, to my Knowledge, Reduced to begary and Want, and himself in a poor State of helth for a long time; their is said Lieutenant Vantasel, Lt. Reynals, and Lt. Keyler, all prisoners from our State, that do not come within the present Exchainge, who I beg you would use your Influence to have Exchainged, for some of the before mentioned. I am hapy in having to make these Requests, to a person of whose Humanity and Justice I have the greatest Confidence, and beg leave to subscribe myself your Excellencyes most obedient and obliged Humble Servant

James Hamman.

His Excellency George Clinton Esqr.

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[No. 3432.]

*Westchester Assessments on Persons Whose Sons Have Gone to the Enemy.*

District of Salem, Westchester County, Dec'r 13th, 1780.

Sir, Inclosed I transmit your Excellency a Copy of a Tax list made pursuant to an act of the Legislature of the State of New York passed the ninth of October Last, on the persons whose Sons have gone off to and joined the Enemy. I have received the other Inclosed Copies from the Supervisors of Bedford, North Castle and Pound Ridge, and am desired to send them to your Excellency; the Taxes on the Quakers are not made out, by Reason that the act refer'd to by the above recited act,

has not been sent into the County. I am, your Excellencies most  
Humble & Obediant Serv't

Abijah Gilbert, Supervisor.

His Excellency Govenor Clinton.

SALEM DISTRICT.

A Tax list for the Destrict of Salem, on such persons whose  
Son or Sons have gone off to and joined the Enemy is as follows  
viz.

Names	No. of Sons	Value of Estate	Amount of Tax		
			L	S	D
Jonah Keeler	1	1114	41	15	6
Jacob Wood	1	133½	5		

Certified by Abijah Gilbert, Supervisor.

Dec'r 8th 1780.

a Ccopy.

TOWN OF BEDFORD.

A Tax List for the Town of Bedford, made on such persons  
whose Son or Sons have gone off to and joined the Enemy is as  
follows viz.

Names	No. of Sons	Value of Estate	Amount of tax		
			L	s	d
John Ball	1	2500	93	15	
Matthew Fountain	1	500	18	15	
Daniel Smith	1	600	22		
Arnold Dickenson	1	800	30		
John Myers	2	133½	10		

Certified by Israel Lyon, Supervisor.

Dec'r 12th 1780.

Ccopy.

## NORTH CASTLE DISTRICT.

A Tax List for the District of North Castle on such persons whose Son or Sons have gone off to and joined the Enemy is as follows viz.

	No. of Sons	Value of Estate	Amount of tax		
			L	s	
William Foreman	1	L 1000	57	10	
Charles Green	1	175	6	5	5
Joseph Feex	1	151	5	13	3
Thomas Wickes	1	650	24	7	6

Certified by Jacob Purdy, Supervisor.

Dec'r Sth, 1780.

Coppy.

## POUND RIDGE DISTRICT.

A Tax List for the District of Pound Ridge on such persons whose Sons have gone to and joined the Enemy as follows viz.

	No. of Sons	Value of Estate	Amount of tax		
			L	s	
Catherine Jervice	1	300 L	11	5	

Certified by William Fausher, Supervisor.

Dec'r 13th, 1780.

Coppy.

[No. 3433.]

*Congress Indemnifies Sir James Jay for Currency Depreciation.*

The Committee to whom was referred the Letter by Sir James Jay, of the 4th of Sept. last beg leave to lay before Congress the following state of facts:

That on the 16th day of July 1778, Sir James Jay advanced 20,000 dollars to Otis and Andrews, continental clothiers, in Boston for public use, taking their Draughts for that Sum upon James Mease, Esqr., Clothier General, residing in Philadelphia, payable at five days sight; that upon tender of s'd draught the same became payable on the ninth day of Aug'st following, at which time the Clothier General appears not to have been in cash for discharging the same; that upon application to the Treasury Board, a Warrant was reported & granted to s'd James Mease, for the 20,000 dollars, dated Aug't 18, 1778, to enable him as therein set forth to answer the above mentioned draught in favour of Sir James; that s'd warrant being endorsed and delivered to Sir James, he, on the 8th day of Octo'r 1779 disposed of the same for the Sum therein mentioned, which warrant was soon after discharged by the Treasurer; that the Depreciation on the said 20,000 dollars between the time the draught became payable and granting the warrant was equal to 219 65-90 dolars in specie; and between the time the s'd Draught became payable and the time Sir James disposed of the warrant was equal to 4586 35-90 dollars, in specie.

Upon which State of facts your Committee beg leave to observe that at the Time Sir James advanced his Money to the Clothiers in Boston, it does not appear he had any private Interest in view, other than transferring that Sum with safety & convenience to Philadelphia.

That the Cloathiers inability to discharge the draught is alledged, and probably might be attended with some disappointment and damage to Sir James over and above the Depreciation; that his delay in not receiving his Money sooner than he did, can be imputed to no other Cause than his own neglect;

But inasmuch as the United States were taking in money on Loan at the Time s'd warrant remained unpaid, it is alledg'd that the money due thereon, ought to be considered as a Loan, and the Depreciation be made good on the same; But on the other hand your Committee have not been able to discover any advantage derived to the United States, from Sir James' money remaining in the Treasury between the issuing & paying the warrant, as the Treasury was constantly liable for the same.

Upon the whole, considering Sir James's Case as somewhat singular, and his Loss by Depreciation great, occasioned partly by delay in paying his first Draught, your Committee are of opinion that some allowance on that account ought to be made.

Whereupon the following Resolution is submitted:

Resolved, that a warrant issue on Abraham Yates, Esquire, Commissioner of the Continental Loan Office for the State of New York, in favour of Sir James Jay, for four hundred dollars of the new Emission, of the 18th of March last, in full compensation of the Damage he sustained by depreciation & otherways of the money advanced to Otis and Andrews Clothiers, in Boston, on the 16th July, 1778.

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In Congress December 14th 1780.

The Committee to whom was referred the memorial of Sir James Jay delivered in a report, wherenpon;

Ordered, That a warrant issue on Abraham Yates, Commissioner of the Continental Loan Office in the State of New York, in favour of Sir James Jay for four Hundred Dollars, in Bills of credit emitted pursuant to the Resolution of Congress of the 18th of March, in full compensation for the damage he sustained

by Depreciation and otherwise, on the Money advanced to Otis & Andrews, Clothiers, in Boston on the 16th of July, 1778.

Extract from the Minutes.

Chas. Thomson, Secy.

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[No. 3434.]

*Orange County's Quota.*

Orange County, December ye 15th, 1780.

Sir, I am Directed by the Supervisors of this County to inform your Excellency, that the number of men aloted to their County as its Quota of the number of men to be raised by this State to serve in the army of the United States during the war, has been apportioned among the several regiments, as follows, that is to say:

Col. Hay's 22;

Col. Hathorn's 14;

Allison's 14;

Woodhull's 10.

The Supervisors, however expect, that this way of dividing, will not be made use of as a precedent should your Excellency be under a necessity of calling upon this County for more men to protect the Frontiers. They are of Opinion that the manner in which your Excellency apportioned the 72 men who had to serve 45 days was Equitable. I am, Sir, Your Excellency's Very Humble Serv't

John Haring, Sup. Clk.

His Excellency, George Clinton.

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[No. 3435.]

*The Governor Unable to Advance Captain Moodie Funds for His Recruits' Bounty.*

Poughkeepsie Dec'r 15th 1780.

Sir, His Excellency directs me to inform you, that it is not in his Power to furnish you with money for the Recruits you



have engaged as he has none but some new Emission which he takes for granted will not answer your Purpose. He will immediately write to Colo. Van Alstyn on the Subject, and press him to cause the Delinquent Classes of his Regt. forthwith to pay the fine directed by Law. As soon as the Money is collected you shall have it. I am &c.

R. Benson.

Capt. Moody.

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[No. 3436.]

*The Governor Declines to Recommend John N. Bleecker for Official Reasons.*

Pokeepsie 15th Dec'r 1780.

Sir, I have to acknowledge the Receipt of your Letter of the 9th Instant & to assure you it woud afford me singular Pleasure to serve you, but as the Duties of the Office you wish to fill is to audit and settle the Accounts of Individuals, ag't the public & as from the Nature of my Office as well as Extra Duties I am perpetually charged with by the Continent I am their Constant Creditor, you will readily perceive in this Situation, the Improprity of interfering in the Appointment. I am, with great Esteem, your most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

[To John N. Bleecker.]

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[No. 3437.]

*The Governor Informs Colonel Thomas That Military Law is Subordinate to the Civil.*

Pokeepsie 16th Dec'r 1780.

Sir, A Complaint is this moment made to me by Mr. Lemuel Light, of Bedford, that you threaten to dispossess him of his Farm by Military Force under pretence of his having purchased

it from a disaffected Person. I woud fain flatter myself that there is some Error in this Representation, as from the good Oppinion I entertain of you I cannot be perswaded to believe that you woud prostitute the Military Authority with which you are vested to purposes so subversive of Law & the Rights of the Subject. I have, therefore, thought proper to write you & I trust if there is any Dispute concerning the property or Possession of the Farm on which Mr. Light lives, it will as well as all other Matters of the like Nature be left to the Courts of Justice to determine. I am, Sir, with due Respect your most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

Colo. Thomas.

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 [No. 3438.]

*Serious Complaints Against Westchester Refugees.*

Garrison West Point Dec'r 17th 1780.

Sir. The inclosed papers were handed to General Heath by a Miss Crawford, who complains of great abuses committed by the Refugees, Militia &c. The loss which seems most nearly to affect her is a horse, taken by a Son of Major Hobby, who is an Inhabitant of Connecticut; as this does not come within General Heath's Department he has directed me to lay the papers before his Excellency, Governor Clinton. I have the honor to be, Your Obedient Servant

Danl. Lyman, A. D. Camp.

Mr. Benson.

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 Peekskill, Desember ye 16th 1780.

Sir, this is to Inform your Honour, that Samuel Crawford was a noted friend to Amearica and Lost his Life in the Coun-

try's Cause, and famley has Suffered very much by the British and Likewise by our army; they where taken by Jonathon Hobey & one taken from John Angewine & one taken from Mikiah Cudner taken by Thomas Callbort; this from your vari humble Serr't to Command

John Ferris; Justice.

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Taken from Salley Angewine, taken one mare by Phillip Hunnewel Gilbert Drake & Capt. Peacock the first plundering a wile after Thomas Ferris Thaniel Tucker & Leuft. Brown & Luther Cinnecut took two mares from Said Angewine the Day as our army Left the White Plans this from

John Ferris; Justice.

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[No. 3439.]

*Colonel Lush Energetically Carrying Out Orders to Raise the State's Quota.*

Albany, 17<sup>th</sup> Dec'r 1780.

Dear Sir, I was honored with your Excellency's Letter of the 11th ulto. on the 20<sup>th</sup> of the same Month. On the Day I received it, I dispatched Letters by Express covering the Laws & warrants to the Supervisor's Clerks of Tryon and Charlotte and delivered those for this County to the Clerk. The Supervisors for this County convened and on the 4th Instant, I received the Certificate enclosed. On the same Day, I delivered Genl. Ten Broeck the orders for his Brigade (which were immediately forwarded) and transmitted Genl. Renselaer the orders for the Regiment under his Command, pressing the Necessity of having them sent without the least Delay to the respective comm'g officers of the Regts. in his Brigade.

Upon looking over the Orders again, I found that there was but one Regt. in Charlotte County, and of Course concluded that there could be no apportionment of the Men assigned as their Quota. I, therefore, transmitted Colo. Webster the Orders to raise eleven Men.

The Clerk of the Supervisors of Tryon County tho' I have wrote him my third Letter, has not yet sent me the Certificate required by Law. I again request it of him by Mr. Klock, who sets of for Tryon County Tomorrow.

The Circular Letters for convening the Legislature were forwarded all within a very few Days after I rec'd them by occasional Expresses.

Your Excellency's after Orders of the 12<sup>th</sup> Instant, came to Hand last Night. I have just delivered them to Genl. Ten Broeck and sent one to Colo. Webster. Those for Tryon must be detained 'till I am furnished with the Certificate. The People in this Part of the County are using the utmost Exertions for raising their Proportion; they have two or three out of 14 assigned to this Regt. & we have every Reason to conclude that their Number in this Regt. at least will be soon completed. Genl. Ten Broeck will write to the officers commanding the other Regts. in his Brigade and means to represent in the strongest Colours the Necessity of immediately furnish'g their respective Quotas.

There is a Doubt started by the Officers here with Respect to the Time for Delivery of the Men by the different Classes. The Law says "no Class shall be compelled to deliver a Man 'till after the Expiration of four Weeks from the Delivery of the Lists." The Officers assert that the only Way of "compelling the Delivery of the Men" pointed out by the Law, is by exacting

the Fines & Penalties on delinquent Classes and that of Consequence your Excellency's Orders shorten instead of lengthen the Time prescribed. I shewed them that Clause which gives your Excellency authority to fix the Period for paying in the Fines and Penalties, but have found it exceedingly difficult to convince them that your Excellency was right.

Be pleased to offer my best Respects to Mrs. Clinton & Family, and believe me with the highest Respect & Esteem your Excellency's most obdt. ser.

Stephen Lush.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

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[No. 3440.]

*Governor Clinton's Reply to Judge Haring's Letter Concerning Contraband Goods.*

Pokeepsie, Dec'r 18th 1780.

Sir, I have rec'd your Letter of the 11th Inst. The well effected Inhabitants residing between the Lines have had my Permission & recommendation to remove with their Effects above the Lines. If Mr. Vredenburgh is one of those, it would undoubtedly be wrong to subject his property to seizure unless it be proved to have been bro't from the Enemy. Capt. Lawrence's Orders will clearly prove my Intentions of stopping all undue intercourse with the Enemy & apprehand'g those who may be found going to or coming from Places within their Power without my Permission.

I believe Mr. Bell to be a good Whig & am, therefore, sorry for the misfortune of his Son's going over to the Enemy. I think he comes within the Law &, if so, his only Relief must be from the Legislature. There are others in Mr. Bell's situation

in whose favor I wish a Discrimination could have been made.  
I am &c.

G: C:

Jno. Harring, Esqr.

[No. 3441.]

*Supervisors' Clerk of Ulster Gives the Quota.*

Pursuant to an act Entitled; an act to compleat the Quota of the Troops of this State, to serve in the army of the United States during the War, This is to certify that the Supervisors of Ulster County, hath this Day apportioned the number of men, to be raised in said County, to serve in the army of the United States during the war, to and among the Several Regiments in said County of Ulster, as followeth, Vizt.

Col'n Joh's Snyder's Regiment	19 Men
Col'n John Cantine's do	22 do
Col'n Joh's Jansen's Jun'r do	17 do
Col'n James McCalughry's do	19 do
	77 Men

Ulster County Decem'r 20th 1780.

Joseph Gasherie, Supervisors Clerk.

[No. 3442.]

*Necessary Clothing Overlooked at Mr. Tappen's.*

Poughkeepsie, Dec'r 20th, 1780.

Sir, His Excellency directs me to inform you that a quantity of public Clothing consist'g of flannel vests & woolen Stockings & some shoes, has for a long time past been laying at Mr. Tappen's at this Place notwithstanding the great Distresses of our Troops for want of them. They will soon become moth eaten

& useless. His Excellency, therefore, desires that you will without delay take the necessary measures respect'g them, that they may be deliv'd out to the Troops who now stand in the utmost need of them. I am, &c.

R. Benson.

Peter T. Curtenius, Esqr.

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[No. 3443.]

WASHINGTON ASKS FOR A PERMANENT ARMY.

*The Enemy Contemplating Sending Fresh Reinforcements—The Danger to Our Army in Temporary Enlistments.*

Circular,

Philadelphia December 22. 1780.

Sir, Your Excellency will receive herewith enclosed, the Copy of an Act of Congress of this Day, together with the Extract of a Letter from the Commander in Chief of the 15th Instant, to which the Act refers.

The Nature & Importance of the Subject is so fully stated in the Inclosures, and the Necessity of a Compliance with the Requisition so obvious it would be superfluous to attempt any additional Motives to call forth the effectual Exertions of the respective States to compleat their Quotas of the federal Army with the necessary Supplies. I have the Honor to be, with every Sentiment of respect & Esteem, your Excellency's most obedient Servant

Sam. Huntington, President.

His Excellency, The Governor of New York.

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In Congress December 22d 1780.

Resolved, That the paragraph of the letter from the Commander in Chief of the 15th Instant, which points out the pressing necessity of effectual measures for recruiting the army to its

full complement be immediately communicated to the respective legislatures or executives: and they are earnestly required by the most decided & vigorous exertions not only to urge forward the levying their respective quotas of troops without loss of time; but to furnish the supplies of provisions and money assigned for their support, with such punctuality as will put the commander in chief in a condition with the co-operation of our ally, under the divine blessing to compel the enemy to relinquish their object of subjugating these States & secure to us an honorable & permanent peace. And Congress once more remind the States that the public safety essentially depends on their complying without reserve or delay with the measures adopted for an active & decisive campaign.

Extract from the minutes.

Chas. Thomson, Secy.

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Extract of a Letter from Genl. Washington dated New Windsor Dec'r 15th 1780:

“A paragraph in the enclosed New York paper confirms that part of the letter of the 17th of Octo'r from Europe, which your Excellency has been pleased to transmit to me, which mentions the intention of the British administration to send further reinforcements to America. This is a matter which cannot in my opinion be too soon communicated to the several States with a pressing solicitation to take measures that will effectually fill up their regiments in the course of the winter. From what I can learn, some are putting the matter upon the very precarious footing of voluntary enlistments, and others substituting fines where the men demanded are not produced in the several districts. I am very much mistaken if by the first mode any con-



siderable number of men are to be raised at this time of day, and, from the latitude given in the last, money will in many instances be paid to excuse personal service. The last hope of the Enemy is built upon our inability to raise a new army, and they are probably preparing to push us in our enfeebled State. The means of re-establishing ourselves with proper & spirited exertions are within our reach; and should they in the spring instead of only the remnants of our veteran regiments meet battalions filled with men whose services are permanent, they must either give up their object of choice, or with the assistance of our allies, we shall be in a condition to force them to it.

“The accession of Holland & Portugal to the Northern League of neutrality will be undoubtedly very embarrassing to Great Britain. But this I think may be relied upon that the more she is insulted & oppressed by the European powers, the more she will endeavour to revenge herself upon us. She can make no impression upon them, and she will, therefore, bend her whole force against us, in hopes of possessing herself of such an extent of territory in America as will enable her to insist upon terms, should a negotiation take place which may be highly derogatory to the honor and interests of these States.”

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[Nos. 3444-3445.]

*Governor Clinton Asks the Coöperation of Governor Trumbull—  
Orders to Major John Davis.*

Poughkeepsie Dec'r 22d 1780.

S'r, Having received information that a Quantity of Cloth and other goods suitable for cloathing the Troops belonging to

this State may be obtained in the County of Suffolk, I have given my warrant of impress to Major John Davis, & have taken the liberty to direct him to apply to your Excellency for such assistance of Boats and men as he may find necessary to accomplish the bussiness, and to request that your Excellency will afford him the Protection of your government in landing and securing the goods, till I can have an opportunity of sending teams for them. The Line of New York, owing to the unhappy situation of the state, have suffered more for want of cloathing, than that of any other State; we have been disapointed in our expectations of relief from every other quarter, and should this also fail us, I fear the consequences will be very disagreeable.

I cannot in the least doubt, but your Excellency will afford every assistance that is consistent with the laws of your State. I have the Honor to be, with the highest Sentiments of Respect & Esteem, your Excellency's most &c.

Geo: Clinton.

His Excellency Gov'r Trumbull.

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INSTRUCTIONS FOR MAJOR JOHN DAVIS.

Pokeepsie Dec'r 22d 1780.

Sir. You herewith receive my Impress Warrant of equal Date authorizing you to impress for the Use & Service of the Army any Quantity of Cloathing Blanketts &c. which may be found within the County of Suffolk with a Letter to his Excellency Governor Trumbull requesting the aid & Protection of his State in carrying the same into Execution, & also a Letter to the Hon'ble Israel L'homedue recommending you to his Advice as to the most elligible mode of Conducting this Business by which you will be governed. You will therefore imme-

diately proceed to Mr. L'homeduc's at Middle Town & disclose to him the several Papers on this Subject who will give you every Assistance as well in procuring the aid & Sanction of the Government of Connecticut which as the goods must be landed in & brought through that State you will readily [see] to be essentially necessary as in the future management of the Business.

You will take special Care that your Impress be as little Burthensome to the Inhabitants as possible & on the Receipt of the Articles Impressed you are to deliver to the Proprietors Certificates particularly specifying the Quantity & Quality of each that Payment for the same be made so as to do them ample Justice. You are to use every possible precaution ag't the Cloathing &c. which you may impress falling into the Hands of the Enemy & to this End you are to be particularly careful & vigilant in crossing the Sound & as soon as they are landed on the Connecticut shore you are to have them transported a Distance into the Country on the Route towards Hartford. I have Reason to hope that his Excellency Governor Trumbull will order you a sufficient number of Boats & Men for this Service but should this not be the Case I have not the least Doubt but you will be able to procure Boats & raise a Party sufficient to work them & protect you in the Execution of this Service from among the subjects of this State now residing in Connecticut in whose Zeal & attachment I place great Confidence. There will be Expences attending this Business which at present it is not convenient to make the advances which would be necessary to defray the same. You will be therefore under the necessity of borrowing a Sum sufficient in Suffolk County & of passing your obligation for the same payable at a future Day with the

usual Interest & to this I am the more inclined as Specie will most readily command Teams &c.

You will keep an accurate account of your Expenses & report to me occassionly the progress you made in the Business.

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[No. 3446.]

*Major Keese Directed to Furnish Major Davis with Money and Transportation.*

Poughkeepsie, Dec'r 22d 1780.

Sir, The bearer Major Davis, is going on Command to Middletown in Connecticut. I have, therefore, to request that you will furnish him with a good rid'g Horse for himself & means for conveying his Baggage thither. He is out of Cash & I am so unfortunate as not to have it in my Power to advance him any to bear his expenses on the way. I must, therefore, also request of you to advance him some; if you have none I wish would endeavor to borrow it on my Credit from some of your neighbours & inform me of it. Capt. Pell & Lieut. Weissenfels are ordered on recruit'g Service, the former to Crumpond, & the latter to Goshen. I wish also that they could be accomodated with each an Horse which they are to return immediately. I am, &c.

Geo: Clinton.

Major Keese.

[No. 3447.]

*The Governor to Mr. L'Homedieu Regarding Clothing and the Forthcoming Meeting of the Legislature.*

Pokeepsie, 22d Dec'r 1780.

D'r Sir, Mr. Floyd communicated to me your Plan for Cloathing our Troops & before he left this he wrote to you inform'g

that it mett my approbation. I have given Major Davis (who is now with me) an Impress warr't for the purpose with the necess'y Instructions by which you will observe he is controu-able by your advice; he has likewise a Letter to Gov'r Trumbull on the Subject. I must request that you to attend him in the delivery of it & procure the necessary Sanction of the Gov'r & Council for carrying this Business into execution. The Letter is left open for your Perusal; you'l be pleased to seal it before delivery.

Colo. Benson some time since transmitted to you & the other members, Copies of my Proclamation for convening the Legislature at Albany on Tuesday the 2d Jan'y next; lest they may have miscarried I now repeat it to you & must request your punctual attendance. You'l be pleased also to inform the other members in your qr. of it. I have been informed that a Post from Hartford rides towards the Grants. I must, therefore, also request you to write to Micah Townsend, Esqr. Atty. at Law at Brattleboro, New Hampshire Grants & inform him of & desire him to make it known to his Colleagues. I am &c.

G: C:

The hon'ble Ezra L'hommedieu, Esqr.

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[No. 3448.]

*A Discouraging Outlook in Westchester—Mr. Philip Pell Writes of Exchanging Prisoners.*

Fishkill, 22 Decem'r 1780.

Dear Sir, Immediately after the receipt of your Letter of the 27th of Novem'r I obtained a flag from Genl. Heath and went down to the enemy's out-post, to negotiate some exchanges with

De Lancey and at the same time wrote in to Commiss'y Loring, proposing among other exchanges, Henry Van Schaack for Saml. Townsend, David Van Schaack and Mathew Goes for Philips and Smith—Fletcher Mathews for Jesse Brush and received a Letter in answer from Loring, that he wou'd that day, send out Philips, Smith and Wheeler for the Van Schaacks and Goes and for "further information respecting exchanges, referred me to Major Skinner, our Commiss'y Genl. of Prisoners who was then there." I settled some exchanges with De Lancey for the Westchester people taken by his Corps. I also received yours of the 18th inst. and am now at Fishkill and shall this day send over the necessary papers for the Van Schaacks and Goes to go in. I hardly think it in the power of the Westchester Comty people to fetch away persons that will bring out Townsend and Brush, for Westchester is almost given up.

When I went down Genl. Parsons wrote me and enclosed a list of prisoners taken on the water and then in Connecticut under his direction, and offered me, after getting out two or three persons of his, to let me have the remainder of Capt. Concklin, Brush & some others; this list I enclosed to Loring but had no answer to it. On Genl. Parsons's list were four Capts. of forage Vessels &c. and a number of Sailors, taken by the whaleboats. As Townsend was taken by De Lancey's Corps, and as we have several officers & privates belonging to him, prisoners to the Continent, I cou'd wish Colo. Hay to apply to the Commander in Chief for his direction to the Continental Commiss'y Prisoners to get Townsend exchanged for one of them; the loss of Townsend to Westchester County is great, and I wish I had some one to give for him but have not; and the business of exchanges has got to be so complex and intermixed that it is

difficult to manage it; Congress having resolved "that all exchanges should go through their Commissary", and he having exchanged some State Prisoners and myself some renders it almost impossible to know how to act.

The Resolve of Congress I think makes it entirely unnecessary to have a State Commiss'y of Prisoners and for my part I am tired of it. I was in Westchester County last Saturday and found that there were no Troops there but a few Continental at Pines Bridge which can afford protection only to Crompond; the rest of the County altogether open to the ravages of De Lancey's thieves who faithfully improved their opportunity and last Monday Night came up to North Castle and took of Major Lyon, Capt. Gilb't Lyon and Esqr. Peter Lyon the principal Supporters of that part of the Country, besides several others; this I had from a man who came from Bedford yesterday was on his way up Country to look a place to move to. Northcastle is now broke up, Bedford the next place was some time ago burnt, and Salem the upper part of the County is the frontier, and it is in the power of De Lancey to destroy that place when he pleases. The People of Westchester County think themselves given up to ruin, are discouraged and worn out, and believe they shall receive no further help; the Enemy drawing large supplies from Connecticut and other places by means of that part of the Country being left open. I cou'd wish you to communicate this situation of the Country to His Excellency the Governor; for I verily believe that unless something is done, Westchester County, in less than a month, will be totally in the Enemy's power; their exposed situation occasions those who were once good men to become corrupt by trading with the Enemy, and this I am afraid gains ground fast; besides the

constant taking away of them, lessens the number of fighting men. I am, Sir, with regard yours &c.

Philip Pell, Jun'r.

Colo. Benson.

[No. 3449.]

*Beekmans Precinct Tory Assessment.*

A True Copy of a Tax List Agreeable to an Assessment Roll of those Persons that has Son or Sons gone to the Enemy of Beekmans Precinct Dutches County & State of New York in Specia or the New Emission, Dec'r 23d 1780.

	Amount of Estates	Sons	on the Pound	Amount of Tax
Peter Johnson	L 700	2	S d 1 6	L 52 10
John Baker	300	1	d 9	11 5
Johanes Brill	1000	1	Do	37 10
Lewis Shere	750	1	Do	28 2 6
Samuel Dorland	2200	1	Do	82 10
Bornt Veeley	1250	1	Do	46 17 6
Johanes Shere	1400	2	S d 1 6	105
Peter Dop	135	1	d 9	5 1 3
Widow Brown	350	1	Do	13 2 6
Widow Palen	250	1	Do	9 7 6
Sam'l. McCord	135	1	Do	5 1 3
Jona. Thom Deceas'd Estate	600	1	Do	22 10
Preserved Fish	500	1	Do	18 15
James Burtis	400	1	Do	15
Wm. Stivers	135	1	Do	5 1 3
Nelly Losee Widow	135	1	Do	5 1 3
Dantel Ferris	250	1	Do	9 7 6
	10690			472 2 6

To Be Collected Within Twenty Days As the Law Directs.

Exam'd By            Sign'd

Jona. Dennis, Supervisor For Beekmans Precinct.

To His Excellency, George Clinton, Esqr. Governor &c. &c.

As also another Tax List By Virtue of the Same Act for Raising a Tax from the People call'd Quakers, each Freeholder Forty Shill's and each Resident Sixteen Shill's of the same Denomination, in Specia or New Emission.



Twenty one Freeholders.....	£42	
Twenty one Residents.....	16	16
		<hr/>
	58	16

To Be Collected Within Twenty Days.

Beekmans Precinct, Dec'r 23d. 1780.

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[No. 3450.]

*The Messrs. Van Schaaeks, with Goes, Confined at Goshen, Make an Appeal to the Governor.*

Goshen, December the 23d 1780.

Sir, Upon Mr. Smith's return to this place, Colo. Benson letter of the 18th instant was delivered to us. It is with the utmost surprise & concern we observe that we cannot be permitted to be placed in a situation, for a few days only, to transact some family matters of the utmost concern to us, as well as to others who stay behind us, and to take leave of those who are near & dear to us, especially our aged Parents, whose advanced years renders a meeting, at this distance impossible. The difficulties of the river, aded to the distance we are from home, may occasion great delay, & impediments in seing even our wives. In this delemma, when we compare & consider our usage to what others have met with, under similar circumstances & some who have not suffered any confinement at all, we conceive we shall stand justified to state transactions with respect to us, some of which perhaps have never been communicated and others probably thro' a multiplicity of business may have escaped your Excellency's memory, in hopes of some mitigation. For this purpose we beg leave, Sir, to trouble you with Copy of Mr. Pell's pass, and Extract of a letter we received from the Commissioners for Conspiracies & a Copy of their warrent of removal

in 1778. In consequence of these latter papers we were actually removed as far as the Highlands; after being stopt there, & returned to Albany, we critically enquired of the Commissioners whether they had notified your Excellency of their intention to remove us before we embarked; they assured us they had, and time enough that orders might have been given for our detention.

Now may it please your Excellency it appears to us to have been the intention of the Legislature that we should have been detained for exchange before we were removed at all, for the act says, if we mistake not, that Previous to our removal, you was to be notified of the intention of the Commissioners. If your Excellency should conceive that the proceedings in any degree have been rather hard, or a severe act in itself, we are inclined to hope something will be granted us in mitigation of your last determination, especially as we are the only three persons, who have been so severely prosecuted on the act; we would beg leave to observe that we came under no part of the odious description of the act, while those, of more consequence in every respect, who did, were permitted to go down without the fetters of an Exchange with all their effects. Those who were kept in confinement for exchange, in the County they belong to, after effecting it were permitted to return home to settle their affairs & take away their Furniture &c.

You will please, Sir, to see that Mr. Pell will allow us to carry nothing with us but our wearing apparel & he writes Colo. Nicols, that our families, if they want to come to us, must apply to the Justices of the District for leave. It appears to us that Mr. Pell, by the kind of language must have had an Eye to the act for removing the families of those who had voluntarily

joined the British army. For I cannot suppose that your Excellency would, after all our sufferings, authorize Mr. Pell or any one else, to deprive us of such property as the Commissioners adjudged to belong to us two years ago, the more so as no one in the Predicament with us, has ever been hindered to take their baggage, Furniture and a reasonable quantity of Provisions. When your Excellency reconsiders our situation, we cannot but flatter ourselves with hopes, that we shall have leave, for a limited time, to go home, as others before have been permitted. Should this be denied, we beseech you for leave to remain a reasonable number of days on the other side of the river, as contiguous as possible to our own District. Should we be so unhappy as not to obtain the favor, we entreat we may be allowed to remain a few days in Goal at Albany, that we may be enabled to finish some of our most important concerns in which some persons must participate who cannot come down here. If we can be indulged in either of those requests, your Excellency can have any security you may please to demand that no injury shall arise to the public from the indulgence. We have the Honor to be, Sir, your Excellency's Most Obedient and most humble Servants.

H. V. Schaack,

Mathew Goes, Jur.,

David V. Schaack.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

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[No. 3451.]

*Auditors of Accounts of the Troops Ordered to Begin Business.*

Dec'r 23d, 1780.

Gent'l, It is long since your Commission & a Copy of the act for settling the acc'ts of the Troops was transmitted you. The

Officers & Privates are grown very impatient at your Delay in the Business especially those of them who in consequence of the late arrangem't are to quit the Service. They will soon become so dispersed as to render it exceed'gly inconvenient both for you & them to settle their acc'ts. His Excellency, the Gov'r, therefore, desires that you will as soon as possible repair to our line of the army & enter upon the Business, that the Clamours which begin to take Place & the Discouragen't which will be given to the recruit'g Service may be prevented. I am &c.

R. Benson.

John Haring, Joseph Gasherie, Thomas Moffat, Esqrs, Auditors &c. &c.

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[No. 3452.]

*Major Keese Faithfully Follows the Governor's Directions and Raises Funds and Transportation.*

Fish Kill, 25 December 1780.

Sir, I had the Honor to receive your favor of the 22d inst. by Major Davis, and have the pleasure to tell you, that I borrowed of Col'l Jacob Griffin three thousand Dollars continental Currency which I delivered to the Major. I also furnish'd him with a Horse.

I obtain'd the Cash on your Credit, Sir; I could not have got it on any other consideration that I know of.

I furnish'd Captain Pell and Lieut't Wiezenfelts with a Horse each; they left this place with Major Davis yesterday. I have the Honor to be, with every Sentiment of the highest Respect, your Excellency's most obedient Servant in behalf of Hugh Hughes D. Q. Me. &c.

Jno. Keese.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 3453.]

*Colonel Thomas Explains why a Court Martial has not been Ordered for Sylvanus Hughson.*

North Castle Decemb'r 25th 1780.

S'r, Your Excellency's order bearing date the 19th of this present Instant requiring me to furnish Members to attend a Genl. Court Martial in the County of Westchester for the Trial of Sylvanus Hughson charged with being a Spy from the Enemy, never came to hand untill I had arrested Colo. Samuel Drake, who was appointed President to the said Court; have ever afforded the earliest attention and strictest Compliance to your Excellency's Orders, but being under the disagreeable Necessity of acting as before related on this occasion, was oblig'd to omit the affair untill I could lay the Circumstances before your Excellency or receive fresh orders in the Cause; I arrested Colo. Drake for Disobedience of Orders at several Times; & refusing to turn out his Quota of Men when I sent him Orders in Consequence of Directions I rec'd from your Excellency; beg that your Excellency will order a Court Martial for this Trial & could wish it might be in the County of Westchester if your Excellency may think it expedient; as the principal Part of the Evidences live there. I am, with Esteem, your Excellency's most obt. & very humble Serv't

Thos. Thomas.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 3454.]

*Colonel Hathorn and the Proposition of Raising Troops for the War.*

Warwick, 25th December 1780.

Sir, This day I am informed the Regiments of Dutchess County are raising the Men required by the act for filling the Continental Battalions of this State during the War. I have seen the Law and Warrant to the Clerk of the Supervisors

annex'd, Expressing your Excellency's Intention to carry that Law into Immediate Execution. I have also received from the Supervisors the proportion of men assigned to be raised in my Regiment. I have been laying on my oars some time waiting Orders to raise the Men. From the afore recited Information I am led to believe, that orders have been Issued but had met with some disapointment on their way hither. Its with the greatest reluctance that I trouble your Excellency on this Occasion, conscious of the numerous applications constantly before you, many of which no doubt, are very unnecessary. I dont wish to be far behind the foremost in performing any duty required of me, more Especially in carrying into Execution a favorite Law, when Effected must contribute amazingly to the Union. I would just take the liberty to add that its more than probable several of my neighbouring Regiments are in my Situation, as I dont hear of their raising any Men. I have the Honour of presenting the compliments of the Season, and subscribing myself with every mark of Esteem your Excell'sy's Obt. Servant

John Hathorn.

His Excell'y Governor Clinton.

[No. 3455.]

*Hanover Assessment on Tories Whose Sons Are Supposed to have Gone to the Enemy.*

Hannover Tax List December the 25th 1780.

Names	Real Estate	Per[s]onal Estate	Amount of tax.		
			L	S	D
Jacobus Miller	L	L 275	10	6	3
Jacob Sinsabough	400	77	17	17	9
John Comfort	200	114	11	15	6
Thomas Golsmith	1500	203	63	17	3
	2100	669	103	16	9

Hannover Tax List for Taxing Persons whose Son or Sons is Deemed to have gone of to the Enemy by an Act of this State Entitled, An Act to Complete the Quoto of the Troops of this State to Serve in the Army of the United States, During the War, Passed the 9th of October, 1780.

David Galatian, Supervisor.

For His Excellency George Clinton, Esqr. &c.

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[No. 3456.]

*Governor Trumbull Intercedes for Donald McAuley.*

Hartford 25th Decem'r, 1780.

Sir, I have the Honor to inclose you the memorial & Representation of Donald McAuley an Inhabitant of this State, stating a matter of grievance to which he is unhappily subjected in your State. I have had an opportunity to submit the s'd Representation to the Inspection of Colo. Davenport, Judge of the County Court in the County of Fairfield, before whom the Trial for his Estate within this State was had. who says the Representation is truly & justly made; & he thinks the man is intituled to Justice in the Return of his Property. Inclosed also you will find sundry Evidences respect's his Case, attested by Persons who are Justices of the Peace within this State, vizt. David Burr, Esqr. Clerk of the Court of Comon Pleas for the County of Fairfield, Lemuiel Sanford, Thad's Benedict, Thaddeus Betts, John Whiting, James Beard, Esqrs. Justices to whose attestations full Faith is to be given.

The case of this man seems to be singular & very grievous. Your Humanity I doubt not will induce you to afford him all the assistance in your Power consistant with the Principles of

Justice & the Laws of your State. With very great Respect & Esteem, I am your Excellency's most Obed't Servant

Jon'th Trumbull.

Gov. Clinton.

[“Ret'd the Papers to McAuley.”]

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[No. 3457.]

*Colonel Floyd Alludes to Europe's Armed Neutrality—Good News from the South.*

Philadelphia, December 26th 1780.

Dear Sir, Since my arrival here Congress have been mostly Employed about the foreign affairs and nothing material has happened that Relates to our State.

The Letters from Europe which we have Lately Rec'd give us little hope of peace, altho' all the powers of that Country are taking measures which are Evidently against the Interest of Great Britain.

The armed neutrality which has been so much talked of, is come into by all the neutral powers, and which will undoubtedly make very much in our favour.

By our last accounts from the Southward, are that, Colo. Tarlton of the British Legion made a very vigorous attack on Colo. Sumpter, who was prepared to Receive him and totally Defeated him with the loss of about one hundred of his men and a Considerable number of his horses.

At that our affairs in that Quarter were in a promising Situation, but we fear that the Reinforcement which Sailed from Chesepeke Bay arriving in that Quarter will give some further trouble to our people there.

I must Refer you to the papers Inclosed herewith for the news and am with the Greatest Esteem and Respect your Excellency's most obed't and humble Serv't

Wm. Floyd.

[To G. C.]



[No. 3458.]

*General James Clinton Places Colonel Cochran in Command of Fort Schuyler.*

Albany, Dec'r 27th '80.

Dear Sir, Your favor of the 21st inst. was handed me by the Viscount De Noailles, with similar Letters from His Exc'y Gen. Washington. I have been as attentive to them as Circumstances would admit.

I have directed Lt. Col. Cochran to take Command of Fort Schuyler, where I have this day sent fifty Barrels of Flower, being all that I could collect. Col. Weissenfels is impatient to be relieved. I wish to know the Determination of Col. Bevier and Major Logan as well as that of several other officers in Confinement because our arrangement will remain incompleat untill that is known.

Capt'n Norton will have the honor to hand you this and to take your orders. I am, Dear Sir, yours affectionately

James Clinton.

Gov. Clinton.

[No. 3459.]

*Colonel Peter T. Curtceius Explains the Delay in Issuing Clothing.*

Wallkill, Dec'r 27 1780.

S'r, Your favour of the 20 inst. I received this day. You will please to Inform His Excell'y that I gave Capt. Black an order (above four months ago) on Mr. Tappan for all the shoes & S[t]ockings & flannel Vests in his possion, & expected he would call for them when he went up to Albany. I also gave him orders on Walter Livingston, Esqr. at the Manor, Mr. Vanalen at Claverack Landing & Mr. Roorback, at Albany to receive from them all the shoes & stockings they had collected.

I would have had them transported from these different places to my house long ere this, if Capt. Black had not promised me

to Call on the above persons when he went up to Albany; this method I thought best, because it would save the expence of transportation. You will please also to Inform His Excell'y, that I deliv'd Capt. Black on the 16th last month, all the shoes & Stockings in store, amounting to 848 p Stockings & 656 Shoes which I suppose he has Issued to the troops before they sailed for Albany. It may have the appearance of neglect in Capt. Black not to deliver the shoes & stockings to the troops until last month, but the reason he gave me for not doing it sooner, was that if he had got them in his possession, he could not with any face have drawn those articles out of the continental store, & by this management I know he got above 1000 P Shoes out of the continental store when Genl. Clinton's Brigade went up to Albany last summer, & he told me that he got a complete suit out of the Contil Store for Colo. Wisenfels Regiment just before they set out for Fort Schuyler, except Shoes & Stockings which he got from me. I am with great Esteem S'r Your most Obe't Serv't

Peter T. Curtenius.

Dec'r 27. P. S. I received a letter from Capt. Black dated 24th Inst. acquainting me that he expected that day to set out for Albany. I expect he has Call'd on Mr. Tappen in his way up, & if he should not, His Excellency may have an opportunity to speak to him at Albany & give him orders what to do.  
Colo'l Robert Benson.

[No. 3460.]

*Colonel Ann Hawkes Hay Complains of the Insubordination of  
Colonel Cooper to Governor Clinton.*

Haverstraw, December 28th 1780.

Dear Sir, This moment for the first Time, I received your Excellency's General Orders of November last, with the after orders of the 12th Inst; therefore, I am not able to make you at

present any Return and am affraid it will be impossible for me to compleat the Business in the Time limited by yr. Excellency; however, in this as I have always done as yr. Excellency well knows, I will exert myself and have your orders put into Execution without the loss of a moment. I am informed that Lt. Col: Cooper received the first Orders while I was at Fishkill, but I am very apprehensive that very little is yet done and that at this late day I will have the whole to do myself, which will much distress my already distressed Family, as I am just moved down and have every article for the winter to provide for my Family & no one to assist me, not even a man Servant can I get to hire to procure me a little firewood; however, as it is for my Country's good, I will cheerfully submit to every incon-  
veniency.

Yesterday Lt. Wisenfelt waited on me to receive the men that are to be raised in my Regt. which was the first intimation I received ab't that Business, I immediatly sent off an Express to Col: Cooper, desiring him to meet Mr. Wisenfelt any myself at my House to inform us what he had done in that Business, & immediatly to proceed to the raising of the men; he instead of meeting us, sent me a verbal message by the Express that he had too much Business to do and could not come & that he could not raise the Men, as he had not the Governor's warrant for so doing. What am I to do with such an officer as will not obey orders! if I arrest him it may prolong the Business, and leave him intirely at his Ease; however, I will be guided intirely by your Excellency's advice which I beg to have as soon as possible. Mrs. Hay joins me in wishing your Excellency and Mrs. Clinton the Compliments of the Season. And I am, Dear Sir, your Excellency's most obt. Humble Serv't

A. Hawkes Hay.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 3461.]

*Lieutenant Weissenfels Reports His Interview with Colonel Hay to Governor Clinton.*

Haverstraw Dec. 28th 1780.

Sir, Amediatley at my arival at this plaice, I waited on Colo. Hay to receive the Diferent Commandants Names of Classes; who acquainted me that he was out of the State when that act was passed for Raisin Men, but wrote amediatly to Colo. Cooper to furnish me with the Same; who sent for answer back that he had not Received your Excellency orders for Raissing them, so that I expect it will be some time before they Raise their Quota. some of the Companies are not as yet Classes. Amediatly at my Receiving the names, and Companies formed in Classes, will exert myself agreeable to your Excellency order. I am, with Esteem your Excellence, most obedient Humble Ser't

C. F. Weissenfels.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 3462.]

*Joshua Myrick, Convicted of Stealing a Horse, Files a Petition for Pardon.*

To his Excellency George Clinton, Esquire, Governor &amp;c. of the State of New York.

May it please your Excellency. It is with the greatest confusion and most pungent contrition that I am in a Situation that constrains me to trouble your Excellency with this petition.

It has been my misfortune to live in a part of the Country exposed from its nearness to the enemy, to the Depredations and violences of our intestine foes, by which means some time since I lost a valuable Horse & having had such Evidence, as convinced me that Benjamin Birdsall had entertained and concealed the Robber, before he carried my Horse to New York, I was determined to make reprisal, and do myself Immediate Justice on him. And as I am from principle a whig, I will not disguise the truth from your Excellency, but candidly confess, that I engaged Ebenezer Raymond, a neighbour of Mr. Birdsall, to take his Horse out of his stable and deliver him to me, which he did. This matter could not perhaps ever have been proved on me, if I had not used the same Candor before the majestrate, as I now do with your Excellency, the Reason of which was, that I was not concious that I had done Mr Birdsall any Injustice, or that I had Infringed any of the Laws of my Country, which I ever have deemed sacred, as I frequently had heard and really did believe that persons of Mr. Birdsall's Character

were not within the protection of the Law, till Justice Patterson informed me of my fatal mistake.

Thus, sir, my Ignorance of the Law, has brought at your Excellency's feet in the shameful Character of a Felon begging his Life, one who in every other respect, has ever Borne the Character of an Honest man, as a Citizen, and a zealous friend to his Country as an American. I beg, therefore, that my life may be given me, and a helpless Family be preserved from distress, that I may have it in my power by my future Conduct, to convince my Country of my real contrition for the offence I have committed against Society, and your Excellency that you have not extended your mercy to an improper object. And your Petitioner as in duty bound shall ever pray.

Joshua Myrick.

Poghkeepsie Gaol, December 29th 1780.

May it please your Excellency.

Reflections had on the case of an Individual, who a few days ago (touching matters of a criminal nature) stood fair and unsuspected in the esteem of his acquaintance. now assign'd over to a speedy execution as a capital offender, cant fail to Impress Humane minds with Sensations of a very serious nature.

This as we conceive being the case of the unfortunate Joshua Merrick, your Excellency we are humbly confident will receive this address (being the result of a conference had on the subject) as dictated by principles of disinterested benevolence; from the high opinion we have of the worthy characters composing the court from whence the Sentence has proceeded, we are assured that the most unprejudiced attention to the Spirit of the Law has rendered the Sentence unavoidable. We are Sensitive that Felony, by Law, Incurs the Penalty of Death, and also that perticular circumstances attending an offence of this kind which might exaggerate or extenuate the criminality of the offender are not so immediatly matters of court enquiry, hence we think it has been esteem'd expedient to lodge with some person or persons, (not confined to rules of Law) the Power of granting a reprieve to an Individual whom the Law has condemn'd, when thro an attention to perticular circumstances it may appear to be consistant with the Law of God and the good of the People. The taking the Life of an Individual with views exclusive of the Benefit arising to community therefrom, is no doubt esteem'd an object far from the Intention of the Law, and if the solem scenes already exhibited to view touching the case refer'd to may be conceived of, as having so farr answered the Intention of the Law respecting the offender in Particular and the People in general, as might Justifie the granting of a Pardon, we could by no means fail of acquiescing therein; as to the general character of the person refer'd to, we can say that previous to the present charge we have not esteem'd him as unworthy a rank amongst creditable member of community, and that Touching the charge on which his Sentence has been founded, we have reason to believe that unwarrentable and ill grounded Sentiment, with respect to pollitical matters, must have had an Injurious Influence on his conduct. On the whole we would beg leave to assure your Excellency that nothing but a Sence of duty would have induced us to have offered this address, and that we wish not to be understood as soliciting a reprieve in favour to the mere Passions of Individuals, when standing in competition with the grand object of public good, and that as we esteem the power of granting Pardons to be happily placed in your Excellency would of choice leave the matter to that wisdom in the exercise of which we shall fully acquiesce.

Fredrecksburgh 26th December 1780.

Benj'n Pelton, Capt., Joseph Dyckman, Capt., Daniel Pelton, Lieut'n., Philip Pelton, Benjamin Higgins, Capt. Solomon Hopkins, Lieut. Jabez Berry, . . . ? John Mclean, Lt. John Berry, Constable Henry Ludinton, Peter O Terry, ? Thomas Baldwin, Esqr. John Crane, Capt., Isaac Crosby. Joseph Crane, Jur., Col. Joseph Drake, Nathan Paddock. Ichabad Lewis, V. D. M. Simeon Ryder, Jonathan Paddock, Mjr. Reubin Crosby, Nath'l Foster, Esqr. Thomas Paddock, Edward Rice, Amos Gons, David Crosby, Jur. Azor Barnum, Capt. Jonathan Kelley, William Penney, Elnathan Doane, Benj'n Ventress, Daniel Doane.

To all whom it may concern.

This certifies that in the execution of our office as commissioners of sequestration, we have often employed Joshua Merryck and ever found him zealous in the cause of his country, active & honest.

Henry Livingston, Jun.

December 22, 1780.

Dutchess County ss. Personally appeared before me Nath'l Foster, Esquire one of the Justices of the peace for said County, the underwritten subscribers, and being duly sworn depose and say, that during the Course of the last fall, in the lower part of said County, it was commonly reported, that the Legislature of this state, had passed a Law, whereby those persons that are commonly distinguished by the name of Tories, were deprived of the Benefit and advantage of the Laws of said state, and that in the opinion of the several deponents, many persons in that quarter of the Country did really believe that the above report was true, and farther the Deponents say not.

Rev'd Iccobod Lewis,  
Capt. Nath'l Scribner.

Taken and acknowledged in December 24th, 1780.

Before me Nath'l Foster, Justice P.

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[No. 3463.]

*Ebenezer Raymond, Sentenced to Death, Files a Petition for a Pardon with the Governor.*

To his Excellency George Clinton Esquire Governor &c. of the State of New York.

May it please your Excellency, I hope I shall stand excused with your Excellency for giving you the trouble of this application when you consider that it is from an unfortunate, a misguided and ignorant young man who stands condemned to Death (for what he now has fatally found was a Crime, but at the Time of Commission really Believed was not) looking with a gleam of hope, to the only Fountain of mercy (in this life) from whence he can expect the continuance of his Existence.

The Fact that I committed was not on my own suggestion, or for my own profit, but being applied to by an injured person, to assist him in doing himself Justice on one that I supposed had wronged him, I cheerfully did the Fact for which I must now die, if your Excellency does not deign to reach the septer of mercy to me.

It had been frequently reported, and I did believe that the Legislature of this State had passed a law putting those persons amongst us that we commonly distinguish by the name of Torys, out of the protection of the law, or I should not now have been in my dreadful and humiliating situation, or your Excellency troubled with this petition. With respect to my political sentiments during the present Controversy, I will with candor confess that at the beginning of the warr, being young, I was perswaded to act the part of an Enemy, but I soon found my error, reprobated my conduct, and heartily joined my Country, & for near three years done my endeavor to assist her in her struggle for freedom. I married in a very reputable Whig Family, and a very considerable part of my distress, arises from a Consideration of the Scandal that devolves on the same by my unadvised Conduct.

I beg your Excellency will grant me a pardon & give me an opportunity to convince my Country by my future demeanor that the fault I have now committed, proceeded from an error in judgment, and not from a depraved Heart. And your petitioner as in duty Bound shall ever pray.

Ebenezer Raymond.

Poghkeepsie Gao!, December 29th 1780.

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[No. 3464.]

*Orange Town's Assessments on Persons Whose Sons Have Gone to the Enemy.*

A Tax List made out in pursuance of the 5th section of an act of the Legislature of the state of New York, entitled "An act

to Complete the Quota of troops of this state, to serve in the army of the United States, during the war."

Persons names	Value of Estates	Amount of tax
Hendrick W. Bell	L154	L5 0 6
Peter De Pue Jun	268	10 1 0
Garrit Is. Bleavelt	300	11 5 0
Cornelius C. Smith	3000	112 10 0
Claus Bogert	134	5 0 6

John Haring, Super'r.

Orange Town in Orange County Dec. 30th 1780.

Copy.

[No. 3465.]

*Paulings Precinct Assesment on Tories.*

An assesment made agreable to Late act of the Legislature of this State Intiteled an act to Compleat the Quota of the troops of this State to serve in the army of the United States during the War, passed the 9 of Oct'r 1780, upon persons who have Son or Sons gone to or Joined the Enemy, made by the Supervisor and Assorsors of Pauldings precinct this 30 Day of December A D 1780.

Jacob Heverland one Son	1100	L	41	S	5
Robert Caswell one son	375	L14	S	7	d 9

Nathan Pearce, Supervis'r;

William Pearce, Benj'n Elliott, Eliab Willcox, Benj'm Shearman, Assesors.

To his Exceclency George Clinton, Gov'r & Commander in Chief in & over the State of New York &c.

*Musters Roll of Captain John H. Wendell's Company.*

A Muster Roll of Captain John H. Wendell's Company, in the first Battalion New York forces in the Service of the United States commanded by Colo. Goose Van Schaek for the months of September, October, November, and December 1780.

{ 1776 March 1st Captain John H. Wendell.  
 November 21st Lieut. Nathaniel Henry.  
 Ensign Henry Van Woert, Promoted to 1st Lieut 29th September 1780.  
 Commissioned }

App'd	Serjeants	Term	Remarks	App'd	Corporals	Term	Remarks
Inlisted	Peter Gasher James Parker Ab'm Defreest	War	On Duty Prisoner with the Enemy 23rd July 1779.		James Atkinson Patrick Cronkhite Marthinis Rees	War	On furlough by Colo Van Schaek to the 3rd Jan'y. 1780. On Command at Poughkeepsy
	Rich'd J's Parker Drum				John Cronkhite Fife		
	Privates Francis Achilles Eph'm Bickelhard Eph'm Bachus George Bachus John Callaghan Philip Colwell			Inlisted	Privates Samuel Ludlow John Seeger Christean Stader Benj'n Sudder Jeremiah Skeen		
1779 Febr'y. 4th	Matt'w Colwell George Fulmer Benj'n Goodale Thomas Hattis Peter Miller	War	on Command at Poughkeepsy.  on Command at Saratoga. Joined the Company 6th Septem- ber 1780.		Richard Whalen John Windsor Thomas Welch John Wyatt Anthony Crowder		On Command at Saratoga Prisoner with the Enemy 4th June 1779
1780 10th Oct'r	George Notewear James Hodge Christean Phillips Jotham Prindle Joseph Perkins	War	Sick in Hospital.	January 1777 1777 Oct'r 16th	Wm. Kincaid Hosea McFarlan Adam Weaver Henry Sharer Peter Gordner	3 years War 3 years	ditto 23rd July 1779 ditto ditto Deserted 8th October 1780 ditto 15th Nov'r 1780 Discharged 1st Oct'r 1780



Deceased 24th Sept'r 1780.

War

John Decker

Frederick Proper  
Chr. Rudolph  
Jacob Snyder

Albany December 30th 1780. Mustered then Captain Wendell's Company as Specified in the above roll.  
A. Hardenbergh, A. D. M. Master.

## Proof of the Effectives.

	Captain	Lieut'n	Ensign	Serjeant	Corp's	Drum	File	Privates	Total
Present	1	2		1	1	1	1	23	30
Absent				2	2			7	11
Total	1	2		3	3	1	1	30	41

We 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 our best knowledge.

J. H. Wendell, Capt'n.  
N. Henry, Lieut.

Sworn before me at Albany this  
30th day of December 1780.

James Clinton, B. G.

[No. 3466.]

*Provisions Borrowed for the Troops in the Northern Department.*

Memorandum of Provisions Borrowd by Jon'n Gillet, Jun., Asst. Com'sy of Issues for the use of the Troops in the Northern Dept. in the year 1780.

Date	Number of Cattle	pounds of Flour	pounds of Fresh Beef
June	16		1340
July	9		
August	16		1811
Sept'r	20		1930
Oct'r	6	3113	2210
Nov'r	3	1591	
Dec'r		2935	
	70	6639	7291

N. B. 23 of the Cattle have been paid.

His Excellency Govnr. Clinton.

[No. 3467.]

*Draft of the Proclamation for Organizing Clinton College at Schenectady.*

George Clinton, Esqr. Governor of the State of New York &c. To all whom these presents shall come greeting: Whereas a great number of the respectable inhabitants of the Counties of Albany, Tryon and Charlotte, taking into consideration the great benefit of a good education, the disadvantages they labour under for want of the means of acquiring it, and the loud call there now is and no doubt will be in a future day for men of learning to fill the several offices of Church and state, and looking upon the Town of Schenectady in every respect the most suitable and

commodious seat for a seminary of learning in this State, or perhaps in America; have presented their humble petitions to the Governor and legislature of this State, earnestly requesting, that a number of gentlemen may be incorporated in a body politic who shall be impowered to erect an academy or college in the place aforesaid. to hold sufficient funds for its support, to make proper laws for its government and to confer degrees: And whereas by an act of the legislature of this State passed the        day of        in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy nine entitled an act        it is enacted that        Know ye therefore, that I do by virtue of the authority to me as aforesaid given, will, ordain, grant and constitute, that there be a College, called Clinton College, erected in or near the said town of Schonectady in this State of New York for the education of youth in the learned languages and liberal and useful arts and sciences, preparing them for the ministry and other good offices: and that the Trustees of the said College, and their successors forever, may and shall be one body corporate and politic in deed fact & name, and shall be called known and distinguished by the name of the Trustees of Clinton College, in Schonectady. And give, grant, constitute and ordain, that there shall be from henceforth forever, a body politic consisting of the Trustees of the said Clinton College in Schonectady.

And, for the more full and perfect erection of the said Corporation and body politic consisting of the Trustees of Clinton College in Schenectady, I do, in pursuance of the aforesaid authority, by these presents, Create, ordain, constitute, nominate and appoint the Governor or Commander in chief of the state

of New York for the time being, Eliphalet Ball, Barent Vrooman, Thomas Romain, John Rodgers, Eilardus Westerlo, Daniel Gross, John Livingston, Alexander Miller, Philip Schuyler, James Duane, Robert R. Livingston, Abraham Ten Broeck, Abraham Yates, Junior, Robert Yates, Levi Paulding, Dirk Brinkerhoff, Isaac Vrooman, Christopher Yates, John Cuyler, Henry Glen, Jacobus Teller, Hugh Mitchel, Andrew McFarlan, Abraham Oathout, Dirk Van Ingen, James Gordon, Robert Van Rensselaer, Pieter Vrooman, Peter Waggoner, Junior & Ebenezer Clark of the State of New York Esquires, & Ashley of the State of New Hampshire, Esqr. and Timothy Edwards of the State of Massachusetts Bay, Esquire Trustees of the said Clinton College in Schenectady and that the said Trustees do, at their first meeting after the receipt of these presents and before they proceed to any business, take an oath of abjuration of all foreign authority, civil and Ecclesiastic, an oath of allegiance to this state, and likewise an oath for faithfully executing the office or trust reposed in them; which said oaths shall be administered to them by any of the Justices of the supreme Court, or Judges of the Inferior court of common pleas of this state of New-York; and when, and as often as any new member or officer shall be elected or Chosen hereafter, pursuant to this Charter, he or they so elected or chosen, shall take and subscribe the aforementioned oaths before his admission into his trust or office.

And I do will and direct, that the first meeting of the said Trustees shall be in the Town of Schenectady on the Thensday in next; but all other meetings, hereafter to be held, shall be at such times and places as the majority of

the Trustees shall from time to time think proper; and I do will and direct, that no meetings of the Trustees, succeeding the first already fixed, shall be valid, or legal, for doing any business whatever, unless public notice of such meeting shall have been given in some public paper printed in the state of New York at least three weeks before the day of meeting Signed by the president, or person officiating as Clerk to the Trustees, for the time being; or unless the time & place shall have been fixed by the majority of the trustees, at their last meeting, and notice thereof given as before directed.

And I further will and grant, that the said trustees, or any thirteen, or greater number, shall have full power and authority to elect by ballot and not otherwise, any number of persons as trustees at any and upon any vacancy, so that the whole number of trustees do not exceed thirty three and that not above one third of the said number at any time, be ordained ministers of the gospel, and that at their first and every meeting the Governor of the state for the time being shall be president of the trustees; in Case of his absence, I will and ordain, that the trustees present shall elect, or chose one from among themselves, who shall be president of the trustees at that meeting; which said president, hereinbefore appointed or so chosen, is hereby authorized and empowered to be president of the trustees at the said meeting, to regulate their proceedings, take in suffrage and have, over and above his vote as trustee, a casting vote when the votes of the trustees are equal.

And I further, by the authority to me as aforesaid given, will, give, grant and appoint, that the said trustees and their successors, shall forever hereafter be, in deed, fact, and name, a

body Corporate and politic, and that they, the said body Corporate and politic, shall be known and distinguished in all deeds, grants, bargains, sales, writings, evidences, monuments or otherwise however; and in all courts forever hereafter, shall and may sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded by the name of the trustees of Clinton College in Schoenectady; and that the said Corporation, by the name aforesaid, shall be able and in law capable, for the use of the said College, to have, get, acquire, purchase, receive & possess lands, tenements, hereditaments, Jurisdictions and franchises, for themselves and their Successors in fee simple or otherwise however; and to purchase or build house or houses or any other buildings, as they shall think needful and convenient, for the use of the said Clinton College, and in such place or places at or near the town of Schoenectady in this state, as they the said trustees or the majority of them, [            ] as aforesaid shall agree upon; and also to receive any goods and Chattles lands or tenements, for the use aforesaid; and also to have, accept, and receive any rents, profits, annuities, gifts, legacies, donations and bequests, of any kind whatsoever, for the use aforesaid; provided nevertheless that the yearly clear value of the premisses do not exceed the sum of three thousand pounds Sterling, and therewith or otherwise, to support and pay (as the said trustees and their successors, or the major part of them which regularly convene for that purpose, shall agree and see cause) the president, professors, tutors and other Officers or ministers of the said Clinton College, their respective annual Salaries or allowances, and all such other necessary and contingent Charges as from time to time shall arise and accrue relating to the said Clinton College; and also

to grant bargain sell let or assign lands, tenements, hereditaments, goods or Chattles, or contract or do all other things whatsoever by the name aforesaid, and for the use aforesaid, in as full and ample manner to all intents and purposes, as any naturel person, or other body politic, or corporation is able to do by the laws of the State of New York.

And by the authority to me as aforesaid given, to the intent that this said corporation and body politic may answer the end of their erection and constitution, and may have perpetual Succession, and continue forever, I do hereby will give and grant unto the said trustees of Clinton College in Schonectady, and to their successors forever, that when any thirteen of the said Trustees for the time being are convened and met together as aforesaid, for the service of the said College, they shall be capable to act as fully and amply, to all intents and purposes, as if all the trustees of the said College were personally present, and all matters whatsoever under the care of the trustees, shall be determined by the majority of those thirteen, or any greater number, so convened and met together, as fully and effectually as if the same had been concluded by the plurality of votes of the whole number of trustees met and assembled, and I do hereby give and grant full power and authority to any five, or more of the said trustees to call meetings of the said trustees, from time to time and to order notice to be given to the said trustees of the times and places of meeting, for the service aforesaid, as hereinbefore is directed.

And also I do hereby will give and grant unto the trustees of Clinton College in Schonectady and their successors forever, that the said trustees, from time to time and forever hereafter,

do elect nominate and appoint, such a qualified person, being of the Protestant Reformed Religion, as they, or the major part of any thirteen of them convened for that purpose, as above directed, shall think fit, to be president of the said College; and to have the immediate care of the education and government of such student as shall be sent and admitted into the said College for education and instruction; and shall and may, by and with the consent of the majority of the said trustees as aforesaid, confer all such honorary degrees, as usually are granted and conferred in any other colleges; and also that the said trustees may elect, nominate and appoint such a number of professors and tutors to assist the president of the said College in the education and government of the students belonging to it as the said trustees or their successors or the major part of them, which shall convene for that purpose as above directed, shall from time to time, and at any time hereafter, think necessary for the advantage and well-being of the said College.

And I do hereby further give and grant to the said trustees and their successors, or to the major part of any thirteen of them convened for that purpose, as above directed, full power and authority at any time, to displace, and discharge from the service of the said Clinton College, such president professors and tutors, and to elect others in their room and stead; and also that the said trustees or their successors as above directed, do from time to time as occasion shall require, elect, constitute and appoint a treasurer, (which treasurer shall give security to the trustees for the faithful performance of his office, for such term and in such manner as the said trustees shall see fit to require) clerk and steward for the said College, and shall like-



wise appoint to them, and each of them, their respective business and trusts, and displace and discharge from the service of the said college, such treasurer, clerk and steward, so elected and appointed, I do by these presents constitute and establish in their several offices, and do give them, and every of them, full power and authority to exercise the same in the said Clinton College in Schonectady according to the directions and during the pleasure of the said trustees as fully and freely as any other the like officers in any other Colleges lawfully may or ought to do.

And also that the said trustees and their successors, in the manner above directed, as often as the place of any one or more of the said trustees shall become vacant, by the death, removal or immoral conduct of any of the members (which conduct shall be determined by the trustees or the majority of them) shall and may elect and appoint in the manner before directed such other trustee or trustees, to supply the place of him or them so dying or otherwise becoming unfit or incapable to serve the said College; and every trustee so elected and appointed shall by virtue of these presents, and of such election and appointment, be vested with all the powers and privileges with which any of the other trustees of the s'd College are hereby invested.

And I do further, by virtue of the authority to me as aforesaid given, will, give & grant, and by these presents do give and grant unto the said trustees of the said Clinton College in Schonectady that they and their successors, convened for that purpose, as above directed, may make, and they are hereby fully empowered from time to time freely and fully to make and

establish. such ordinances, orders and laws as may tend to the good and wholesome government of the said college and all the students, and the several officers and ministers thereof, and to the public benefit of the same, not repugnant to the laws of this state of New York; and such ordinances orders and laws which shall be so made as aforesaid, I do by these presents ratify allow and confirm as good and effectual to oblige and bind all the said students and several officers and ministers of the said Clinton College; and I do hereby authorize and empower the said trustees of the said College, and the president professors and tutors by them elected and appointed, to put such laws and ordinances into Execution to all proper intents and purposes.

And by virtue of the authority to me as aforesaid given, I do further by these presents give and grant unto the said trustees of Clinton College in Schonectady and to their successors that they shall have a common seal under which they may pass diplomas and Certificates of advancement in literature as aforesaid and that the said trustees of said College by deed or deeds of conveyance leases or other legal instruments duly executed under the hands of seven of the trustees at any public meeting convened as hereinbefore directed, and with the seal of the corporation affixed thereto, may pass the estate of the said corporation in lands or tenements, in fee or for years to any person, or persons; and the same deeds or leases, shall pass the estate thereby intended to be granted or leased, to all intent and purposes; and to notify all the necessary affairs and business of and Concerning the said Corporation or of & concerning the said Clinton College in Schonectady; which common seal shall

be engraven in such form and with such inscription, as shall be devised by the said trustees of the said college, or the majority convened as above directed; and shall have a book or books of entry for the use of the trustees to be in such custody, with all other writings as they shall appoint.

And I do further give and grant unto the said trustees of Clinton College in Schonectady and their successors or any thirteen of them as abovesaid full power and authority from time to time to nominate and appoint all other inferior officers and ministers, which they shall judge necessary for the use of the College, not herein particularly named or mentioned: which officers or ministers, I do hereby impower to execute their offices or trusts as fully and freely as any other the like officers and ministers in any other colleges lawfully may or ought to do.

And lastly by virtue of the authority to me as aforesaid given, I do, by these presents give and grant unto the trustees of Clinton College in Schonectady, and their successors forever, that these letters patent or the enrollment thereof, shall be forever good and effectual in law, to all intent and purposes, against me and my successors, and against this state of New York, without any other licence, grant or confirmation from me or my successors or from the people of this state, hereafter by the said trustees to be had and obtained; notwithstanding the not reciting or misreciting, or not naming or misnaming of the aforesaid officers franchises privileges, immunities or other the premisses or any of them, and notwithstanding a writ of Ad Quod Damnum hath not issued forth to enquire of the premises, or any of them before the en sealing hereof, any Statute act ordinance provision, or any other matter or thing to the con-

trary notwithstanding: To have, hold, and enjoy all and singular the privileges, advantages, liberties, immunities, and all other the premisses herein or hereby granted and given or which are meant, mentioned, or intended to be herein and hereby granted unto them the said trustees of the said Clinton College in Schonectady and to their successors forever.

Given under &c.

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End of Manuscript Volume XI.

## MANUSCRIPT VOL. XII.

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[No. 3468.]

*Benjamin Smith Offers His Farm for Sale.*

Newburgh Jan'y 1, 1781.

Sir, As you have Often Requested of me in times Past to give you the first Refusal of my Farm if I sold, as I have now Concluded to sell, and you are well acquainted with the Title of the same, if you have any Inclination to Purchase the same, you will be Pleased to let me know as soon as Permits. I am, your Very Humble Servant

Benj'n Smith.

To His Excell'y G. Clinton, Esq.

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[No. 3469.]

*Letter from Judge Yates, Respecting Pardon for Criminals.*

Kingston, Jan'y 1st 1781.

Sir, The Pardon your Excellency ordered to be expedited for the Criminals recommened, is not yet come to hand. Should it not come during the sitting of the Court (and it is near drawing to a Close), the prisoners will remain in Custody, until another Court can be summoned, where they can plead such a pardon against an attander. It is for the purpose of avoiding this Inconvenience that a special messenger is sent, in order to bring the pardon up. I am, with the greatest respect, Your Excellency's most obedient hum. ser.

Rob. Yates.

To George Clinton, Esqr. Governor of the State of N. Y.

[No. 3470.]

*Colonel Webster's Return.*

A regimental Return of Collo. Alex'r Webster's Regt. of Militia in the County of Charlotte & State of New York Jan'r 1st 1781.

Colo.	Majors	Capts.	Lieuts.	Ensigns	Adjutant	Quartermaster	Doctor	Serjants	Corporals	Fifers & Drums	Cook & file
1	1	6	8	4	1	1	1	22	18	2	334

Alex'r Webster, Colo.

[No. 3471.]

*Lieutenant Van Wageningen Asks to be Relieved from Duty.*

Kingston, Jan. the 3rd 1781.

Sir, Inclosed is a return of the names, number & descriptions of the men engaged by some of the classes in this county for the War, pursuant to an act of the Legislature &c. &c.

Upon my arrival at this place after my departure from your Excellency, I found it was out of my power to enlist the several persons that were convicted by the Court of Oyer & Terminer, unless I would pass certificates for them to the classes of some of the Justices, which classes had engaged them before I had an opportunity to make them any proposals, and give them more than continental Congress allowed.

The classes have just began to exert themselves & I have a better prospect of getting recruits than upon my first arrival. As they have not as yet collected any money, the want of it has as yet prevented my going to New Windsor. I expect, however, to go to Marletown tomorrow, and shall borrow as much as will answer the purpose of going to Rochester & Shawengunck, & by that time I believe some will be collected.

I am informed by Captain Bevier (who arrived at this place from Albany, this evening) that he saw the arrangement of the Line, which was nearly compleat & that I was not appointed, but on the supernumerary List. If that is the case, I wish another Officer was sent on this service in my stead, & I am not willing since I have undertaken it to retire before I am regularly relieved, as perhaps the Service might by that means be injured. I am, with respect yr. Excellencies most Obed't & very h'ble Ser't

T. V. Wagenen.

His Excellency Geo. Clinton, Esqr.

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[No. 3472.]

#### MUTINY OF THE PENNSYLVANIA LINE.

*Washington's Letter to Clinton—The Governor Promptly Joins the Commander-in-Chief.*

Head Quarters New Windsor 4<sup>th</sup> Jan'y 1781.

Dear Sir, I am extremely sorry to acquaint your Excellency that an event of a most alarming nature, but which I have long apprehended would happen in some part of the army, has at length taken place in the Pennsylvania line\* cantoned near Morris Town. General Wayne informs me that on the night of the 1st instant a mutiny was excited among the non Commis-

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\*The Pennsylvania line, by the new arrangement of the army, had been reduced from eleven to six regiments. These were stationed for the winter in the huts near Morris-town, which had been occupied by the army as winter quarters the preceding year. The regiments were under the immediate command of General Wayne, who wrote as follows in the letter of which Major Fishbourn was the bearer:

"A most general and unhappy mutiny suddenly took place in the Pennsylvania line about nine o'clock last night. A great proportion of the troops, with some artillery, are marching towards Philadelphia. Every exertion has been made by the officers to divide them in their determination to revolt. It has succeeded in a temporary manner with near one half. How long it will last, God knows.

"I have ordered the Jersey brigade to Chatham, where the militia are also assembling, lest the enemy should take advantage of this alarming crisis. Indeed, the alarm-guns have been fired, and the beacons kindled towards Elizabethtown: perhaps occasioned by our unhappy affair. I am this moment, with Colonels Butler and Stewart, taking horse to try to halt them on their march towards Princeton. As a last resort, I am advised to collect them, and move slowly towards Pennsylvania. What their temper may be, I cannot tell. We had an escape last night. Perhaps we may be equally

sioned officers and privates—several officers were killed and wounded in endeavouring to quell it in the first instance, but resistance was soon found vain. The troops paraded with their arms, seized the Artillery of the division, and marched off in a Body towards Philad'a, declaring their resolution to proceed to that City and lay their grievances before Congress. General Wayne, Colo. Butler and Colo. Stewart will endeavour to re-

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fortunate to-day. Captain Billings is killed; Captain Talbot mortally wounded; some others are also hurt."—January 2d, nine o'clock A. M.

General Wayne overtook the mutineers the same day on their march towards Princeton. He was advised not to go among them; but, when they halted for the night, he sent to them and requested that one sergeant or more from each regiment should be delegated to meet at his quarters, and make known their grievances. This was done, and among the others came a sergeant, one Williams, a "poor creature or fond of liquor," and a deserter from the British, having been taken prisoner at Princeton, enlisted in DeLancey's battalion, and deserted at Kingsbridge, whom the mutineers had chosen to be their commander. Their complaints were, that many soldiers had been detained beyond the term of their enlistment; that the arrearages of pay and the depreciation had not been made up; and that they were suffering every privation for want of money and clothes. A mode of redress was pointed out by General Wayne and the Colonels, which seemed to satisfy the delegated sergeants, and they agreed to use their efforts to bring over the minds of the others. But the attempt was ineffectual, and they all marched the next day, January 4th to Princeton. Those who were well disposed, and willing to separate from the mutineers, were requested by the officers to march in the same body, as it was hoped their presence and influence might serve to moderate the violence of the leaders, and check the contagion of their example.—*Sparks.*

From headquarters New Windsor under date of 5 January 1781, Washington forwarded by general Knox the following circular to the New England States:

Sir, It is with extreme anxiety and pain of mind, I find myself constrained to inform you, that the event I have long apprehended would be the consequence of the complicated distresses of the Army, has at length taken place.—On the night of the 1st instant, a mutiny was excited by the non-commissioned officers and privates of the Pennsylvania line, which soon became so universal as to defy all opposition. In attempting to quell this tumult in the first instance, some officers were killed, others wounded, and the lives of several common soldiers lost. Deaf to the arguments, entreaties, and utmost efforts of *all their officers*, to stop them, the men moved off from Morristown, the place of their cantonment, with their arms, and six pieces of Artillery; and from accounts just received by General Wayne's Aid de Camp, they were still in a body, on their march to Philadelphia, to demand a redress of their grievances. At what point this defection will stop, or how extensive it may prove, God only knows; at present the troops at the important posts in this vicinity remain quiet, not being acquainted with this unhappy and alarming affair. How long they will continue so, cannot be ascertained, as they labor under some of the pressing hardships with the troops who have revolted.

The aggravated calamities and distresses that have resulted from the total want of pay, for nearly twelve months, the want of cloathing at a severe season, and not unfrequently the want of provisions, are beyond description. The circumstances will now point out much more forcibly what ought to be done, than any thing that can possibly be said by me, on the subject.

It is not within the sphere of my duty to make requisitions without the authority of Congress from individual states; but at such a crisis as this, and circumstanced as we are, my own heart will acquit me, and Congress and the States (eastward of this) whom, for the sake of despatch, I address, I am persuaded will excuse me when once for all I give it decidedly as my opinion, that it is vain to think an army can be kept together much longer, under such a variety of sufferings as ours has experienced; and that



main with them, to keep them from committing excesses upon the Country, and in hopes that some favorable opening may be found to bring them to reason. What will be the event of this affair I do not know, or whether the spirit of defection will be confined to that line. The officers have been apprehensive of something of a like nature among the troops at these posts, who have the same causes of complaint. Should this unfortu-

unless some immediate and spirited measures are adopted to furnish at least three months pay to the troops, in money which will be of some value to them—and at the same time ways and means are devised to clothe and feed them better (more regularly I mean), than they have been—the worst that can befall us may be expected.

I have transmitted Congress a copy of this letter, and have in the most pressing terms requested them to adopt the measure which I have above recommended, or something similar to it, and as I will not doubt of their compliance, I have thought it proper to give you this previous notice, that you may be prepared to answer the requisition.

As I have used every endeavor in my power to avert the evil that has come upon us, so will I continue to exert every mean I am possessed of, to prevent an extension of the mischief, but I can neither foretell or be answerable for the issue.

That you may have every information that an officer of rank and abilities can give, of the true situation of our affairs, and the condition and temper of the troops, I have prevailed upon Brigadier General Knox to be the bearer of this letter; to him I beg leave to refer you, for many matters, which would be too tedious for a letter.\*

When the news of the revolt reached Philadelphia, a committee was appointed by Congress, at six o'clock on January 3rd, consisting of General Sullivan, Mr. Witherspoon, and Mr. Mathews, who were instructed to confer with the executive of Pennsylvania on the subject. This committee, and Governor Reed on the part of the Council of Pennsylvania, set off to meet the troops. On the 5th Mr. Bland and Mr. Atlee were added to the committee of Congress. Meantime Gen. Wayne remained with the troops at Princeton. It was ascertained that overtures were about to be made to the insurgents by the enemy, to which it was feared they would listen, and for two or three

\*“You will proceed with the despatches, with which you are charged, to the governors of the States of Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and to the president of New Hampshire. You are acquainted with the subject of those despatches, in which the Gentlemen to whom they are addressed are referred to you for more particular account of the situation of the Army, the causes of discontent in it, and the probable means of giving satisfaction to the Soldiery. Upon the first two heads, you have no need of any instructions. What seems to me most essentially necessary to answer the end of the third, is an immediate supply of Money and Cloathing; of the first a sum equal to three months' pay at least of the new emission, or some other of equal value; of the last a complete Suit of Clothes, not only for the men now in service, but for the number of Recruits who are to join.

“That you may be able to speak fully upon the Article of Cloathing, I will inform you minutely of our present supply and future prospects. The few Men who remain in service, will with difficulty find a sufficiency of shirts, Vests, Breeches, and Stockings to carry them thro' the winter. Of Coates we are very deficient. When those which are in the hands of the Agents are brought forward, there will not be more than one third of what are wanting. Thus you perceive, that the old Soldiers will have occasion for a full supply of Cloathing when they take the field, and that the Recruits, except they are furnished by their respective States, must be absolutely destitute. We may obtain some supplies from France between this time and the Spring, but we have been so often disappointed from that quarter, that prudence dictates the impolicy of placing dependence upon it.

“I have been speaking of the Northern Army only. General Greene represents the southern as literally naked, and therefore, should there be an arrival from Europe, a great part must be applied to that Army, as the southern States have not resources within them. I have hitherto only spoken of a sum of money equal to three months' pay; but it is possible that a further sum may be necessary, and that of specie, to give new Bounties to those Soldiers, who were early enlisted for the War upon very low terms. There can no ill result from securing such a fund; for, if it should not be wanted for that purpose, it may be applied usefully to a thousand others.”—Instructions to Brigadier-General Knox, 7 January, 1781.

nately be the case, we have no resources left for the security of the posts, but the militia, who would with difficulty be got in, in sufficient numbers, before the enemy might take advantage of the Revolt, for I have not the least doubt but they will hope to see the same spirit prevail among the troops here as among those at Morris Town, and will be prepared for such an event.

The River is entirely open, and so far favorable. Under these circumstances, I think it indispensably necessary that your Excellency should be as near the posts as possible.\* Your influence with the militia would give a spring to their exertions, and your advice upon such an occasion would be of infinite service to me. If the Session can be carried on by the Lieutenant Governor, I shall be glad to see your Excellency as soon as possible. But should any favorable accounts from below, or an assurance of the affection of the troops here make your presence unnecessary,

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days the officers were in a state of extreme anxiety. They were somewhat relieved by an incident, which is thus related in a letter from General Wayne:

"About four o'clock yesterday morning we were waked by two sergeants, who produced a letter from the enemy, enclosed in a small piece of tea-lead. They also brought under guard two caitiffs who undertook to deliver it to the leader of the malcontents. One of these culprits says he is a sergeant in Odell's newly raised corps, and was promised a considerable reward on bringing back an answer. The soldiers in general affect to spurn at the idea of turnings Arnolds, as they express it. We have used every address to inflame their minds against wretches, who would dare to insult them by imagining them traitors: for, had they thought them virtuous, they would not have carried those overtures."—Princeton, January 8th. The "two caitiffs" were John Mason and James Ogden (of South River). Clinton's message addressed to "the person appointed by the Pennsylvania Line to lead them in their present struggle for their liberty and rights", offered the protection of the British Government, a free pardon for all former offences, and the pay that was due them by Congress, without expectation of military service.

Governor Reed arrived at Princeton, and the committee of Congress at Trenton. The following proposals were offered to the mutineers:

"1. To discharge all those, who had enlisted *indefinitely* for three years, or during the war; the fact to be inquired into by three commissioners to be appointed by the executive, and to be ascertained, where the original enlistment could not be produced by the oath of the soldier.

"2. To give immediate certificates for the depreciation on their pay, and to settle averages as soon as circumstances would admit.

"3. To furnish them immediately with certain specified articles of clothing, which were greatly wanted."

These terms were accepted, and resulted in the disbanding of a very large portion of the troops, and a temporary dissolution of the line.

The British emissaries, or spies, were given up, tried by a court-martial and executed on the 11th of January.

\* From headquarters under date 6th January 1781 Washington wrote to the President of Congress: "His Excellency Gov'r Clinton is here and will remain in the neighborhood, ready to call in his Militia should there be any defection in the Continental Troops."

I shall dispatch an Express to you by the Road on the East side of the River.

I imagine the foregoing will have reached Albany, but not perhaps circumstantially. Your Excellency will, therefore, communicate so much of it as you may think expedient. I have the Honor to be, with the greatest Respect and Esteem yr. Excellency's most obt. Servant

Geo. Washington.\*

His Excellency Gov. Clinton.

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5th Jan'y 1780 [1781]. 2 O'Clock P. M.

Dear Sir, I have this Moment received your Excellency's Letter of yesterday, and will do myself the Honor of waiting upon you immediately. I did intend to set out for Albany the Beginning of next Week, but my Presence there can be dispensed with for two Days or longer without any material Inconvenience & I shall be happy in the present alarming & disagreeable Situation of Affairs to render your Excellency every assistance in my Power. I am, with the highest Respect & Esteem, your most Obed't Serv't

Geo. C.

[To General Washington.]

[No. 3473.]

See document 3477—page 556.

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[No. 3474.]

*Colonel Samuel Clyde's Regiment in a Demoralized Condition.*

Courish Bush, Jan'y ye 6th 1781.

Dear Sir, I Rec'd an act of the Legislature for Raising of men during the war for this State and your Ordars for Putting

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\* See also document 3475, page 553; document 3481, page 564; document 3488, page 571, and document 3493, page 578.

the same into Execution last week, and this day I Rec'd youre ordars for Proloingen the Time till Fabuary nixt; liek an ordar to Pay in all fines and Peneltes from delinquet Clesses to the Trishre; how the men will be Raised I cannot tell; the Inhabitants are to distresed; it will be verry hard and mony they have not got; and as to fines and Penelties on delinquet Clesses, I have non in the Rejm't; last Spring I detioned Twelve men to the seven months Leves which was one for every Clees I had, and when Coughnawago was Destroid in the Spring, many of oure Inhabitants moved out of the Destriect, and in the Summer I Delivred Eighten men more to the three months Leves, all good men, which makes Thirty in all out of this Littel Rejm't, and what Remened was ablidged to be allmost Constant on Duty, except about five weeks in Hervest time, and offen to find there own Provision which hes ben the Case for this two years Past, and without eany Pay or Reward, for there Time that by the Destress of the Enemy and the hard usege from the State, the Inhabitants are allmost in Desper. I have but two Companys that I can say hes escaeped the Revenge of the Enemy, and one of them was ablidged to join Sir John's Pearty last fall, which seved them.

But I hop if the Militia up here are to have eany Pay or Reward for there Serves dun, that they could have it; it woold Relve many that are in Destress, and be a mens of Incoridging of them to do there Duty, for the futter we have dun every thing in oure P'owr for the generall good, but now we are not abele to help our sellves. I hop that we may be Concidred in our Present Circumstance.

I should be verry glead if I could no when you woold be in Albany for to see you about those that joind with Sir John's

Pearty last fall. But my Present Circomstance will not allow me to go eany farther. From your most Obedant Humbl Serv'nt

Saml. Clyde.

To His Excelency George Clinton, Esqr.

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[No. 3475.]

THE PENNSYLVANIA LINE MUTINY.

*Colonel Udny Hay Lays the Intelligence Before Lieutenant-Governor Van Cortlandt.*

Poughkeepsie, 6th Jan. 1781.

Dear Sir, As I thought it necessary to send an express to the assistants for the purpose of acquainting them that some vessells and boats were arrived for flour, in consequence of your Excellency's desire of yesterday, I embraced that opportunity and wrote the Lt. Governour of which you have a Copy enclosed; in this you will see I have putt as good a face upon matters as in my power. I wrote him another in which I gave him, as nearly as I could remember, the substance of the General's letter to you; he by this means will be able to make use of the one or the other as will be most suitable for the Persons to whom he may shew them. I have desired the officer who carrys these letters to shew them both to Mr. Duer, the Chancellor, both Mr. Vanesses, Judge Morris and General Renslaer or his Brother and to no body else. I hope what I have done in this will be agreeable to your wish. If any thing happens in which I can be of service, I shall think myself truly honoured by your Commands, and will punctually execute them of whatever nature they may be as far as my Capacity will permitt. I am, w<sup>th</sup> every

Sentiment of respect & esteem, your Excellency's most obed't  
& very humble Ser.

Udny Hay.

Governour Clinton.

Mrs. Clinton & family are all well.

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Poughkeepsie, 6 January 1781.

Sir, As his Excellency the Governor rec'd yesterday afternoon, some Intelligence not altogether agreeable, and was just setting off for Head Quarters upon some Business he had with the Commander in Chief, he desired me to give you Information thereof by first opportunity I could conveniently procure, which I now do myself the Honor to perform.

The Pensylvania Line, laying in Jersey, became excessively discontented a few days ago, at their not having a full Supply of Provisions & Rum, and after committing some considerable riots, the greater part of the non Commissioned Officers and Privates formed a mutiny; in quelling or rather attempting to quell which, a few of the Officers got wounded, and it is said one or two killed; and the mutineers marched off in a Body towards Philadelphia where they insisted they would go for the purpose of obtaining redress of their many grievances. General Wayne, with Colonels Butler & Stewart, have accompanied them with a view of preventing their doing any damage to Inhabitants, and of watching a proper Moment for bringing them back to a sense of their Duty. It is generally supposed here, that this affair, though it may be attended with some temporary Inconveniences, will finally be productive of the best effects, as it must awake the People at large from their Lethargy, and convince the different States of the necessity of properly supporting the army in future.

I believe his Excellency's principal design in wishing you should be made acquainted with this, was to prevent a belief of the many exaggerated Circumstances, with which this affair will be related by the Tories. On this, however you may rely, that in all their bad Humour, they Swore bitterly they would return to their Duty, as soon as they were made acquainted by Congress what they had positively to depend on, and would never afterwards quit their Officers 'till they had drove the Enemy out of the Country. I have the Honor to be, with much Respect, Sir, your most Obed't H'ble Servant.

Signed Udney Hay.

The Hon'ble Pierre Van Cortlandt Esqr.

(Copy)

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[No. 3476.]

*Tory Assessment in Ryck's Patent, Westchester County.*

To His George Clinton, Esquire Governor of the State of New York, General Commander-in-Chief of all the Militia and admiral of the Navy of the Same.

Agreable to and act of the Legislator to Compleat the Quota of troops of this State to serve in the army of the United States during the war passed October the ninth Day 1780, a just return of the sumtion of Money of those Person who became Liable to pay nine pence in the Pound by reason of that the Son of such Person went of to and joined the Enemy, that is to say Money raised by the virtue of this act in the Presingt of Ryck Pattent five pounds agreable to the above law mentioned. Certified by me the 6 Day of January 1781 Westchester County.

John Van Tassel, Supervisor.

[Nos. 3477, 3473.]

*Congress Declares a Policy of Retaliation upon English Prisoners.*

Circular,

Philadelphia, January 9 1781.

Sir, You will receive herewith enclosed, Copies of two Acts of Congress of the 5th & 8th Instant.

By the former you will be informed that from the unwarrantable & cruel Treatment which our People who are Prisoners with the Enemy have of late received from them, in the Opinion of Congress, an Exercise of the Law of retaliation has become necessary, and it is especially recommended to the Execution of the States respectively to take effectual Measures for carrying into Execution the Acts of Congress of the 13th of January 1780, respecting Prisoners taken by the Citizens, Troops or Ships of particular States.

By the other Act (of the 8th Instant) it is earnestly recommended to the several States from New Hampshire to North Carolina inclusive, to procure for the Use of the Officers Prisoners at New York & on Long Island, to be charged to the United States, their respective Quotas therein mentioned, in Specie or Bills of Exchange on New York.

It is presumed the necessities of those Officers, the Distresses they have already suffered, and the more disagreeable Situation they must yet be reduced to, unless those Supplies are obtained, will be sufficient to induce a Compliance with this requisition as speedy as possible. I have the Honor to be, with the highest respect your Excellency's most obedient & most humble Servant

Sam. Huntington, President.

His Excellency, Governor Clinton.



[This belongs to document No. 3477—enclosure mentioned.]

In Congress Jan'y 5th 1781.

The Committee to whom was referred the letter of Abraham Skinner Com'y Genl. of Prisoners delivered in a report as follows:

That notwithstanding every effort of Congress to obtain for our people prisoners in the hands of the enemy that treatment which humanity alone should have dictated; the British Commanders unmindful of the tenderness exercised toward their men prisoners in our hands and regardless of the practice of civilized nations, have persisted in treating our people prisoners to them with every species of insult, outrage and cruelty. Officers and men are indiscriminately thrown into the hold of prison ships and into loathsome dungeons and there deprived of fuel and the common necessaries of life, by which means, many of the citizens of these States have been compelled to enter into their service to avoid those distresses which a Conduct so contrary to the law of nations had brought upon them. Our Seamen taken upon the American Coast have been sent to Great Britain and other parts beyond Seas, to prevent their being exchanged or to force them to take arms against their country.

That in the opinion of the committee, an exercise of the law of retaliation has become necessary as a justice due to those Citizens of America whom the fortune of war has thrown into the power of our Enemy, whereupon,

Resolved, That copies of the letter of Mr. A. Skinner and the other papers referred be transmitted to the commander in Chief and that he be directed to enquire into the manner in which our people who are prisoners are treated by the Enemy and that he give immediate orders to the commanding officers at the differ-

ent posts to take particular care that the British prisoners receive the same allowance and treatment in every respect as our people who are prisoners receive from the Enemy.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the respective Executives to take effectual measures for carrying into execution the act of Congress of the 13th July 1780, respecting prisoners taken by the Citizens, troops or Ships of particular States.

That the board of Admiralty issue orders not to exchange any British sea officer or seaman untill the enemy shall have returned to some of their garrisons in America, such seamen as they have taken upon the American coast and have sent to Great Britain or other parts beyond sea, and that the board of war and board of admiralty give orders for continuing the treatment of prisoners as herein directed untill they receive orders to the contrary from Congress or the Commander in Chief.

Extract from the minutes.

Chas. Thomson, Secy.

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[No. 3478.]

*Colonel Blaine Preparing for the Supplies of the Army for 1781.*

New Windsor 10th January 1781.

Sir, I presume your Excellency has rec'd the requisition of Congress some time ago for the supplies of our army this year, and that means is adopted by your legislature to procure them in due time. His Excellency General Washington has pointed out the places of deposit in each state. The quantity of Provisions required from your State is sixteen thousand barrels of Flour; two thousand eight hundred Barrels of beef; one thousand five hundred barrels of Pork; 441½ hundreds weight of

stalled beef; and thirteen hundred and twenty hundred weight of Grass beef for next summer's use; all the salt provisions and four thousand Barrels of Flour to be delivered this month, the stalled beef subject to my order as well the grass beef which is to be delivered next summer; wou'd wish the stall'd beef delivered in the following proportions viz: one fourth part to be delivered the tenth of February; one other the 10th of March; one the 10th of April; and the residue the 10th of May.

Congress have pointed out the periods in which the flour is to be delivered. I need not mention to your Excellency the great punctuality there ought to be observed by the state agents in proeuring and delivering the supplies required, and the uneasiness the want of one day's provisions occasions with the soldiery, to prevent which, I beg that your executive and Legislature may give full and ample powers to your agent to obtain the supplies required, and that your Excellency will give very pressing and pointed Instructions for the execution thereof, without which it will not be in my power to keep up a regular supply for the Army.

Sundry applications have been made to me by Inhabitants of this state and persons from others to exchange flour, which if I adopted wou'd undoubtedly be an advantage to the public, but be attended with difficulty to your State, or at least prevent them from furnishing their Quoto of Flour, and not add a single Barrel to our magazine, I should think myself happy if consistant with my duty and the public interest I cou'd render your State any service, but wou'd beg leave to mention, that if persons are admited to exchange or barter flour before the state supply is furnished, it will not be in the power of your agent to comply with his orders; was I to encourage the exchange I

could undoubtedly engross all the spare flour in the State in the course of three weeks. If the Quantity required was nearly furnished, I wou'd undertake to Exchange a Considerable Parcel at least a sufficiency for the magazine at West Point, but shall decline any encouragement whatever untill I have your opinion fully upon that subject. The new arrangement of the Quarter Master and Commissary Genl. Departments, orders the receival and forwarding of all Public Stores to and from the places of deposit to be performed by the deputy Quarter Master or his store keeper. I shall beg the favour of an answer by first Oppertunity and have the honor to be, very respectfully, your Excellency's most Obed't and most H'ble Serv't

Eph. Blaine, C. G. P.

Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 3479.]  
 Captain Pell's Account for Recruiting Service.  
 The State of New York in a/c with Samuel Pell, Capt'n 2nd Regt.

Dr.	1780	1780	Cr.
Dec'r 19th	To Cash expended on the Recruiting Service by Order of his Excellency Gov'r Clinton vizt,	Dec'r 19	Old Count.
	To Cash paid at Mr. Bloodgood's	£15 18 8	£480
20	To Do Do Dennison's	43 7 8	400
22	To Do Do Treaxes	22 12	
23	To Do Do Henderson's	23 8	
"	To Do Do Cap. Daton's	18 4	
"	To Do Do Mrs. Halt's	8 8	
"	To Do Do transporting my Baggage from Fishkills Landing to Town	6	
24	To Do Do paid at Mr. Cooper's	50 8	
	To Do Do Neilson's	18 8	
25	To Do Do Marlin's	18 4	
"	To Do Do Haight's £12		
"	To Do Do Do 6 16		
"	To Do Do Do 6 8		
26	To Do Do Do'r Barnam's	25 4	
"	To Do Do Do	5 12	
"	To Do Do Do	8 8	
"	To Do Do Do	2 8	
Jan'y 1 [1781]	To Do Do Cap. Haight's	82 16	
2	To Do Do Doctr Peary's	8 12	
"	To Do Do Col. Haight's	6	
4	To Do Do Horien's	8	
"	To Do Do Cap. Green's	16 16	
8	To Do Do Do	30 8	
9	To Do Do Do	5 12	
"	To Do Do taking up a Deserter	12	
10	To Do Do Major Delavan's	1 4	
"	To Do Do Squire Lyons	1 12	
"	To Do Do Doctr Pery's	43 4	
"	To Do Do Sundry Times	30	
"	To Do Do Do	80	
"	To Do Do Do	80	
"	To Do Do Do	135 4	
"	To Do Do Joshua Haight's Bill now unpaid	24	
"	To Do Do Shoeing my Horses	92 6 8	
"	To Do Do paid at Sundry Places	16 16	
"	To Do Do paid at Van Vart's	40	
"	To Do Do paid at Sundry Places	£160	
"	To Do Do advanced Cap. Dubois 10 Drs. N Em	£160	
"	To Do Do advanced Lieut. Wissenfels 10 Drs. N Em	£160	
"	To Do Do paid Sundries	20	
"	To Do Do paid Sundries Hard money vizt, 2 Gulbeas & 2 Dollars	£4 10 8	
		£4 10 8	1146
		Hard money	Old Count- ment
		£4 10 8	£1146
		Hard	Old Cont'l
		£4 10 8	£1146

\* N. B. This Money was advanced Messrs. Dubois & Wissenfels by Order of General J's Clinton.

Sam'l. T. Pell, Capt.

[No. 3480.]

*Colonel De Witt's Letter on the Tory Proposition in His District.*

Sir, As Supervisor of the Town of Hurley, I am by law directed to Transmit a Copy of the assessment made on Persons whose Son or Sons are gone off to the Enemy, of whom I conceive there are none in this Town which the law reaches, for altho the People of Woodstouk, Great & Little Shandekan, are by an act of the Legislature annexed to the Town of Hurley, I do not find that they ever were under the Command of the Captain of Hurley, or ever were considered as being within his Beat. I confess it is a Pity that such notorious offenders as some of them are, should escape Taxing, and yet it is fortunate for Capt. Lafever that they are not in his Beat, as very great uneasiness and discontent hath Prevailed among the People of Hurley since that extraordinary addition to Hurley, which every Person that has the least knowledge of the Situation of the three Towns can easily see, would have better Suited the two adjacent Towns.

If some Folks in Kingston had not appeared so very officious with their assistance to me, to Tax these men, I should perhaps not have entertained so strong a suspicion that their Design was only to forge another Rivet, to fix them fast to Hurley; and least any misrepresentations should take place, I thought it my Duty to acquaint you, Sir, that in my opinion I could not call upon these People as lying within the Captain's Beat, which the Law expressly mentions. I have enclosed his return. I suppose the Field officers must know that the Capt. of Hurley never made any returns of these men to them in raising Troops

&c. and yet endeavours have been used to shew that it was my Business to Tax them. I am, Sir, your most Humb. ser.

Ch. D. Witt.

Green Kill, Jan'y 11th 1781.

His Excellency George Clinton, Esquire.

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According to your Desire to make a return of all Persons sende out within the beat of my compinion, whose Son or Sons shall have gone off to the enemy, I return by this, Direk Kyser & Jacob Slouter, who have each a son gone of to the enemy; but there sons having moveth from them some years before the went of to the enemy at the first place he moveth under Marbltown, and the both, that is to say Abraham Kyser & Johannis Slouter, did each of them took a wife under Marbltown and did live there for some years before the went of with Jacobus Rosa to join the enemy; and the abovesaid Direk Kyser & Jacob Slouter are so poor that the excessors of the Distrect have them not on the tax list, for the have nothing, and I am fully of oppinion that the said Direk Kyser and Jacob Slouter was not noing at the time or before that, there sons was to go of and join the enemy; as for Woodstock and Shandaka I shall make no return of, for the do not belong in my distrect or beat. Sir, I am your frind and Humble Servant

Simon Lefever, Capt.

Novem. the 24th 1780.

To Mr. Charls Dewitt, Supervisor.

[No. 3481.]

## THE PENNSYLVANIA LINE MUTINY.

*British Emissaries Who Tricd to Seduce The Troops, Turned Over to Lord Stirling as Spies.*

Head Quarters, New Windsor Jan'y 11th 1781.

Sir, I have it in command from the General, who is gone to West Point, to transmit your Excellency the purport of the favorable intelligence received last night by Express from Trenton. The Pennsylvanians have given a decided & unequivocal proof of their attachment to the Country, and determination not to join the Enemy, by delivering up to General Wayne, an Emissary sent by the Enemy to tamper with them, together with his Guide & Papers. These Agents of the Enemy were sent under a guard to Governor Reed, who was in the neighbourhood of Prince Town, and were to be delivered over to Lord Stirlings's Orders, who had ordered a Court Martial at Trenton for their Tryal. A Copy of the paper found on the Negotiator, I do myself the honor to enclose to your Excellency. This, with the above intelligence comes from Lord Stirling and the Committee appointed by Congress to quiet the disturbances in the Pennsylvania Line.

It appears from a variety of circumstances that this was the first Overture, and that a number of Agents were employed on the same business, as General St. Clair who is at Morris Town, had just before detected one set of Proposals, and transmitted a Copy (similar to the enclosed) to His Excellency. It is now hoped & expected, from the good disposition shewn in this instance, that the affair may yet be happily settled. I have the honor to be with the most perfect respect & esteem your Excellency's most Obedient H<sup>ble</sup> Servant

D. Humphreys.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.



## Copy of the Enemy's letter to the Pennsylvanians:

It having been reported at New York that the Pennsylvania Troops and others having been defrauded by Congress of their pay, Cloathing and provisions, are assembled for a redress of their grievances, and also that notwithstanding the terms of their inlistments are expired, they have been forcibly detained in the service where they have suffered every kind of misery and oppression.

They are now offered to be taken, under the British Government, to have their rights restored, a free pardon for all former offences and their pay due to them by Congress faithfully paid to them without any expectation of military service (except it may be voluntary) upon laying down their arms and returning to their allegiance, for which purpose if they will send Commissioners to Amboy, they will be there met by people empowered to treat with them, and faith shall be pledged for their security.

It is recommended for their safety, to move behind South River and whenever they request it, a Body of British troops shall protect them.

It is needless to point out the inability as well as want of inclination in Congress, to relieve them, or to tell them the severities that will be used toward them by the Rebel leaders, should they think of returning to their former servitude.

It will be proved to the Commissioners they may choose to send, that the authority from whence this comes, is sufficient to ensure the performance of the above proposals.

To the Person Appointed by the Pennsy'a Troops to lead them in their Present Struggle for their Liberties and Rights.

[No. 3482.]

*Colonel Bostwick to Governor Clinton Respecting the Adjustment of Public Accounts.*

Poughkeepsie, 11th Jan'y, 1781.

D. Sir, The Important necessity there is of bringing my public accounts to a speedy settlement, together with the Constant applications of the Inhabitants for what is due to them, from my late department, makes me Exceedingly anxious to enter fully on that business as soon as posable; and it is now only impeded for the want of the necessary mode to be observed, relative to the depreciation to be allowed agreeable to Resolve of Congress of the 26th Aug't last, which, by a Law of this state your Excellency is to make known by Proclamation. And as there is very Considerable arrearages due the Inhabitants for Forage &c. it is suggested that a settlement of those accounts would greatly tend to remove some of the obstacles that now Interupts the getting Present Supplies; my duty, therefore, as a person to whom the Inhabitants look for a settlement of those accounts, as well as the attention I ought to pay the public & myself in closing them with the utmost dispatch, Induces me to give your Excellency this Information, hoping that such measures may soon be adopted as will render all posable Sattisfaction to the Public & Individuals. I am, with real Esteem & Regards, your Excellency's most Obt. & very h'ble Serv't

And. Bostwick.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 3483.]

*Rumbout Assessment on Tories.*

A Copy of a Tax List of those that have Son or Sons gone of to and join'd the Enemy out of Rumbout Precinct in Dutchess County, Agreeable to a Law of this State for that purpose.

Persons Names	Real Estate	Personal Estate	£ S D		
			£	S	D
Peter Van Kleek 2 sons	1200	780	119	10	
John Jewel 1 do	500	280	41	5	
Caleb Powel 3 do	650	280	102	12	6
Nathaniel Weeks 1 do	200	200	15	0	0
Abraham Jewel 1 do	600	406	37	10	0
Samuel Somes 1 do	800	300	41	12	6
Isaac Jewel 1 do	700	280	36	15	
John Bud 1 do	200	150	13	2	6
Nathaniel Brown 1 do	160	160	12		
Caleb Griffin 1 do	20	20	5		
Caspaures Van Kleek 1 do	1200	400	60		
Peter Van Dewater 1 do	600	300	34	10	
Uriah Ter Willigan 1 do	100		5		
John Tearpenning 1 do	1000	600	60		
Jacobus Meddegh 1 do	600	210	30	7	6
Harmaunes Rynass 1 do	80		5		
Born't Van Kleek 1 do	100		5		
Jonas Canniff 1 do	800	800	41	12	6
			694	17	

January 11th 1781.

Martin Wiltse, Supervisor.

[No. 3484.]

*Mr. Pell Recruits One Man in Westchester County.*

Crompond Jan'y 12th 1781.

Sir, My Success in recruiting has been Poore; as yet I received but one; I have Inclosed his name, and Description, and for what Class, tho I am in hops this County will furnish their Coato in time; I have taken one Deserter belonging to the 2d Regt. and sent him to West Point: am in hops of Taking up sum more. I am much in want of Cash, can git it out of the County Treasury by an order from your Excellency. From your Excellency's very Hum'l Ser't to serve

Saml. T. Pell.

[To G. C.]

Return of one Recrute received a Class in West Chester County Jan'y 12th 1781.

Regt.	Class	man's name	place of abode	whare born	helgh	Coler of eyes	Do of hare	Com- plec- tion	Trade	age
Colo <sup>l</sup> Crane's	Capt.Larrences	PeterDickens	Salum	Salum	5½	Light	Light	Faire	farmer	18

[No. 3485.]\*

*A Threatened Attempt to Abduct Governor Clinton.*

Fishkill Jan'ry 13th 1781. [?]†

May it please your Excellency, Mr. David Currie, a gentleman who may be Depended upon, is just Returned from New Jersey, having been on Business there; having seen Mr. Morris Hazard who Resides at New Ark, and Daily sees & Converses with people from New York, informed Mr. Currie that he had it from good authority from friends in New York, that a plan was laid to carry off your Excellency prisoner to New York this winter at all events; that two Hundred Guineas is offered to any party that shall bring the Gov'r of this state into New York; that a party has been out lately for that purpose, and way laid the Roads [ ] Poughkeepsie Town for several nights together, Expecting to have caught the Governor some small Distance out of Town; and on their return Reported, that they still would have Completed their plan, had it not been for the Governor's Guard, which was the reason why [they] dare not attempt to seize your Excellency near your Home. The Governor is (I doubt not) much better acquainted with Mr. Hazard than I am; therefore, will know best what Credit to give this acc't; however, not only the Respect & esteem for your Excellency person, but a sense of my Duty shall at all time induce me to give

\* [The endorsement on this document is: "13th Jan'y 1782".

† See Clinton Papers Volume II, page 634, including footnote, a letter from General Washington to Clinton in regard to this threatened abduction.—STATE HISTORIAN.

your Excellency the earliest Notice in my power of [ ]  
of such a nature which shall come to my knowledge. I have  
the honour to be, with due Respect & Esteem your Excellency's  
Most Obdt. H'ble Serv't

Hend'k Wyckoff.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

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Poukeepsie 19th January 1782.

Dear Sir, I have been duely favoured with your Letter of the  
13th Instant and now return you my warmest thanks for the  
oblidging Mark of attention to my personal safety. The Infor-  
mation it contains may be true & I shall, therefore, esteem it a  
Duty to use every prudent precaution in my Power to defeat  
the attempt, tho I am destitute of a guard at present. At the  
same [time], I assure you the Person with whom the Intelli-  
gence originates, does not in my Opinion meritt any great show  
of confidence. I am with great Esteem &c.

[G. C.]

[To Hend'k Wyckoff.]

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[No. 3486.]

*Adjudicating the Status and Pay of Colonel Malcom.*

Philadelphia, January 13, 1781.

Sir, Your Excellency will receive enclosed, the Copy of an  
Act of Congress of the 8th Instant, respecting Colonel Malcom;  
expressing their Sentiments that he cannot be considered as  
entitled to Pay & Subsistence as a Colonel in the Service of the  
United States, longer [than] he held the actual Command of  
his Regiment; and recommending him as a meritorious Officer,  
who from the Impracticability of employing him in the Army,

is to be deemed a Supernumerary under the Resolution of Congress of the 24th of November 1778: and referring it to the Executive of New York to settle & adjust his Pay for his Services after leaving his Regiment and charge the same to the United States. I have the Honor to be with the highest Respect, your Excellency's most obedient & most humble Servant

Sam. Huntington, President.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

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In Congress Jan'y 8th 1781.

The board of war to whom was referred the letter of 15th of Nov'r from the Gov'r of New York with the letter from Col. Malcolm inclosed delivered in a report whereupon,

Resolved, That in the opinion of Congress, Col. William Malcolm cannot be considered as entitled to pay and subsistence as a Col. in the service of the United States longer than he held the actual command of his regiment.

And that he be recommended to the executive of the State of N. York as a meritorious Officer, who from the impracticability of employing him in the army, is to be deemed a supernumerary under the resolution of Congress of the 24th Day of Nov'r, 1778.

And whereas Col. Malcolm has been employed after his leaving his Regiment on sundry occasional Services:

Resolved, That it be referred to the executive of the State of N. York to settle and adjust his pay during the time of such services and charge the same to the United States.

Extract from the minutes.

Chas. Thomson, Secy.

[No. 3487.]

*Colonel Drake's Intercession for James McShane.*

Peeks Kill, Janery 13th 1781.

Dear Sir, The Bairer is the Son of Jeans McChane who lives below Dobes Ferrey, who sufers beyend my Painting his Des-tress; hes Exchanged Farms with one Androw Lumerax in my Naberhud and cant be brought of without a flagg. Gin'll Heath will not give a flagg without your Excelece aperbashaon; as the s'd McChain hes bin a paseverin wigg sen the biginen of the contest, I cold wich, if it was consistant with your duty, you wold rekmen'd the same to Gina'll Heath for a flagg; our Setevashon is such, which hender my atendence with the Ledeslater at Albane; I am under the nesesity of ordring my ridgment out in for Classes, as the gard air ordred of the Lines and grate part of the armey is ordred to march to Quile the revolt of the Penselvaney Line. I remain your Humbl Sarvent

Samll. Drake.

To His Excelene Gorge Clinton.

[No. 3488.]

*The Pennsylvania Mutineers Hold On to the British Emissaries.*

Head Quarters New Windsor, Jan'y 13th 1781.

Dear Sir, Since the information Colonel Humphrys gave your Excellency by my direction, some circumstances have been communicated by General Wayne (a Copy of whose Letter is inclosed)\* which give a very different complexion to the affair. Instead of delivering up the Emissaries from the Enemy, as I had been prematurely advised, the Mutineers have only re-

\*General Wayne's letter not found.—STATE HISTORIAN.

ported them to General Wayne, still keeping them in their own hands. This conduct, instead of shutting the door to negotiation with the Enemy, seems to carry a threat, that if we do not comply with their terms, they know from what quarter, they can obtain protection and redress.

Previous to the receipt of this last intelligence, I had ordered a Detachment to be in readiness to march from the Troops in this Vicinity, which is still held under marching Orders. But I am extremely embarrassed, and waiting with the utmost anxiety for further advises. Under these circumstances, I need not enumerate my choice of difficulties from every quarter, among which, the perplexities arising on the score of Provision, are not the most inconsiderable.

Should it become absolutely necessary for the Detachment to march, the garrison of West Point, you must be sensible, will be left in a very weak situation. I wish, therefore, to be informed by your Excellency, whether any force of Militia could be thrown into the garrison; in what time it could be done upon such an emergency, and what numbers might be depended upon. I should be much obliged by having your answer as soon as is convenient. I have the honor to be, With great esteem & respect your Excellency's most Obed't Humble Servant

Go. Washington.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

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Pokeepsie, 15th Jan'y 1781.

Dear Sir, I am unhappy to learn by your Excellency's Letter of the 13th which came to Hand late yesterday Evening, that the Accounts from the Pennsylvania Line are not so favorable as they had been first represented.



I have not for some considerable Time had occasion to call upon the Militia most contiguous to the Posts in the Highlands; I may, therefore, be deceived with Respect to their present Temper & Disposition; but judging from their former alacrity I am lead to believe we shall be able to throw into the Garrison upwards of one thousand Men in the Course of three or four Days, some of them may reach West Point the same Day they have notice to march, & the greater Part the next. This, however, is on a Presumption that the Time for which they may be wanted will be so short as to render the Preparations which it might be proper for them to make were they to continue any considerable Time in service unnecessary. Some of the Officers of most authority & Influence are attending the Legislature at Albany & should it be determined to call out any Part of the Militia on the present Emergency, I wish to be informed of it as early as convenient as their absence will render my personal attention to the Business necessary. I begg leave to inform your Excellency that I do not propose setting out for Albany before the Middle of next Week. I am, with Sentiments

[G. C.]

[To General Washington.]

[No. 3489.]

*Judge Yates' Letter, Relating to the Appropriation of Continental Cattle by One Hasbrouck.*

Albany January 13th 1781.

Sir, I do myself the honor of enclosing copies of examinations\* taken at Kingston of two persons who were attainted of Felony. By these it appears that Cornelius Haasbrook, Jun'r.,

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\*Depositions omitted.—STATE HISTORIAN.

has received, & also advised to be taken, a number of Continental cattle, and altho's he is punished as an accessory before the fact to the felony, yet the public may require of him a restitution of the Cattle, or the payment of the value thereof. It is from this Consideration, that I lay before your Excellency these facts, that Congress may upon your Excellency's representation, appoint pursuant to a law of this State a procurator or attorney, for the purpose of commencing suits ag't him. I am with the greatest esteem your Excellency's most obed't and humble Ser.

Robert Yates.

P. S. In addition to his purgation the court have ordered Haasbrook a confinem't of two months, from the 3d Instant. His Excellency George Clinton Esqr.

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[No. 3490.]

*The Petitions of William Hutton and of William Bell.*

To his Excellency the governor in Chif.

Honred Sir. I take this opertunity to let you know how I and others is used, by, I kno not whom, or for what, but I being a human Cretur I must feel and Cry tirany, tirany; as I am unhumanly Confined for not perjuring my self, Contrary to all laws human or Devin. I would ask the legislator if evr thy seed the lik patronised in Arestotel or Cato or Sineka or any of the anshents or the hathens. I need not ask for won Instance of the lik in the Cristan world; no whear shall we look for an instance of the lik Crueltys as this land groans under; it must be in our great and good allys and the pop and his herarechy or in the far and fether ordor; I am surprised that we have

been so active scolars of that mistry of iniquity that Cris in Corners, with ther iniquisions and puting peopl to the rack for the surmises of man or men; this is such apriltis as I as a Cristian heas solmly sworn against long ago, and as a subject of Great Britan of leat, sir, I am willing to submit to moral govrment, if I comit any moral transgresion, and I will not submit my Consence to any man or men, for I have been confined theas six months by the tirany of a Court mershel, and now by the arbtry pleasur of men called Comishionars, I lead a petiton befor your honor, which you refired mee to the Judges, but I could find no man to do me Justis, but hear, I find anof to opress mee into it, as the coman father of the contry: honred, sir, this is not the Keeas of mee alon, ther is severals that hear grons undr the seam opresion. If pesibal living be had, I have long begod for, and would beg that I may be honoribly sent out of the contry, as my famely will sun be in such a kes as canot be moved in an ordinary way, and is now in a pittifull and destitut situasion, being drove from their dewelling, and now but sikly women and small children, the oldest boy being but ten years old. Sir, your Judgment on the whol will gretly obledg your humbl surveant and Innossant sufferor.

William Hutton.

Citty hall, Genwary 15, 1781.

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N. B. honored, sir, my particuler cas is, I have been thes five months confined and can have no hearing by no means. I have sinc been robed of allmost evry thing, even the shift of my wiffs back. I humbly beg to be sent honorably out of the Contry with my famely or have a peasobl living in it giving moral security that I will do you no harm; your honors Con-

sidrasion and a Delivranc from a dolfull geol will greatly obledg  
your humbl suplicants and sufferers.

William Bell.

Citty hall, Genwary 15 1781.

[No. 3491.]

*Charlotte Precinct's Tory Assessment.*

Dutchess County.

As assesment of the Estates of such Parsons in Charlottee  
Precint whose sons have gone of to and joined the Enemy Pur-  
suant to an act of the Legislature of the State of New York,  
passed the Ninth of October A D 1780.

	No. Sons	Value of Estate 9d in Pound	L s d		
			L	s	d
John Thorn	2	700	26	5	
James Palmer	1	134	5	0	6
Jacob Sharpston	2	2200	82	10	0
Sarah Peters widow	2	1133	42	9	9
Rebakah Tobias	1	233	8	14	9
John Warrin	2	134	5	0	6
John Dewitt	1	134	5	0	6
Peter Trever	1	1300	48	15	0
John Larrance	1	560	21	0	0
Peter Hatfield	1	1700	63	15	0
John Coonley	1	700	26	5	0
Joseph Mott	1	650	24	7	6
Peter Verie	1	750	28	2	6
John Burhite	1	870	32	12	6
Samuel Parsol	1	134	5	0	6
Stephen Badgley	1	580	21	15	0
John Seryver	2	700	26	5	0
Martin Dupt	5	3000	112	10	0
Cornelius Vandike	2	1560	58	10	0
Samuel Cheseaman	1	1200	45	0	0
Fredrick Caphaw	1	300	11	5	0
Thomas Wilbour	1	1600	60	0	0
Peter Alley	1	134	5	0	6
Daniel Soles	1	134	5	0	6
Paul Huffman	1	134	5	0	6
Jacob Lawrance Jur.	2	3300	123	15	0
Michael Honsunger	3	180	6	15	0
Richable Willhaus	3	1800	67	10	0
Zachaus Storey	2	268	10	1	
Elizabeth Jackson wid.	1	400	15	0	0
Ephraim Moshier	1	575	21	11	3
Gideon Moshier	1	500	18	15	0
Henry Weeks	1	134	5	0	6
John Garmond	1	1100	41	5	0
Cornelius Mastin	1	134	5	0	6
William Wiltse	1	144	5	0	6
Mercam Nilson	1	300	11	5	0
James Lomerec	1	134	5	0	6
Stephen Lawrance	1	134	5	0	6
		29767	1116	5	3

We the Supervisors and Asesors if the Precinct aforesaid do hereby cartify that the above is a true asesment of the Estates of such Persons in this Precinct whose sons have gone of to and joynd the Enemy to the Best of our knowledg acording to Law. January ye 15 Day, 1781.

James Tallmadge, Ebenezer Husted, Eliphelett Platt, Joseph Carpenter, John Platt, James Mott.

A copy

James Tallmadge, Supervisor.

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[No. 3492.]

*Question of Nehemiah Carpenter's Rank.*

Sir, I beg leave to represent to you, that I have lately been released from about three years captivity, and are now returned as an Ensign to continue in the line of the State of New-York.

Previous to my capture. I have served as a Quarter-Master; from early in the year 1776, to the 6th day of October 1777, in three different Regts., 1st in Coll. Nicolls of minute men, 2d in Genl. Clinton's of Continental. and lastly in Coll. Dubois's, in which I received a Commission as Quarter-Master dated the 21st day of November 1776.

In 1778 new regulations took place throughout the Army; the Regimental staff were to be placed in the line as Subbalterns, I were appointed an Ensign, but being a prisoner, or some neglect some where, my Commission has not come out. If it was your Excellency's, and the Council of appointment's pleasure, to give me rank as an Ensign from the 21st day of November 1776, or agreeable to a resolve of Congress. I think I could serve with honor; but otherwise those that were Serjts. and

privates in the same Regt. with me, must now take rank, who themselves acknowledge they ought not. I am, Sir, with due respect your most obedient Serv't

Nehemiah Carpenter.

Albany Jany'y 16th 1781.

His Excellency Governor George Clinton.

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[No. 3493.]

PENNSYLVANIA LINE MUTINY QUELLED.

*British Emissaries Executed—Arnold Ravages Virginia—The Troublesome Problem of Food for the Troops.*

Philadelphia, January 16th, 1781.

Dear Sir, I have no Doubt but that you have had an account of the Mutiny which has lately happened in the Pennsylvania line, We were at first under great apprehensions that their Designs were to go over and Joyn the Enemy, and that they had given other Reasons as austensible merely to cover their Real Design. But they have given Convinceing proofs that their only aime was a Redress of grievances; for General Clinton from New York sent out two persons among them while they were at Princetown, with proposals and Invitation to come over to him; the terms which he offered were very plausible, and generous, and was sufficient to try the virtue of Troops who had suffered much less than ours. But after Reading them to the line at large, they Rejected them with indignation, Siezed the Spies who brought them, and Delivered them over to General Wane to be Dealt with as should be proper, and who last week had an Enquiry on them and Executed them. I have not learned their names; the one we understand was a Sergeant in the New Levies.

Congress sent a Committee with President Reed to hear their

Complaints, and to Redress their Real grievances which I am happy to inform you they have Effectuated to the Satisfaction of the Soldiers who have Rec'd their officers and Returned to their duty.

By what I can understand the principle Reason that gave Rise to the mutiny was that many of the Soldiers of that line, who were Inlisted for three years or during the war, were detained in Service after they had served three years, which they Considered as unjust, not doubting but that they ought to be discharged at the end of either period which should first happen. The Exact terms upon [which] they have settled the matter I am not able to give you but one of them is that all those who were held under the above Circumstance are now discharged. But I understand that this State has Collected a sum of hard money which the president has on the spot, and that for a small Bounty in Specie many of them have Reinlisted.

By a number of Letters Rec'd yesterday (tho' not official) General Arnold has arrived in Virginia with the Troops which went from New York under his Command; he Sailed as far up James River as he could, landed suddenly, and march[ed] 23 miles to Richmond, the Seat of government in that State, and where there had been Collected a Considerable Quantity of publick Stores. The Inhabitants Removed as many as they could upon the short notice they had; the Remainder were destroyed with all the publick Buildings at that place and a general plundering of the Inhabitants took place; their beginning their Retreat is the last we heard of them; whether they will Effect or not is uncertain, as we hear the militia were Collecting very fast below them. I am in hopes the Virginians will Exert themselves on this occasion and catch that Scoundrel, Arnold.

Congress are Endeavouring to devise some mode to pay for the flour seized by virtue of your Excellency's warrant for that purpose to our state agent, and communicated to Congress by General Washington. However desirous they may be to make Compensation for the provisions thus obtained, yet they are put to difficulties to know from whence the money can be obtained for that purpose.

By the Circular Letter from Congress which you will Receive about the time you'll receive this, your Excellency will discover the Embarrassed Circumstances of America, and it is to be hoped that the delinquent States when they see the danger which awaits them, and the Continent in general, by Reason of their neglect or inattention, that they will be Induced to Exertions beyond what they have yet made.

Congress are fully sensible of the Exertions of the State of New York in this Contest, but as that Letter is Circular, it is proper that our State should receive one.

After wishing you the Compliments of the Season I subscribe myself your most Obedt. and humble Serv't

Wm. Floyd.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

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[No. 3494.]

FINANCE AND FOOD THREATEN RUINATION.

*The New York Legislature's Strong Appeal to Congress—Dangers of the Hour.*  
(Copy)

Albany, Jan'y 17th 1781.

Gentlemen, Altho' several Days have elapsed since the Legislature were required to meet, a Quorum of both Houses hath not as yet assembled, and as it is impossible to determine cer-



tainly when a competent number to proceed on business will appear, and as the Matters to which we propose to request the Attention of Congress are of the most interesting nature and will not admit of Delay, we have, therefore, by the Direction, and at the Request of the Members present, taken the Liberty, thro' you, to address Congress to inform them truly of the Situation of this State and to intreat their Aid and Interposition to save us from what we conceive to be impending Ruin.

We forbear to recapitulate general Distresses and Embarrassments as Congress is doubtless apprized of them, and shall only confine ourselves to such as are peculiar to us. It is an undoubted Fact that for three years past almost the whole of the spare produce and labor of the State has been applied to the general Purposes of the Confederacy, and for which the Inhabitants have received an inconsiderable Compensation, except Certificates intended originally to operate only as vouchers, but which from necessity we have made receivable in Payment for Taxes. During the same Period our Staple was by an Embargo retained within the state for the use of the army; a ballance in Trade has, therefore, been wholly against us. To these Causes among others, is to be attributed the great Scarcity, or possibly it might with equal Propriety be denominated the total want of Cash, which we experience; and altho' our Taxes are, as to their amount, considerable, yet we collect in Currency very little more than sufficient to defray the Expence of collecting. As an additional Mean to expedite the issuing of the new Bills we have opened a Loan, by permitting an Exchange at our Treasury of the old for the new Emission, and public spirited Individuals have borrowed on their own Credit for this Purpose, there has not, however, hitherto been

issued from the loan Office more than 42,500 Dollars; and if we are to judge from the Quantity we perceive circulating there is not within the State one thirtieth Part of the Sum in the Old Bills allotted to us for redemption. From these Facts it may certainly be concluded, not only, that there will not within this State be drawn into circulation agreeably to the System laid down in the act of Congress of the 18th of March last, a sum in any wise equal to the public Exigencies, but we will venture to assert that the Residue of the Money allotted to us must remain dormant in the loan Office. Recourse, therefore, must be had to new measures & Expedients; which will be the most eligible we will not determine but submit it to the wisdom of Congress. We mean only to state Facts. Possibly there is no alternative but to issue the new Money immediately & hazard the Event.

The greater part of the army is now cantoned in this state; their Pay as we are informed in arrear for more than a year. Supplied with Provisions only from day to day and frequently without any. Fort Schuyler the Key of the western Frontier in Danger of being abandoned for want of Provisions. The Oneidas naked & precariously subsisted & threatening to go over to the Enemy; the Effects of which will be severely felt by the frontier Inhabitants. A spirit of Mutiny & Discontent has already broke out in the army and which, altho' in some Measure allayed, it is to be feared will revive and extend itself. We feel ourselves deeply interested, as we shall be the first to experience the disagreeable Consequences of these Calamities and which will undoubtedly follow unless some new mode is instantly devised to supply the public Treasuries with Cash. The least Delay may render our Affairs irretrievable.

By our Exertions, by a series of compulsory Laws and by the use of the most rigorous Means to execute them, our Inhabitants feel themselves so aggrieved, that Prudence forbids any farther attempts on their Patience; new Requisitions upon them, before their Demands against the purchasing Officers are satisfied, would be vain.

We trust that these will not be considered as the mere Suggestions of Fear & Despondency. While we conceived it our Duty truly to represent our Situation to Congress we find ourselves still disposed to every Effort. The Resources of these States with Respect to Supplies are not exhausted and if the public Officers were furnished with Cash considerable Magazines could be provided.

From the informal Manner in which this Letter has been agreed to, it ought in strictness to be viewed as the mere act of Individuals: yet as it has been unanimously approved of by a full Quorum of the Senate & a great Majority of the Assembly, and as it will undoubtedly be ratified as soon as a Legislature is formed, you may venture to consider it as the Sentiments of both Houses and as such we wish it may be communicated to Congress.

As we shall be at a Loss where to take up the public Business 'till some Door of Relief is opened, we could wish to receive an answer as soon as possible. We remain, with great respect & Esteem, Gentlemen, your most Obed't Serv't

Pierre Van Cortlandt, Presid't of the Senate.

Evert Bancker, Speaker of the House of Assembly.

The honorable The Delegates from the State of New York in Congress.

[No. 3495.]

*Shifting of Officers in the New York Line.*

Albany, Jan'y 17th 1781.

Dear Sir, Your favours of the 23d ult. and the 11th & 12th instant have been received.

From a Letter received from the auditors I understand they expect to be in town in a few days, in Consequence of which, I have directed the officers to prepare the accounts of their men, for examination, that the Business may meet no Delay.

On the Report made me of Major Logan's determination to retire, Major Graham has been appointed, which compleats the Establishment of the First Regiment: That of the Second remains yet incompleat, for want of a Knowledge of the Intentions of Lieut. Col. Bruyan and a few others who still remain in Captivity; if Col. Bruyn remains in Service, Cochran must retire, tho' now on Command at Fort Schuyler.

Alexander is arranged in the First Regiment but if you think it best to have him appointed in the Train, I shall be happy to have it done.

I have directed Leut. McClaughry to relieve Lieut. V Waggenen, and receive his Directions. The recruiting Service is attended with very little Success in this Quarter, as the Officers neither meet Encouragement or assistance from those whose duty it is to afford them both. Some of those Gentlemen who were appointed for this Service, have declined for want of Cash, which it was not in my Power to furnish them with, and which the Classes either omitted or refused to advance.

Tho' I lament the late Disturbance in the Pennsylvania Line, I am happy to find they do not discover a Spirit of Disafection to the cause. I hope it may not operate as a President to the

rest of the army, or be attended with consequences so bad as were at first expected.

The Senate have made an House, tho' there are a few members wanting to compleat the Assembly. As I expect to go down the country in a few Days I shoud be glad to see you heere, especially as Col. Hughes informs me, your absence is become rather Subject of complaint among the People in general.

I beg leave to refer you to Col. Hay for the Situation of affairs (in his Department) in this Quarter. I am, yours most affectionately

James Clinton.

P. S. This moment an Express arrived with Intelligence of a Party of Indians (five in number) who the Day before yesterday, fired on a Slay, and wounded one Horse, who after running near a half mile, droped dead, but the man his wife and three small children all escaped. In consequence of which I have directed one company of the Second Regt. to take Post there and Fort Dayton.

signed. J. Clinton.

Gov'r Clinton.

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[No. 3496.]

*Poughkeepsie Precinct Tories Assessment.*

A Tax List of those persons residing in Poughkeepsie Precinct in the County of Dutchess, whose son or sons, have gone off to and joined the Enemy, made agreeable to an act of the Legislature of this State Entitled "An act to compleat the Quota of the Troops of this State to serve in the army of the United States, during the War," passed the 9th of October 1780.

Persons names	Value of Estates.	Number of sons	Amount of Tax
Magdelane Westerfelt widow	L 133 6 8	1	L 5
William Low	200	1	7 10
Peter Larroy	1120	1	42
Caleb Carman Jun'r	600	1	22 10
Margaret Utt, widow	133 6 8	1	5
Abraham Ferdon	133 6 8	1	5
Samuel Smith	920	2	34 10
John Palmetier	300	1	11 5
George Sands	1253	2	46 19 9
Lancaster Burling	133 6 8	1	5
James Compton	133 6 8	1	5
Francis Jacocks	133 6 8	1	5
Zachariah Ferdon	1880	2	70 10
John Miller	380	1	14 5
Joseph Scott	650	1	24 7 6
John Muller	2200	2	82 10
Andrew Lawson	133 6 8	1	5
Total	L 10436 6 8		L 391 7 3

The above was assessed by the Following assessors Viz.

Abraham Fort, Peter Tappen, Jacobus Freer, Gulian Ackerman, Peter An. Lossing, John Freer & Peter Low.

Poughkeepsie Jan'y 17th 1781.

John Bailey, Jun'r,, Supervisor.

[No. 3497.]

*James Black's return of clothing delivered to the New York troops.*

Return of Cloathing Received for; and Deliver'd to the Troops of the State of New York for the year 1781.

January 18 1781	Coats	Vests	Woolen Overalls	Shirts	Hose	Shoes	Socks	Blankets	Hatts	Mitts	Woolen Caps	Watch- coats
1st and 3d Regts.	124	572	572	572	468	1,072	572	572	286	64	64	13
2d and 5th Regts.	69	328	328	329	266	608	328	328	164	36	36	7
4th Regiment	205	205	205	410	410	410		120	205	240		8
Total.....	398	1,105	1,105	1,311	1,144	2,090	900	1,020	655	340	100	28

Have on Hand: Shoes 662; Hose 840; Vests 120.

Jas. Blacks, Cloth'r N. York.

[No. 3498.]

*Majors Nicholas Fish Believes the Governor Can Retain Colonel Bruin in the Service.*

D'r Governor, I am this Moment informed by Colonel Weisenfels, that on his Route to this Place, he met with Lieut. Col. Bruin, just then returned from New York, and on his way to Albany; who announced a disposition to continue in Service on the new arrangement, though he had not fully made up his Mind on the subject. As he has been a long time absent from his Friends, it is possible their influence, and particularly that of his favorite Fair, may be exercised, to remove him from service. I could, therefore wish, that your Excellency would counteract their Persuasions in a Letter to him, which I am well assured, would have no small operation in his decision.

I well know the force of female entreaty, and am exceedingly solicitous that he be not entirely left to himself to withstand so powerful an influence. I have the Honor to be, with every sentiment of Respect, your Excellency's most obedient servant

Nich's Fish.

Saturday P. M. five o'Clock.

His Excellency, Gov. Clinton.

[No. 3499.]

*Proceedings of a General Court Martial for the Trial of Delinquents in Swartwout's Brigade.*

At a General Court Martial held on Monday the 22d Day of Jan'y 1781, at the house of Thomas Poole, at Poughkeepsie for the Tryall of all officers under arrest and other Capital offenders of Brigadier General Jacobus Swartwout Brigade of Militia, agreeable to General & Brigade Orders of the 4th & 7th Instant, of which Court Col. James Van Der Burgh was President.

Not a sufficient Number of Members appearing the Court adjourn'd untill to morrow morning at 10 oClock. Tuesday morning 10 oClock met according to adjournment.

Present.

Col. James Van Der Burgh President.

Members.

Col. John Frear  
Maj'r Robt. Hoffman  
Maj'r Ebenezer Heustis  
Maj'r Wm. Radliff  
Maj'r And'w Hill  
Capt. John Van Kleeck

Capt. Colbe Chamberlain  
Capt. Hezekiah Mead  
Capt. Jacob's Kipp  
Capt. Elijah Herrick  
Capt. Nich's Brower  
Capt. Abr'm Fort



Adjut. Henry Bailey to act as Judge Advocate the Court after being Duly sworn according to order proceeded upon Business.

Daniel Reaves, of Capt. Henry Humfrey Co. of Col. Hopkins' Rigt. appearing before this Court Charg'd with Desertion of the 45 Days pleads guilty, but says the Reason of his Desertion was on acco't of not having provision.

Levt. Nelson being sworn says that at Sartago, they was two Days, which they did not draw provisions but the next Day they draw 1 Ration of beef & flour & 2 Days after they draw 2 lb. flour a man. The Court upon Examination find said Reave-guilty of the Charge; therefore, Sentence him to pay a fine of Four pounds in specia or the Exchange in Continental, on Refusal of paying the above fine, to serve forty Days in the Continental Service in one of the Rigts., Rais'd in this State.

Caleb Poster, of Col. Hopkins' Rigt. appearing before this Court and Charg'd with Desertion in the 45 Days service pleads guilty of the charge therefore sentence him to pay a fine of Five pounds in specia or the Exchange on Refusal of paying the above fine to serve forty Five Days in the Continental Service in one of the Rigts. Rais'd in this state.

David Lamb, of Capt. Shepard Co. Col. Hopkins' Rigt. Charg'd with Desertion in the 45 Days service, pleads guilty of the Charge; therefore, the Court sentence him to pay a fine of Two pounds Eight shillings in specia or the Exchange, on Refusal of paying the above fine to serve Twenty Five Days in the Continental Service in one of the Rigts. Rais'd in this State.

Joel Thirston, Jun'r., of Capt. Shepard Co. Col. Hopkins' Rigt. Charg'd with Desertion in the Three months service, & Likewise Deserted from the guard that was to bring him to this Court; Charg'd supported by Capt. Chamberlain, one of the members of this Court; the Court sentence him to pay a fine of Eight pounds in specia or the Exchange, on Refusal of paying the above fine to serve Three months in the Continental Service in one of the Rigts. Rais'd in this State.

John Dolson, of Capt. Fort Co. Col. Frear's Rigt. Charg'd with Desertion in the 45 Days Service, pleads guilty of the Charge; the Court, therefore, sentence him to pay a fine of One pound Twelve Shillings in specia or the Exchange on Refusal of paying the above fine to serve Twenty Days in the Continental service in one of the Rigts. Rais'd in this state.

Peter Frear, of Capt. Henderson Co., Frear Rigt., Charg'd with Desertion in the 45 Days service, pleads not guilty of the Charge.

Leivt. Nelson being sworn says, that he Deserted the 28th of Nov'r; the Court upon due Examination finds him guilty of the Charge; therefore, Sentence him to pay a fine of Five pounds in specia or the Exchange on Refusal of paying the above to serve Fifty Days in the Continental Service in one of the Rigts. Rais'd in this state.

Peter M. Van Debogert, of Capt. Kleeck Co. Col. Frear's Rigt. Charg'd with Desertion in the 45 Days service, pleads guilty of the Charge; the Court Sentence him to pay a fine of Four pounds in specia or the Exchange on Refusal of paying the above fine to serve Forty Five Days in the Continental Service in one of the Rigts, Raised in this state.

John Wiltsee, of Capt. Fort Co., in Col. Frear's Rigt., Charg'd with Desertion in the 45 Days Service; pleads guilty of the Charge; the Court Sentence him to pay a fine of Two pounds in specia or the Exchange on Refusal of paying the above fine to serve Twenty Five Days in the Continental Service in one of the Rigts. Rais'd in this State.

William Pelts, of Capt. Henderson Co., Col. Frear's Rigt., appearing before this Court being Charg'd with Desertion in the 45 Days service, pleads guilty of the Charge, the Court, therefore, sentence him to pay a fine of six pounds in specia or the Exchange on Refusal of paying the above Fine to serve Four months in the Continental service in one of the Rigts. Rais'd in this State.

James Van Kleeck, of Capt. Henderson Co., Col. Frear's Rigt., appearing before this Court being Charg'd with Desertion in the 45 Days Service, pleads guilty to the Charge; the Court, therefore, Sentence him to pay a fine of Three pounds in specia or the Exchange on Refusal of paying the above fine to serve in the Continental Service Forty Days in one of the Rigts. Rais'd in this State.

Myndert M. Van Debozert, of Capt. Kleeck Co., Col. Frear's Rigt., appearing before this Court being Charg'd with Desertion in the 45 Days service, pleads guilty to the Charge; the Court, therefore, sentence him to pay a fine of Four pounds in specia, or the Exchange on Refusal of paying the above fine to serve in the Continental service Forty Five Days in one of the Rigts. Rais'd in this state.

Henry Hagaman, of Capt. Concklin Co., Col. Frear's Rigt. appearing before this Court being Charg'd with Desertion in ye 15 Days service, pleads guilty of the Charge; the Court, therefore, Sentence him to pay a fine of six pounds in specia or the Exchange on Refusal of paying the above fine to serve in the Continental service three months in one of the Rigts. Rais'd in this state.

I approve of the foregoing Sentences of a genl. Court Martial whereof Colo. Vandenberg is presid't ac't Daniel Reaves, Caleb Poster, David Lamb, Joel Thirston, Jun'r, John Dolson, Peter Frear, Peter M. Van de Bogart, John Wiltse, William Pelts, James Van Kleeck, Mynder M. Vandebogart and Henry Hageman. Pokeepers, 23d Jan'y 1781.  
George Clinton.

Wednesday Morning 9 o'clock the Court met according to adjournment.

Peter Ryeall, of Capt. Schutts Co., Col. Brinckerhoff's Rigt., Being Charg'd with Desertion in the 45 Days service, pleads guilty of the Charge; the Court, therefore, Sentence him to pay a fine of Three pounds Ten Shillings in specia or the Exchange on Refusal of paying the above fine to serve in the Continental Service Forty Five Days in one of the Rigts. Rais'd in this State.

Jacob Bartlet, of Capt. Concklin Co., Col. Frear Rigt., appearing before s'd Court being Charg'd with Desertion in the 45 Days Service, pleads not guilty & says that Leivt. Nelson gave him Leave to go home.

Leivt. Nelson being sworn says that he never did give him Leave; the Court of upon Due Examination sentence him to pay a fine of Four pounds in specia or the Exchange on the Refusal of paying the above fine to serve Fifty Days in the Continental Service in one of the Rigts. Rais'd in this State.

John V'n Voorhise, of Capt. Concklin Co., Col. Frear's Rigt., appearing before this Court being Charg'd with Desertion in the 3 Months Service, pleads guilty of the Charge; the Court Sentence him to pay a fine of Ten pounds in specia or ye Exchange on Refusal of paying the above fine to serve in the Continental service Five Months in one of the Rigts. Rais'd in this State.

Matthias Horten, Jur., of Capt. John G. Brinckerhoff Co., Col. Abr'm Brinckerhoff's Rigt., appearing before this Court being Charg'd with Desertion in the 45 Days service, & pleads guilty of the Charge, the Court, therefore, sentence him to pay a fine of Three pounds in specia or the Exchange on Refusal of paying the above fine to serve in the Continental Service Forty Five Days in one of the Rigts. Rais'd in this state.

Isaac Lassing, appearing before this Court being Charg'd with being a Spy from the Enemy; the Charge not being Supported, the Court is of the Opinion that he is not guilty of the Charge.

And then the Court adjourned until to-morrow Morning at 9 oClock.

Thursday Morning 9 oClock—the Court mett according to adjournment.

James Buckhout, of Capt. Ostrom Co., Col. Frear's Rigt., appearing before this Court being Charg'd with Desertion in ye 45 Days Service, pleads guilty of the Charge; the Court, therefore, Sentence him to pay a fine of Three pounds in specia or the Exchange on Refusal of paying the above Fine to serve in the Continental Service 45 Days in one of the Rigts. Rais'd in this State.

John Ward, of Capt. Ostrom Co., Col. Frear's Rigt., appearing before this Court being Charg'd with Desertion in the 45 Days service, pleads guilty of the Charge; the Court, therefore, Sentence him to pay a fine of Six pounds in Specia or the Exchange on Refusal of paying the above fine to serve in the Continental Service 3 Months in one of the Rigts. Rais'd in this State.

Caleb Cornwell, of Capt. Southerland Co., Col. Hopkins' Rigt., appearing before this Court being Charg'd with Desertion in the 7 months service, pleads guilty of the Charge; the Court, therefore, sentence him to pay a fine of Four pounds, in specia or the Exchange on Refusal of paying the above fine to serve in the Continental Service Three Months in one of the Rigts. Rais'd in this State.

Leivt. Col. Reuben Ferris, of Col. Henry Ludington Rigt., appearing before this Court being Charg'd with Disobedience of orders as Follows,

Leivt. Col. Ferris, of Col. Henry Ludenton's Rigt., of Militia Ordered under an arrest for Disobedience of orders, and Refusing to Receive my Letter in the absence of Col. Henry Ludington, sent by Express Directed on Public Service To Col. Henry Ludington, or in his absence to his next Commanding Officer, said Letter Contained Orders of the greatest Importance.

Jacobus Swartwout, Brig'r Genl.

Fishkill June 20th, 1780

Said Col. Ferris, pleads not guilty of the Charge.

John Hains, being sworn saith that he was sent Express by Genl. Swartwout with a Letter to Col. Ludington, or in his absence to the next Commanding Officer; Col. Ludington not being at home he went to Leivt. Col. Ferris with s'd Letter & farther saith that Col. Ferris took the Letter but never opened it, and said he must go to the Major with it, as he had no power to act, as he had lost his Commission and said the Major was next in Command, as he was in full Comission; the Deponent farther saith that he went to Maj'r Ebenezer Robinson, with said Letter, and Major Robinson would not receive s'd Letter, and said he would not act as there was a Superior Officer above him and so the Deponent brought the Letter back to Genl. Swartwout.

The Court upon Due Examination is of the Opinion that at the Time Leivt. Col. Reuben Ferris was arrested he had Lost his Commission, and had no authority to act; therefore, he is not guilty of the Charge.

Frederick Davis, of Capt. Smith Co., Col. Frear's Rigt., appearing before this Court being Charg'd with Desertion in the 45 Days Service, pleads guilty of the Charge; the Court, therefore, Sentence him to pay a fine of Two pounds in specia on Refusal of paying the above fine to serve in the Continental Service 25 Days in one of the Rigts., Rais'd in this State.

Robert Ryder, of Capt. Southerland Co., Col. Hopkins' Rigt., appearing before this Court being Charg'd with Desertion in the 45 Days Service, pleads not guilty;

Capt. Henry Humfrey being sworn, says that he ordered s'd Ryder to march to Albany from Saratoga, and instead of going to Albany he went of home; the Court upon Due Consideration find him guilty of the Charge, Sentence him to pay a fine of Five pounds in specia or the Exchange on Refusal of paying the above fine to serve in the Continental Service Three months in one of the Rigts. Rais'd in this State.

Aaron Romer, of Capt. Concklin Co., Col. Frear's Rigt., appearing before this Court, being Charg'd with Desertion in the 7 months Service pleads not guilty; the Charge not being Supported he is Dismiss'd.

Jesse Kinnee, of Capt. Southardling Co., Col. Hopkins' Rigt., appearing before this Court being Charg'd with Desertion in the 7 months Service, Pleads guilty to the Charge; the Court, therefore, Sentence him to pay a fine of Three pounds in specia or the Exchange on Refusal of paying the above fine to serve in the Continental Service 45 Days in one of the Rigts. Rais'd in this State.

Caleb Simmons, of Capt. Humfrey Co., Col. Hopkins' Rigt., appearing before this Court being Charg'd with Desertion in the 45 Days Service, pleads guilty; the Court, therefore, sentence him to pay a fine of Four pounds in specia or the Exchange on

Refusal of paying the above fine to serve in the Continental Service Two Months in one of the Rigs. Rais'd in this State.

And then the Court adjourned till 7 oClock this Evening.

James V. d Burgh, president.

Henry Bailey J. Advocate.

I approve of the Sentences of the General Court Martial whereof Colo. Vandenberg is president against Peter Ryeall, Robert Bartlett, John Voorhise, Mathias Horten, James Buckhoudt, John Ward, Caleb Cornwell, Frederick Davis, Robert Ryder, Jesse Kinne & Caleb Simmons.  
Pokeysie, 25th Jan'y 1781.

Geo. Clinton.

[No. 3500.]

*Captain Godwin Asks the Governor to Interest Himself in His Brother.*

Fish Kills Jan'y 22d 1781.

Sir, I have sent my Brother Abraham to wait on your Excellency (not to urge you to an immediate use of your Influence in his behalf for which you gave me full Satisfaction when I had the honor of conferring with you on that Subject) but to beg your Excellency will be pleased as you are now going to Albany where his Regt. lies, to inquire into his behaviour and if any thing in his Charecter should then Clame your notice, I should esteem it the greatest favor that could be confereed upon me if you, Sir, would be pleased to interest yourself for him. Nothing could induce me to trouble your Excellency on a Subject so far different from my inclination (for I am convinced that it is more my Interest as well as duty to add two men to the army at this Critical Time than to indeviour to take one from it as by filling up the army will the sooner establish us in that glorious Independance in the Cause of which I have suffered and in which I am at all Times ready to Risque my life and fortune should my Country call for it) did not the last demands of a dying father and the pressing Instances of a most tender and affectionate mother urge me to the disagreeable Task. I must conclude, wishing you a speedy Journey to Albany. and in the mean, Time

beg leave to subscribe myself your Excellencies most obedient  
and very Humble Serv't

Henry Godwin.

His Excellency George Clinton.

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[No. 3501.]

*Washington Notifies Governor Clinton of Mutiny in the New Jersey  
Line.*

(Circular)                      Head Quarters New Windsor, Jan'y 1781.

Dear Sir, I have received the disagreeable intelligence that a part of the Jersey Line had followed the example of that of Pennsylvania, and when the advices came away, it was expected the revolt would be general. The precise intention of the Mutineers was not known, but their complaints and demands were similar to those of the Pennsylvanians.

Persuaded without some decisive effort at all hazards to suppress this dangerous spirit, it would speedily infect the whole Army, I have ordered as large a Detachment as we could spare from these Posts to march under Major General Howe, to compel the mutineers to unconditional submission, to listen to no terms while they were in a state of resistance, and on their reduction to execute instantly a few of the most active, and most incendiary Leaders. I am not certain what part the Troops detached for this purpose, will act, but I flatter myself they will do their duty. I prefer any extremity to which the Jersey Troops may be driven, to a compromise.

The weakness of the Garrison, but still more its embarrassing distress for want of Provisions, made it impossible to prosecute such measures with the Pennsylvanians, as the nature of the case demanded, and while we were making arrangements as far

as practicable to supply these defects an accommodation took place, which will not only subvert the Pennsylvania Line, but have a very pernicious influence on the whole Army. I mean, however, by these remarks, only to give an idea of the miserable state we are in, not to blame a measure, which perhaps in our circumstances, was the best that could have been adopted. The same embarrassments operate against coercion at this moment, but not in so great a degree, the Jersey Troops not being from their numbers so formidable as the Pennsylvanians were.

I dare not detail the risks we run from the present scantiness of supplies. With flour we are only fed from day to day. We have received few or no Cattle for some time past, nor do we know of any shortly to be expected. The salted meat we ought to have reserved in the garrison is now nearly exhausted. I cannot but renew my solicitations with your State, to exert every expedient for contributing to our immediate relief. With perfect respect I have the honor to be Your Excellency's most Obed. H'ble Servant

Go. Washington.

His Excellency Governor Nash. [Addressed on outside "His Excellency Governor Clinton."]

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[No. 3502.]

*Manor of Livingston Tory Assessment.*

Tax List of those persons in the district of Manor Livingston, whose son or sons are gone off to, and joined the Enemy, this day assessed by the Supervisor and assessors of said district, according to a Law of this state, Entitled "an act to complete the Quotas of the troops of this state to serve in the army of

the United States during the War." passed the 9th of October, 1780.

Taxables	Number of Sons	Amount of Estate	When they went off	Age	How much p L	Sum to pay
Johannis Best	1	L 400	1778 May	19	9d	L 15 0 0
William Dedrick	1	400	1776	20		15 0 0
Nicholas Rouse	1	250				9 7 6
Frederick Wall	1	140				5 5 0
Philip A. Elkinbragh	1	450				16 17 0
						<u>L 61 10 0</u>

Manor Livingston, 24th Jan'y '81.

Peter R. Livingston, Supervisor.

[No. 3503.]

*Egbert Benson Appointed by Congress Procurator of New York.*

Philadelphia, January 24, 1781.

Sir, Your Excellency will be informed by the enclosed Extract of a resolve of the 23d Instant, that Congress have been pleased to appoint Egbert Benson, Esquire Procurator, to prosecute in Behalf of the Congress of these United States, for all Debts due to, or Frauds committed against the States, in the State of New York. I have the Honor to be with the highest respect your Excellency's most obedient & most humble Servant

Sam. Huntington, Presdt.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

In Congress, Jan'y 23, 1781.

The delegates for the State of New York laid before Congress a letter of the 14th from John McKesson, which being read it was thereupon

Resolved, That a procurator be appointed during the pleasure of Congress to prosecute in behalf of Congress for all debts due to, or frauds committed against these United States in the State of New York.

Resolved, That Egbert Benson, Esq. be appointed to the office of Procurator as aforesaid.

Extract from the minutes.

Chas. Thomson, Secy.

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[No. 3504.]

Petition of Stephen J. Schuyler and others in favor of John Smith, a convict under sentence of death in Albany gaol. (Omitted).

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[No. 3505.]

*Colonel Hull Reports the Capture of Between Fifty and Sixty Prisoners Near Morrisania.*

Crompond, Jan'y 25th 1781.

Sir, Altho' this Letter may call your Excellency's attention from more important Business, yet I flatter myself its well meant Design will be a sufficient apology. Having Major General Heath's orders to make an attempt on Morrissania, and burn the Enemies Hutts, on the morning of the 22d inst. the Plan was executed and between fifty & sixty Prisoners fell into our Hands.

I am confident your Excellency would wish to be made acquainted with the merits of every valuable Character in the State; it is with peculiar Pleasure, that I mention the Conduct of Justice Honeywell, (who voluntarily taking a military Title and being desired to command the Refugees,) as deserving of

much Credit and applause. His Exertions indeed since I have been honored with the Command on the Lines, have been peculiarly serviceable, and every Principle of Duty impells me to recommend him to your Excellency's Notice. I have the Honor to be, with the highest Respect, your Excellency's most obed't Serv't

Wm. Hull, Lt. Colo.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

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[No. 3506.]

*Colonel Bruyn Gives His Reasons for Declining to Continue in the Service.*

Albany, 26th Janu'y 1781.

Dear Sir, I had the pleasure to receive your agreeable favour of the 20th instant by Major Fish last night, and am much obliged to your Excellency for your just Sentiments on the motives which induced me to hurry on to this place where I most undoubtedly promised myself to see you. On the evening previous to my leaving Kingston, I was informed by Mr. Wynkoop that you had not gone up to Albany, as I had been told, upon which I proposed to do myself the Honor to wait upon you the next day, and accordingly set out early in the morning in company with Jas. Hasbrouck; but on our arrival at Donaldsons, we with regret heard of the impossibility to cross the River for the great quantity of Ice in it, and being at the same time taken unwell by some reliicks of the ague and fever to which I am still subject, we thought it most prudent to return.

Since my arrival with the American Lines, I have seriously considered the Situation I was in respecting my property on which I hardly dared to indulge myself with a moment's reflec-



tion during my Captivity, and it mortifies me to find that I am reduced to such poyerty from a State of affluence, which has induced me to signify to Genl. Clinton to retire, convinced as I was, that the publick Service would not be injured by it, there being other Gentlemen who would of course come in and be verry happy to continue. I propose to set out this morning for Esopus and from thence for Poughkeepsie, where I expect the Satisfaction of seeing you personally but for fear I might be unfortunately disappointed I have thought proper to leave this for your Excellency with your Brother, who can more particularly acquaint you of the motives of my conduct. I am, D'r Sir, with great Esteem and due Respect your most Obed't Serv't

Jas. Bruyn.

His Excellency Geo. Clinton.

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[No. 3507.]

*Governor Clinton's Reply to General Washington in Regard to Supplies.*

Pokeepsie, 26th Jan'y 1781.

Dear Sir, The Express with your Excellency's Letter of the 23d Instant overtook me this afternoon on my Way to Albany about 10 Miles from this Place & I immediately returned that I might have an Opportunity of repeating my Orders to the Agent to use every possible Exertion to collect Supplies for the Army & facilitate the Transportation of them to the Posts in the Highlands. I am happy to inform your Excellency, that I mett upon the Road near two hundred Barrels of Flour, greater Part of which will reach Fishkill this Evening, & I have Reason to believe that the present Sleighing will enable us to get in such a Supply from different Quarters of the Country as to

prevent immediate Want; With respect to the Article of meat, little is to be expected of us, but I am perswaded our agent & his assistants, will use their best Endeavours to obtain as much of it as they possibly can.

I shoud in the present Critical Situation of affairs defer going to Albany, that I might be at Hand to render your Excellency every assistance in my Power in this Quarter; but from Intimations given me by Colo. Hughes lately from Albany, there is some Reason to apprehend that the Troops there may follow the Example of those of Pensylvania & Jersey. I think it my Duty, therefore, to be near them & prevent if possible the Spirit of Discontent from spreading. If your Excellency shoud have Occassion for the Assistance of any Part of the Militia in my absence, I begg you will call upon the Officers Commanding the Regiments most contiguous, as an application to me might be attended with too much Delay. I am perswaded you will discover a Disposition in them to comply with your Excellency's Directions. I have the Honor to be, with the greatest &c.

G. [C.]

His Excellency Genl. Washington.

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[No. 3508.]

*Congress Acts upon Communication in Regard to Provisions from Commissary Blaine.*

Philadelphia, January 27, 1781.

Sir, Enclosed is a Copy of a Letter from Col. Blaine, Commissary General, which I am directed to transmit to the several States from Pennsylvania to the Eastward.

By this you will be informed of the critical Situation of the Army respecting Provisions & other Supplies.

Congress have no other Means on which to place their Dependance at present to supply the Army but a Compliance on the Part of the States in furnishing their respective Quotas agreeable to former requisitions for that Purpose.

It is, therefore, most earnestly requested that they use every possible Exertion in procuring the Provisions & Supplies requested of them respectively. I have the Honor to be, with every Sentiment of Esteem & respect, your Excellency's most obedient & most humble Servant

Sam. Huntington, President.

His Excellency The Governor of New York.

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Head Quarters New Windsor Jan'y 19th 1781.

Sir, I think it my duty to inform Congress of every circumstance which concerns the supplies of our army and my uneasiness respecting them. I fear none of the states will come up to their expectations and that many fall exceedingly short. Inclosed I send you a copy of a Letter which I received from Col. Champion; it will inform you the expectations I have from that state and from many others similar information; those failures of supplies will one day or other will be attended with the most fatal consequences, to prevent which I beg Congress to write the most pressing letters to each of the states to use every possible exertion in procuring the provisions required with punctuality. I expect shortly to have returns of all the state supplies furnished last year and shall transmit them to Congress the moment I have it in my power.

The troops at West Point and those cantoned in this neighbourhood have been some time on scant allowance of bread, and

the present appearances give me little hope of a reasonable supply of beef cattle; we have no fresh meat upon hand and the troops are now fed upon what little corned and salted meat I had laid up for spring use, which is not more than twenty days support. If our situation is such in the most plentiful season of the year, and when our Magazines ought to be filled with salt provisions, I leave your excellency to judge what it must be next campaign, when three times the number of men are in the field; the consequence must undoubtedly be their dissolution for want of subsistence without the states use four-fold Exertions in facilitating their respective purchases in due time. I find a very great loss will arise upon all the Cattle which are received at the army & although I have taken every precaution and adopted every judicious measure to have proper estimates they laid much too high. Those which I have had slaughtered under the direction of careful people, have lost one fifth upon the estimated weight; the drovers had it not in their power to make proper provision of forage for the cattle upon the communication, will add some to the loss of beef upon the cattle which have been drove late in the season.

The troops have been destitute of rum ever since they came into winter quarters. There is about 70 Hogsheads at Springfield, but I have not the least hopes of getting it brought forward before the Spring. I have the Honor to be, with the greatest respect, your Excellency's most obed't and most h'ble serv't

Ephraim Blaine, C. G. P.

Sam Huntington, esqr.

[No. 3509.]

*To Expedite the Liquidation of Outstanding Accounts.*

Treasury Office Janu'y 29, 1781.

Sir, By an Act of Congress of the 12th of June last, it is provided, that the Board of Treasury be authorized to apply to the Executive power of any State to appoint a Temporary Commissioner or Commissioners for the special purpose of joining with a Commissioner sent from the Board of Treasury, to receive & Liquidate the public Accounts within the State, which act is inclosed.

Application being now made to the Board and information given that sundry accounts of large amount in the Quarter Master & Commissary Lines are ready for Liquidation, in your State. The Board have to request of your Excellency to appoint a Temporary Commissioner for this purpose, that he may be duly qualified, and a Certificate of such qualification transmitted to the Board of Treasury, that they may be enabled to carry the afs'd act into Execution. I have the Honor to be with the greatest respect your most obt. humble servant

John Gibson, Presid't.

His Excellency George Clinton.

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 [June 12th, 1780.]

Congress took into consideration the report of thee committee respecting the settlement of outstanding accounts, and thereupon came to the following resolutions:

Whereas large accounts in the several staff departments in the army are outstanding and unsettled, and it is necessary that they be speedily and finally adjusted, in order that all disbursements may be clearly ascertained and arrears discharged:

Resolved therefore. That two extra chambers of accounts, consisting of two commissioners each, be appointed, to continue in office as long as may be necessary for the settlement of the said accounts, or any others which may be referred to them:

That the commissioners of the chamber of accounts be respectively under the direction of the board of treasury, to repair to such posts or places as the public service may from time to time require, for the purpose of examining and adjusting any of the said accounts:

That, when thus employed, their reasonable travelling charges be allowed, in addition to their pay:

That the pay of the said commissioners respectively be the same as that of those already appointed:

That the board of treasury be authorized to apply to the executive power of any state to appoint a temporary commissioner or commissioners, for the special purpose of joining with a commissioner sent from the said board to receive and liquidate any of the aforesaid accounts, within such state, who, being duly qualified before a magistrate, and the qualification lodged in the treasury, shall respectively have the same power, and be entitled to the same emoluments for the time he is in office, as a commissioner of the chambers at the treasury.

The committee appointed to consider and report a plan for the department of foreign affairs; and the committee to whom were referred the letter from governor Livingston and major general lord Stirling, and the motion thereon; and the committee appointed to devise means for the more effectual preventing and punishing the making or uttering counterfeit paper bills of the similitude of the bills of credit emitted by Congress; and the

committee to whom was referred the petition of John Garcia Duarte; delivered in their several reports:

Ordered, That to-morrow be assigned for electing commissioners of the chambers of accounts.

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[No. 3510.]

*Governor Clinton Makes a Suggestion to Washington Regarding the Assignment of Invalid Soldiers to Light Duty.*

Albany, 31st Jan'y 1781.

D'r Sir, I arrived here the 21<sup>st</sup> Inst. My Brother will deliver you this; it will be, therefore, unnecessary for me to particularize the Situation of the Military. The Spirit of Discontent which had reached the Troops here and discovered itself by a Mutiny, not of a very aggravated nature, has subsided and I am in Hopes a Repetition is not to be apprehended.

There are in the Troops of this State, a Number of Invalids incapable of perform'g Duty in march's Corps, who as their Families & Connections are here, wo'd prefer a Discharge to being sent to join the Invalids at Philadelphia. Those Men I conceive might be usefully employed, if formed in a Company under supernumerary Officers & stationed at some of the Posts in this State w'ch wo'd be agreable to them & they wo'd then supply the Place of an equal Number of other Troops fit for active Duty. If we discharge them as soon as they return home and get in some Degree recovered, they are again introduced as Recruits and the Consequence must be the loss of the Bounty & a second Discharge w'ch form'g them into a Company of this kind wo'd prevent.

[G. C.]

[To General Washington.]

[No. 3511.]

*Colonel Hay Writes to the Governor That Only a Small Quantity of Supplies Can be Collected under the Present Plan.*

Poughkeepsie, 31 Jan. 1781.

Sir, I was honoured with your Excellency's letter of 26th, since which time a very considerable quantity of flour and some Cattle as well as salt beef has gone on for the army below; but am now distressed about those to the northward, have wrote pressingly to the Commissary General whose answer about the supplis of beef expected from the eastward I shall be able to give you on my arrival at Albany, for which place I shall sett out as soon as Mr. Loudon can print me a few certificates which it is absolutely necessary I should take along.

By the returns I have yett gott in am affraid we are not so far advanced in the Collection of our Quota as I expected.

Colonel Wadsworth with the intendant of the French Army were here this day, and are gone on to Albany; they will undoubtedly apply to your Excellency for leave to export a large quantity of flour; would, therefore, beg leave to mention that unless the State either takes the Contract upon themselves and then buys of none but such as will give a certain portion of wheat or flour upon certificate, or oblidges the Contractors (if left in their hands) to deliver to the agent or his assistants a quantity in such proportion as may be thought proper to what they export, We shall not be able upon the present plan to collect but a very small quantity more. As the Honour as well as safety of the State is engaged in a certain degree in the Collection of the Quota, I hope your Excellency will excuse the



above hint. I am, w<sup>th</sup> every sentiment of esteem & respect,  
your Excellency's, most obed't & very humble Se't.

Udny Hay.

Governour Clinton.

I saw Mrs. Clinton last night who with all the family was  
very well.

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[No. 3512.]

*Petition from Essex County, New Jersey, to Governor Clinton in  
Regard to Prisoners Captured and Confined in Canada.*

May it Please your Excellency;

The Humble Petition of us the Subscribers, inhabitants of  
Essex County state of New Jersey, in behalf of a Number our  
poor distressd Countrymen, Neighbours Friend & Children now  
in Captivity at Cannada, who were taken by the enemy at Fort  
Vreland, on the West Branch of Sesquehanna, 28th July, 1779,  
viz. Peter & Isaac Williams, Henry Townsly, Elias Williams,  
Cornelius Vincent, Saml. Gould, Daniel Bethuel, & Benj. Vin-  
vent, Michael Vreland, John Loitle, James Durham, John Neily,  
—— Martin, Thomas Tyrgit, John Watts, Will'm Miles, one  
Baily & Armitage, John Doyg, John Furney, & others, who are  
now at the Three Rivers & Fort Chamblee, Humbly beseecheth  
your Excellency would be pleased to exert your Power & in-  
fluence to effect if possible, their Exchange: application has been  
made to N. York by the Commisary of Prisoners without suc-  
cess; by the advice & Direction of Col. Skinner we now look up  
to your Excellency, in hopes by your great Benevolence, Power  
& influence their Exchange may be speedily effected and that your  
Excellency may be blessed, directed & assisted in this & every

matter before you & that the Blessing of many ready to perish may rest on your Excellency, your humb Petitioners in duty bound shall ever pray.

To his Excellency, George Clinton, Esqr. Goven'r and Command'r in Chieft in & over the State of N. York &c.

Jed'h Chapman, V. D. M., John Peck, Esqr., Jerem's Wool, Capt., Alpheus Hews, Jonathan Hedden, John Treat Crane, Esqr., Benjamin Mun, Jonathan Shores, Stephen Harrison, David Coeman, Abraham Byvanck, Thomas Cuningham, jur., Jacob Smith, Garrit Brewer, Lewis Baldwin, Amos Baldwin, Daniel Young, Phinehas Cambbell, Ebenezer Canfield, John Range, Esqr., Joseph Crane, Capt., John Crane, Joseph Crane, Lieut., William Crane, Nanan'l Dodd, Isaac Dodd Esqr., Ralph Post.\*

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[No. 3513.]

*The Governor Returns His Acknowledgments to the Citizens of Albany.*

Gentlemen† I think you for the polite address and the favourable Sentiments you have been pleased to express of my Reelection to the Chief Magistracy of the State.

While with you I lament the late Devastations upon our Frontiers. it affords me great Sattisfaction that by the vigorous Exertions of the Country and the Attack upon the Enemy at Cannajohary, they were prevented from the Completion of their cruel Purposes and compelled to seek their safety by a disgraceful & precipitate Flight.

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\*This document is not dated.

† Endorsement on this document: "This is a reply to No. 3308 [page 338] and is out of place. H. A. H. [Henry A. Homes] Lib'n."

I accept, Gentlemen, with Pleasure the Freedom of your City, and be assured I shall always consider this Act of your Corporation as a most honorable Testimony that my Conduct has received the approbation of my Fellow Citizens.

G. C.

[To the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of Albany.]

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[No. 3514.]

*The New York Adherents in Vermont Protest Against the Green Mountain Constitution.*

To the Gentlemen convened at Windsor, under the Stile of the General Assembly of the State of Vermont.

Gentlemen, The Inhabitants of the Towns of Guilford, Brattleborough, Putney, New Fane, Hinsdale, Rockingham, Westminster, Weathersfield & (having received a Pamphlet entitled "the Constitution of the State of Vermont" and Directions, from the Gentlemen called the Council of Safety for the said State, for holding Elections for the governor &c.) have authorized us to enter their public and solemn Protest, against setting up, at present, a government independant of New York; and against the many unhappy Consequences which they are fearful will flow from breaking the Bands of civil Society, in a Crisis so important.

Permit us to assure you that we have considered the Expedience of seperating from New York, with that Deliberation and Calmness which the importance of the Subject evidently requires; and look upon ourselves bound by the most sacred of human Ties to decline taking any part with you in erecting a new government.

That we, & the Persons we represent, may not be thought to act from motives unfriendly to the American Cause, (which some ignorant or malicious People have without Foundation asserted) or from a factious and restless Spirit, disinclined to good order and government; we beg leave to assign you some of our reasons for dissenting from the government now meant to be established.

1st. The several Claims of New Hampshire & New York, by the mutual agreement of the Governor and Council of each Colony, came judicially before the King of Great Britain in privy Council, (being the only Tribunal at which the Question was then cognizable) who on the 4th July 1764 did adjudge and determining “the western Banks of the river Connecticut, from where it enters the Province of Massachusetts Bay, as far North as the 45th Degree of Northern Latitude, to be the Boundary Line of the said two Provinces of New Hampshire and New York.”

2d. In consequence of the said adjudication, nearly the whole District of the New Hampshire Grants, were almost constantly represented in the Provincial Congresses & Conventions of New York, until the memorable & necessary Declaration of Independence.

3d. Since the Declaration of Independence, this County (notwithstanding the assertion of some to the contrary) has been many months represented in the Convention of the said State of New York.

4th. The Resolutions of Congress of the . . . . . June last expressly upon the Subject declare, That Congress was composed of Delegates chosen by and representing the Communities respectively inhabiting the Territories of New Hampshire,

Massachusetts Bay &c. &c. &c. as they respectively stood at the time of its first Institution and that it could not be intended that Congress by any of its Proceedings would do recommend or countenance any thing injurious to the Rights and Jurisdictions of the several Communities which it represents. That the independant government attempted to be established by the People stiling themselves Inhabitants of the New Hampshire Grants, could derive no Countenance or Justication from the act of Congress declaring the united Colonies to be independant of the Crown of Great Britain, nor from any other act or Resolution of Congress. That the Petition of Jonas Fay, Thomas Chittenden, Heman Allen, & Reuben Jones in the name & behalf of the People stiling themselves as aforesaid praying "That their Declaration that they would consider themselves as a free & independant State may be received; that the District in the said Petition described may be ranked among the free & independant States, and that Delegates therefrom may be admitted to seats in Congress" should be dismissed. And that the Letter which advises chusing members for a General Convention, and Delegates for the General Congress & Committee of Safety, & forming a Constitution for the Inhabitants of these Grants, was derogatory to the Honor of Congress, and a gross Misrepresentation of the Resolution of Congress therein referred to, and tended to deceive and mislead the People to whom it was addressed.

5th. If the Independance of America could operate in the manner contended for by the advocates for a new State, the late Resolution of several Towns on the East Side of Connecticut River, to withdraw their allegiance from the State of New

Hampshire, and join the State of Vermont, must convince all impartial Men of the Inexpedience of exercising the Right, in the present time.

6th. The Articles of Confederation, as well by binding each State to assist the others against all force offered, or attacks made upon them, or any of them, on account of Sovereignty &c. or on any other Pretence whatever; as from the General Tenor and Design of them, implicitly disapprove a Division of a State in the present Method.

7th. Although this part of the Country laboured under very considerable grievances while subject to governors who derived their authority from the Crown of Great Britain; yet we distinguish between that government & the present free one, in which all Power proceeds from the People. We accordingly find the present Rulers of New York State as well disposed as we can wish, to hearken to the Complaints & redress the grievances of their Subjects. For one Proof of this we beg leave to refer you to a late Proclamation (herewith sent you) of his Excellency Governor Clinton, & the Resolutions of the honorable the Senate and General Assembly of that State, included therein, pledging the public Faith for confirming the Titles of Lands, Reduction of Quitrents &c. in this part of their State.

8th. We conceive that time will in a degree lessen the Inconveniences arising from our being so distant from the Seat of government. For as all Power, agreeable to the Constitution, is derived from the People, and the whole Legislature is or will be elected by them, in Proportion to the Number of Electors of each County; it will naturally follow that the Seat of government will be at the place most convenient to the majority of the

People: and from the rapid Progress made in settling the Northern Parts of the State, and the great Quantity of yet unsettled Land, we may safely conclude that the Seat of government will be considerably farther Northward than formerly, and that there can be no Danger of its removing Southward.

9th. As there is a considerable Division amongst the Inhabitants of the New Hampshire Grants upon the Subject of their Independance, and as Congress have not yet, and most probably will not, approve of it; we conceive there is the utmost probability that a Dispute of this nature will be extremely detrimental to the common Cause of America.

10th. The Poverty of the People we consider as another great Objection to the present Independance of the Grants. How any one who is acquainted with the Circumstances of the Inhabitants can think them capable of supporting the extraordinary Expences of a seperate government, and paying their Quota of the Charges necessary in maintaining the War, we are unable to conceive.

11th. We consider the framing, & putting in Execution, a new and equitable System of Laws, as tasks too arduous for the present infantile State of the intended government: Business which to be properly executed, will require the prudent and cautious foresight, the Experience, the Wisdom & Learning of the greatest Men upon the Continent. How deficient we are in men competent for so great a Purpose, we scarcely need mention. Our Country is yet new, a great part of it unsettled, and the Inhabitants have in general sufficient Difficulties to struggle with, and employment in their private Concerns, to prevent their attaining the necessary Qualifications of Legislators: and few,

very few, gentlemen of Learning & abilities equal to the task, have yet chosen to remove to so uncultivated a part of the Country.

We forbear to remark upon what is called the Constitution of the State of Vermont, which is not without its Defects, because we neither desire or expect to be more affected by it than any other part of the Continent.

For these and other Reasons gentlemen, we conceive that endeavouring at present to establish a seperate State here is not only a Violation of the continental Union, but is imprudent, and to the last Degree impolitic & dangerous; tending in the present important Crisis to weaken the authority of the Continental Congress. disunite the Friends of America & stimulate a Spirit of Separation and Sedition which may end in the ruin of the United States. And we esteem it not only our Duty, but the Duty of all who are Friends to the Liberties of America to bear open Testimony against it; and do therefore on behalf of ourselves and those who delegated us for this Purpose, publicly declare that as we have not any assisted in, or consented to, the forming a seperate and independant government, we shall not consider ourselves bound by any acts of the Legislature thereof; but shall, as in duty bound, continue to yeild our allegiance to the State of New York, until otherwise directed by the honorable the Continental Congress: and we do hereby solemnly protest against the Right of any Persons to govern us and the other Inhabitants of the New Hampshire Grants, except that of the continental Congress and the Legislature of New York; and against all Measures which shall be used to enforce the pretended Right of any other Person or Body of Men, and against all the bad Consequences which may ensue from attempting at



present, to establish an independant government in the Grants before mentioned.

Eleaz'r Paterson }  
Gad Wait } Committee for Hinsdale.

Thomas Cutler }  
Timothy Root } Com: for 42 Inhabitants of Guilford.

Benja. Butterfield }  
Israel Smith }  
James Blakslee } Committee for Brattleborough  
Samuel Knight }  
Micah Townsend }

Mathew Marten—Com'e for New Fane.

Joshua Hide—Com'e for Putney.

Asher Evans—Com'e for Rockingham.

Benjamin Burt }  
John Norton } Committee for Westminster.

Hilkiah Grout—Com'e for 11 out of 23 Inhabitants of Weathersfield.

[No. 3515.]

*The Committee of Congress Declares in Favor of Creating Vermont a Free and Independent State.*

\*The com'ee to whom was referred the report of a Com'ee on certain Letters and papers relative to the People inhabiting the District of Country commonly known by the name of the New Hampshire Grants, do report the following resolutions to be adopted by Congress:

Congress having resolved on the 7th day of Aug't last, that in case they should recognize the Independence of the People of Vermont, they would consider all the lands belonging to New-

\* This document has been placed by the original editor of the Clinton MSS under *January, 1781*. The date of the resolve is *March 1, 1782*.—STATE HISTORIAN.

Hampshire and New York respectively lying without the limits of Vermont afd as coming within the mutual Guarantee of Territory contained in the articles of Confederation; and that the United States will accordingly Guarantee such Lands and the jurisdiction over the same against any claims or incroachments from the inhabitants of Vermont afd. And Congress having on the 20th day of the same month required (as an indispensable preliminary to the recognition of the Independence of the people inhabiting the territory aforesaid and their admission into the foederal union) the explicit relinquishments of all demands of lands or Jurisdiction on the East side of the West Bank of Connecticut River, and on the west side of a line beginning at the North west Corner of the State of Massachusetts thence running 20 Miles east of Hudson's river so far as the said river runs north easterly in its general course, thence by the west bounds of the Townships granted by the late Government of New Hampshire to the river running from South Bay to lake Champlain; thence along the said river to lake Champlain thence along the waters of lake Champlain to the latitude of forty five degrees north excepting a neck of land between Missiskoy Bay and the waters of lake Champlain.

And the People inhabiting the territory aforesaid, not having as yet made the relinquishment aforesaid as above required and attempting since the date of the above resolutions, to extend and establish their jurisdiction over part of the lands guaranteed to the States of New York and New Hampshire as above said, and it being indispensibly Necessary to bring all disputes respecting the jurisdiction of the people residing within the territory aforesaid to speedy issue,

Resolved that the district of territory commonly known by

the name of the New Hampshire Grants, by whatsoever name it may be called, is and shall be bounded westward by a line beginning at the northwest Corner of the State of Massachusetts, thence running northward 20 Miles east of Hudson's river so far as the said river runs north easterly in its general course; thence to the west boundary line of the Townships granted by the late Government of New Hampshire, thence northward along the said west boundary line to the river running from South Bay to lake Champlain; thence along the said river to lake Champlain, thence along the waters of lake Champlain to latitude forty five degrees north, including a neck of land between the Missiskoy Bay and the waters of lake Champlain; thence it shall be bounded north by latitude forty five degrees north & eastward by the west Bank of Connecticut river from forty five degrees north to the northern boundary line of the State of Massachusetts; & southward by the said northern Boundary of the State of Massachusetts from the said west Bank of Connecticut River to the north west corner of Massachusetts above mentioned.

\*“ Resolved that in case the inhabitants residing within the limits aforesaid within                    from the delivery of a certified copy of these resolutions, by the Commissioner hereinafter mentioned to Thomas Chittenden, Esqr. of the Town of Bennington within the limits aforesaid, or from the time of the said Commissioner's leaving such certified copy at the usual place of residence of the said Thomas Chittenden, Esqr. shall by some authenticated act recognize the last above described Boundaries to be the limits and extent of their claim both of jurisdiction and territory, & shall accede to the articles of Confederation

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\* This resolution in quotations was stricken out by order of Congress.—STATE HISTORIAN.

and perpetual union between the States of New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island & Providence plantations, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, & Georgia as agreed to in Congress on the fifteenth day of November 1777, and shall thereupon appoint Delegates on their behalf with full powers, instructions and positive orders immediately to repair to Congress and to sign the said Articles of Confederation and afterwards to represent them in the United States in Congress assembled, their said Delegates shall be admitted to sign the same, and thereupon, the inhabitants of the above described District shall be acknowledged, a Free Sovereign and independent State, by whatsoever name they shall choose to be called, and shall be considered as a component part of the fœderal union, and entitled to the advantages thereof."

Resolved, that in case the said inhabitants with the above described District, do not desist from attempting to exercise jurisdiction over the lands guaranteed to New Hampshire & New York as aforesaid, and shall not within the limited time as aforesaid comply with the terms specified in the foregoing resolutions, Congress will consider such neglect or refusal as a manifest indication of designs hostile to these United States, and that all the pretensions and applications of the said inhabitants heretofore made for admission into the fœderal union, were fallacious & delusive; and that thereupon, the forces of these States shall be employed against the said Inhabitants within the district aforesaid accordingly. And Congress will consider all the lands within said territory to the eastward of a line drawn along the summit of a ridge of mountains or height of land extending from south to north throughout the said

territory, between Connecticut River on the East & Hudson's river & lake Champlain on the west, as guaranteed to New Hampshire under the Articles of Confederation, and all the lands within said territory to the westward of said line as guaranteed to New York under the articles of Confederation. Provided, always that Congress will consider any other partition, which shall hereafter by an agreement between the Legislatures of New Hampshire and New York, be made between their respective States concerning the Territory aforesaid, as guaranteed to them according to such agreement, saving in either case all rights accruing to the State of Massachusetts or any other State under the articles of Confederation aforesaid. And provided always, that for the more effectually quieting the minds of the Inhabitants aforesaid the States of New Hampshire & New York respectively shall pass acts of indemnity & oblivion in favour of all such persons as have at any time previous to the passing such acts, acted under the authority of Vermont so called, in any manner whatsoever, upon such persons submitting to the jurisdiction of said States respectively. And provided, always that the said States of New York & New Hampshire respectively do pass acts confirming and establishing the titles of all persons whatever, to such lands as they do now actually occupy & possess within the limits of the district afd under whatever title the same may be held, either from New York, New Hampshire or Vermont, so called & also for confirming & establishing the titles of all persons whatever, to such lands within the district afd as they may be entitled to under grants from New York New Hampshire or Vermont so called according to the priority of such Grants in point of time, excepting in such cases where the lands are in the actual occu-

pancy & possession of the Claimants as mentioned in the proviso above said.

But inasmuch as some persons claiming in right of grants made under the authority of the district or territory called Vermont and not actually occupying the same may be deprived thereof by the interference of other prior Grants.

Resolved that in case the partition aforesaid, shall take place, any person claiming & deprived as aforesaid, his or her assignee or representative shall receive full compensation in lands or otherwise to be provided by Congress.

Resolved, That it be and it is earnestly recommended to the States of New Hampshire & New York respectively to pass acts of oblivion and indemnity in favor of all such persons residing without the limits of the district above described who shall heretofore have taken part with the inhabitants residing within the same against the Governments of either of those States upon such persons quietly & peaceably submitting themselves to the government and jurisdiction of such State respectively to which they belong.

Resolved that in case of the neglect or refusal of the inhabitants residing within the district aforesaid to comply with the terms prescribed in the resolutions aforesaid that the Commander in Chief of the armies of these United States do without delay or further order carry these resolutions as far as they respect his department into full execution.

Resolved that a Commissioner be appointed on the part of these United States, whose duty it shall be, immediately to repair to the district aforesaid, and deliver a certified copy of these resolutions to Thos. Chittenden, Esqr. of the town of Bennington afd or to leave such copy at his usual place of

residence; and also to enforce on the inhabitants of the said District the necessity of their complying without delay with the terms above prescribed by Congress or submitting themselves peaceably to the jurisdiction of the States of New Hampshire & New York agreeably to the above resolutions.

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[No. 3516.]

*James Dickinson Brings Himself to the Governor's Notice.*

\*This my Address to your Excellency: I must do my self the Pleasure to acquaint your Excellency of my Person: I was bornd and brought up in the County of West Chester and in the arely part of these Intestine Trouble I went to Long Ireland, it being in the year Seventy Six, before the British came to that place. I must inform your Excellency that I went more through the Passion of youth then a Internal Principle. Principlalities can not be helpt; External Conduct I will Indever to mend: but to come in to the Corse of Pilgermage, I must Informe your Excellency that I never took up armes against my Cuntry, but went to the East End of Long Ireland: and there went into a small Trade, then Captured by the New England People and card to New London. Nothing apeareing atrociously to my Charge, I was Proled to New York in order to be Exchainge: as I did not belong to the Army nither in the Melitary way, the British refused to Exchang me: then I returned to New London again: the Commesary then Permitted me to come into New York State in West Chester County: then I was taken and card to General Maekdnigall Quarter: after some interogating I was put under a Bond for my good Behavior: Now, I must informe your Excellency, that the Conditional Part

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\*This document is without date.

of that Bond Comited me to Charge of Commisioners of West Chester County to be under their Dictates and Regulation. I rote to the Commisioners to know what Line to fall in: they tell me they do not act, nither have anything to do with me. Now I beg and desire that your Excellency would take me into your gracious Regulations: and I will conform to your Dictates: I am willing to Conforme and be Subject to all Laws Customs & Regulation of the State of New York and obligate my self to Proforme the same: as I have no Millitary Turne I should be happy to fall in the Civil Line if agreeable to your Excellency Approbation. Now, if your Excellency Consistently can here my Peticion and gave me a Line to Certify the same: I Remain your Excellency most Ebedieng and most Humble Peticioner.

James Dickinson.

To His Excellency George Clinton, Esq.

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[No. 3517.]

*Tobias Wynkoop's Neighbors Rally to His Support.*

To His Excellency George Clinton, Esquire Governor, General and Commander in Chief of all the militia of the State of New York, and Vice Admiral of the same g. g.

The Petition of the Subscribed Inhabitants of the most north-erly Part of Ulster County in the State of New York, Humbly Sheweth

That Tobias Wynkoop, lately residing near the Blue Hills, on the Western Frontiers, on the upper End of the above said County, now residing near Hudson's River in the West Camp, has taken an Early part in favour of our injured and oppressed Country against the Tyranny of Great Britain as well by his Personal Services, as by Contributing and Supporting the armies of the United States and the Government of this State.



That said Tobias Wynkoop, was last Summer directed to remove with his Familie & Effects, from his respective Dwelling & Farm, which he, tho' much against his private Interest, Cheerfully acquiesced with and put himself and Familie under such Shelter as he was able to procure.

That said Wynkoop's Absence from his Farm and place of Abode, has so reduced him, to the want of the most necessary articles, that he finds himself under great imbarassments to Support himself and Familie, and much less able to pay the Taxes and other incidental Charges required of him.

That said Wynkoop's Crop of Wheat, Hay and other Grains have by your Excellencies Permission been gathered by him, yet it Still remains on said Wynkoop's Farm, Subject to great Waste and Spoil.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that he, said Tobias Wynkoop, may be permitted to return with his Familie and Effects to his respective Farm, or place of Abode, and your Petitioners as in Duty bound, Shall ever pray. [1781.]

Myndert Mynderson, John Post, Jacobus Persen, Wilhelmus Emrich, Eegbert Schoonwaker, Thomas Van Stenberghen, Salemoin Schiut, Johannies Schoonmackker, John Wolven, Christopher Kiersted, Cornelius Swart, Robert Sickels, Cornelius Legg, Chrestofel Medelor.

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[No. 3518.]

*A Dispute Which Led to a Tragedy.*

Extract of a letter from Col. Sheldon. [No date.]

“ The night before last I sent an Officer to Maroneck to meet a person from New York by whom I received the above intelligence; Mr. Norton, a Commissary of Issues went in company

with the Officer to see his family who live in that place; on their return yesterday they fell in company with several persons and stop'd at a Tavern on the road about two miles below Thomas Wright's Mills where they were in high humor, & very merry for some time; before they had done drinking the Officer & Mr Norton had some little dispute, but by the interposition of some of the Company the matter was settled; one of my Dragoons standing by not fully understanding the dispute thought Mr. Norton had abused his Officer which occasioned some words between them. They both drew their swords. Mr. Norton made two or three strokes at the Dragoon one of which wounded him in the shoulder. The Dragoon had a Pistol in his hand which he discharged & shot the Dragoon (?) thro the body; he expired in about fifteen minutes."

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[No. 3519.]

*Changes in Officers in Colonel Thomas' Regiment.*

A Return of the Vacensyes in Col. Thos. Thomas, Ridgt. of West Chester County meletia, & the Reasons of such Vacensyes. Capt. Miller, Resigned.—Moses St. John Lt. of Capt. Sacket Company in his sted; Isaack Clarek, 2d Lieut. to be appointed first;

Richard Sackett, Capt. of the Granidiers now in Commition—Part of the Company that is not included in St. John's Company to be annexed to Sackett; Joseph Miller, 1d Lieut—agrees to serve now in Commetion; Isaack Miller 2d Do to Capt. Miller, no Commetion—Joyns Capt. Sackett; Benjamin Ambler, Ensign to Sackett and Commetion—Serves under Sackett.

David Hubby Capt.—now Major.

Gilburt Lyon, 1d Lieut.—to be appointed Capt;

Wright Carpenter, 2d Do—to be appointed 1d Lieut;

William Mosher, Ensign—to be appointed 2d Lieut.

The Bounds of Capt. St. John's Company of Colo. Thom's Regt. are in future to be as follows: Begining north of Richard Armstrong's from thence to Caleb Wright's mills including s'd Wright's mills from thence westerly to the Southerd of James Runelds and Titus House, from thence as the Rode runs to Capt. St. John's House, including the Houses next to the Road on both Sides of the same untill it meets with the Bounds of Capt. Marcus Mosman Company & thence along the same to the Maner of Corteland, from thence runing earsterly and northerly along the former Lines of said Company to the Place of Beginning; & that Part of the Company formerly commanded by Capt. Josiah Miller & not included in the above Bounds is annexed to & made Part of Capt. Sackett's Company.

Moses St. John, Capt. Vice Capt. Miller, resigned refuses to serve; Isaac Clarck, 1st Lieut. vice Capt. St. John, Promotted; No 2d Lieut. or Ensign; Isaac Miller, 2 Lieut. of Capt. Sackett's Comp'y;

Gilbert Lyon, Capt. Vice Major Hoby, promotted; Wright Carpenter, 1st Leut. Vice Capt. Lyon, promotted; William Moshier, 2d Leut. Vice Lieut. Lyon, promotted; Benjamin Clapp, Jun'r to be appointed Quartermaster in lieu of Timothy Brundage whome is now gone to see.

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[No. 3520.]

*Heads of Classes of McClaghry's Regiment.*

A List of the Head of Classes belonging to Col. James McClaghry's Regiment & names of the Capts. of Companies:  
[No date.]

Classes:

Capt. Nicols: James Latty, William Cummings, Moses Gale;

Capt. Humpries: Jacob Miles, Samuel Jennings, David Belknap, Samuel Boyd;

Capt. Tilford: John Galloway, Thomas Porter, Will'm Moffit;

Capt. Hunter: Arthur McKenny, David Perry, Benjamin Wise, George Clarke, Daniel Hutchinson;

Capt. McBride: John Black, Senior, John Morrison Junier, Wm. Young;

Capt. Teller: James White, Direk Shaver, Senier, Jacob Millpough, Jm., Mattice Kumbarrack, Wm. Wieles;

Lient. Dunning: Jonathan Webb, Senier, Bazeliel Silly, Wm. Cocks;

Lient. Currin: Hezekiah Woodward, Eligah Reves, Junier;

Capt. Vaubureen: Alexander Steel, Johannis Smith, Thomas Betty;

Capt. Faulkin: James Rogers, Lient. McNeal, Isreal Rogers, Jur., Fredrick Smith;

Lient. Crawford: John Tuttle, Prince Briant, George Booth;  
Capt. Newkirk—Charles Finlay;

Capt. Cuddaback—Benjamin Depue.

James McClaghry.

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[No. 3521.]

*John Finch, Ready to March, Asks for His Warrant.*

Sir, As I have not Rec'd my warrent and I am now Ready to march with about twenty men all well acquipt, desire your Exelency will send it by my boy that I may Proceed to Randerose. Sir, your Exelencyes Compliance with these will be the wish of your very Hum'le Serv't

John Finch.

To His Exelensee George Clinton Esqr.

[No. 3522.]

*Assignment of Officers to the Levies.*

Major Throop—a Major in the present Levies.

Gansevoort's Brigade.

Vanbergen's Regt.—Capt P. Conine

Vrooman's                      Capt. Dubois

Wemple's                      Van Ingen

Major Taylor's              Capt. White

Yates', Van Veghten's

&amp; Blair                      Capt. Wright a Capt. in Levies

Colo. K. Van Renselaer's, Colo. P. Schuyler, Colo. Cuyler,  
 Capt. Livingston—the same.

Van Renselaer's Brigade—Capt. P. Van Renselaer, a Capt. in  
 the Levies; Charlotte County—Capt. Dunham; Captain Thomas  
 Skinner King district. Joshua Simons Lieutenant Berkshire,  
 Whiting's Regt.

Livingston's Regt.—Capt. Harrison; Whiting's Regt.—Capt.  
 Skinner; Van Ness—Lieut. T. Broeck; Van Alstyne's Van  
 Alstyne's Van Renselaer—Capt. Van Renselaer. [No date.]

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 [No. 3523.]
*Colonel Benson Reports His Convalescence.*

Colo. Benson presents his most respectful Compliments to  
 His Excellency the Governor and family & with pleasure informs  
 them that the change of his Diet &c. & daily exercise on Horse-  
 back has had a happy Effect on his Constitution. He has had  
 no return of the Fever & his Health in other respects is much  
 improved. [No date]

[No. 3524.]

*A Tax List of the Persons Who Have Sons Gone to the Enemy.*

	Sum to be paid
Henry Cropsey	£9 7 6
Michael Readmen	9 7 6
Joshua Brush	5 0 0
Isaac Barton	11 5 0
Isaac Brown	5 0 0
Jacob Gillies	5 0 0

Thomes Borling, one of the people Called Quakers Taxed for  
Rascing man Dureing the War £0 16 0

[No date or locality mentioned.]

[No. 3525.]

*Return of Nine Months Levies to be Raised in Van Rensselaer's  
Brigade.*

A Return of the Number of Men raised, and the deficiency in  
the Brigade commanded by Robert Van Rensselaer for compleat-  
ing the Quota of Troops for the Continental army. [1781.]

Colonels	Quota	Deficient	
Whiting's	9	9	
Van Ness	12	6	
Van Rensselaer's	12	2	
Van Allstyne's	11	11	from information no return being made
Livingston's	30	23	
	74	51	

[No. 3526.]

*Officers Recommended for the Levies from Westchester County.*

Richard Sackett, Capt., William Moshier, Lt., Nathaniel Tucker, Lt., Westchester Levies;

Capt. Daniel Williams, Lieut. Richard Peacock, Lt. Abraham Odell, Lt. Michael Dyckman, recommended to command other Levies;

Lieut. Thos. Hunt, late retired from the 4th N. York Battalion—Lieut; Hyatt do Lt. Abr'm Leggatt late of Dubois's. [1781.]

[No. 3527.]

*Lieutenant Weissenfels' Descriptive Return.*

Names and Descriptions of the Men Inlisted by Lieut. Weissenfels for the County of Westchester together with the Men received from Col. Hay's Regt.

Names	County	Names of the Commanding officer of Regt.	Names of the Commanding officer of Class	Age	Size		Complexion.	Colour of Hair	Colour of eyes	Place of abode	Occupation	Date of Inlistment	Term
					Feet	Inches							
William Noice	Westchester	Drake	Col. Hyatt	30	5	9½	Brown	Black	Brown	England	Farmer	Feb'y 10th '81	War
Moses Burdick	do	do	Capt Smith	24	5	10	do	Brown	Gray	?	Blockmaker	do	do
Chas. Cox	Duchis	Luddington	Lt. Mott	40	5	4½	do	do	do	N. York	Hatter	do	do
Jeriah Yomans	Orange	Col. Hay	Capt. Gardners	18	5	4	Fair	do	do	Haverstry	Farmer	Jan. 9th	do
Francis Morin	do	do	Lt. Waldrons	40	5	10	do	gray	do	?	do	7th	do



[No. 3528.]

*Return of Colonel Bellinger's Regiment.*

Return of Col. Peter Bellinger Regt. of Militia. [1781.]

Colo.	Capt.	Lt.	Ensigns	Rank & file	total
1	4	4	2	79	
				Exempts 7	97

Peter Bellinger, Colo.

[No. 3529.]

*Interesting Neighborly Tales Near the Westchester Lines.*

Joshua Franklin told Joseph Palmer that John Thomas, Junior and Benjamin Clapp, Junior stole a pair of oxen from said Franklin out of Benjamin Clapp's yard in February 1779; that at that time Doct'r Graham had a pair of oxen at the same place and his was left; that the oxen were sold to James Purdy, a tory in North Street; that Franklin sent word to old Benj'n Clapp after he discovered his proof of the felony and sale of the oxen to come and satisfy him for the oxen for that Thomas and his son had taken and sold them to Purdy and to make Satisfaction for having reported he had sold the oxen to the Enemy.

Reuben Merrit, a whig, will or can swear that one day as he was coming from Kingstreet, he saw in the fields a man that he Imagining him to be a tory endeavoured to head him, which he did, and when he came up with him he found it was one Abr'm Wetmore, who had a bottle of Rum and that John Thomas, Jun'r was with Wetmore, that he then not knowing whether Wetmore was at time an Enemy or not, Drunk a Dram with him on his offering it and that he came on and left Thomas and Wetmore together. Since this he has found out that Wetmore at that time was a Horse thief with the Enemy. Colo. Thomas, John Thomas and Edward Thomas came in Company with Wetmore from Kingstreet at the same time, as informed by Ichabud Ozden.

Lowrance told Joseph Palmer that lately he saw Edward Thomas and George Garret quarrel, that he heard Garrit tell him it was a damned shame he should be distressing the Inhabitants when he had drove a pair of oxen and two Cows to the Enemy and could prove it, and that Thomas did not deny it, and Garrit will swear that John Thomas, Junior and Benjamin Clapp, Junior fatted a pair of Continental oxen and killed and sold them. Absalom Hutchins told Mr. Palmer he knew they were public property.

Joseph Wood, a whig, told Joseph Palmer, that Edward Thomas told Wood that if he would agree, they would buy a pair of oxen of Titus Knapp, a tory by Reputation, to be delivered at Thomas Hadden's, at which time payment to be made and bargain Completed; that Thomas and Hadden had Contrived the Scheme, as he told Wood, and that whilst the oxen were driving, they meant to take the oxen as a prize and share the money arising from the sale of them amongst the three; that Wood knowing the villany of Thomas and Hadden, had an Inclination of tricking them, and went and told Knapp of their Scheme, and it was then agreed by Wood and Knapp, that Knapp should purchase a pair of oxen of Jesse Dennis, a reputed tory, and drive them down and sell them to Hadden and Wood, to follow secretly, and after Knapp had received the money of Hadden, for Wood to take away the oxen and drive them back to Dennis; this succeeded in part. Knapp agreed with Hadden for £50, and received the money, and Wood was going to take the oxen away from Hadden, when he discovered a man in red dress and several other people, whom he took to be the Enemy, and immediately retired; that after he found his mistake, he went to Hadden's to take away the oxen and found Hadden had drove off the oxen immediately.

Oliver Tompkins told Mr. Palmer, he heard Wright Carpenter say when he and Edward Thomas was down as a flagg, they saw Hadden drive in the oxen of Dennis he knew them. Colo. Millan told Mr. Palmer that Colo. Thomas had recommended Hadden to him as a good man.

James Cunningham, a whig, told Joseph Palmer that some time since, he heard Edward Thomas and Benjamin Smith a quarrelling; that they twitted each other of driving Cattle to the Enemy; that Thomas would not tell the author of the report of Smith's driving Cattle, but Smith told Thomas he would tell his author and pointed to Benj'n Clapp, Junior as the author; that Thomas turned about and asked Clapp if it was true; Clapp answered he was told so by a person. Thomas asked Clapp if the person was not drunk when he said so. Clapp said he was not a drunken man. Thomas asked him if he believed it. Clapp answered he had no reason to disbelieve it for that the person who told it was a man of truth; that Clapp and Thomas thereupon quarrelled and after some time withdrew and Cunningham heard Thomas say to Clapp and it was by them agreed that if one would say nothing the other would also.

Peter Fleming secreted Colo. Holmes after he escaped from the guards who took him going to the Enemy. Gilbert Dean can prove this.

John Thomas, Jun'r and Robert Bloomer took each £5 in specie from a woman to permit her to drive a Cow below the Lines who had then a permission, the authority of which they pretended to question &ca.

David Holmes and Stephen Lounsberry shifted Cloaths with Willet Carpenter a Horse thief—Dean to prove this.

Robert Bloomer and Peter Sniffen were with Jonathan Loveberry and Nathan Holmes in the woods and Bloomer was to have had a dinner for the Cow Boys; this Colo. Thomas told Capt'n Hunter was the Case on his giving Col. Sheldon his villanous Character and Thomas pretended he had Employed Bloomer and Abr'm Wetmore as Emis-saries; these two have been with the Enemy and Wetmore now with the Enemy, and a Cow thief; all the Thomases Interceded for Bloomer and Sniffen's discharge &ca.

Major Hobby Confessed to David Peck, a reputed tory, he had seen and fed his own son since he had deserted to the Enemy and so did Hobby's wife. B. P. said David Peck told him this matter.

Capt'n Ambrose Horton heard Col. Thomas one day damn Gershom Lockwood's wife in the absence of her husband, telling her he was a damned tory and rascal, and that he would sent him off or Confine him. Lockwood hearing this said he would be damned if Colo. Thomas would ever touch him, as he knew too much about him, but if he did he would tell every thing he knew of him and he knew much. Since this Colo. Thomas has seen him and was very familiar with him. P. P. informed Horton heard the whole.

Colo. Thomas, John Thomas and Edward Thomas shared 14 guineas they rec'd of Joseph Anderson, a Cow thief, to admit him on parole about 1 Aug't 1780. Ichabud Ogden can prove it as he told &ca.

Colo. Thomas gave permit to Bartholomew Hadden to drive a pair of stags to his house. Reuben Merrit, a whig, saw the permit and since this has been to Hadden's to search for stags, but could not find them and Colo. Thos. has for this threatened to cut off Reuben's Head. Icabud Ogden to prove.

Colo. Thomas told Abr'm Waring he mett a plundered one day, and told him he was a damned plunderer, and if he did not give him something he would send him to goal, upon which he gave him 18 guineas. I. Ogden informed &ca.

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[No. 3530.]

*Petition of Joseph Caldwell and Others, Concerning Their Friends  
in Captivity.*

To His Excellency George Clinton Esqr. Comander in Chife of  
the State of New York &c.

The Petition of us the Subscribers Inhabitants of the District  
of Cambridge. Humbly sheweth;

That, Notwithstanding, the many Embarrassments that have attended us in this place, being driven from our habitations by General Burgoyne, &c. suffering the Loss of almost all our Personal Intrest and as we lay near to the Incursions of the Enemy, are Called from our Business on every alarm, we have with the greatest alacrity and chearfullness, contributed our Quota of men to garrison the frontierr. Whereby the fate of war, maney of our most effective men are carried into Captivity, from Skeens and Fort Ann and elsewere, by means of which many under parants are bereaved of thire sons, women of thire husbands, and young children of thire fathers &c. whereby the publick suffer for want of thire assistance, and private Business much Retraded, We would, therefor, pray your Excellency, of your Clemency and goodness to use your outmost endeavours in order for their speedy Delivery out off thire Captivity, and your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray.

Joseph Caldwell, Joseph Stewart, Ephraim Bessey, David Sealy, Joseph Heall, John Harroun, Hugh Gray.

[rec'd 2d Feb'y 1781.]

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[No. 3531.]

*Hopestill Biglo Petitions for the Return of His Children.*

To His Exclency govenour Clinton:

May it please your Exclency to hear and help me, in my trouble: your Exclency my understand, that I am an Inhabitant of Skenesborough, and that last spring I moved to Kingsbury to the House of John Morse, Esqr., for safty with my family and effects; after a while I returned home with part of my family to labour on my farm. I left three of my Children still at Kingsbury—three daughters, Hannah, Abigail and Esther, and I not

thinking them exposed, left them till the Enemy came; notwithstanding as I am told they had opportunity and could have retreated, but that an old man disaffected to the Righteous Cause of America, with one of his sons came to the house where my children lived and forced them to stay till the Enemy came up and then took them away, and also destroyed my Cattle and goods that were left with my Children; and I have since heard of my Children at St. Johns. I, therefore, Humbly and Earnestly request that your Excelency would help me in this my trouble; if any way there be that I may have my Children again, and may the Kind heavens supply your Execlency with every needed Blessing from both the upper and lower Springs. Your Execlencies most obedient Servant

Hopestill Biglo.

Mr. Parker. Sir, one favour I request of you, namely, that you would present my petition to the govenour, and if need be speak in my Behalf for my Children, and you will greatly oblige your hearty frind.

Hopestill Biglo.

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[No. 3532.]

*William Bell Files a Second Petition.*

Albuy City hall, Federvary 2 1781.

Most nobl governor, my Desin is to give your Exellency a vue of our present destrees. I am now in Confinment theas twente for weaks and that thru nothing but spit, and aftr that I was put in prison; thar was a sertin sort of men that cam to my hous, and that under the speacious pretene of being frinds to the steats, and rubes mee of all that was pleasant in their eys, even to the shift of my wifs bak; all this I have suffred without a transgresion, for the crim that was aledged against

mee I have provn to be fals, and yet I am continued, and I have ofrt beal to the Comishanors, but all in vain, and now I canot mentain my sealf, becas of povrty, and if my proprty had ben taken to the publik us of the steats, it would ben not so much mettr but for privet persons to tak my proprty is unjust, and now my famely is in a very Deplorable Condison, being at the fronttears and I canot get the librtty to go and move them away; altho I have petitioned the Comishenors for a hearing or tryal, but could nevr attain it, but I think it is hard that the Coutry should be ruled by such tirony; seing this was the firs motive that indused us to tak up arms, and now to be undr the athority of men filled with an omnipotency in power, looks very lik that which we abhort in Britan; this is a part of my Complent, and I rot to your Excellency and mistr Hutan with mee, but knos not if it cam to your hand, and now I have taken the fredom to petition your Exelency woust mor, to see if your wisdom can grant any relief and to tel the truth, I canot mentain my self hear longer; and we have hard useg from the Shirf, in ordring us to be so clos shut up so clos, that we canot by our wod and get in our provisions when it coms; your asistanc will highly obledg and your petitanor, as in duty bound, shall evr pray.

William Bell.

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[No. 3533.]

*Answer to Colonel Malcom's Letter, Respecting the Pay of His  
Brigade.*

[3d Feb'y 1781.]

Sir, I have rec'd your Letter of today. Agreeable to the act of the Legislature, in Pursuance whereof the Brigade of Levies lately under your Command were raised, they were to be paid

and subsisted by the Continent, but as it appears from your Letter that the Comm'r in Chief is of opinion that the monies for this Purpose cannot be paid in the first Instance from the Cont'l Treasury, I shall lay your Letter before the Legislature and recommend to them for Paym't of your acc't from the Treasury of this State.

[G. C.]

[To Colonel Malcom.]

[No. 3534.]

*Instructions to Captain Lawrence in Regard to Clothing.*

Albany, 5th Febry. 1781.

Sir, I expect a Quantity of Clothing for the Troops of this State will soon arrive at Pokepsie from the Eastward. I would, therefore, request you to receive and put them in a safe and dry Store; receipt for the Packages and keep them till you shall have my further Directions, and I will chearfully make you reasonable Compensation for your Trouble. I am &c.

[G. C.]

[To Captain Lawrence.]

[No. 3535.]

*The Legislature Forwards to Congress a Letter upon the Situation of Affairs.*

[5th Feb'y 1781.]

Gent'n. I have inclosed you for your Information, a Letter from the Legislature to Congress, upon the present Situation of our affairs. When you have perused it you will be pleased to compleat the sealing and deliver it. In copying, a Paragraph was thro mistake left out, and we were obliged to supply the omission with a detached Sheet, as the time would [not] admit

of making another Copy, and I must depend upon you to apologize to Congress for the Inaccuracy. You will observe the messenger has directions to wait for an answer. I must, therefore, request your attention to the Business to give it all possible Dispatch. I am &c.

[G. C.]

[To Delegates in Congress.]

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[No. 3536.]

*A Company of Rangers Proposed for Tryon County.*

Albany, Feb'y 6th 1781.

Sir, The Situation of the County of Tryon being at Present such that the Inhabitants thereof can do little for its defence, we have thought proper to suggest to your Excellency, the propriety of the Legislature Rasing a Company of Rangers for the Defence of the said County to be raised from amongst the Inhabitants and officered by officers of the said County to be paid & Subsisted by the State. This we beg leave to lay before your Excellency to Endeavour to have an act Passed for the purpose; we are you Excellency's most obedient & most Humble Servants

Jacob Klock, Col. Peter S. Deygert.

To His Excellency George Clinton, Esq.

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[No. 3537.]

*George Fisher Embarrassed by Depreciation of Currency Following Transactions with the Government.*

Fishkill, Feb'y 7th 1781.

Sir, I intended doing my self the Honour of waiting on your Excellency to-morrow, but am this moment inform'd of your

return to Albany. I hope to appologize for the Liberty I am necessitated to take of addressing you on the Subject, by giving your Excellency a small Sketch of the disagreeable Situation I have been & still am in, occasion'd by my taking up large Sums of Money, early in the Warr, for the purpose of purchasing Flour &c. when the Supplys from the Commis'y were inadequate to keep my people employ'd, as also creating Debts from Time to Time, that yet remain unpaid. In Dec'r last I petition'd Congress on the Subject of Depreciation, in Consequence of which that Hon'l House were pleas'd to pass a Resolve, authorizing the Com'y to revise my acc'ts. Said Order I presented to Messrs. Wadsworth & Colt at Hartford the 12 Feb'y last, who either cou'd or wou'd not for Reasons Mr. Colt gave me in writing, act on it at that Time. I obtain'd a Certify'd Copy of my Settlements with said Colt. Have also made application to Coll. Blain yesterday to ascertain the Depreciation on said acc'ts, who declining doing any thing thereon, on acc't of his being an Equal in Office with Mr. Colt & a Deputy to Mr. Wadsworth at that Time. I offer'd to revise them on the principles of your Excellency's Proclamation of Jan'y last, as also on the Cont'l Scale, or any other of this State, but they not being Residents in this State, refus'd on the proclamation, & the Resolve of ye 20th Aug't 1780 pointing to several Regulations of prices, & has Reference to the Exchange of Cont'l Money with Specie, where the Supplys were furnish'd & Services perform'd cou'd not act upon it. Some of my Crettitors are pressing for a Settlement & thread'n greatly; as a Cittizen of this State, I pray your Excellency will take the Subject into your Consideration, and (if consistend with the public good) advise me thereon. Major Stagg is pleas'd to take with him the Papers spoken of,



for your Excellency's Inspection. I have the Honour to be, Sir,  
your very humble Serv't

George Fisher.

His Excellency George Clinton, Gov'r &c. of the State of New  
York.

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[No. 3538.]

*General Washington Vctoes Governor Clinton's Plan for the Employ-  
ment of Invalid Soldiers.*

Head Quarters New Windsor, Feb'y 8th 1781.

Dear Sir, I have been duly honored with your Excellency's favor of the 31st of January. I have also conversed with your Brother on the temper and disposition of the Troops of New York; and from his representation am led to expect, the discontents among them, which were so happily suppressed, will not revive again.

With respect to the mode your Excellency recommends for employing the Invalids of the New York line, I have the honor to observe, that altho. the forming these men into a Company under supernumerary Officers, might be attended with some good consequences, yet I conceive (besides being contrary to the spirit of the late establishment of the Army, by which all Independent Corps are reduced) it would not, on every consideration, be an eligible measure.

If the men are proper subjects for the Corps of Invalids, they are not to be discharged on any pretext whatever. If they are so entirely useless as to be discharged, and are reinlisted by any Recruiting Officer, by the pointed Orders on that subject, he will inevitably incur the loss of all the expence & bounty paid to such Recruits.

I will only add, that from long experience, I have almost invariably found Independent Corps to be such an imposition upon, and (moth [?]) to the Public, that I cannot consent to give any countenance to the revival of them. I have the honor to be with great esteem & respect your most obed. Serv't

Go. Washington.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

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[No. 3539.]

*Colonel Hawkes Hay Asks for Time Because of the Poverty of the People.*

Haverstraw, February 8th 1781.

Dear Sir, There's nothing in this World that gives me greater Pain, that my being under the disagreeable necessity of troubling your Excellency. I am extremely unhappy to inform you that I have as yet been able to raise no more than five men out of my Regiment; it is I can assure you, not for the want of attachment to the American Cause, but it is because we are so very poor that we are not able to raise the money in the new Emission, as there is none in circulation among us, & the greatest part of my Regt. are without a farthing of Specie, those they have it are mostly disaffected and will not part with it.

The generality of the Inhabitants are well disposed & are using their utmost endeavours to get the men or the money & to my certain Knowledge they have offered and dispose of any thing they are possessed off to procure Specie. I must, therefore, entreat your Excellency to favor us with a little longer Time or it will distress a number of good whiggs in this Part of the state. Please let me hear from you as soon as possible. I am, Dear Sir, your Excellency's most ob. Serv't

A Hawkes Hay.

[To G. C.]

[No. 3540.]

*Assessment on Marbletown Tories.*

Marbletown, Febry. 10th, 1781.

Sir, Agreeable to an Act to complete the Quota of the troops of this State to serve in the army of the United States during the war, passed the 9th of Octo'r 1780.

The Following Persons Son or Sons are gon off to, and joynd the Enemy.

Estate		S	d
Johannis Bogardt,	L350 for one Son	L13	2 3
Frederick Kontraman,	L200 for 2 Sons	15	0 0
Johannis Vanwagene,	L133 13 4	5	0 0
		<u>L33</u>	<u>2 3</u>

where Returned to me in obedience to said act. I, herewith, transmit it to your Excelency. I am, your Most obedient Humble Se't

Matthew Cantine, Sup'r

His Excelency Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 3541.]

*Lieutenant Weissenfels' Reports Concerning the Results of Enlistments in Orange County.*

Haverstraw, Feb'y 12th 1781.

I am happy to Inform your Excellency of my Success in Recruiting; frequent applycations I have made to this County for money, but could not get any, and as I was doing nothing hear for the want of the same, made applycation to the County of Westchester where I was immediatly suppld and have recruited several men for them.

As I have the greatest opportunity to Engage more, will, if it meets with your Excellency approbation, receive more money from the same County, untill money come to me from this County. Inclosed I send the names & &c. of the men I have inlisted, together with what I have received from Col. Hay's Regt. I am, with due Respect, your Excellency most obedient Humble Ser't

..... Weissenfels.

Gov. Clinton.

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[No. 3542.]

*James Hamilton Makes a Questionable Financial Proposition to the Governor.*

Hon'd Sir, I went to William Barber and inform'd him about what you spake to me of, and he told me he had got it and wou'd endeavour to keep it for you. But I think you'll get it Cheaper in Albany, if so and you Encline to procure it, there, I'd be glad of a Line from you.

Another favour I've to ask of you, I. E. to let me know if I can get one of these Confiscated Farms for Loan Office Certificates, as I have the value or 6 or 700 pounds worth of them N. Emmission, but Taxes runs so high here that I dare not let it be known.

In hopes your Excellency will pardon my Impertinent requisition, and write me a Line, you'll oblige, Hon'd Sir, your m. obt. and m. Hble Siry't

James Hamilton.

Feb'y 12th 1781 Little Brittain.

his Exc'y Governor Clinton.

(private)

[No. 3543.]

*Mr. Rapalje Asks for a Pass for His Wife to Visit New York—  
Simeon De Witt Succeeds Mr. Erskine.*

New Windsor Feb'y 13, 1781.

Sir, The inclosed from Mr. Rapelje will shew that he wants permission for his wife and daughter to go to New York. He says that he is a good whig, but on bad terms with Governor Livingston. His hospitality at his house put me under the obligation of promising to transmit his Letter. I told him a magistrate of one State would not Concern himself with the subjects of another, but he resolved to make the Experiment.

Since the Decease of Mr. Erskine, Congress have been pleased to appoint me to his office. My sincerest acknowledgements are due to your Excellency for introducing me into this Department with so valuable a person. I am, with great esteem your Excellency's most Obt. Humble Serv't

Simeon DeWitt.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

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Sussex County, Squires Point, Jan. 6th 1781.

May it Please your Excellency I have taken the Freedom from our old acquaintence and Friendship to your Family and friends to ask the favour of your Excellency for a Pass for Mit'r's Rapelje & Daughter, or Mit'r Rapalje only, to go to Long Island only, as we Properly belong to New York State and are fled hear from the Enemy. I have sent an order to a very Near Relation to Receive a Sum of money for me on Long Island, who I hear has Receivd the same; who is a Prisoner, and as I also hear is like to spend the same; therefore, must beg of you to be so kind to send Pas as soon Possible, as I am in Distress

for the money, haveing a very large family of 18 Persons to maintain.

I would not ask any favours here, as I have been used very ill some time ago, but was cleared with Honour.

Miss Rapalje has 3 Brothers on Long Island, who are good Whigs, as well as her self, who she has a great Desire to see and if any Dought should arise she will be quallified not to carry any Inteligence or whatever you will ask. With due regard your Sinclear friend & very Humble Servant

Garrit Rapalje.

Governor Clinton State of New York.

[No. 3544.]

### VERMONT'S REVOLUTIONARY PROPOSITION.

#### *An Act to Confiscate a Huge Slice of Territory Belonging to New York.*

\*To the Grand Committee consisting of his Excellency the Governor, the hon'ble Council and House of Representatives, your Committee to whom was refer'd the several Papers from the Committee of the Convention at Cornish and also the Requests of the Inhabitants living north of a Line being extended from the north Line of the Massachusetts to Hudson's River and East of the same River & south of Latitude forty five

beg leave to report vizi: That, whereas, the District of Country formerly known by the name of New Hampshire Grants, was peopled in consequence of Grants of the Lands from New Hampshire, and, whereas the former Government of N. York did, by cunning, in the year 1764, obtain a royal order to exercise Jurisdiction to the west Bank of Connecticut River, which when known was against the Consent of the People of the said District, N. York proceeded to grant subsequent Patents, erect Courts, issue writs of Ejectment Possession &c. in prejudice to the first Grantees and occupants; the Inhabitants necessitated to it, declared a defensive war on the Government of N. York, and that Government made acts of outlawry against said Inhabitants and warlike Preparations was making on both sides. In the Interim, the People governed themselves by Conventions, who at several Times made application to New Hampshire to exert themselves to obtain Jurisdiction, who by a Proclamation &c. wholly rejected any such Connection. Thus stood the Case at the grand area of American Independence, when in Kingly Government, all Jurisdiction & Jurisdictional Lines ceased, and all governmental Power devolv'd on the People, whom they continuing, said Convention emerg'd into Independency, declaring themselves on the fifteenth Day of January, 1777, to be a sovereign free and independent State. And, whereas, the general Court of New Hampshire did, on the 19th of July 1777 by a Letter signed "Meshech Weare, President" directed to "Ira Allen, Esqr." (then) "Secretary of the State of Vermont" acknowledge the Independence of this State. And, whereas, on a Representation of a Committee (inhabiting several Towns east of and contiguous to Connecticut River) representing to the Assembly of this State at their Sessions in March 1778, that a number of Towns east of and adjoining to said River were unconnected with any State in regard to their

\* See Governor Clinton's letter to General McDougall, document 3616, page 741.

internal Police, this State (upon said Representation) did admit sixteen Towns east of said River to union, and extended Jurisdiction over them. And, whereas, the general Court of New Hampshire, did by their Letter dated August 22d 1778 signed, Meshen Weare, President of the Council of New Hampshire, to the hon'ble Thomas Chittenden, Esqr., demanding of the State of Vermont a surrender of their Jurisdiction east of said River, which will appear by the following Paragraph in said Letter vizt:

"I beseech you, Sir, for the sake of the People you preside over, and the People, for the sake of their future Peace & Tranquility to relinquish every Connection as a political Body with the Towns east of Connecticut River who are Members of the state of New Hampshire intitled to the same Priviledges as the other People of the said State from which there has never been any attempt to restrain them."

The Legislature of Vermont at their Session in Feb'y 1779 on the reception of President Weare's said Letter, considering their Territory to be larger and more fertile than that of N. Hampshire, allowing the latter s'd sixteen Towns east of said River and being unwilling to have a Controversy with a neighbouring State, did close with the Demand of N. Hampshire and relinquish'd Jurisdiction east of said Connecticut River.

In this, the Minds of the two Governments met and virtually settled upon the River as the boundary Line between the respective States.

An Agent was then appointed to transmit the Resolution of said Union to the general Court of N. Hampshire, who on his arrival there found, after delivering his message, that there was a Plan on foot for laying a Jurisdictional Claim to the Territory of Vermont under pretext of friendship and to baffle the Claims of N. York. Said agent made strenuous Efforts against such Claim being laid; arguing that could not be of much Service to Vermont as she had but little to fear from N. York and the further consideration was postponed to their next Session. In the interim, an agent was again sent to attend said genl. Court with a Letter from the Governor of this State, requesting the Legislature of N. Hampshire in the most urgent manner not to lay claim to this State. After a hearing before both Houses, and the most pressing arguments used, the Legislature did insist that they would do Vermont a favour; accordingly laid their Claim and directed their agents to lay s'd claim at Congress which together with the Claims of the other neighbouring States has prevented this State from obtaining a seat in Congress.

N. Hampshire have from the Time of laying afores'd Claim endeavor'd to support internal Broils in the easterly Part of this State contiguous to Connecticut River. Some Gentlemen Inhabitants of the County of Chester that are or have been members of the general Court of N. Hampshire have not long since in Convention when fatal necessity obliged them to it, publicly declared that their Intentions were to unite the whole of the Grants (meaning Vermont) to N. Hampshire.

And, whereas, sundry applications have been made by the People inhabiting west of a Line known by the name of the Mason Line and east of Connecticut River, to unite with this State in one distinct Government: their last application is in the words following vizt:

"To the hon'ble Assembly of the State of Vermont now sitting in Windsor, the Committee appointed by the Convention holden at Charlestown on the sixteenth of January last to confer with the assembly of said State, beg leave to inform, that the Convention are desirous of being united with the State beforementioned in one separate independent Government, upon such Principles as shall be mutually thought the most equitable and beneficial for the whole, desiring an answer as soon as may be.--By order of the Committee, Elisha Payne." Windsor 10th Feb'y 1781.

Wherefore, your Committee do recommend (that in order to quiet the present Disturbances on the two sides of said River, and the better to enable the Inhabitants of the said two sides of said River to defend her frontiers) that the Legislature of this State do lay a jurisdictional Claim to all the Lands situate east of Connecticut River, north of the Massachusetts, west of the Mason Line, and south of Latitude 45, and that they do not exercise Jurisdiction for the time being.

Whereas, the Government of N. York, have for more than sixteen years last past, made use of every Art & Cunning in their Power to usurp the Rights and Properties of the People of this State; while every Measure hitherto adopted have proved abortive for settling a Controversy of such a magnitude so necessary to be settled for the Peace and welfare of the United States at this critical Period, this State, unfortunately situate, having an extensive frontier of more than one hundred miles in length to defend against Invasions from the Province of Quebec, by the avaricious and ambitious Claims of the

neighbouring Governments, and by the Power assumed over them by Congress, have at several Times been eubarrassed in raising Men and Money for the Defence of her Frontiers, by Resolutions of Congress obtained by claiming Governments, notwithstanding the brave Exertions of this State in the Bennington Battle &c., every article belonging to the Continent has been called for & ordered out of this State, even to pick axes and Spades, at the Time when this State was erecting a new Line of Ports on her frontiers, at which Time the State of New York evacuated their Post at Skeensborough, which necessitated the People to Petition to this State for Protection, when this State reinforced her Guards & directed her Scouts to cover said People;

And, whereas, it appears that by the best accounts hitherto obtained, that there was a Government established by the Court of Great Britain before æra of American Independence, including all the Lands this State at present exercises Jurisdiction over, as also a much greater western extent; over which Governor Philip Skeen was to have presided; and which overturns the Claims of New York on their own stating.

And, whereas, it appears that the Government of N. York is still determined to do every thing in her Power to embarrass and overturn the Jurisdiction of this State and have made no answer to Governor Chittenden's Letter, dated Nov'r 22d, 1780, which was sent to the Legislature of New York, demanding of them to relinquish their Claim of Jurisdiction to this State & inviting them to join in the mutual Defence of the Frontiers of the two States, against British Invasions from the Province of Quebec; wherefore, your Committee, do recommend that the Legislature of this State, do lay a jurisdictional Claim to all the Lands situate north of the north Line of the State of Massachusetts and extending the same to Hudson's River; then east of the center of the deepest Channel of said River to the head thereof, from thence, east of a north Line being extended to Latitude 45, and south of the same Line, including all the Lands & waters to the Place where now exercises Jurisdiction and not to exercise Jurisdiction for the time being.

By order Joseph Bowker, Chairman.

In Council 14th Feb'y 1781.

The foregoing Report read & accepted.

State of Vermont In General Assembly 14th Feb'y 1781.

The within Report was read & accepted,

Whereupon, Resolved, that this State do hereby lay a Jurisdictional Claim to all the Lands and waters within the Lines described in the foregoing Report.

attest

Ros. Hopkins, Clerk.

State of Vermont In Council, Windsor, 14th Feb'y, 1781.

Read & Concurred.

Thos. Tolman, Secry. pro tem.

attest

[No. 3545.]

*Dr. Tillotson Demands Restitution for Confiscated Specie.*

Sir, I take the liberty to enclose you the account which you were kind enough to promise me your interest and trouble to procure for me: as the Specie at this time would be no unexceptable thing, and I'm informed that the Commissioners appointed for the sale of confiscated Lands has made some sales for Specie, and think my debt ought to be amongst the first paid. I have the Honor to be, your Excellency's most obedient &c.

Th. Tillotson.

Clermont Feb'y 15th 1781.

His Excellency, Governor Clinton.



The State of New York

Dr.

1777 To cash in Specie taken from Robt. Miller (of mine) by Colo. Taylor, and sent into New York for the use of their Prisoners, by order of Genl. James Clinton £32 0 0.

Clermont, Feb'y 15th. 1781. Errors Excepted by Th. Tillotson.

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[No. 3546.]

*Governor Clinton Makes a Recommendation to Congress in Favor of Colonel Malcom.*

Albany, 16th Feb'y. 1781.

Gentlemen, I have been honored with a Letter from his Excellency the President of Congress inclosing certain Resolutions of the 9th Ultimo respecting Colo. Malcom which I immediately communicated to him. Bu his Letter of the 6th Inst't inclosed, you will observe that he conceives Congress by not attending to a former Resolution in his Favour, have injured him by their present Determination. I have, therefore, at his Request taken the Liberty of referring his Case to you that if not before fully understood it may be in the proper Train for Reconsideration. With respect to his Pay for occasional Services (altho employed as a Continental Officer) he is intitled to it & will receive it in the first Instance from the State & as to his Depreciation he stands on the same Footing with the other Officers of the Army who are Inhabitants of this State. I have the Honor, to be &c.

[G. C.]

The Delegates of the State of New York.

[No. 3547.]

*Benjamin Birdsall Complains Against Tories.*

Dover, February 17th 1781.

SIR, I am unhappy to Inform your Exelency that the unsettled and expos'd Cituation of family Renders it so ill Convenient, together with a late Conspiracy, happening by a wicked Sett of Torys Plotting together, in our neighbourhood, I cannot att present attend the legislature, unless sum mode can be adopted, to prevent the wicked Claudescent trade with our enemy and the torys prevented from Harbouring emisarys from the enemy. If it is equally through the State as it is in our neighbourhood, the whigs will soon be worn out and must remove. Capt. Volentine Whelor, is a gentleman whom I could wish might be valued equal to his merit. In hast, I am your most obedient and very Humbl. Ser't

Benj. Birdsall.

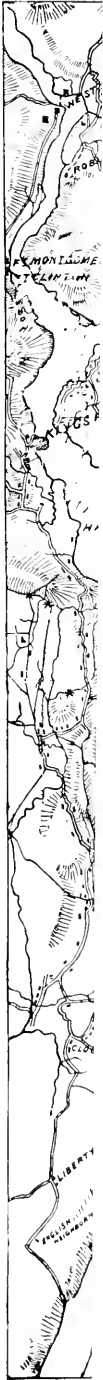
N: B: the loud Calmours through our State against Refugees, and their Sufferings, together Renders it exceeding unhappy for them, will I fear compell them to take up their arms against their internal enemys amongst us, but never without your Exelency's approbation, unless necessaty compels them. To His Exelency Gove'r Clinton.

[No. 3548.]

*Mr. Hogle Assessed for His Son's Disloyalty.*

Cambridge, 17th Febr. 1781.

Sir, Agreeable to a law of the State of New York, Passed ye 9th day of October 1780, for assessing Persons whose Sons have joined the enemy, I now send your exelency a return of all that comes under that Law in our Destrict, to wit, Barnibes Hogle, whoes real Estate is assest at £80 & Personal at £55, which makes





£135, the tax on the same £5—9—3 which I have directed the colector to colect & pay to the treasurer, by the third day of March next. I have the honor to be your Exelency's humble Sarvent

John Younglove, Supervisor.

To his Exelency George Clinton.

The s'd Hogle has but one son.

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[No. 3549.]

*Sheriff Nicoll Protests Against Flags for Women—The Governor's Reply.*

Goshen, Febr. 19th 1781.

Dear S'r, This morning Mr. [Mrs.] Wood caled on me and requested me to write to your Excellency and put you in mind of hur Husband, as she expects Flags will be passing this Season of the year and his Fammaly is distrest for want of him. Mrs. Wood is sencable that you will do every thin[g] in your Power to have him exchange[d] or parold, but is fearfull that throw the Multiplisity of Bisness you may not thinck of him.

Their is one Mrs. Dunning, who has or meanes to make application to go to New York to se hur Friends, but I have Reson to beleve it tis to fetch out goods, as she has already ingaged to supply some yóung woman if she is permitted to go; many of the good peopel of this Neighbourhood will be dissaddistied as [t]heir is none that has bin permitted to go from this Neighborhood but what has brought out goods, and some of them larg Quantities, so as to supply their fammalyes and disaffected Neighbours, while the well affected Inhabitance must go with a Patcht Shirt and a Ragged Cote. I am with grate Respect, your Humble Servent

Isaac Nicoll.

His Excellency George Clinton.

Albany 19 March 1781.

Dr Sir, I have rec'd your Letter of the 19 ulto. and you will be pleased to inform Mrs. Wood that I have given Permission to a Person in this Place to go to Canada for the Exchange of Capt. Wood as soon as the Lakes are passable, and shall inform you by the first opportunity of the Event of this Measure.

I am with you, apprehensive, that abuses have been committed by Persons who have had Permission to go into New York, tho' for particular Reasons which I cannot communicate, it was impossible at the Time to refuse granting their Requests. It was always my Desire to prevent this Intercourse as much as possible. I am &c.

[G. C.]

[To Isaac Nicoll.]

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[No. 3550.]

*Henry Glen Favors the Exchange of Captain Vrooman.*

Schonectady, 19th Febr'y. 1781.

Sir, The Bearer hereof is Mrs. Vrooman, the wife of Captain Walter Vrooman, who last fall fell in the hands of the Enemy betwen Fort Schuyler and Onida Lake. Sche has Requested of me to write a few liens to your Excellency, wether Captain Vrooman could not be Exchanged; it semes their is some talk of a Flage will be sent in the Course of a few weeks to Montreal. Mrs. Vrooman is a weoman has a number of small Children & wants almost every necessary of life, & friends not verey able to give her Rileve; if his Excellency was to order a Flage into Montreal soon to exchange any gentlemen, I would be glad if it can any ways possible be brought about, to have Vrooman exchanged. I am, your Excellency most obeid. Humble Serv't

Henry Glen.

To His Excellency, George Clinton, Esqr.

[No. 3551.]

*General Washington Writes Governor Clinton in Regard to State Affairs—Albany as an Ordnance Depot.*

Head Quarters New Windsor, February 19th, 1781.

Sir, I am honored with your Excellency's letter of the 14th instant, in behalf of the legislature, with the copy of one of the 5th to Congress. I beg to assure the legislature of the high sense I entertain of the honor they do me by their confidence in this communication—while I deplore the melancholy picture given of the distress of the State which I have every reason to believe from the facts that have fallen within my own observation is not exaggerated.

I sincerely wish it were in my power to comply with the request of the state for leaving its two regiments for the defence of the frontier next Campaign: but I should not merit its confidence, if I were to flatter it with an expectation which may probably be disappointed. The reduction of the number of our regiments, if they were completed would scarcely give us a force adequate to a vigorous offensive campaign which is to be hoped will place—towards which, proposals have been made, and engagements entered into on my part. But we have too much room to fear the regiments of several of the states will be far from complete, which will in the case I have mentioned, render the collection of our whole force the more indispensable.

Situated as I am, I can only say that I anxiously wish it were in my power to give security to the frontier of all the states—that I sensibly feel for the peculiar circumstances of this—that I shall be happy if practicable to give it effectual protection and relief—but cannot promise the practicability of it. Much will depend upon the operations of the Campaign; if they have for ob-

ject any decisive enterprize, we shall be obliged to employ all our force in it; if they are of a defensive kind, the protection of the frontiers, will be attended to in a manner equal to their importance, and I hope successfully.

Our stock of ammunition is more scanty than your Excellency can have any idea of, but of this stock, small as it is, I shall order a part to be depossited at Albany for the purpose you mention.

At present the regiments of Artillery are extremely reduced, and without knowing what will be their state at the opening of the campaign, I can give no possitive answer to the application on this head, but I think it probable it will be in my power to comply with it.

The want of provision is unfortunately an evil, which every part of the army experiences, and must have fatal consequences, unless the states can hereafter generally comply better with the requisitions of Congress, or some other more competent mode can be adopted, than has hitherto obtained. But with respect to the garrison of Fort Schyler, 'till your letter arrived I had reason to suppose, it had had a supply, which would suffice 'till May. The Commissary General shall be directed to apply to the Magazine at Richmond, or any other where relief is to be procured.

I beg your Excellency to assure the Legislature of the high respect I entertain for them and the gratitude I feel for the support I have upon all occasions experienced from the state. With every sentiment of personl respect and esteem, I have the honor to be Your Excellency's most obed't and Humble servant,

Go. Washington.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.



[No. 3552.]

*George Clinton Disturbed—New York State Troops Have Been Ordered to Headquarters.*

Albany, 20th February 1781.

Sir, On the 14th Instant, I had the Honor of addressing a Letter to your Excellency by order of the Legislature, representing the distressed Situation of our Frontiers & the Danger that the Inhabitants would abandon their Habitations. Since my arrival here yesterday, I find their Fears increased, in consequence of your orders for Six Companies to march immediately to Head Quarters and of Reports which prevail, that the Enemy were preparing to cross the Lakes, which are now become passable on the Ice, and I have this day been requested by both Houses, to write to you again upon the Subject and it is still their earnest wish that the whole State Line should remain in this Quarter.

I am apprized of the Delicate Situation in which this application must place your Excellency, anxious to afford every possible Relief to these unhappy People, at a time when you may be convinced that the general Interest of the Confederacy requires that its Force should be directed to other objects. The weak and distressed Situation of the State must be an apology for the Legislature in this Request and I have the fullest persuasion that we shall receive from you every aid which you can consistently grant. I have the Honor to be &c. &c.

Geo: Clinton.

His Excellency Genl. Washington.

[No. 3553.]

*Ebenezer Mott, Released from Captivity, Declares His Intention of Continuing in the Service.*

Poughkeepsie, 20th Febr. 1781.

Sir, I having Returnd from Captivity and leberated again; this to inform your Exelency that is my Desire to Continue in the Servis agane, according as a Resolve of Congress Intitels me to, of which I make know Dobth but your Exelency will do every thing in your power to serve me. Sir, I am your Exelency's most Obedent Humble Servent

Ebenezer Mott.

To his Exel'y Govenner Clinton.

[No. 3554.]

## PUBLIC CREDIT ALMOST AT AN END.

*John Sloss Hobart Suggests to the Governor a Scheme by Which Any Amount of Money Can be Borrowed.*

20th Feb'y 1781.

Dear sir, I have conversed with several gentlemen on the Subject of money and find them pretty generally agreed in sentiment that provided the Legislature will incorporate a Number of gentlemen and mortgage to them a specific tax, they will be able to borrow any sum of money; but since the 18th of March, public Credit is at an end, and all the Pledges that can be given in that way will be of no avail. This is a measure I wish to see adopted, as I am persuaded this and this alone will opperate as a radical remedy for all our embarrassments. The expedient we talked of when I had last the Honour of conversing with your Excellency, will be a great relief if it should succeed, and I have every reason to expect it will, but it will be only temporary, the sooner some permanent system is adopted the sooner

we shall be relieved and be in condition to bid defiance to the enemy. I have the honour, to be with great Respect, your Excellency's most obed't Serv't

Jno. Sloss Hobart.

Gover'r Clinton.

(private)

[No. 3555.]

*Tory Assessment from Rhinebeck Precinct.*

State of New York.

Rhinebeck Precinct, in Dutchess County 20th Feb'y 1781.

Tax List of an assessment in Pursuance of an Act of the Legislature of said State, Entitled "an act to Complete the Quota of the Troops of this State, to serve in the army of the United States, during the War," Passed the 9th October, 1780; of all the Persons Resident within the Beats of the Respective Captains Companies in said Precinct, whose Son or Sons, were under age and Resided with them, have gone off to, and joined the enemy.

	Estates	L	S	d
In the Beat of Capt. Andries Heermaus Company None	<i>L</i>			
In the Beat of Capt. John Clum's Company				
Thomas Lewis 1 Son	400	15	0	0
Timothy Van Steenbergh 2 Sons (Very Poor)		5	0	0
John Rypenbergh 1 Son	700	26	5	0
Joan Van Vredenburgh 1 Son	150	5	12	6
In the Beat of Capt. Peter Westfall's Company				
Jurry Adam Shoefelt 1 Son	325	12	3	9
Fredrick Trever 1 Ditto	430	16	2	6
Jacob Hagedorn 1 Ditto	750	28	2	6
In the Beat of Capt. Jacobus Kip's Company None				
In the Beat of Capt. Abraham Kip's Company				
David Dop 1 Son (Very Poor)		5	0	0
		<hr/> L13	6	<hr/> 3

Benjamin V Steenbrgh Albartus Sickner Isaac Kip Jacob Hermans, Assessors.

Copy

P. D'Witt, Supervisor.

[No. 3556.]

*Mrs. Snyder's Request to the Governor that Her Husband and Son be Exchanged.*

Kingston, February ye 23th 1781.

May it Please your Excellency: I take the freedom to address my selfe to your Excellency, and lay my Distressed case before you and desire you will be pleased to give me your assistance, as much as lays in your Power. Doubtless you have heard that my Husband Capt. Jeremiah Snyder and my son, were taken Captives by the Enemy in May last past, and burnt down my house and all my household goods, carryed of or consumed in the flames, and now my children & self live upon the Benevolence. of my good neighbours and relations which are good stanch whigs. My husband was a very active officer in the American cause, and lived amongst a cluster of envious and rigid Tories, and by all circumstances, it appears that my Tory neighbours had pointed him out to sacrifice him and family, to satiate their vengeance upon him to get him & son Prisoner in their Hands.

This is my earnest Desire and Request that you will use your Excellency's utmost endeavour to git my husband and son exchanged as soon as possible, as I hear there is or soon will be a sattle of exchange of Prisoners; that you will be pleased to have my husband and son upon the List of the Prisoners; my husband and son as I am credible informed are in Canada. I am, and remain your ever dutifull Servant to command.

Catharina Snyder. (With a long list of friends.)

P. S. My son's name is Elias Snyder.

To His Excelency George Clinton Esq.

[No. 3557.]

*Governor Clinton Returns Certain Papers to Judge Hobart for Correction.*

Orange Count, January the 22d: 1781.

May it Please your Exelency: The within or inclosed certificates and Discharges were brought to me to be transmitted to you. Altho it apiars to me they are not drawn altogether as the law directs, yet for the Sake of the Soldier, if it can be done with Justice, I trust you will grant a warrant of Impress for the wheat they are Intitled to by Law; but the within named, Joll Bower and Moses Cuningham, chuses the Mony Reather than the wheat; they and s'd Mapes desire likewise, if it may be, that they may have their Discharges sent Back to them again. I am, Dear Sir, your Most Obed't and Hum'e Serv't

Elihu Marvin, Justice.

To his Exelency George Clinton.

Albany, 24<sup>th</sup> Febry, 1781.

D'r Sir, I rec'd your Letter of the 22d Ulto, with the Papers it inclosed; they are not drawn agreeable to Law and, therefore, warrants can not be granted on them; they ought particularly to mention that the Person enlisted was one of the Levies raised, either for Defence of the Frontiers or to reinforce the army, as the Case may be, and that they continued in Service until the 15<sup>th</sup> of Dec'r or if discharged, sooner, the Reason must be assigned in the Certificate. I return you the Papers, that the Persons concerned may obtain proper vouchers when I shall be ready to do whatever is necessary on my Part.

[G. C.]

[To Jno. Sloss Hobart.]

[No. 3558.]

*Robert R. Livingston Intends to Make the Governor a Visit.*

Philadelphia, 26th Feb'y 1781.

Dr Sir, I wrote to you by Mr. Ganseworth, [Gansevoort] mentioning a circumstance which might induce me to offer my resignation to congress. I find upon examination that I was misinformed by a member; that point is settled to my satisfaction. I propose tomorrow to apply for leave to return to the State when I shall visit you as soon as in compliance with my repeated request you inform me the Legislature have met. Mr. Taylor who deliver this will give you the news of the day. I only wrote least what I first mentioned might occasion any misapprehensions. I have the honor to be, Dear Sir, with great respect & esteem your Excellency's most obt. Hum: Serv't

Robt. R. Livingston.

[To G. C.]

[No. 3559.]

*Solomon Pendleton's Grievance Against Colonel Dubois.*

Schenectady, Feb. 26th 1781.

Sir, I have been duly reflecting upon my Circumstances, since I had the pleasure of seing your Exelency. I find that the resolves of Congress mentioned by Major Fish, are just as he related them. It appears to me that although I have been agriev'd, or intended to be agriev'd, yet, I have no right to complain of grievances in a general way, when it is in my power, with your Exelency's approbation, to find redress: and to quit the publick service with disgust for Col. Duboys intended injury, is beneath me; I wish to act upon a more elevated principle. I should be sorry to be the means of any uneasiness

among the Regiments already establish'd, and yet, if I quit the service in the present situation of affairs. I shall be look'd upon by the world to be cast out of the service, as an unworthy member; unless I publish my reasons in full, which would call in so many Circumstances. and affect so many people, that it would probably cause more uneasiness than my continuation. And, beside, to give up my right as an Officer, for fear of giving uneasiness with the present Establishment. which the determination of Congress justly intitled me to, long before this establishment, would be carrying Complaisance too far. I have already observ'd that I was ready to serve consistant with honour; and I am confident your Exelency will not wish me to serve otherways. However. I shall be at Albany tomorrow, & shall beg your Exelency's advice upon this Subject, as it is my wish to do nothing in the Milletary way without it. If your Exelency is like to be absent tomorrow, I beg you will return me your sentiments by the bearer Mr. Connoly. I wish your Exelency's sentiments may remain a secret, whatever they may be, for the present. I remain with sincear respect, your Exelency's most obed't and very humble Ser't

Solomon Pendleton.

To His Exelency Governor Clinton.

[No. 3560.]

*Depreciation and Wages.*

\* Commonwealth of Massachusetts in the House of Representatives February 27th 1781.

Whereas, the Committee delegated by the Massachusetts Line of the Continental army, to act in their behalf in the settlement of the Depreciation of their wages, have applied to this

\* Endorsement on this document: "Copy of the act of Mass'ts respecting depreciation. 27th Feb'y 1781. (No. 6)"

Court, for an allowance of the sums which are due to them, on account of the Depreciation which took place after their wages became due, before they actually received Payment, and, however, reasonable it may have been considered, heretofore, that an adjustment hereof should be made by Congress, yet as a settlement of it in this mode may be attended with delay and Embarrassment, and the assembly are chearful on all proper occasions to express their sense of the service and sufferings of their Military Brethern in the present Important Contest.

It is, therefore, Resolved, that the Committee of this Court, for settling with the army, be and they hereby are directed to allow the Massachusetts Line of the Continental army the amount of the Depreciation which took place on their wages from the several periods at which they became due to the time when the Paymasters of the respective Regiments received the same.

It is further Resolved that the additional Pay of the Military Staff and of the Massachusetts Forces be made good, and the depreciation be allowed thereon in the same manner as on the Established Pay of the Line. That the officers and non Commissioned officers be respectively charged with all monies received by them, for the purpose of Inlisting of recruits, and be Credited for each Soldier by them respectively Inlisted, and who was mustered before the second of December such sums as we are allowed by the Resolves of the general Court. That the officers, Non Commissioned officers and Privates be charged with all supplies of Clothing, and stores delivered to them, except such Clothing as is allowed by Congress, after deducting the value of the money they paid for the same, but no charges to be made of any Clothing supplied by Congress, on condition that no ac-



count is brought against the State for any other Deficiencies than the Depreciation of wages.

That the benefit of this Resolve be extended to all who were in service, as part of this State's Quota of the Continental army on the Thirtyfirst day of December last, and to the Heirs of such as have died or been killed whilst in said Service, previous thereto and also to such as have been regularly Discharged therefrom since the sixth of February 1779.

Sent up for Concurrence.

Caleb Davis, Speaker.

In Senate March 2d 1781.

Read and Concurred.

Jeremiah Powell Presid't.

Approved

John Hancock.

True Copy attest

John Avery, Secretary.

We do, hereby, Certify that the above is a true Copy of the Resolutions of the Legislature of the State of Massachusetts Bay, passed on our application in behalf of ourselves and the officers and Soldiers of the Massachusetts Line.

West Point.

Rufus Putnam, Colo. 5th R. Henry Harrison, Colo. 9th Massa. Regiment; John Brooks, Lt. Col. Comdt. 7th Mass. Regt.

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[No. 3561.]

*List of Prisoners Taken in Tryon County.*

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 memorial of the Subscribers Humbly Sheweth

That Peter Hansen of Tryon County was taken Prisoner by the Enemy in October or November 1778. That Adam Fonda,

Frederick Sammons, Hermanus Terwilliger, Benj'n De Line, Joseph Myers, Barent Hansen and Samuel Kennedy all of Caugnawaga District in Tryon County were also taken by the Enemy in May 1780. As also Cap'n Alex'r Harper, John Hendry, Lieut., Isaac Patchin, William Lamb, Wm. Lamb Jun'r, David Brown, John Brown, Solo'n Brown, Doctor Brown, Esaray Thorp, all of Harpersfield taken the 7th April 1780. Henry Agar, taken from the Brakaben Schohare District. That the above named Persons are now Prisoners in Canada and taken from their own Houses and not in Arms and have left distress'd Families.

Your memorialists humbly pray your Excellency to use your Influence that the said Persons may be Exchang'd and return'd to their Families. And your Memorialists as in Duty Bound shall ever pray.

Zeph Batcheller.

February 27th 1781.

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Free Gift Patchin, from Harpersfield, Lap & 4 Sons—Rem Sneyders Bush Street's Son;

Jacob Forbes, Son, Fred'k Wendeter, Son, Barkly Picket, Jun'r, Jacob V Slyk, Garret V Slyk, Johannes Helmer, Johannes Garter & 2 Sons, Joseph Newman, Johannis Sauer Jacob Aker taken 3 April 1780 not taken in Arms.

John Frank from German Flats 8 June, 1778, Laurenc Frank Sep'r 1778, John Heller July 1780, Jacob Faling Aug't 1780, not taken in Arms.

Capt. Markus Dermot, Oct. 1780, Geo: Dockstedder, Do. Nich's Harder, Do, taken in Arms;

Capt. John Kiser March 1780—not in Arms

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[No. 3562.]

See Document 3594, page 715.

[No. 3563.]

*Robert R. Livingston Writes an Excellent Letter on the Finances.*

Circular. Office of foreign affairs,  
Philadelphia, 28th February 1781.

Sir: Where a government is composed of independant States, united not by the power of a Soveriegn, but by their common Interest; the executive Departments form a center of communication between each State and their chief Council, and are so far links of the Chain which should bind them together, as they render to each similar views of great National Objects and introduce unanimity in their measures for the establishment of general Interests; A mistaken Idea of our own importance to other Nations, of their attachment to us, and of the weakness of our common Enemy having lulled us into a very imprudent Security, I beg leave to state to your Excellency the information last received from Europs.

Our Success in this important War, under the favor of Heaven must be built upon the weakness of our Enemy, the strength and perseverance of her Foes in Europe, and our own exertions. It is an undeniable Fact that Britain has not in the course of the last campaign, gained any advantage of her Enemies, but on the contrary, has seen their Fleets ride triumphant in the Seas, she proudly called her own, and an Army in which she placed her fondest hopes made captive. But, on the other hand, we are compelled to admit, that she has mett with no such reverse of Fortune, as materialy to debilitate her, or weaken her resources for an other Campaign. Her Trade has for the most returned in safety; her Fleets have blocked up those of the Dutch, and upon the separation of the Combined Fleets recovered the superiority in the European Seas; the army

[Burgoyne's] taken in America is only so far decidedly ruinous to her affairs here, as we know how to avail ourselves of the advantage it affords.

That her Pride is not humbled, that she did not wish for Peace prior to this advantage is obvious.

1st from her refusing to make a separate Treaty with the Dutch, who under the mediation of the Empress of Russia seemed anxiously to wish it;

2dly from her neglect to notice the last proposals of the mediating Powers, which yet remain unanswered, so that if any alteration is made in their sentiments on this subject, they must originate in their ill success in America, for in every other quarter their defensive War seems to have been supported with advantage.

How far this will operate, admits of a doubt which prudence directs us not to rely upon.

Money, the great support of modern Wars, has been raised with more facility in England, than in any Country in the World, and we find the minority last year, censuring Lord North, for giving the advantage of lending to his Friends. Their losses may indeed render subscriptions more expensive to the Public, but there is no well grounded Room to suppose they will not fill, and still less Reason to believe, if the means for carrying on the War are attainable, that the vindictive spirit of the King, and his Ministry, and the overweening Pride of the Nation, will soon yield to make a Peace which involves their disgrace and humiliation.

But as strength or weakness are mere comparative terms, we can form no Judgment of the measures of Britain but by attending to the force and disposition of her Enemies.

The United Provinces were evidently dragged into the War, and have prosecuted it, as if they momentarily expected Peace. The Colonies in the West Indies have been taken without being in a state to make the smallest resistance, and the active interposition of France alone saved those in the East from sharing the same Fate. Our last Letters from Holland place the distress of their commerce in a strong point of view. They are unhappily rent by Parties, which clog the wheels of government tho' it is said, that the Party opposed to England are the most numerous, and growing in strength, so that at some future day we may reasonably hope, they will assume the entire assentency, yet we can build very little on this, till the close of another year.

This much is certain, they are not yet allied to us, nor have they given us reason to believe they intend to be so. They wish for Peace and will take no measures, that can obstruct it. They have lent us no money, nor are they like to do it, from whence, we may presume either that they doubt our success, or do not much interest themselves in it. Our expectations from Spain are scarce more flattering; some little aids of money have been received after long Solicitations, hardly so much as paid the Expence of soliciting. We have reason to suppose that no more will be granted.

They are still cold with regard to our alliance; nothing but brilliant success can bring it to a Conclusion—nor have we the smallest Reason to expect any pecuniary aid from her, even if she should confederate with us, in time to be of use for the next campaign. She has at this moment, very many, and very expensive operations on hand, and till she has allied herself to us, we have no certainty, that she will chuse to continue the War

for the attainment of our Independence; if Britain should be sufficiently humbled to sacrifice to her the Objects which led her into the War, to France then, we turn as the only Enemy of Great Britain, who is at the same time our ally, who will persevere in the War for the attainment of our Independence. She has already done so much for us, in order to afford us the means of doing something for ourselves, that she may reasonably hope to find the effect of her benevolence; her Fleets have protected our Coasts; her armies have fought our Battles—she has made various efforts to restore our finances by paying the interest of our Loans, by obtaining credit in Europe on our account for Cloathing, arms, and Necessaries, by advancing Money, and by opening and gauranteing a Loan for us to a considerable amount in Holland, when by abolition of Paper our finances were totally deranged. These sums are nearly expended; another campaign is about to be entered upon. France assures us, that it is not in her Power to make us further grants of Money. Her Ministers repeat this to us in every Letter, in a tone that persuades us of their determination on that point; what then is to be done? Are we to relinquish the hopes, which the present debility of the enemy afford us, of expelling them by one decided effort, and compensating all our losses by the enjoyment of an active commerce? Are we to return to the wicked, oppressive system we have quited? Are we to carry on a weak defensive war with an unpaid army, whose precarious subsistance must depend upon what can be torn by violence from the industrious Husbandman?

Shall we vainly, and I think disgracefully supplicate all the Powers of Europe for those means, which we have in our own hands, if we dare to call them forth, and which after all must

be called forth if we continue the War, (and upon that subject, there can be no doubt, till the end for which we took up arms is attained) the only question is, whether each State shall fairly and regularly contribute its quota, or whether, that which happens to be the seat of War, shall, (as has too often been the case) bear the whole burden, and suffer more from the necessities of our own Troops than the ravages of the enemy? Whether we shall drive the enemy from their Posts with a strong Body of regular Troops, or whether we shall permit them to extend their devastations, while with weak Battalions, and fluctuating corps of Militia, we protect a weak defensive War till our ally is discouraged and some unfavorable change takes place in the System of Europe?

Your Excellency, I am persuaded, will pardon the freedom with which I write? You see the necessity which dictates my Letter, and were it in my power to communicate all that our Friends in Europe think of our inactivity, I am persuaded, you would urge your State to exertions in much stronger terms, than I dare venture to use.

When Congress call upon a State for supplies, they are usually answered by pleas of disability urged too by the State with good Faith, and a firm persuasion that they speak their real situation; a recurrence to facts, that have passed under their own observation will convince them that they are deceived. From the time that the depreciation of the continental bills of credit begun, till they were no longer current, the States that received them paid a tax equal to all the expenditures of the army, and a very considerable one beyond it, for, if we suppose ten millions of dollars a year to be necessary for their support, then the expence till the close of the campaign 1779, must have amounted

to upwards of fifty millions, exclusive of supplies from Europe, and yet in March 80, the whole national Debt contracted in America, did not in fact amount to five Millions, so that forty five Millions were paid by the United States in those five years of the War, when they had the least commerce and agriculture, and when they were most distressed by the enemy; and this Tax too was the most unjust and partial that can be conceived, unless we except that by which we have since raised much more from the People, without giving so much to the Public, I mean the Laws for impressing &c. which placed the greatest Burden of the war upon the shoulders of a particular order of Men, in particular States only. Now, surely, if by partial and unjust measures which necessity alone can plead for, we have been able to draw from every State, a tax more than equal to the present demand, no State can say that it cannot afford its proportion of a more equitable Tax. Those who have hitherto borne the weight of the war, must warmly espouse a measure, which is so greatly calculated for their Relief; those who have hitherto been eased from the Burden, must be more able to take it up at this time, when they have the most promising expectations of being obliged to carry it, but for a short time.

It is certain that if we put ourselves in a State to take advantage of Circumstances early in the ensuing Spring, that we have the best grounded Reason to hope, that a few Months will remove the war from our Doors; whereas if we delay to enable Congress to say to their allies "we are ready for an effectual cooperation with any force you may send." they will turn their attention to other objects, and leave us to lament in vain the opportunities we have lost. Every motive, then, national Honor, national interest, public Oeconomy, private ease, and



that love of freedom which prevades every Legislature on the Continent, call loudly, not only for a compliance with the requisitions of Congress, but for so early a compliance as to render it effectual. It is true, we are at present in such a situation as to have no apprehensions for the final establishment of our Independance, but surely it is a matter of some moment to us, whether we shall obtain it, (at least be freed from the ravages of the enemy and the burden of the War) in the course of six Months, at the expence of eight millions of Dollars, or whether, we shall wait for it till a general and perhaps a distant Peace, and be subject in the mean while to infinitely greater expence, and all the distress that attends the Country which is the seat of War;

But, Sir, it is time to dismiss a subject which wants no arguments to illustrate it,

I am confident, you will use every means to convince the State over which you preside, of the danger which will result from relying more upon the weakness of the enemy, than their own strength, more upon the aid of their allies, than their own exertions, more upon unjust, partial hazardous and expensive expedients, than upon an equal and regular support of the measures, which Congress upon the most mature deliberation has recommended to their attention. I have the Honor, Sir, to be, with the greatest Respect and Esteem, your Excellency's most obed't humble Servant

Robt. R. Livingston.

[No. 3564.]

*President Weare, of New Hampshire, Requests Governor Clinton to Exchange Official Publications.*

State of New Hampshire. Hampton Falls, Feb. 1781.

Sir, I sometime past, informd your Excellency, that as soon as the acts of this State were printed, I should embrace the first Oppertunity of sending them to you. I now do my self the pleasure of transmitting to your Excellency, Copies of the acts pass'd in this State, from the time we took up Government to July last: and shall do my self the honor of transmitting from time to time, such future acts may be pass'd here. An interchange of the like kind, if agreeable to you, will be very acceptable, and the favor acknowledged with gratitude. I have the honor to be, with every Sentiment of Esteem and Respect yr.  
Obt. Hum'le Ser't

Meshech Weare.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

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[No. 3565.]

*Congress Authorizes the Governor to Appoint a Temporary Commissioner of Accounts.*

Albany, 1st March 1781.

D'r Sir, I am authorized by Congress to appoint a temporary Com'r, to join with other Com'rs in receiving and liquidating the accounts of the Public Officers & Inhabitants of this State against the United States, and to be entitled to the same Emoluments while in Office as a Com'r of the Chambers at the Treasury with the addition of Travelling Expences.

Many Reasons conspire to induce me to give you the preference in this appointment, leaving you, however, perfectly at

Liberty to consult your own Inclination & Convenience as to the acceptance of it.

How long you will be engaged in the Business it is impossible to determine; as the amount of the Debt, however, is great I have no doubt but it will take a considerable time to settle the accounts.

Public Justice and the particular Interest of our State require that this office should not remain long vacant, and, therefore, you will see the necessity of your communicating to me your Determination as soon as possible. Should you determine to accept, I must request you to repair to the State without Loss of time, in order that you may be qualified for the due Execution of the office.

[G. C.]

Colo. Brasher.

[No. 3566.]

*Benjamin Clapp in Behalf of His Son, Captured by Delancey's Corps.*

Nine Partners, March 3d, 1781.

May it Please your Excellency. Having Confidenc in your Excellencies Readiness to relieve the distressed, emboldens me to sollicite your present Assistance in getting my son exchanged as soon as possible: he was taken prisoner the 14 of February by a party of Dullaneyes Core [Delancey's Corps] when the came up to Kings Street & burnt my House & Barn with some others: my fears of his Safety are not groundless, for Dulancy has made me & Family many threats, because of our Attachment to our Cuntries Cause; therefore, should be very happy if your Excellency would be pleased to see to have him exchanged as soon as possible, which will give me unspeakable Happiness, and in the Interiam shall wait with full expetations of your Excellencies

goodness in my distress. And shall ever remain, your Excellency's sincere wellwisher & Friend

Benjamin Clapp.

my sons Name is Henry.

To His Excellency George Clinton.

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[No. 3567.]

*Colonel Hughes Transmits News from the South.*

Fishkill, March 4th 1781.

Sir, Being oblig'd to cross the River very early this Morning, I requested that General Heath's Letter to your Excellency might be forwarded by Mr. Ayes, who is charg'd with Capt. Seaman's, but, by some Means or other it was forgot. I now do myself the Honour, of forwarding it by Capt'n Wiley, who has engag'd to deliver it to your Excellency.

Inclosed is an Extract of a Letter from a gentleman of undoubted Veracity, at Philadelphia, to one at Camp, which, if you have not later accounts, may not be ill timed. I am, with the greatest Regard, most respectfully, your Excellency's most obedient & very Humble Serv't

Hugh Hughes.

His Excellency, Governour Clinton.

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Philadelphia Feb'y 28th 1781.

" Last Night the President of Congress rec'd Despatches from the Southard. Gen. Greene & Morgan had united & Major Lee with his Corps had joind them. Morgan is so sick as to be oblig'd to leave the Field. Cornwallis has burnt his wagons &c. and made a rapid March to the Borders of Virginia. His first object was to retake Morgan's Prisoners; but he was happily disappointed by the Rise of a River between them. He pursued Morgan 200 Miles. Genl. Greene still so weak in Num-

bers & ill supplied, as to wish to avoid a general action with Cornwallis.

The army said to have landed at Wilmington, North Carolina, under Prevost, turns out to be a Detachment of only about 400 Men.

Cornwallis's Strength, is from 25 to 30 Hundred. Gen. Greene's not mentioned.

A Detachment of French Ships from R. Island is arrivd in Chesapeake."

[No. 3568.]

*Job Wright Asks for a Commission.*

D'R S'r, I now inform you that the people of our place is Desirous that I should have a Compy of new Leves to the northward; numbers of the inhabitants has interseeded with me so far, that I have consented, that if the Commetee of apointment pleases to give it me with my frends advise, I shall do my indever to serve the public and them as in my power lyes. D'r S'r, if you think it proper menchen it to the Commetee of Apointment, and if thear honors pleas to grant it me, I begg the faver of Reckemending to thear honors the Subboltons; this from your most Humb. Ser't

Job. Wright.

Stillwater, March 6th, 1781.

To Genral Tenbrock.

[No. 3569.]

*Governor Trumbull Furnishes Governor Clinton with the Resolution of the Connecticut Legislature in Regard to Vermont.*

Hartford, 9th March 1781.

Sir, In Conformity to the Recommendation of the late Convention holden in this Place from the New England States &

the State of N. York—& a concurrent Compliance on the Part of s'd States, agreeing to the Proposal of a second Convention to be soon holden—I have to inform your Excellency that I have fixed on Thursday the 12th Day of April next for the Commissioners from the several States to meet in Convention at Providence in the State of Rhode Island.

Inclosed is a Resolution lately passed in the Genl. Assembly of this State, enlarging the Instructions to their Commissioners, which I am desired to communicate for the Purpose therein mentioned.

An act is also passed in the present Sessions of our Assembly vesting in Congress a Power to levy & collect Duties & Imports on goods imported & prize goods, in Consequence of Resolutions of Congress of 3d & 4th Feby last, Copy of which is transmitted to Congress. With the highest Sentiments of Regards & Esteem I am, sir, your most obedient & very humble Servant

Jon'th Trumbull.

His Excellency Gov. Clinton.

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At a general Assembly of the Governor and Company of the State of Connecticut holden at Hartford (by special order of his Excellency the Governor) on the 21st Day of February Anno Dom: 1781.

Resolved, by this Assembly that the Commissioners who are, or may be appointed on the part of this State to meet the Commissioners from the other three New England States and the State of N. York in Convention to be holden at Providence at the Call of his Excellency the Governor of Connecticut be instructed in addition to the Commission already given them by this assembly, to propose as a Subject of Consideration and

deliberation in S'd Convention, the Request of the people calling themselves the State of Vermont to be admitted into Union and Confederation with the Thirteen United States of America, as a free and Independent State: & report their doings Consultations & Conclusions thereon to this assembly.

And it is further Resolved that his Excellency the Governor, be and he is hereby desired as soon as may be to notify the Several States expected to meet by their Commissions in S'd Convention, of the above Resolution in order that S'd States may, if they see proper, make Similar Inlargments of Instructions to their Commissioners. And his Excellency the Governor is further desired to make a Call of s'd Convention as early as possible.

A true Copy of Record.

Eamin'd

By George Wyllys Secret'y.

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[No. 3570.]

*Colonel Snyder Calls Governor Clinton's Attention to Captain Wynkoop's Treason—The Governor's Advice.*

Kingston, March 9th 1781.

Sir, I cannot avoid applying to your excellency for advise Relating our frontiers, especially that Quarter adjoining the County Line of Albany. I am at the Loss how to keep up the Spirits of the good People in that part of the country. The Inhabitants along the mountains from Schandekan to the Eykebergh are all disaffected and no friends to our Cause; they have frequent meetings, and Capt. Tobias Wynkoop is the Principle Ringleader, a man of great Influence among them. At a certain meeting lately, severall good wiggs inquisitive what their Inten-

tion was, attended the meeting, where Capt. Wynkoop then mett with all the Torys along the mountains, where Wynkoop then Propos'd and Insisted in a violent mannor, to sign an obligation to each other, and Refuse Complying with the Laws of our State, in not paying Taxes, not obeying military order, nor complying with the assessments made for flour, wheat or forage for the army, but absolutely Refuse all such Laws; and to carry the Proposed Plan in execution, one of those that sign'd the obligation sho'd be appointed the officer of the party, that in case the collector sho'd call for Tax or a Serjant for fines indicted by a court martial for Disobedience of military orders in ither of those cases, every one should refuse to pay then, in course the Collector or Serjant if they had Spirit to do their Duty they will levy the Tax or fine on the goods & chattles of him so refused to pay; in such case the Persons distrained must apply to the officer by them appointed, who must immediately command the party signed the Proposed obligation, and immediately pursue the collector or Serjant as the case may be, and take by force the goods so distrained; and in case the good were concealed by the Collector or Serjant, then take of the Property of the Collector or Serjant, as the case may be and return the value to the Person distrained.

They wiggs considering Wynkoop's plan as a violation of our glorious constitution, endeavoured to Reconcile Wynkoop's Passion and did propose if they conceived that they laboured under grievances unable to bear that the only way would be to pay the grievances before the Legislature by way of Petition in a decent manner in hopes of Receiving Redress.

Wynkoop answered in so a cruel manner with cursing & swearing, and swore be all what is deer, if the would not join



him in his Proposed Plan, and if the collector shoed call by him for Tax, he would Refuse to pay, and if the collector laid hands on his goods he would kill him, and you are the cause of the murder that will not join me. Wynkoop applied to two different Persons to write the Proposed obligation; he would dictate them what to write; they as wise & Prudent men both Refused to write. So there was nothing done at that meeting; but Wynkoop had severall meetings since, but whether any Instrument was signed to oppose the administration of the State is yet unknown, but I am informed this day that last Sunday, Capt. Wynkoop on his way to church, he met two men from the other side of the River, with whome he returned home and collected a number of his friends, and then signed an Instrument brought by those men. What was called a Protection or Proclamation from the British Genl. Clinton; since that, the Torys are in high Spirits; and that with the conduct of Capt. Wynkoop has Incouraged many indifferent and ignorant Persons to follow him, so that the number of wiggs is the smallest Party of the two, and, therefore, oblided to suffer abuses and threatenings and have no Spirit to Resent it for fair of suffering great Losses by fire, or being taken captive & carried to the enemy, as severall good men in that neighbourhood is done already by the means and assistance of said Tory party. It is no matter of Doubt, but there are severall of those Rascals that deserted from that neighbourhood along the frontiers by the advise of their Parents, and now concealed there and supplied with the necessaries of life, and watching an oppertunity of taking and carrying of to the enemy as many good People as they can get. To gaurd against them is impossible; the militia cannot stir, but they have Intilligence esspecially in that Quarter; the Torys

are so mix'd among the wiggs, that the wigg Party is Realy under great fair, and some are moving away, and I am afraid it will be the case with too many. The Torys say that before May, no wigg shall live on this side the River; it will be entirely over with the wigs. Time is approaching, and I do not know but it is necessary now to order a Detachment of the militia out to gaurd the frontiers, but do not know where to station them; the militia Proclaims against being stationed at any place along the frontiers among the Torys to be worst of enemy, and I think it highly necessary that the Commissioners of Defeating Conspiraties should take notice of the conduct of Capt. Wynkoop & others. I do not know that the civil majesstrates can interfere, the power is by Law of this State solely vested in the commissioners.

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Albany March 20<sup>th</sup> 1701.

Sir, I have rec'd your Letter of the 9<sup>th</sup> Instant not signed. I conceive it necessary for you to keep out upon the Frontiers constant Scouts, and the more so if there are a great Number of the disaffected there. A Law is now before the Legislature for removing the disaffected from the Frontiers into the more interior Parts of the Comtry; this Law, should it pass, will probably give the Inhabitants greater Security. I am surprized that you should be in Doubt how to proceed with Wynkoop & others if there is full Proof agreeable to the information you mention; they are guilty of Treason, or at least sedition; & you can as a Civil Magistrate by your warrant commit them to goal.

[G. C.]

[To Colonel Snyder.]

[No. 3571.]

*Judge Paine in Trouble as a Consequence of Absence from the Senate.*

Sir, Your Excellency is acquainted in what Charracter I was lately at Albany. I moved the house (upon the Consideration of the Deranged Situation of my affairs) for leave to return; the motion was seconted but the house were not in humour to Determine the Question; at the adjourment of the house from Saturday to Monday, I thought best to visit my family whome I left in no favourable Circumstances, and as I did not attend at the time the house was adjourned to unless I had reasonable excuse should be subject to be reprimanded from the chair; but as Mr. Tilman called at my house this day, you, Sir, may suppose that I had some Reason to suspect that the house had sent him to take me into Custody again for contempt, and of which I am sure they could have no knowledge, as they could have no evidence of what was become of me, as the Sergeant perhaps through delicacy did not inform me of his business, and as I had purposed a journey into New England upon some affairs of importance, I thought it best prosecute that view without informing Mr. Tilman of my intentions. I think, Sir, the Senate are a little hard upon me, as they know that I begged leave to resign my seat in the house for Reasons which to me, and I supposed to them, would appear of weight; whether they had a Right to accept the Resignation I will not determine, but I had great Reason to believe they had, as the case of Doctr Jones was a Precedent, but since our house is so loath to part with me, I purpose to put my affairs in the best Situation so as to attend punctually the next meeting. I beg leave to inform your Excellency, a Considerable uneasiness attends the people in

general within the Circle of my acquaintance, respecting our Publick affairs, and that unless People of influence use all their address to feed them with hopes that matters will shortly take a turn for the better, there will be Danger of a mutiny before this Campaign is ended. I have Recommended it to several of the members of our County [Dutchess] Committe, who are to meet next week to make it a Principal object at their meeting to address the people and urge them in the strongest terms to afford every supply in their power for the support of the army this Campaigne, lest they report when it is to late. I trust in your Excellency's Candour to pardon the length of this, which will be another token of your favour to your most obedient humble servant

Ephraim Paine.

March ye 9th, 1781.

Governor Clinton.

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[No. 3572.]

*Colonel Lamb's Letter Respecting Clothing.*

Fredericksburgh, 10th March 1781.

Dear Sir, When I had the pleasure of seeing you last, you informed me, that you had a prospect of procuring Cloathing for the Troops of this State. If your Plan for doing it should succeed, I shall esteem a singular favor, if you will please to remember me, in the distribution of that which is destined for the Officers. I am, with every Sentiment of Respect, Dear Sir your Obedt. Servant

John Lamb.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 3573.]

*Christopher Tappen Recommends John Sleght as Sheriff of Ulster County.*

Kingston, 10th March 1781.

D'r Sir, I have been informed that the Council of Appointment will soon reappoint Officers in the Room of those whose Term by the Constitution will shortly expire. It is conjectured by some that the present Sheriff of this County will Endeavour to get one of his Friends appointed as a feigned Sheriff, and he to serve as his Deputy; what foundation there is for this I am [un]able to determine,—this I know that the profits he had during the continuance of his Office is by no means adequate to his Services; if Mr. Dumond Shou'd make application in that way I could wish him to succeed. But if not, I take the Liberty to re-command to your consideration Mr. John Sleght whom you well know; should, therefore, not presume to say any thing more respecting his abilities than this, that from the connection in Trade with him, I have always found him honest, and tho' he appears naturally slow, he is both correct and expert in Business, and in my Judgment fully competent for that Office.\* I had almost taken a determinate Resolution never to make a request to you of this kind, for reasons too obvious to be mentioned, but influenced by these motives that he is under a necessity from his exposed situation to remove his Family into the interior part of the County and consequently out of all kind of means to support a growing Family.

I have never known the People of this Town so eager to raise Troops for the Frontiers than what they are at present, unless

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\*John J. Sleght was appointed Sheriff of Ulster County by the Council of Appointment, March 26, 1781.—STATE HISTORIAN.

it's soon done, many will remove their Families; this is a general conversation whenever two or three meets. I am with great respect yours Sincerely

Christ'r Tappen.

[To G. C.]

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[No. 3574.]

*Governor Clinton's Reasons for Declining to Grant Mr. Livingston a Pass to New York for the Benefit of His Distressed Mother.*

Beverwick near Morris Town, 12th March 1781.

Dear Sir, On my Return from Maryland from whence I am just come, I stopp'd at my mother's in Princeton, whose peculiar Situation and at present distress'd Condition, has induced me to lay before you a State of Facts and in Consequence thereof to make application to your Excellency for a Favor, which nothing, but her wants, and a Conciousness of your Friendship, could ever induce.

She has hitherto been struggling hard with difficulties innumerable to support her little Flock. Her two Sons, Peter and Maturin, have just entered College and bid fair to be an ornament to Society. By taking in young gentlemen to Board with her and some little assistance which she recieved from her Father's Estate, she has been able, heretofore, to support them in their Education and to surmount in a great measure the difficulties of the Times. But Doctor Witherspoon, who was her Landlord, by renting the House in which she lives over her Head without previous notice, because he could get a little more from some other Person, has entirely cutt off her Resources; and where she and her Family will put their Heads after the first of May next, God only knows, unless she takes a Room in the Col-

lege. Such at present is her Condition. Your acquaintance with her will justify the assertion that she ought to be relieved, and there is no one to whom at present she can look but myself. I have it in my Power, and thro' your goodness hope to accomplish it.

There is not another House in the Place that she can Rent, and but one for Sale, to remove from that Place will be impossible, and was there no Injury to accrue to her Family, I must confess I know not where she can fly for maintainance and shelter.

Thus Circumstanced, I made application to Mr. Samuel Ogden, a Friend of mine, and a near neighbour to us, to endeavour to obtain Permission thro his Friends in New York, for himself, and me, to come in, my Reasons for which were these:

I have a Lott of ground which fell to me on the Decease of my Brother James, near the Ship yards in New York, which I purpose to sell, worth in former Times £1000. My Aunt Betsy Livingston in her Will devised to me, my Brother & Sisters each £200, which will amount to £1000 more. William Smith is sole Executor, and for the Payment of the Legacies is empowered to sell her House in New York immediately. Thro his Interest there, I am also in hopes of parting with mine, and the monies arising from the whole, I shall apply to the purchasing of this House in Princeton, which is large and commodious, will enable my mother to take in a Dozen young gentlemen to Board, to pay for the Education of her Children, free her from all Incumbrances and finally place her above want. And unless I go in, she never can be relieved. Representation after Representation has been made to her Brother in New York; he has from Time to Time given Promises of relief, but the Day of her Distress is

now near at Hand and something more than empty Promises is necessary.

Thro Mr. Ogden's Intercession I have obtained a Promise of a Passport to New York, and in Consideration, thereof, I have engag'd to obtain Permission for him on this Side. He married a Sister of Gouverneur Morris's. Old Mrs. Morris is dying with a Dropsy. Gouverneur goes into New York next Wednesday to see her, and Mr. Ogden wishes to see her also. In Consequence of a Quarrel between him and Governor Livingston, which has been very high, I despair of obtaining his Permission for us to go in from this State, nor indeed would Mr. Ogden be under Obligations to him for it. I have, therefore, proposed to him to make application to you, and that we would, provided you would be so obliging as to favor us with a Pass go in from your State by the Way of Kings Bridge. If, therefore, your Excellency will, from the above motives (which are truly deserving of the Title of Humane) give a Passport to him and me to go in from your State for a few Days (for my Stay there as I am sure it will be disagreeable shall be short) and inclose it me by the first Post, I will give you my word of Honor, that both he and myself will strictly comply with such Restrictions as you shall think proper to lay us under, and that our going in and coming out shall be known but to few. In doing which you will relieve the distressed and particularly oblige, dear Sir, your sincere Friend and most Obed't Serv't

Wm. S. Livingston.

P. S. The year for dividing her Father's Estate is now come, and I am not without hopes, but that by being on the Spot with Billy, I may also effect a Division at least in Part for her Support. It is at present under John's Direction; he is committing



dayly Waste, (you know his Character) and his Sister is in dayly want.

To His Excellency George Clinton, Esq.

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Pokeepsie 3d April 1781.

D'r Sir, Your Letter of the 12th Ultimo reached me at Albany a few Days ago. I flatter myself it is unnecessary to say any thing to induce you to believe it woud give me Pleasure to comply with your Request in Favour of Mrs. Livingston, if it could be done consistent with my Duty & the Respect which I owe the State in which she at present resides. The Resolution of Congress on the Subject, as it applies to Mrs. Livingston's Case, makes the consent of the Executive Authority of New Jersey necessary to her obtaining a Pass into New York; without this any Interference of mine woud be improper & with it unnecessary. Besides the peculiar Situation of this State exposed in almost every Quarter renders it necessary to prevent as much as possible any Intercourse with the Enemy. Influenced by this Consideration, I have been constrained to refuse similar Indulgences to many of the distressed Refugees under similar Circumstances with Mrs. Livingston, actually residing within the State, who woud have Reason to complain of partiality shoud I interpose in the present Case.

[G. C.]

[To Wm. S. Livingston.]

[No. 3575.]

*General McDougall's Proposition to Provide Lands for Soldiers.*

Philadelphia, March 12th 1781.

Dear Sir, I intended to have written to you very fully, by this Conveyance, but being indisposed for some days, I must defer

it till another opportunity offers. I have not attended Congress, since the first instant, when the Confederation was completed.

Colonel Floyd from his Circumstances, will be obliged to leave this, when the Roads are settled; and as the Confederation requires two Delegates at least to represent a State, ours will be unrepresented, unless some of the Delegates come on about that time.

The Question of the New Hampshire Grants, will soon be settled, as the State of that Name, urge its Delegates to press for a Decision, and there is great Reason to expect it will be a just and honorable one for our State. The Session made by Virginia to the United States, has removed the Cause of opposition, which Maryland gave, to have our dispute settled; and the other small States not near us, will cease their opposition, as the Cause of it is removed. Pennsylvania will urge a determination of their dispute with Connecticut, as soon as the business of their Legislature is over. This I had from their President, in a confidential Conversation with him, on the Subject of the New England encroachments. The influence of the Officers of the New England Lines, is considerable in their States; and the habits of thinking which they have acquired in the army, are more conformable to the genius of our Constitution, than the yeomanry of those States, who will unavoidably come into ours; and it is necessary the levelling principles of the Latter, should be tempered by those of the former. It will be a good Stroke of Policy, to grant those gentlemen, Land in our State, and it might be expedient to extend it to those of New Jersey; Vacant Lands in the Grants might make a part of it. If this should be judged prudent, the grant should extend to

the Officers of those Lines, who have resigned, with good Reputations, and to all the Soldiers who have served three years, and to all who shall serve during the war. Certain I am, we shall derive great utility from such a measure, if it is soon done; and in my opinion no time is to be lost in doing it. I understand a Bill of this Nature, was prepared in the fall of 1779, at Kingston, but was rejected from Considerations of narrow and niggardly Policy. If it had then been done, the influence of the Vermont Land Jobbers, would ere this, have been at an end, but it is better to do it now, than not to do it at all. I could give you some conclusive Intelligence, on this Subject, if time permitted.

Congress have elected me Secretary of the Marine, but I cannot think of quitting the field, in the active part of the Campaign; while so great part of our State is in the hands of the enemy. I have, therefore, informed Congress of this, as a Condition on which I will undertake the Charge of their Marine.

The present State of it and their probable funds, will not take up the time of a qualified person in that Office; more than Six or eight Months of the year, when the proper arrangements are made for its government & future increase. I am, Dear Sir, with great Respect your humble Servant

Alex'r McDougall.

His Excellency, Governor Clinton.

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[No. 3576.]

*Governor Clinton to Major Paulding in Regard to the British Captain Simon.*

Albany, 13th March 1781.

Sir, It being represented to me by different Persons of respectable Characters in your County, that Capt. Simons who

has lately left the British Service might do essential Services to this State if he was permitted to continue near the American Lines, & that from the manner of his leaving the Enemy and other Circumstances, there is not any Reason to apprehend any Danger or Injury from granting him such Permission, & this being also your Sentiment—you are, therefore, at Liberty to conduct the said Capt. Simon to the American Lines, & employ him under your Direction, in such Manner as will conduce most to the public Safety & Interest, provided this Measure & End proposed by it meet the Approbation of the Commanding Officer of the Deartment, whom you will consult on the Subject on your Way down. I am, sir,

[G. C.]

Major Jona. Horton Paulding.

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[No. 3577.]

*Colonel Udney Hay Writes of Illness in the Governor's Family and of the New Currency.*

Poughkeepsie, 15th March 1781.

D'r Sir, It gave me great pleasure upon my arrival here to find Mrs. Clinton and all your family in the full enjoyment of the most perfect health; little Washington did then and still continues to enjoy a greater flow of spirits than I ever before saw him possessed of, though not so fond at first of the rough treatment I gave him, as he was formerly accustomed to be; all the rest of the family continue as I found them, except Mrs. Clinton who has a little touch of the ague in her breast, arising probably from the fatigue she was under a necessity of undergoing with the Children while in the small Pox.

We are totally barren of news in this part of the world at present. I am informed by Major Hale lately from Philadelphia that the new money of that State & Jersey bears a proportion to continental money as 75 to one, and that hard money amongst Friends who can depend on each other bears the proportion of 120 to one; of consequence hard money is to the new money as 75 to 120, which makes it of considerable more value than it is in this part of the world as yett. We have a report that the English has taken St. Eustatia, but under what authority this report is propagated I cannot learn. I am inclined to think it cannot have gone any farther than perhaps to taking some American vessells out of the roads.

Col. Hughes in a letter to me of yesterday says General Heath informs him that the Enemy are out but does not mention where or in what force, nor have I as yett heard any thing farther of the matter.

I shall certainly be in Albany in about ten days, unless the Legislature breaks up sooner which I fancy is not probable.

If you have any commands in this part of the Country in which you think I can be of the least service to you in executing, lett me request you will command me, under the assurance of my being with the most perfect respect (and permit me to add the sincerest Friendship) your Excellency's most obedient and very humble ser't

Udny Hay.

Governour Clinton.

[No. 3578.]

*Mrs. Duggan Applies for the Exchange of Her Son, a Prisoner.*

James Duggan, Commissary taken at Scheensborough 22d  
March 1781.

Mrs. Duggan requests the favor of his Excellency the Governor to endeavor to effect her Son's Exchange with the first Prisoners who shall be exchanged from Canada.

Albany 16th March 1781.

His Excellency Gov. Clinton.

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 [No. 3579.]
*Lieutenant McClaughry's Complaint in Regard to Recruiting.*

Little Britain, March 16th 1781.

Sir. By order of General Clinton I releved Lieut. Van Wagenen the thirty of Jan'y; he told me he had received foreteen men from the Classes, three of which he was apprehensif had Deserted, the remainder he promised to Deliver to me the second week in February; not hearing from him since I went to Kingston the forth Inst. in order to Colect the recruts together, having no return of them, and not meeting with Van Wagenen put it out of my power, I therefore, wrote to him aquenting him it was General Clinton's Orders to send them to the Regt. and requesting he would forward them to me as speedily as possible.

I have received five men from Colo. Johnson's Regt., two from Capt'n Cross's Company, Namely, Edward Wyley from John McCreery's Class, William Hart from And'w Thomson's Class; two from Capt'n Mastin's Company, Jacob Haring from Cornelius Vanoeey's Class, John Hara from William Gees Class; one

from Capt'n Johnson's Company, Jack Gaul a mullate from Isaac Fowler's Class; the are able boded men. Jno Hara I have neither seen nor heard of since I received him, notwithstanding I have made the most strict enquiry. I am informed he was a deserter from the enemy and am able to prove the Class new it at the time of his inlisting.

My appointment to this duty without being furnished with money is very mortifying to me, having nothing in my power except assisting the Classes. I have the Honour to be with the greatest respect, Sir your Most Obedient very Humble Serv't

Jno. McLaughry.

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[No. 3580.]

*Colonel Brasher Reluctant to Accept a Temporary Appointment, and Assigns Reasons.*

Morristown, 16th March, 1781.

Dear Sir, I had the pleasure to receive your favor of the 1st instant, on the evening of the 9th, and had not time to answer it immediately, as the post set out early the next morning, and since no opportunity has offered. I am obliged to your Excellency for the attention with which you have been pleased to honor me, by offering me the appointment of "a commissioner for receiving and liquidating the account of the Public officers and inhabitants of the state, against the United States." If I was unconnected, without a family, I should not hesitate to accept it, but as it is a temporary office, and the place of the residence of the commissioners not designated, and what the emoluments may be unknown to me, I have my difficulties; and I presume they will readily occur to your Excellency, when you

will be pleased to consider, that from the first commencement of the contest, so early as the 14th of May 1774, I have had the honor to serve our country without fee or reward; That since I left New-York, in July 1776, on my way to the Convention at the White-plains; I have not earned a penny towards the support of a Family consisting of twelve persons, excepting the honor of receiving about £25 for five months service as a secretary to the committee of Congress, subsequent to the misfortune which my family met with on the 16th of April last, by which it was deprived of almost the whole of its cloathing, furniture and the common necessaries of life. In this situation, at Morris-town, in May last, and before I had or could obtain a place or retreat for my family, I accepted of that temporary office, so productive to the relief of a distressed family, with a view and intimations of a better.

In November following, I went to Philadelphia to obtain, if possible, some office, in which I might, for my service, obtain a pittance, mere bread. That Journey and my solicitations have as yet been unattended with success, excepting promises and assurances, which come generally with great facility from the lips of mortals. Your Excellency will not be astonished or think that I look to, and wish to obtain a lucrative office; I look only to the means of preserving a family from starving in my own country, which if I had done before, and not permitted myself to be tied by the leg, as an ordinance member of the Legislature, as some modern politicians have been pleased to stile us, I should at this day, in all human probability, not have been under the necessity to apply to compatriots and compeers un-availingly for relief, or for the offices of friendship. But if my



lot is to be more severe than that of my fellow citizens from the capital, I must bare it, and share in the common misfortunes, to which from an attachment to our country, we, in general, have been exposed. If it is consistent with the Interest of our state, that so much time might be permitted to elapse before the appointment takes place, I would be glad to be informed, whether the commissioners are to be stationary, and where? whether it will be worth my while to remove my family to the place? for possibly the emoluments of the office may do no more than barely support me in board washing and lodging. These questions are somewhat important to me, because my situation, and that of my family will not permit me to think of providing for myself, and leaving them to wind and weather, at the distance of 100 miles, or to the precarious support of the benevolent, those plants of so rare a growth. After the enquiry with which I have taken the liberty to trouble you, I beg leave to assure your Excellency, I am far from desiring the least delay may take place on my account, if the same should prove in the smallest degree prejudicial to the interest of the state, and that I esteem this mark of your attention as a token of your friendship, and have the honor to subscribe myself, with the most sincere esteem, and respect, Dear Sir, Your Excellency's, obliged friend & most humble servant

Ab. Brasher.

P. S. Mrs. & Miss Brasher desire their best respects.

His Excellency, George Clinton, Esq.

[No. 3581.]

## GENERAL VAN RENSSELAER VINDICATED.

*Charged by Colonel John Harpur with Want of Energy in the  
Mohawk Valley Campaign, 1780.*

At a Court of Enquiry held at the City of Albany on the 12th Day of March 1781  
"To enquire into the Conduct of Brigadier General Robert Van Rensselaer, on the  
Incursions of the Enemy into Tryon County in October last," pursuant to General  
Orders of His Excellency Governor Clinton.

Present.

Brig'r General Swartwout, President.

Colonels Thomas &amp; Cantine Members.

The Court met &amp; adjourned till to-morrow afternoon 5 O'clock.

Tuesday March 13th, 1781.

The Court met pursuant to adjournment.

Colo: John Harper, then appeared before them & offered in Evidence against General  
Rensselaer, a Copy of a Letter written by John Lansing, Jun'r, Esqr. by order of the  
General, to Colo. Lewis Dubois, in these words vizt.

" Van Eps's Caghnawago 19th Oct'r 1780.

Sir, We are here with a Force sufficient to cope with the Enemy, But if you can  
possibly cooperate with us, it will in all probability tend to insure us Success. General  
Rensselaer who commands here, therefore, desires you to march down along the South  
Side of the river with all the men you have, with as much Expedition as possible. He  
intends to attack the Enemy as soon as the Day appears. It depends on your Exertions  
to favor this Enterprize. I am, Sir, yours, By order of Genl. Rensselaer,  
J. Lansing, Jun'r.

Colo. Dubois."

Colo: John Harpur being then sworn, says, That on the 19th of October he was under  
the Command of General Rensselaer on the Mohawk River; that he commanded a Party  
of Indians on the South Side of the Mohawk River; east of Fort Plane or Rensselaer;  
that he was under the immediate Commaud of Colo. Dubois; that in the morning of  
the 19th Oct'r they proceeded down the river, until they heard an Engagemēt which  
happened on the North Side of the river, between a Detachment of Troops under the  
Command of Colo. John Brower & the Enemy under Sir John Johnson; that upon hear-  
ing the Firing, Colo. Dubois ordered the greater Part of the New York Levies under his  
immediate Command & the Indians commanded by the Witness, to cross to the North  
Side of the river, to support Colo. Brown's Detachment, when some men of that  
Detachment, which had been defeated & dispersed, came to the river & crossed it &  
gave the Deponent Information of the Fate of Colo. Brown's Party; that upon hearing  
that Colo. Brown was defeated, the Deponent informed Colo. Dubois of the Disaster;  
and that the whole of the Detach't of Levies & Indians, or Part of them, who had  
crossed to support Colo. Brown, recrossed to the South side; that Colo. Dubois then  
informed the Depon't that General Rensselaer was below, & requested him to ride down  
to the Genl. & advise him of the Fate of Brown's Detachment; which he accordingly  
did; that he found General Rensselaer halted about a mile below Fort Rensselaer; that  
he intreated the General to march on; that he informed him there was a Ford near at  
Hand about knee deep, where the Troops might cross; that he urged the General to  
attack the Enemy at all Events; that the General informed him he did not know the  
Enemy's numbers, nor the route they intended to take; that he told the General, that  
if the Enemy took the same route which they did when they came, they could do us no  
more Injury than they had already down, or if the should go thro Johnstown, they  
would hurt their Friends & not ours; that the General then told him, he would go to  
Colo. Dubois & advise with him & that he attended the General there; that he is  
ignorant of what passed between Colo: Dubois & the General, but that the Levies &  
Indians with some of the Tryon County militia recrossed to the North Side of the  
river, either by the General's or Colo. Dubois's orders; the Dep't supposes it to have  
been by the Genl's order; that while the Detachment under Colo. Dubois & the Indians  
& militia were crossing, the Genl. & Colo. Dubois went to Fort Rensselaer & there  
dined; that they returned to the Bank of the river & there stood at the ferry, for a

considerable Time after the Levies & Indians had crossed; that the Dep't came to the North Bank of the river & hailed the Genl., intreating him for God sake to cross, but he rec'd no reply; that the Deponent believes the Levies & Indians had all crossed about 1 O'clock & that he believes it was near three Hours thereafter, before the militia under the immediate Command of Genl. Rensselaer (who had crossed about a mile below) came up to the ferry, where the Levies & Indians remained paraded; that when the Militia came up, the whole of the Troops were divided into three Columns & marched to attack the Enemy; Colo. Dubois with the Levies on the right; the Albany Militia on the Left & that he does not know who commanded the Centre Column, composed of whites & Indians; that the Deponent commanded the Indians in advance of the Centre Column; that after advancing some Distance, he was met by an Indian who informed him that the Enemy were near at Hand & that the Enemy's Force was about 400 white men & but few Indians; which the Deponent in person immediately communicated to Genl. Rensselaer, then at the Head of the Centre Column & then returned to his Command without receiving any further Orders from the General; that after advancing about half a mile, his Party fell in with & began to skirmish with the Enemy's rear Guard, who were then retreating up the river; that part of the Centre Column also fell in with that Part of the Enemy; that the Enemy then changed their front, came down the river & engaged our Left & commenced a regular & heavy Platoon firing on them, but that our left, not being formed, fired irregularly & were beat back, but advanced again & continued firing irregularly; that at this Juncture the Enemy attempted to gain & secure the Ford; that thereupon Part of the Centre Column filed off to the right & joined Colo. Dubois's Detachm't who attempted to gain the Enemy's Left Flank & the remainder continued with few of the Indians advancing in the Centre; that soon after a very heavy fire commenced & was continued on our right, which, as the Deponent has since been informed, happened between Colo. Whiting & the Enemy; that when the firing on the right commenced, it was quite Dusk, & the Detachment under Colo. Dubois had gained the Enemy's Left & they were fording the river; that he was then informed by Colo. Dubois that the General had ordered a retreat & was requested by the Colo. to communicate it to Major Benschoten. That he did not receive orders to retreat till the Enemy had crossed to the south side of the river. That when he went in Search of Major Benschoten, he found some of the Troops composed of Tryon militia & Levies plundering; that he forbid it & ordered the Indians to remain in close Quarters, least some accident might happen to them.

Question by the Genl. How was you informed that the Enemy had crossed?

Ans'r. When I was in Quest of M. Benschoten, I was informed by many People, who were on the Ground that the Enemy had crossed.

Quest. Did you see me after that?

Ans'r. No, sir.

Quest. Did you send me any Information that the Enemy had crossed the river?

A. I did not.

Quest. Did our Troops engage the Enemy as they were first formed & advanced?

A. No.

Quest. Do not you recollect, that you came to me before the Skirmishing began & requested that the Indians might go in the rear of the Centre Column?

A. I do not.

Quest. Did you observe the militia on the left to be in great Confusion when the firing commenced?

Ans'r. I did.

Mr. Wm. Harpur, being sworn, says: That he was at Schenectady on the Evening of the 17th October when Genl. Rensselaer arrived there with the Militia & they discovered the Lights of Fires at the lower End of Schohairic, where, they had rec'd Information, that the Enemy were burning; that he was informed, the Militia under the General were to march the next morning; that the Militia remained in Schenectady till it was late in the morning; that the Deponent, being impatient, went on to the Willigen about 14 miles above Schenectady, where he received Information that the Enemy were burning at Cadorothy about a mile above Fort Hunter; that the Express who came from Fort Hunter to Genl. Rensselaer was forwarded by the Dep't; that the Genl. & Troops soon came on; that it was near Sun set, when they rec'd Information of the Enemy's being at Warrensbush; that the Troops were ordered to halt at Elliots, at the Old Farms; that the gen'l applied to the Deponent to procure 6 or 7 suitable men with an officer, to go on a reconnoitering Party, to discover the number, situation & movements of the Enemy; that he procured them & waited on the Genl.; that the Genl. told

him he would consult with his Field Officers & that, thereupon, he sent a Serjeant, Wm. Wood, with 7 or 8 men to reconnoitre the Enemy; that the Depon't accompanied the party to Fort Hunter, & from thence he with one Man went to Anthony's Nose, where the Enemy had their Camp; that they returned, with all possible Dispatch to the General, whom they found advanced with the Troops, as far as Gardineers Flatts, about  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles above Fort Hunter & 26 above Shenectady, about 12 O'Clock at night or after; that he informed the General of the Enemy's Situation & that the Genl. continued advancing with the Troops to Van Eps's, about  $\frac{1}{2}$  or  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile; that the Genl. there ordered Letters to be written to the Officers command'g at Fort Plane or Rensselaer & Stone Arabia & they were given in Charge to Lt. Wm. Wallace; that the Genl. & Troops remained at Van Eps's between 2 & 3 Hours & that soon after the march the Day broke; that the Troops marched about 4 miles to Peter Lewis's, where the whole halted about 10 or 12 minutes, for the purpose of examin'g a Prisoner taken by our advance Party; that the troops then marched 2 or 3 miles to Putnam's Lands, where the whole Body halted a considerable Time & the advance Party were on or near the Ground, where the Enemy had halted that night. That the Deponent went to the Genl. & urged to him that the Troops might be ordered to march, but the Genl. answered, that he must first furnish the Troops with Cartridges; that soon after Leave was obtained for Major McKinster with the advance Party to march; that while the Troops were halted there, Colo. Louis had been sent out to reconnoitre, whether the Enemy did not remain at the Nose, to ambuscade Genl. Rensselaer's Troops. That the advance Party under Major McKinster marched on to lame Corn's Van Alstyne's & that he & the Major discovered the Enemy drawn up on the opposite Side of the river at John Erxe's House; that the road at the Nose was very bad so as to render it difficult to come on with the artillery; that Major McKinster's Party halted about an Hour at Van Alstyne's before the main Body came up; that as soon as the main Body arrived the whole marched about a mile to another Corn's Van Alstyne's; and on their arrival there, they heard a firing between Colo. Brown's Detachm't & the Enemy; that the Genl. enquired from the Dep't the best Place to ford thro the river; that upon Trial at Major Yates's it was found impracticable; that they then marched on to Adam Countryman's abt  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles where the whole of the Troops halted & another Party was ordered, as the advance; that the troops had been there about  $\frac{1}{2}$  an Hour when Colo. Harpur came to the Genl. & gave him an acc't of Colo. Brown's Disaster; that it was full three Hours from that Time before the Troops under Genl. Rensselaer crossed & came up to Walrods ferry; that Genl. Rensselaer went up to Walrods ferry on the south side of the river, but when, the Deponent knows not; that the General stood at the Ferry & was pressed & intreated by him, Colo. Harpur & others, to cross the river & attack the Enemy, but that he gave no answer nor came over, till his militia had joined Colo. Dubois's Command; that after the Troops had joined, they were divided into three Columns; the right commanded by Colo. Dubois; that about Sunset or after, the Enemy came down out of the woods to Phelans Orchard, when a skirmishing began between our Left & the Enemy, in the low Lands; that our left was much disordered & fired very irregularly & never were in Order after the firing commenced; that the rear of our left was abt 500 yards from the Enemy, when the front began their firing at about 250, & the whole kept up a brisk fire towards the Enemy; that he saw several Officers (& particularly Adj't. Van Veghten of Colo. Cuyler's regt.) exert themselves to bring on the Troops & to prevent their running away, but that they were not able to bring up the Men so close to action, as to annoy the Enemy; that the Confusion took place as soon as the firing commenced & that it was pretty dark before it ceased; that about the Time when the firing on our Part ceased, the Dep't saw the Genl. with the left Column; that the Genl. informed him, that as it was dark & dangerous to let the firing continue least our Troops should kill each other, he had ordered, or would order the Troops out of action; that he pressed the Genl. to push the Enemy while they were crossing the river, but the Genl. declined it; that it was then dark; that the General observed to the Dep't that he was apprehensive the Enemy would surround our Troops & desired the Dep't to ride down to the river & inform himself whether the Enemy were not attempting it; that he replied to the Genl. they were crossing the river. But in Compliance with the General's request, he rode down; that the Place where the Enemy crossed the river is a Common Ford & generally made use of; that when the Genl. told him, he was resolved to call the men off, he requested the Genl. to encamp them on the Low Ground, the Field of action, but that the General replied he would go to the Hills & he with the Troops retired to a Hill, about a mile from the field of action.

Henry Glen, Esqr., being sworn says that on the 17th Oct'r about 5 O'clock P. M. General Rensselaer arrived at Schenectady, at the Dep'ts House & informed him that a number of Troops were on their march from Albany. That the Genl. appeared solicitous to procure Horses to mount his Troops on & expedite their march to Fort Hunter to way lay the Enemy who were on their way from Schoharie to the Mohawk River; that the Dep't as acting Qr. master of the Department, advised the Genl. that the most eligible mode of procuring Horses would be, by having the Inhabitants of Schenectady convened, which was accordingly done on that even'g; that the General then represented to the Inhabitants, that he wanted 4 or 500 Horses to mount his men on to go to Fort Hunter for the purposes above mentioned; that the Genl. informed the Inhabitants that the Deponent had received an Express from Colo. Veeder command'g the lower fort at Schoharie, informing him, that the Enemy had burnt & destroyed the Settlements at Schoharie on that Day and were halted that night at one Sidneys about 14 or 16 miles from Fort Hunter; that the Distance from Schenectady to Fort Hunter is 20 miles; that the few Inhabitants who were collected promised the General their Horses & that they should be sent to the Deponent's House by Break of Day next morning; that it was also proposed by Genl. Rensselaer that in Case a Sufficiency of Horses could not be procured he would take waggens to carry the greater number of them on.

Qu. by Genl. Rensselaer. Were the Horses or waggens ready as I had required?

A. They were not.

Qu. Do you recollect that as soon as I arrived at Schenectady I went to the Comm'y & desired him to procure & get in readiness that Evening, Provisions for the Troops who were coming on?

A. I do, but the Commissary had no Provisions; he sent out & procured two Beeves, which were killed the next morning, but it was late before the Troops were served. The last drew their Provisions at about 8 O'clock.

Qu. Do you recollect my sending that night to Colo. Van Alstyne, who was at Nestigiuna, to expedite his march so as to be in Town by Day Light the next morning?

A. I do.

Qu. After the Troops were served with Provisions, did I, to your Knowledge make any unnecessary Delay in marching them?

A. You did not.

Q. What Distance is it, between Nestigiuna & Sir Wm. Johnson's old Place?

A. The Distance between its nearest Settlement called Rosendal & Sir Wm's old place is ab't 19 miles.

Qu. Had the Troops any Time to cook their Provisions from the Time they drew it till their march?

A. They had not.

Court. Qu. Had you any Intelligence from Genl. Rensselaer on the Day of March, after he left Schenectady?

Ans'r. Yes, the same Evening an Express came from the Genl. with a Letter to the Governor, Dated at Checktinunda, six miles east of Fort Hunter, informing the Gov'r that he had halted to refresh his men till moon rise, when he intended to march. Afterwards an Express from the Officer command'g at Fort Hunter came to me, with an acc't that Sir John Johnson had that afternoon passed Fort Hunter & had destroyed Cadorothy in his route.

Qu. Are you acquainted with the roads & Passes of Checktinunda Hill?

Ans'r. I am; the road is bad, & up a long Clay Hill, with a pretty close wood on both Sides.

Colo. Lewis Dubois, being sworn says: That on the 19th October last, at about two O'clock P. M. he met General Rensselaer about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile below Fort Rensselaer & informed him that Colo. Brown was defeated & that the Enemy were advancing up the river; that the General then advised with him where would be the most convenient Spot to meet them; that he told the General there was a Fording Place just by the Ground where the Troops then were & that in Case they crossed there, it would expedite the Pursuit after the Enemy, more than if they crossed in the two small Boats above, which would delay them a long Time; that the General then gave Orders, to Lt. Driskill to send the Artillery to Fort Rensselaer, & that the Troops should cross immediately; that the Dep't then asked the Genl. whether he had dined, the General replied that he had not, that as soon as the Genl. had put the Troops in motion, he rode to the Deponent's Quarters in Fort Rensselaer to take Dinner; after leaving orders with the Officers to cross the river with all possible Dispatch; that Lt. Driskill was then ordered to leave his men in Fort Rensselaer, to work the artillery in Case the Enemy

should attack it, and some of the militia who were in the fort were ordered to cross the river, and that Mr. Lansing was sent down by the Genl. to expedite the crossing of the militia; that the Genl. & the Deponent then went down to Walrods ferry & found that the militia had not yet come up; that he sent several Expresses to hurry them on; that upon their coming to the ferry, they found several of the militia who had not yet crossed, but immediately passed the ferry & then the Genl. & the Dep't crossed as quick as possible; that about the Time of their crossing they discovered from the firing, that the Enemy were coming down out of the woods towards the river, at or near Fox's mill; that shortly, thereafter, Genl. Rensselaer's militia joined & the Genl. advised with him on the most eligible mode of attacking the Enemy; that the Plan of attack was directed to be in three Columns; the right, composed of Levies commanded by the Dep't to be on the high ground, the left composed of militia & commanded by Colo. Cuyler to be on the Low Ground, & the Centre to be commanded by Colo. Whiting; that it was found inconvenient to march in Columns & they were ordered to subdivide into Sections & so marched on till they came in Sight of the Enemy. That the Deponent rode down to the Genl. (then in the Centre Column) & informed him that the Enemy were formed as follows, That their rangers were on their right on the Bank of the river; the regular Troops in the Centre on the flats in Column, & the Indians & riflemen on the left, about 150 yards advanced of the other Troops in an Orchard near Klocks House; that upon reconnoitering the Ground it was found impracticable to form the Centre & Left Columns as was at first intended; that they were therefore subdivided into smaller Detachments; that, thereupon, a Skirmishing commenced between some scattering Indians & white men advanced of the right of the Centre Column & the Enemy; that the Dep't then retired to his Command; that Major McKinster in pursuance of the Genl's Orders, filed off to the right from the Centre & marched very near the right Column; that the remainder of the Centre Column under the Command of Colo. Whiting advanced to the Orchard at Klocks House & engaged them; that the firing on the Part of the Enemy was so warm as to prevent the Troops under Colo. Whiting from advancing; that, thereupon, the Deponent ordered two Companies of his Column to raise the Summit of the Hill & fire on the Enemy in flank, which broke them & they ran off; that the Deponent then marched on till he gained the Flank of the Enemy's main Body, pursuant to the Genl's Order; that it began to grow dusk & he discovered that his front had got into the Enemy's rear; that, thereupon, he faced his men about & marched in a Line down to the Enemy, undiscovered; that he gave orders for firing Platoons from right to left, when the Enemy broke & ran; that he advanced & continued firing upon the Enemy, till he discovered a firing on the rear of his Left; that find'g it to come from some Part of our own militia he halted his men & rode up to the militia & met with Genl. Rensselaer on the left of the Centre Column; where he found the militia had given way; that it was so dark, that he could not discern Genl. Rensselaer at the Distance of five paces nor know him but from his voice. And that when he came up to the Genl. he found him encouraging & entreating the Men to come on & form; that the Deponent attempted to encourage the men to advance & form but he found his Efforts in vain; that he informed the Genl. that the right of the Centre Line were firing on the Levies, who were advanced ag't the Enemy; that it was then proposed by either the Genl. or the Deponent, that the firing should be ordered to cease, lest our men should kill each other; that the Genl. requested him to ride to the rear of the Troops & stop their retreating & inform them that the Enemy had retired over the river; that he went some Distance & on his return informed the Genl. that he could not over take the front; that the Genl. inquired from him, whether he knew of a good Piece of ground, to encamp on that night; that he, thereupon, recommended a Hill near Klocks House & an Order was sent to Major Benschoten of the Levies to return to the ground near Klocks House; that on riding with the Genl., he mentioned his apprehensions, that his men would want Provisions for the March the next Day; that the Deponent then recommended to the Genl. a spot of ground near Fox's, where the Troops would be secure from Surprise & Provisions might be brought to them from the Baggage waggons which were at Fort Rensselaer; that a Part of the Levies were left at Klocks House, to take Charge of the wounded & of the Stores taken from the Enemy & the remainder of the Troops retired to Fox's; that the Genl. immediately ordered Parties to Fort Rensselaer for Provisions for the militia & ordered the Dep't to hold himself & the Levies in readiness to march before Day Light the next morn'g in Pursuit of the Enemy; that in Consequence thereof he moved with the Troops about 3 O'clock in the morn'g.

Question by the Court. Did the Genl. in your Opinion, do every thing in his Power, to annoy & repel the Enemy & save the Country from Desolation?

Ans'r. Yes Sir, while I was with him, I saw nothing wanting in him.

Court. Did the Genl. at any Time discover the least want of personal Bravery & Firmness in the Course of the action & Transactions of the 19th October last?

A. He did not, but the Contrary.

Court. Did you know that the Place where the Enemy crossed the river was a Common fording Place?

Ans'r. I did not, nor was it. The Bank at the Place where they crossed, was Breast high from the water & the water was as deep.

Court. Was it very dark on the Evening of the action?

Ans'r. I do not think it was 15 minutes after the Firing commenced before it was so dark, as to render it impossible to distinguish one man from another at the Distance of two Paces.

The Court adjourned till tomorrow morning 7 O'Clock.

The Court met pursuant to adjournment.

Mr. Sampson Dyckman being sworn says, that he joined General Rensselaer about five miles above Schenectady, at 3 or 4 O'Clock in the afternoon of the Day, the Genl. marched from Schenectady; that when he came up with the Genl., the Troops were marching with Expedition & continued so till Evening, being then about 14 or 16 miles from Schenectady, where they halted till moon rise; that just as the Moon rose the Genl. came to the Encampment & ordered the Troops to prepare & march immediately & that in few minutes they moved; that the Genl. informed him, the Enemy were some Distance ahead & that he expected his Troops would soon fall in with them; that the road over Checktinunda Hill was very bad, miry and deep, which impeded the march; that they arrived at Fort Hunter at about 12 O'Clock & crossed instantly in a Scow, on Waggon & on Horseback & proceeded in their March without much Delay; that when the roads were good the Troops marched very fast but where the roads were bad, they were delayed by the artillery & waggons.

Question by Genl. Rensselaer. Did you come to me with a request that the Troops might not be ordered to march so fast?

Ans'r. I did wait on you at the Instance of Major Schuyler & others, who said the men would not be fit for action, in Case they were marched so fast. You then told me, that the Enemy were ahead destroying the Country & the men must be marched fast at all Events, to come up with them. Many of the Men were much fatigued by 10 O'Clock next morning so as to render it necessary for them to go on Horseback & in the waggons.

The Court adjourned till 5 O'Clock P. M.

The Court met pursuant to adjournment.

Major Lewis R. Morris being sworn, says that he overtook Genl. Rensselaer at Mr. H. Glen's at Schenectady on the 18th Oct'r last, about 12 O'Clock & joined him as a volunteer aid de Camp; that he was there ordered by the Genl. to assist Mr. LeRoy, his major of Brigade in getting the Troops out of Town; that the Troops marched out of Town about 1½ mile on the Low Lands where they were formed & ordered to march into Sections to the Woestyne at Mr. Van Eps's about 9 miles from Schenectady, where they were halted to refresh themselves for a very short Time & then march'd on to Sir William's old place; that it was then dark & the Troops halted till moon rise, about 10 or 11 O'Clock. The Deponent was there informed that the Genl. & field officers, on Consultation, tho't it imprudent & dangerous to march over the Checktinunda Hill in the night, till moon rise, & the Troops were accordingly halted on the side of the road; that the Deponent thereafter attended the advance Corps under Lt. Colo. Pratt & Major McKinster; that about moon rise, the Genl. ordered the Troops in motion & marched to Fort Hunter & that the Troops immediately crossed the river or Schoharie Creek in Scows &c., while the Genl. was examining two Deserters from the Enemy; that the Troops were halted on the west side of Schoharie Creek, till the artillery came up, which had gone a different route & joined 'em in a short Time; that the Troops then marched on, without Delay, to Van Eps's, where they arrived about 4 O'Clock & halted not more than an Hour; that during that Halt, Letters were written by order of the Genl. to Colo. Dubois & Colo. Brown, informing them of his approach with a Body of Troops; & that those Letters were given in Charge to a Mr. Wallace; that soon after the Letters were dispatched the Troops were put in motion; that the Day then began to dawn; that the roads were very bad & the Troops complained of being much

fatigued; that the whole Body marched about 4 or 5 miles & halted at the ruins of a House, for few minutes, for the purpose of examining a Prisoner, taken that night; that the Deponent then again joined the advance Corps, & proceeded on to a Bridge, when he & Lt. Colo. Pratt discovered a Party of the Enemy on the opposite Side of the river; that the advance Corps halted, till the Deponent rode down about  $\frac{1}{2}$  of a mile, to the Genl. (who was advancing with the Troops) to inform him of the Discovery of the Enemy; that as that Party of the Enemy was out of the reach of musquet Shot, the Genl. ordered up a Piece of artillery, whereupon the Enemy dispersed; that the whole of the Troops moved on to the South Side of the river opposite Major Fry's, where (as the Deponent had understood) the Genl. intended to cross the Troops, but that on his arrival there he found it impracticable; that it was then between 8 & 10 O'clock; that a firing was then heard, which, from its Direction, was supposed to be at Oswegotchie, & which afterwards proved to have been Colo. Brown's encounter with the Enemy; that the advance Corps not being incumbered with any waggons or artillery, moved on expeditiously; that with the main Body were one ammunition waggon & two Pieces of artillery & that to the best of his Knowledge the Baggage Waggons were in the rear of the whole; that the main Body moved on to a House about a mile below Fort Rensselaer; that it was then between 10 & 1 O'clock that the Troops halted there & the Genl. then rec'd Information of Colo. Brown's defeat; that Colo. Dubois & Colo. Harper there waited on the Genl.; that the Troops were ordered to refresh themselves, & the Genl. gave orders for their crossing the Ford as soon as they had refreshed themselves; that after delivering the orders for that Purpose, the Genl. went with Colo. Dubois to Fort Rensselaer; that the Deponent rec'd orders from the Genl. to go & assist Mr. Leroy in getting the Troops over the Ford; that he accordingly exerted himself in assisting Mr. Leroy to get the Troops over the river; that the Troops refused to ford the river & waggons were drove into it to facilitate their passage; that it was about an Hour after the Troops came to the ford before they began to cross; & that it was between two & three Hours from their first arrival before they were all over; that they crossed the Ford in different ways; in some Instances the waggons were drove into the river behind each other & the Troops passed from one to the other by walking on the Tongues; that Capt. Driskill came down to the Ford, with orders from the Genl., to hasten the crossing of the Troops, & that Mr. Lansing also came & exerted himself in getting them over the river; that after they had all crossed, they marched with Dispatch to the Ferry, where the joined the Levies & Indians; that the Genl. did there take the Command of the whole; that after they had joined, the whole were divided into three Columns; the right composed of Levies, & the Left & Centre of militia; that the Oneida Indians marched between the Left & Centre, but sometimes changed their Situation; that the Troops marched in this order, in pursuit of the Enemy for some miles; that the Centre & Left Columns were then subdivided & continued their march; that Colo. Harpur came to the Genl. & advised him that an Oneida Indian had discovered the Enemy near at Hand on the Low Grounds; that soon thereafter the Deponent discovered them drawn up in order; that the Genl. then ordered Mr. Lansing to the right & the Deponent to the Left; that the firing on the Enemy from the advance Party of the Centre then commenced at about (200) two hundred yards Distance; that about the same Time Colo. Cuyler's regiment of the Left Column began to fire on the Enemy at about 400 yards Distance; that the Genl. desired the Deponent to go to the Left & order them to cease firing & advance towards the Enemy; that he, thereupon, went to the Left & communicated the Genl's orders, but that it was a considerable Time before he could effect it; that that regiment advanced a little & inclined towards the river, when the Dep't left it; that Colo. Rensselaer's regim't was advanced towards the Enemy in an Orchard in front of Klocks House; that after delivering the orders to Colo. Cuyler's regt. he returned to the General, whom he found in the Center with Colos. Rensselaer's & Whiting's regts. which were then in the greatest Disorder & Confusion; and that the Genl. did exert himself to get them in order again.

Court. At what Time did the firing commence?

Ans'r. At about sunset & continued for about 30 minutes.

Court. Did the General discover any want of personal Bravery & firmness in the action of that Day?

A. He did not.

Court. Was Colo. Cuyler's regt. also in Disorder & Confusion?

A. They were.



Court. What was the Extreme Distance between the Front & rear of that regt.?

A. About 250 or 300 yards.

Genl. Renss. Did not the rear of the Left, fire at the same Time when the Front did?

A. They did.

Genl. Renss. Did you hear the reason assigned for ordering a retreat?

A. I did; I think the reason was that the Troops were in such Confusion, that it would be easy for a small Party of the Enemy to cut them in Pieces.

Court. Did the Genl. thro the whole of his march from Schenectady upwards, discover a Solicitude to come up with the Enemy?

A. He ever appeared anxious to come up with them.

Court. What was Genl. Rensselaer's Conduct the Day after the action?

Ans'r. Colo. Dubois with the Levies, marched in Pursuit of the Enemy the next morning & the Genl. then ordered some Light Troops from the regiments of militia, who were best able to march, to go on as volunteers to overtake Colo. Dubois; that the Dep't went on accordingly with about 30 volunteers; that on his way, the General with a Party of Horse passed him at the Castle & that the deponent with his Party marched on & came up with the Genl. & Colo. Dubois at Fort Herkimer; that as soon as the main Body of militia came up, the whole Force marched in pursuit of the Enemy, about 3 or 4 miles above Fort Herkimer at Shoemaker's, where they halted for some Time; that a Difference of opinion then arose on the route the Enemy had taken; and on a Consultation of the Field Officers, the whole of the Troops returned to Fort Herkimer, where the general took the Comm'd.

Genl. Rensselaer. Do you not recollect that I sent out 3 or 4 Indians to discover the Enemy's Track?

A. I do.

Edward S. Willet, being sworn, says, that on the Day of the action of the 19th October last, he was attached to the artillery; that he was at Fort Rensselaer & afterwards with Genl. Rensselaer & Colo. Dubois, on the Bank of the river at the ferry; that he there rec'd orders from the Genl. to go down to the Place where the militia were crossing & desire the officers to hurry on the Troops as quick as possible; which he did.

Genl. Renss. Quest. Do you not remember that the artillery & ammunition waggons frequently halted on acco't of the Badness of the roads?

Ans'r. I do, & particularly at & above Anthony's Nose, where the ammunition wagon was delayed, the Horses being very much fatigued.

LT. Gerret W. Van Schaick being sworn says, that he was in the Field of action on the 19th Oct'r last; that when Colo. Cuyler's regt. & the other Troops were advancing towards the Enemy, they yet out of the reach of musket shot, Colo. Cuyler's regt. began to fire upon the Enemy & rushed on a few paces which broke the Line or order they were in; that soon after they were in great Disorder & Confusion, and the Deponent saw Genl. Rensselaer with them, endeavoring to form them; that the Genl. Exerted himself greatly on this Occasion but his Efforts were fruitless; that the Troops were worn down with Fatigue, occasioned by the long & rapid march & the want of rest the preceding night.

The Court adjourned till Thursday morn'g 7 O'clock.—March 15th 1781.

The Court met pursuant to adjournment & adjourned till the 16th at 6 O'clock P. M.

March 16th. The Court met.

Colo: Samuel Clyde, being sworn says, that on the Day of the action of the 19th October last, he commanded a Party of Tryon County Militia; that he was at Walrods Ferry near Fort Rensselaer, at the Time when Genl. Rensselaer with the Militia, arrived at Adam Countryman's, about a Mile below it; that he crossed the Ferry to the north side with the Levies & militia, about 11 O'clock A. M., by Colo. Dubois's orders; that he had orders to halt there, till Genl. Rensselaer should join him; that about 3 or 4 Hours thereafter, the Genl. with his militia joined the Levies & militia at the Ferry, when without the least Delay, the whole Force marched with the greatest Expedition, till they came up with the Enemy; that the militia commanded by the Dep't. were attached to the Levies under Colo. Dubois, on the right; that the Depon't was not informed of the Disposition of the other Troops & had no opportunity to observe it, as he marched immediately into the woods on the Hill; that the Troops marched about 4 miles, till they had got above Colo. Klock's; that he then heard a firing near Klock's House; but that the right continued their march with Design to outflank the Enemy; that upon find'g that the right had got above the Enemy, two or three Platoons of

Levies & militia were detached (by Mr. Benschoten) from the rear, to attack a Body of the Enemy who were posted about 100 Rods above Klock's; that that Detachm't fired six or seven Platoons, when the Enemy fled & the Troops returned to their Post; that the right was then ordered to halt, until Colo. Dubois waited on the Genl. for orders; that it was then so dark as to render it difficult to enter into action with Safety, as it was hardly possible to distinguish our Troops & the Enemy from each other; that he then observed a cross fire upon the right, from the Low Lands, which he supposed to have come from the Enemy, but that he was the same Even'g informed by Colo. Dubois, that it proceeded from our own Troops; that the right remained in that Situation for about half an hour; that the Enemy could just be discerned & Part of them were then heard crossing the river; that the Day Light was then in & the Troops rec'd orders to march & they proceeded towards Klock's House, where they halted a short Space of Time; that on hearing the Groanings of a man who lay wounded in the Field of action, he detached 6 men to bring him in; that those men with some others bro't in the artillery waggons & artillery which had been deserted by the Enemy; that a report of this matter was sent to Genl. Rensselaer two or 3 Hours after Dark; that it was agreed between the Dep't & Mr. Benschoten to halt the Troops, & remain on the ground where they were; & that soon after Colo. Dubois came to them, with orders that they should remain on the ground near Klock's; that he did not hear of any Council of war being held & a retreat resolved on; that Colo. Dubois informed the Deponent & Mr. Benschoten, that the Genl. would be with them in the morning & that they were to march in Pursuit of the Enemy; that the Levies under Colo. Dubois & the militia commanded by the Deponent marched accordingly, about an Hour after Sunrise & before the Genl. came up with them; that he heard the Genl. lodged at Fox's about 3 or 4 miles below Klock's; that Colo. Dubois & the Dep't & their Troops marched to Fort Herkimer & arrived there about 2 O'clock, being about 18 or 20 miles; that about an Hour after, they were joined by the Genl. with a Party of Horse & that some Time, thereafter, Major Morris with a Party of militia came up, and that ab't two Hours after the Genl's arrival, they were joined by a Body of militia; that then (ab't 4 O'clock) all the Troops marched from Fort Herkimer (about 6 miles) to Shoemaker's.

Genl's Question. Do you know the reason of our marching to Shoemaker's?

Ans'r. The Enemy had marched into the woods & it was supposed they only meant to avoid the little Forts which were along the public road & would come into the road again at Shoemaker's.

Genl's Qu. Did you not hear that we were at a Loss to know which way the Enemy had gone & do you not recollect that 3 Indians were sent out by me to discover their Track?

A. I did hear that it was doubtful which route the Enemy had taken & that the Indians were sent out.

Qu. Did we remain there that night or did we return & when? & do you know the reason of our return?

A. We remained there till near dark & then returned to Fort Herkimer. I do not know the reason why. I heard the Scouts had been out & had returned & that they could not discover that the Enemy had gone that way.

Qu. Did not the Governor join us at Fort Herkimer?

A. He did some Time in that night.

Qu. Had you on the 19th Oct'r, from your Situation, any Opportunity of seeing the Confusion that prevailed in our Left & Centre.

A. I had not.

Qu. Do you think it would have been prudent in me, to have engaged the Enemy with the Party of Levies & militia who were on the North Side of the river at Walrods Ferry before the militia, who were below, came up?

A. I do not think it would.

Court. Did you on the 19th or 20th October or at any Time before, discover any want of personal Bravery & Firmness in Genl. Rensselaer?

A. I never did before nor did I at any Time on those Days.

John Lansing, Jun'r, Esqr. being sworn says as follows:

On the 17th of October last in the afternoon I accompanied Genl. Rensselaer in Quality of aid major from Albany to Schenectady, the City of Albany militia & some other Regiments having previously proceeded on their march to that place. We overtook & passed a number of the Militia before we arrived at that Place, and Colo. Van Alstyne's regt., which had been directed to march by the way of Nestagiuna, not

having arrived at Schenectady, in the Evening the Genl. sent an Express to him with orders to hasten his march so as to be at Schenectady at Day Break next morning.

In the mean Time, the General having been informed that the Enemy were still burning in the lower Parts of Schoharie, convened some of the principal Inhabitants of Schenectady & advised with them on the Practicability of procuring a number of Horses & waggons by the next morning, to convey such militia as could be collected, towards the Enemy, with the greater Expedition.

The attempt was made in the Course of the night, but a number very inadequate to the service could only be procured. The issuing Commissary was the same Evening sent for, to inform the General of the State of Provisions at Schenectady. It appeared from his Information, as I was advised by Genl. Rensselaer an Hour or two after he was sent for, that there was not a Sufficiency of Provisions of the meat kind to victual the Troops for a Day & a very small Quantity of Bread. Some Cattle arriving, destined for the Garrison of Fort Schuyler, the General ordered some of those to be killed for the use of the militia. Those were to have been ready at Day break, but the Bread which was ordered to be baked & the Cattle directed to be killed, did not get ready till about 9 O'Clock in the morning; before which orders were issued, to march as soon as the Provisions should be received.

While we were at Schenectady on the morning of the 18th General Rensselaer wrote a Letter or directed me to write to Colonel Staats or Veeder (I cannot charge my memory to which) directing him, as nearly as I can recollect, to call upon Major Woolsey & to take all the Force he could collect from the different Posts at Schohary, without exposing the Forts too much, pursue the Enemy & hang on their rear, avoiding however an Engagement & advising the Genl. from Time to Time, of the route, numbers & such other particulars respecting the Enemy, as he could collect.

I believe it was between 9 & 10 O'Clock before the militia got in march; they marched on the 18th as far as Sir William Johnson's old place, on the Mohawk River, which I think I was informed was 16 miles above Schenectady. We arrived there after it was dark & took post on a Hill. A Council was called by the General, as soon as the Troops could be properly disposed of, consisting of a number of Field Officers & the Genl. suggested to them the necessity of taking measures to procure Intelligence of the Enemy's route. It was agreed to send out a Party to make discoveries & which was accordingly done. The Chughtenunda Hill being covered with woods & it being very dark, the Council agreed in Sentiment that it would be most advisable to remain on the Ground on which we then were, till the moon should begin to appear. We accordingly remained, I think till some Time before the moon rose, when the march was reassumed; we arrived at Fort Hunter (I think) about twelve. The Militia were directed to cross the Schohary Creek, which was soon effected in a Scow & the Waggons.

I went into the Fort with the General, who examined a Prisoner that had been taken & brought in & upon coming out we crossed the Creek & found most of the militia on the west side. We then marched on & I do not recollect that we made any Halt after leaving the Creek till we got to Van Eps's, where we halted, I think about an Hour. Here the General directed me to write to Colonels Dubois & Brower advising them of his Situation & his Intentions to pursue the Enemy closely & to attack them by Break of Day. In Consequence of those orders I wrote a Letter to Colo. Dubois, of which I believe the paper Colo. Harpur produced to the Court, is a Copy. Another was dispatched to Colonel Brown. The General rec'd the account at Van Eps's, by one Wallace, that the Enemy was encamped at Anthony's Nose on both Sides of the river. We continued our march to a Field at some Distance from the East side of the Nose. It was then some Time advanced in the Day. Here we halted. The ammunition was inspected & an additional Quantity distributed among the Troops. Colonel Louis was sent out to reconnoitre Anthony's Nose, which is a very dangerous Defile. Upon his return & reporting that he had made no Discoveries, & after the Issues of ammunition were compleated, which might possibly take an Hour, the Militia were ordered on. After proceeding to the West Side of the Nose we discovered a Party of about forty of the Enemy on the North Side of the Mohawk River, who were bending their Course towards the river. Our advance was then about one quarter of a mile in front of the main Body. Capt'n Driskill of the artillery was with a Field piece with the advance Guard. I was directed by the Genl. to go to the advance Guard & order the Officer commanding it, to make proper Dispositions to intercept the Enemy, should they cross a Ford, which it was said, was in our Front, as the General supposed they mistook our Troops for those of the Enemy. I rode to the advance & delivered my Orders; they halted for some Time & Capt'n Driskill upon my returning, desired me to beg

the General to permit him to give the Enemy's Party a Shot or two. When I returned I communicated Driskill's request; Genl. Rensselaer observed to me, our Business was not so much to frighten the Enemy, as to fight them, & that a Compliance with Driskill's request would only tend to discover to the Enemy, that we were in force; we continued marching on without making any General Halt, that I recollect, till we arrived at the Ford about a mile to the Eastward of Fort Rensselaer. the militia stopp'd here to refresh themselves, not having had Time to cook their Provisions since their leaving Schenectady; the Enemy being then burning, from the Direction of their Fires, at Stone-Arabia.

Soon after the Halt, Genl. Rensselaer went to Fort Rensselaer, to which Place I followed him & dined; Immediately after Dinner, Genl. Rensselaer directed me to go down to the Militia & order them across the river, as soon as possible. When I came down to the Place where they had halted, I found that some had already crossed the river on waggons & others were following their Example. But they went across very tardily, complaining of being too much harrassed by a forced march, & many appeared much dispirited on account of Brown's Defeat, which was generally known among them.

Imagining that their crossing would be expedited by forming a Bridge across the river with our waggons, I suggested it to some of the Field Officers who agreed with me in Sentiment, but the orders given for the Execution of this Service, were executed with such reluctance, that at least two Hours elapsed before the militia had crossed, tho' many of the Officers exerted themselves to facilitate their Conveyance across the river.

While the militia were crossing, I received two messages from the General to push them on with all Expedition, which was communicated to the Field Officers on the Ground.

In the mean Time an attempt was made to induce them to ford the river, but proved unavailing. As soon as they were crossed, they were marched to the Place where the Levies had crossed the river & were formed & counted off in Sections; the Enemy were then about two miles in advance, burning the Buildings as they proceeded.

After we had marched on some Distance, the General directed me to write a Letter to His Excellency, the Governor, advising him that he was near the Enemy & intended to attack, as soon as he could overtake them. While I was writing, the Disposition of the Troops was made for an attack.

Upon my overtaking the Genl. who was at the Head of what I was told was the Centre Column, I rode with him some minutes, when he observed to me that the militia on the Left were marching on without observing any Order & directed me to go to them & order them to march more compactly. I went down & gave the Orders to Colo. Cuyler & some other Officers. Upon my return to the General, I observed a number of Men, in advance of the Centre, as I afterwards found, and upon my taking the shortest route towards them, I found they were Indians. I inquired of one of them whether he had seen the Genl., he appeared not to understand me, & while I was endeavouring to make him understand me, the Indians began to fire & received a warm one in return. The first fire my Horse fell with me; by this Time the Troops in the low Grounds had commenced a firing at long Shot from the Enemy, broke & some ran. I again made an attempt to mount my Horse, but finding that he would not stand fire, I ran down towards the Left, one of the Militia attending me & leading my Horse, till I came to Van Alstyne's Regim't which was broke. I assisted in rallying it, which was partly effected; I then went to Colo. Cuyler's & endeavoured to assist the Officers in rallying that Regiment, which was also partly rallied; but Part of another regiment (Van Alstyne's I think) firing at Cuyler's, they again broke & could not be rallied.

A similar Confusion seemed to prevail in every Part of the Troops on the Left. I did not see, General Rensselaer after the firing commenced till it had somewhat subsided, & from the Direction of the Fire it appeared that the Enemy's had entirely ceased, when he exerted himself to rally Cuyler's & other regts. on the Left. He observed to me that the Confusion & Darkness was such, that it would be imprudent to engage the Enemy in the night & directed me to assist in marching off the Troops.

When the firing commenced on our Part, the rear of two regiments in the low Grounds were strung along 150 or 200 yards, behind the Front & kept up a warm fire as well as the Front, but the Direction of the fire seemed to be up in the air.

At the Time the Engagement begun, it was dusk & in few minutes it was quite dark, which I believe was occasioned by the Smoak of the Buildings which were burnt by the Enemy.

Immediately after the firing on the Part of the Enemy ceased, I heard several exclamations at different Times, by the militia on the low Grounds, that they were in Danger

to be cut to Pieces & surrounded by the Enemy & many of them expressed a great Disposition to run off.

In the Evening of the action, I suggested to the General, that the Troops were without Provisions & I recollect he informed me, that he had ordered the Provisions to be over early in the morning but it did not arrive till after Sun-rise.

In the same Evening the General informed me, that he had given Orders to Colo. Dubois for the marching of the Levies, in pursuit of the Enemy, the next moring by Break of Day or before Day, (I do not recollect which) & those Troops marched accordingly.

As soon as the Militia had got their Provisions & had cooked & eat it, they marched also, I think about an Hour after Sunrise, (but this I cannot ascertain with Precision).

On the march the General desired that a small Detachment of men, of the different regts., who were best able to go on should turn out as volunteers to overtake those who went in to join, Colo. Dubois. If I recollect right, this Detachment was made in Consequence of Intelligence rec'd that Colo. Dubois was very near the Enemy.

The General went on, escorted by a small number of Horsemen, to join Colo. Dubois; I followed him & we arrived at Fort Herkimer about 2 OClock. About two Hours after, the militia joined us & halted a short space of Time.

Here the General received Intelligence, that the Enemy had struck off from the public road to avoid the Fort & had taken the route to Shoemaker's.

The General then marched the Troops on to near Shoemaker's. It was there become doubtful what route the Enemy had taken & Parties of Indians & white men were sent out to discover their Track, who returned & finally reported, that from the Observations they could make, the Enemy had not gone that way.

When the General found that he had mistaken the Enemy's route, he ordered the Troops to return to Fort Herkimer, with Intention (as was said) to fall in with their Track to the Southward of Fort Herkimer. It was just Dusk when the Troops marched from Shoemaker's towards Fort Herkimer.

The next morning the Governor took the Command.

Court. From the whole Tenor of Genl. Rensselaer's Conduct, in his march up the Mohawk River, had you reason to suppose that he was anxious to come up with the Enemy?

A. He appeared to be very much so, in every Part of his Conduct.

Court. Did you, in or before the action of the 19th Oct'r discover any want of Firmness or Personal Bravery in the General?

A. From what I observed of his Conduct, before the action, he appeared to possess himself fully, & in the Course of that action, or after it, he did not betray the least want of resolution or Firmness, as far as it fell under my Observation.

The Court adjourned till Sat. morning March 17th at 7 OClock.

The Court met pursuant to adjourment.

Upon duly considering the Proofs and Allegations, respecting B. Genl. Rensselaer's Conduct on the Incursions of the Enemy into Tryon County, in October last;—The Court do, unanimously, report their opinion, That the whole of General Rensselaer's Conduct both before & after, as well as in the action of the 19th of October last, was not only unexceptionable, but such as became a good, active, faithful, prudent & spirited officer and that the public Clamors raised to his Prejudice, on that account, are without the least Foundation.

Jacobus Swartwout, Presdt.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 3582.]

*D. Wynkoop Informs the Governor that the People of Ulster County Are Uneasy.*

Kingston, the 17 March 1781.

Deer Sir, Agreeable to my Promise I went to Lut. Coll. Pawling, and delivered His Excellency's Massage, but could not

obtain any direct answer, but promised me either to write on his Excellency or write from Claverack where he went two days. Since our People here in general seem to wish for orders for the Raising of men for the Frontiers as early as may be as they are under great apprehensions that the Enemy will come out early in the ensuing Season; the want of ammunition causes a good Deal uneasiness among the People here & how to obtain it we know now but intend to make a tryell at Wessners Powder Mills. I have understood that the Albany Militia draw out of the Continental Magazine on alarms. I could wish we might have a like Indulgence if possible; it is my opinion that we ought to make all possible Preparations and that very soon. I should be very glad to have his Excellency's opinion whether we ought not to make some Place of Defence and in what manner. My wife joins with me in our best Wishes and Remains His Excellency's very Humble Servant

D: Wynkoop.

P. S. All Friends here are well.

His Excellency George Clinton, Esqr.

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[No. 3583.]

*General Heath Brings to the Governor's Attention the Atrocities Committed by Refugees Between the Lines.*

Headquarters, Westpoint, March 17, 1781.

Sir, The unbounded licentiousness of a number of persons who lurk about the lines, is become so intolerable, that duty to my country, as well as a regard to the honor of arms, obliges me to make a representation to your Excellency.

These people, some of whom stile themselves Refugees, and others, who at stated times collect from the country—and

among them some, I am informed, who were deserters from the enemy, proceed below the lines by routes where they evade our guards, and there insult, whip, beat, and at some times almost hang till dead, the inhabitants, until they distort from them their money, &c. This has of late, driven a very considerable number to join the enemy for protection, and even to take up arms—and is likely to drive away many more if not checked. Indeed the wanton spirit of plundering which now prevails, will make more recruits for the enemy, than all their recruiting officers put together. It will, besides, contaminate the morals of the whole adjacent country, will produce a disposition and thirst to plunder all ages, sexes and denominations—marked with such stains of abuse as will be a disgrace to our country, and our arms. I know your Excellency detests such practices, and I flatter myself, the greater part of the good people of the state of New York, detest them also, but I fear there are some few, who do not rebuke, if they disapprove them. I wish there may not be some who encourage them. If this is not unjust, is it not exceedingly impolitic? To your Excellency's decision I beg leave to submit it, for such remedy as you may think proper. I have the honor to be, With the highest respect, your Excellency's Most obedient servant,

W. Heath.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

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[No. 3584.]

*Doctor Thompson on the Condition of the Times.*

March 17, 1781.

S'r, Deeply impressed with Sentiments of affection for my dear native Country, and a high sense of the justice, and grand

importance of the glorious Cause in which we are engaged; I feel such glowings of resentment, not only against the British foe, and our more vile internal enemies; but more especially against our lukewarm, inactive, misguided, too easy, too tyrannical whigs, who at times think peace is so near that it is not worth while to make any preparations for war, and then again are struck into a panic upon hearing of a partial defeat of some of our forces; who can sit from week to week, and scarcely speak, or think of any thing to save our Country from impending Ruin; the behaviour of such men and many of them are in the place of Pilots, I say, disturbs the native serenity of my mind and causes my Pulse to beat high with indignation and contempt. My dear S'r, I wish the whole Country could be roused to see their danger, and prepare for the most vigorous defence of every thing dear and sacred; I wish the unfeeling sons of sloth could realize and apply the language of the Poet which I think most elegantly descriptive of what we may soon expect to see; *Bella horrida Bella, et tybrim spumante sanguine* . . . . .(?)

I feel, S'r, for you in a most sensible manner, and as I highly esteem your abilities, and integrity, I am proportionably chagrined, at those who have it in their power, and whose duty it is to afford you proper assistance and support, and yet thro' negligence and inattention to say no worse, instead of supporting rather embarrass and distress you. I think our Legislature make their Laws too prolix and too obscure for sculls as thick as mine easily to discern their utility, and I sincerely wish we had a better legislative; but untill we can obtain it, I think it duty to support the one we have for I never had any Idea of opposing any authority, in any other way, than by substituting



better in its place. I hope you will yet be at the head of a more constitutional vigorous government; and doubt not but you, S'r, will cordially join with me, in wishing we may live to see American Independence established upon an unshaking basis, true civil liberty, impartial justice, and the pure undefiled Religion of Jesus flourish, and extend their benign influences, not only thro' this Continent, but thro' the world even to the latest period. I conclude wishing your temporal, and spiritual prosperity, at the same time declaring, I esteem it an honor to subscribe myself your Excellency's most obedient humble Servant

Amos Thompson, Junior.

Governor Clinton.

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[No. 3585.]

*Major Hubby Forwards Six Prisoners, Whom He Requests Should be Treated as Spies.*

Westchester County ye 17th of March 1781.

Sir, I have sent six prisoners to . . . . . at Fishkill; they formerly belonged to this State, but now joined the inemy and taken in a lurking manner within this state, desire they mite be tried as spies agreeable to a Law of this State; for witness I refer your Excelency to Squ Horton. I am, Sir, your Humble Serv't

David Hubby, Major

Westchester County.

To His Excelency Governor Clinton.

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*The Governor Notifies the Legislature that the Articles of Confederation Have Been Ratified by all the States.*

Gentlemen: I have the pleasure of communicating to the legislature, an act of the honorable the Congress of the 11th inst., announcing that the articles of confederation and per-

petual union between the thirteen United States are acceded to, and formally and finally ratified by all the states. This important event, as it establishes our union, and defeats the first hope of our enemy, cannot but afford the highest satisfaction; and I trust that this state will be as distinguished for its faithful adherence to this great national compact, so essential to the peace and happiness of America, as it has hitherto been for its exertions in the common cause.

Geo. Clinton.\*

Albany, 19th March, 1781.

[No. 3586.]

*Doctor Smith's Bond for Effecting His and His Son's Exchange.*

† Know all men by these Presents that we George Smith, Patrick Smith and William Shepherd of Albany in the State of New York are held and firmly unto Philip Pell, Esqr. Commissary of prisoners, for the State of New York, in the sum of four hundred pounds current and lawful money of New York, to be paid to the said Philip Pell, his Executors administrators or assigns: To which payment well and justly to be made we bind ourselves our Heirs Executors and administrators jointly and severally firmly by these Presents. Sealed with our Seals. Dated the nineteenth day of March 1781.

The Condition of this obligation is such that whereas the aforesaid George Smith is proposed in exchange for Captain John Wood, a prisoner in Canada, or if the said John Wood should be dead, then for Captain Joshua Drake also prisoner in Canada; and the son of the said George Smith for any Subject of this State prisoner in Canada. Now if the said George Smith shall procure to be sent out in exchange for himself the aforesaid John Wood, or if he should be dead then the said Joshua Drake; and any Subject of this State prisoner in Canada for his Son; or return again with his Son from Canada to the City of Albany in two months from the date of the permit which he may obtain from General James Clinton Commanding in the Northern department to pass into Canada, then this obligation to be void otherwise to be in full force.

Geo. Smyth [seal]

Patt Smyth [seal]

Wm. Shepherd [seal]

Sealed and delivered in presence of Joshua Bloom, Barent Van Alen.

[No. 3587.]

*William Floyd Informs the Governor that England Has Declared War Against the Dutch—News of Arnold.*

Philadelphia, March 20th 1781.

Dear Sir, On account of some disagreeable Information which I have rec'd from my family, as well as on some other

\*Assembly Journal, March 19, 1781. See Clinton Papers, Volume VI, pages 189-208, and footnotes on pages 207-210 for other matter relating to the Articles of Confederation.—STATE HISTORIAN.

† See document 3589, page 723.

accounts, I am under a necessity of returning home, and shall set off in a few days. I considered it my duty to Inform your Excellency of this, that some person may come on, to represent the State.

By the Inclosed paper of this day's date, you will see the manifesto of the King of Britain, which amounts to a Declaration of War against the Dutch. This appears to be a rash measure, and looks like the Effect of Desperation—what will be the Consequences among the neutral powers of Europe is not Certain, but we have reason to expect that the armed neutrality will in general disapprove of the Conduct of Britain.

Arnold's Situation is very Critical and Dangerous, and we have the greatest Reason to expect that he will be secured in a very few days if it is not already done.

By our last accounts from Cornwallace, he had retreated near fifty miles, General Greene\* was reinforced so as to pursue him, and had got within ten miles of his Rear, and was growing stronger every hour—under those Circumstances we have Reason to hope for a successful Battle against him which will restore the two Southern States again to the Union—from, Sir, your most Obed't and humble Serv't

Wm. Floyd.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

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[No. 3588.]

*Congress Selects Thursday, May 3, 1781, as a Day of Fasting and Prayer.*

Circular,

Philadelphia, March 21, 1781.

Sir, Your Excellency will receive herewith enclosed, a Proclamation of the 20th Instant, earnestly recommending that

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\* See document 3613, page 738.

Thursday the third Day of May next may be observed as a Day of Humiliation, Fasting & Prayer by all the United States. I have the Honor to be with every Sentiment of Esteem & regard your Excellency's most obedient Servant.

Sam. Huntington, President.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

By the United States in Congress assembled

PROCLAMATION

At all times it is our duty to acknowledge the overruling providence of the great Governor of the universe and devoutly to implore his divine favor and protection. But in the hour of calamity and impending danger when by fire and the sword, by the savages of the wilderness and by our own domestics a vindictive enemy pursues a war of rapine & devastation with unrelenting fury, we are peculiarly excited with true penitence of heart to prostrate ourselves before our great creator and fervently to supplicate his gracious interposition for our deliverance.

The United States in Congress assembled, therefore, do earnestly recommend that Thursday the third day of May, next, may be observed as a day of humiliation fasting and prayer, that we may with united hearts confess and bewail our manifold sins and transgressions and by sincere repentance & amendment of life appease his righteous displeasure and thro' the merits of our blessed Saviour obtain pardon & forgiveness. That it may please him to inspire our rulers with wisdom & incorruptible integrity and to direct and prosper their councils, to inspire all our citizens with a fervent & disinterested love of Country and to preserve and strengthen their union; to turn the hearts of the disaffected or to frustrate their devices, to regard with divine compassion our friends in captivity, affliction and distress, to comfort and relieve them under their sufferings and to change their mourning into grateful songs of triumph; that it may please him to bless our ally and to render the connection formed between these United States and his kingdoms, a mutual and lasting benefit to both nations, to animate our officers and forces by sea and land with invincible fortitude, and to guard & protect them in the day of battle; and to crown our joint endeavours for terminating the war with victory and success, that the blessings of peace and liberty may be established on an honorable & permanent basis and transmitted inviolate to the latest posterity—that it may please him to prosper our husbandry and commerce, and to bless us with health & plenty; that it may please him to bless all schools & seminaries of learning and to grant that truth, justice and benevolence and pure and undefiled religion may universally prevail.

And it is recommended to all the people of these States to assemble for publick worship and abstain from labour on the said day.

Done in Congress the twentieth day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty one, and in the fifth year of the Independence of the United States of America.

Attest

Chas. Thomson, Secy.

Sam. Huntington, President.

[No. 3589.]

*Dr. Ledyard Speaks Well of Mr. Sleght and Mr. Fisher.*

Sir, Your condesention and generous attention to Mr. Sleght's Case, afords us another instance of your goodness.

I am sure your Excellency will enjoy an heartfelt satisfaction from ye gratefull feelings of this virtuous family to those who have been so essentially instrumental in their welfare. Few set out in life with fairer prospects for happiness than Mr. & Mrs. Slegt; few have been so peculiarly unfortunate, and few who have so little deserved it. The saving of this place, with their natural industry and prudence will yet make them happy in a competency.

Mr. George Fisher, who has been ye generous agent of Mr. Slegt in his business with ye Legislature, expects to move with his family to Philadelphia with a view to get into some kind of business, under some of ye ministers or agents of Congress, If your Excellency should have cause to write there, at the time he goes, it will give me a great pleasure if your Excellency will be pleased to mention him favorably for ye above purpose.

I acknowledge it discovers a want of modesty in me to desire your Excellency to risque ye credit of your word, if you have no other information of Mr. Fisher's character than what this Letter will give you.

If, however, the Character which I shall now give your Excellency of this gentlemen will be of service to him it will give me an exceeding satisfaction. He is one of those who have not their dependence on family or fortune for reputation, naturally of an expert and penetrating mind, and one peculiarly adapted to accounts, in which he is clear and quick of apprehension, very enterprising in any business he undertakes, very honest & trusty, and indeed possesses a laudable share of public and private virtue, immoveably attach'd to ye welfare of ye United States & this in particular, These & more good qualities I will be answerable for in Mr. Fisher, so that I am sorry he is under

the necessity of carrying them out of ye State, but wish he could find employment for them here.

I hope the prolixity of this Letter will be pardoned, & pray it may not posture your Excell'y when you may be buisy. I have ye honor to be with perfect respect & esteem your Excellencies obedient and very humble Servant

Isaac Ledyard.

Fishkill 22d March 1781.

Excell'y Gov'r Clinton.

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[No. 3590.]

*Governor Clinton Makes a Request of Washington in Favor of Robert Morris.*

Albany, 22d March 1781.

Sir, Robert Morris, Esqr. late Chief Justice of the State of New Jersey, has requested my Consent for him to have an Interview on the Lines with Lawrence Kortright, John Delancey & John Zabriskie for the purpose of receiving Information respecting the Title of some Lands in this State; the two former are Subjects of this, the latter of the State of New Jersey. If your Excellency can consistently grant Permission, I shall have no objection and it will much oblige Mr. Morris; he would I believe prefer Elizabeth Town for this Interview, and as I am uncertain how far it wo'd be consistent with the Laws of this State for Kortright & Delancey to come within our Jurisdiction I should also wish that some Place in Jersey might be appointed for this Business.

[G. C.]

[To General Washington.]

[No. 3591.]

*James Johnston's Grievance as to Rank—The Governor's Offer.*

Schoharie March 23 1781.

Sir; The person who addresses you has probably thro' the hurry of Public affairs escaped your memory; in the begining of seventy seven by your Excellency's influence, I received an Ensigny in the Fifth N. York Regiment; afterwards had the honor of serving on your Excellency's guard, since that time I've shared the fate of my brother soldiers without repining, till the first of January last, when the New Establishment of the army took place and has blended the subaltern officers together in such a manner that many is injur'd by it; myself in Particular; after serving several Campaigns with pleasure in the above capacity has now the mortification to see myself commanded by those who did not do duty as officers untill upwards of two years after I was appointed; this alone has induced me to determine to retire from service, if I cannot obtain such an appointment as your Excellency thinks proper, in one of the Regiments now to be raised for three years; the obtaining of which will be esteem'd as a particular favour by him who remains with all deference and respect, your Exceley's most obed't and Humble Serv't

James Johnston.

Gov'r Clinton.

Albany March 26th 1781.

Sir, I have rec'd your Letter of the 23d, and shall lay it before the Council of Apointment who will correct such errors as may have happened in the late appointments in your Brigade as soon as the necessary evidence which the Genl. and other Officers concerned are called upon to produce, shall be furnished them. I think it your Interest to continue in the Continental

Line, but if, after having Justice done you in point of Rank, you shall still incline to leave that Service I shall be happy in imploying you in the Levies intended to be raised for the Defence of the State on your Complying with the Terms proposed by Law. I am &c.

[G. C.]

[To James Johnston.]

[No. 3592.]

*Act of Congress us to Finance and the Money Quotas of the States.*

By The United States in Congress assembled.

March 16th 1781.

Resolved, That all Debts now due from the United States, which have been liquidated in specie value, and all Debts which have been or shall be made payable in Specie or other Money equivalent, shall be actually paid either in Specie, or in other Money equal thereto, according to the current Exchange between such Money and Specie.

That it be and hereby is recommended to the several States to amend their Laws making the Bills of credit emitted under the authority of Congress a legal Tender, so that such Bills shall not be a Tender in any other Manner than at their current value compared with Gold or Silver.

Resolved That the States be immediately called upon to furnish for the public Expences and for carrying on the war, their proportions of one Million five hundred Thousand Dollars quarterly, the first quarterly payment to be made on the first day of June next.

That in discharge of this requisition, as well as those made by Congress on the 26th day of August, the 4th of November and the 15th day of January last, the Bills of credit emitted pursuant to the act of Congress of the 18th of March 1780, by what State soever emitted, shall be received at the Treasury of the United States as equal to and in lieu of the like Sum of Specie, and that Interest be computed thereon in favour of the States from whom such Bills shall be received, to the Time assigned for discharging the several Requisitions respectively.

That the respective States make exact Returns to the Board of war by the first day of June next, of all articles by them supplied agreeably to the act of Congress of the 25th of February 1780.

That the United States in Congress assembled will then call upon the deficient States for the full Amount of their Deficiencies in value to be paid into the Treasury of the United States by the first day of September 1781.

March 23d.

Resolved, That the quota of one million five hundred thousand dollars called for by the act of the 16th be as follows.

New Hampshire	46080 $\frac{3}{4}$	four quarterly payments	184323
Massachusetts	264965 $\frac{3}{4}$		1059863
Rhode Island	29146 $\frac{1}{4}$		116585
Connecticut	155844 $\frac{1}{4}$		783377
New York	43200 $\frac{3}{4}$		172803
New Jersey	103682		414728
Pensylvania	264965 $\frac{3}{4}$		1059863
Delaware	24480 $\frac{1}{4}$		97921
Maryland	182026 $\frac{3}{4}$		728107
Virginia	288006 $\frac{1}{2}$		1152026
N. Carolina	57601		230404
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	1500000		6000000



Resolved, That the Sums assessed shall not be considered as the proportion of any State but being paid into the treasury shall be placed to their respective credit bearing an interest of six per cent per annum from the time of payment until the quotas shall be finally ascertained agreeably to the articles of Confederation. And if it shall then appear that any State is assessed more than its just quota of the said tax it shall continue to receive interest on the surplus and if less it shall be charged with the interest upon the deficiency until by a future tax such surplus or deficiency shall be properly adjusted.

Extract from the minutes.

Chas. Thomson, Secy.

[No. 3593.]

*Captain Dubois' Recruiting Account.*

The State of N. York to Captain Henry Dubois Dr.  
For moneys Expended in the Recruiting service.

Albany	Bloodgood's acc't 20th Decem'r 1780	0	2	2
	Denniston do 21		13	0
	Truax's 21		1	0
Poughkeepsie	Hendrickson 22		2	0
	do 23		3	4
Fishkill	Cooper's 24		1	0
	Hagaman 26		7	0
	Moneys Expended from the 26th Decem'r to the 12th Jan'y 1781		14	0
	To Juel's acc't 13 Jan'y		2	3
	Mrs. Hayet's 15		7	0
N. Windsor	Lattay's 16		8	0
	Moneys Expended from the 16 Jan'y to the 21 of Jan'y		5	0
	To do till the 31st Jan'y		16	0
Nins Partners	To do to the 11 Feb'y	2	11	4
	To do to the 24 Feb'y	1	2	0
	To do to the 2 March	1	15	0
Fishkill	To do paid the printer for advertising deserters		16	0
	Mr. Deen for entertaining recruits		3	6
	To money paid for paper		2	8
	Mr. Hagaman Bill from Decem'r to the 16 March 19		13	4
	Mr. McBride 17 March		10	0
Poughkeep'e	Pride 15 March		3	2
	Mulford 19 March		6	3
Rynbeck	Steenbark 19 March		4	0
		£31	9	0
Esopus	Bargarderes Bill 21 March	0	6	8
	Ferrage		3	2
	do Esopus Creek			8
	To sundry Expences to Albany 23d March	2	16	0
		3	6	6
	Brought forward	31	9	0
		£34	15	6

H. D. Bois, Capt. 2 N. York Regt.

[Nos. 3594 and 3562.]

*In Regard to the Fortifications at Schenectady.*

Albany 24<sup>th</sup> March 1781.

Gent'n. As the Season is fast approaching in which Incur-  
sions of the Enemy into our Frontier settlements may be appre-

hended from the Ravages of the Enemy last year, & as your Town is now in some Measure become a Frontier & an Object of the first Importance, I have to recommend that you will without Delay proceed in making such alterations in and additions to the works calculated for its Defence, as I pointed out when I was last with you & have the same compleated as expeditiously as possible. As Major [Nicholas] Fish was present & is fully possessed of my Ideas, he will give you from Time to Time, while he continues with you, such Directions as may be necessary for carrying them into Execution.

I have not the best prospects of being able to procure a competent Supply of artillery, artillerists or of amunition. I woud, therefore, recommend that the Works be calculated as much as may be for Defence by Musquettry. There are some small small Pieces of Cannon & Swivels scattered in different Parts of the Country near the Banks of the River whether these are public or private property I am not informed. If the latter it will not be in my Power to command them without the Consent of the owners. If either Provisision shoud be made for the Expençe of transporting them to Schenectady & making & repairing Carriages for them which I will mention to your Members that they may give the necessary attention to this Business. I have Confidence in your Exertions & you may rely on every assistance I shall be able to afford for your Protection and safety. I am &c.

[G. C.]

[To Magistrates and Field Officers of Schenectady.]

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\* Memorandum of Several Matters to be Laid Before his Excellency George Clinton, Esqr. Governor of the State of N. York &c. &c. at the Request of the Field officers & the Justices of the Township of Schenectady, the 27 Feb'y 1781.

\* This document numbered 3562 in the Clinton MSS is transferred from page 600 for reasons that are obvious.—STATE HISTORIAN.

1th. To acquaint His Excellency in what Manner the Gentlemen above, think will be Necessary to Fortify the Town of Sch'y which is Seven Block houses exclusive of the Pickets at the Following places:

- 2dly. One Battery at Mr. DeGraff's;  
 One Block house at V Eps;  
 One Do at Doctor Specker's;  
 One on Vrooman's Land;  
 One Do at Mr. Ab. Groet's;  
 One Do in Alb'y Street at the house of Isaac Merselus;  
 One at or back of David Frank's;  
 One at or near the Continental Stables.

3dly. To apply to his Excellency for a number of small Cannon.

4dly. For a proper Person who is to be an Engineer.

5dly. For an officer of the artillry with a sufficient

6dly. Number of men to work the Cannon.

7dly. For a Quanty of amunition.

8dly. His Excellency will be pleas'd to give Directions in what manner these Block-houses shall be Mann'd & what number in each of them.

9dly. Whether the field officers & Justices have a sufficient power by the Law which past last Session for to take in people's property for to cary on the Fortifycations.

10dly. To Inquire of his Excellency in what manner we shall Raise some Cash to pay for the Ranging Scouts which will be of the greatest Importance for its Savety of the Town.

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[No. 3595.]

*Injustice Done Ensign Carpenter in Rank While He Was a Captive.*

Sir. I beg leave to inform your Excellency, that soon after my releasment I was at Albany, and by the advice of the Genl. wrote to your Excellency, representing that I have been Commissioned as Qr. Master from January 5th 1776, in three different Regiments, 1st in Coll. Nicolls of minute men, 2d in Genl. Clinton's of Continental, and lastly in Coll. Dubois's, in which I received a Commission from Congress, dated November 21st 1776; but my being a prisoner and not able to represent my own case, are now returned as the youngest Ensign in the 2d New-York Regiment, and those that were Serjts. and privates in the same Regiment with me before I was captured, are now the eldest in the Regiment.

My Commission as Ensign has not come out, therefore, if your Excellency could see fit to give me rank agreeable to a resolve of Congress, or that which would not injure my honor, I could

serve with the greatest pleasure. I am Sir, your Excellency's  
most obedient Serv't

Nehemiah Carpenter.

New-Windsor March 24th 1781.

His Excellency Governor George Clinton.

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[No. 3596.]

*Judge Hobart in the Matter of Clothing and Funds.*

Saybrook, 25th March 1781.

Sir, I was in hopes before this to have had it in my Power to inform your Excellency of my success in the Bussiness upon which I came here, but so many difficulties have arisen that I am almost discouraged in the hopes of obtaining any considerable supply of cloathing. I have sent Capt. John Grenell to the Island whose accounts are not very encourageing; no persons who have assortments of goods choose to brake the assortment, and a great part of them are such as will not answer the warrant; however, some gentlemen of pretty strong Interest have engaged to try to bring down such an assortment as we want, but they consider it as a very doubtfull case. Mr. Grenell is to have a definite answer the first of next week; should we be disapointed in this atempt. I know of no way in which we can obtain any considerable supply, unless your Excellency should think proper to grant permits to some persons to bring their effects from the Island. Mr. Grenell who wishes to obtain such a permit, says he will bring off as large an assortment for our use as possible and let the state have them upon the same termes that he can procure them.

I have procured about £800 which I shall deliver to Mr. L'Houmedien, and have a prospect that the whole or the greater

part of the sum proposed, will be obtained, in the course of a few weeks.

I intend to set out on my return tomorrow, and hope to meet Mr. L'Hommedieu at Middletown, who I trust will be able to inform me how the important session has ended.

Major Davis tells me they have published in New York that the British Court declared war against the Dutch on the 22<sup>d</sup> Dec'r last—what glorious fellows these Englishmen are! to fight the whole world rather than give up a point of honour. I am, with the greatest respect and esteem your Excellency's most obed't h'ble Serv't

Jno. Sloss Hobart.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

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[No. 3597.]

*Jonathan Lawrence Brings Further Charges Against Refugees and Plundering Militiamen.*

Pokeepsie, March 25<sup>th</sup> 1781.

Honoured Sir, I came here in expectation of finding you returned from Albany. I had something to mention which I should have been happy to have done verbally, but the Uncertainty of your Excellency's returning soon, made me conclude it best to write to you. Several well disposed persons living on the lines have waited on me & begd me to acquaint your Excellency of the Robberys Committed by the Militia and the Refugees of our party, on their propertys, and as their Circumstances are such, should they be obliged to Quit their habitations, they would be reduced to the Extremity of want. On acc't of the loses they have sustained by the Plunderers, they could wish to continue in their habitations, provided a Stop is put to their being distressed by our people. It is from the very Persons that

the officers of the Army procure the most accurate Intelligence and every acc't of the Enemy's movement, provided a Stop cannot be put to it, and your Excellency thinks it adviseable, I should be happy to have a Flag, in order to fetch off their Families and such Effects as they may have in possession, I would mention their Names to your Excellency, but should the Letter miscarry, I fear it might be their Ruin; nothing should have prevented my writing on your Excellency, had I but Money to bear Expences, but not having rec'd any pay for 23 Months service, puts it out of my power, I shall continue here, untill I hear from or see you, as I have some other things to mention concerning the Villany of our Guides, suffring large Quantitys of provisions going to the Enemy, for large Bribes. I have been Informd the Legislature have passd an act to prevent the officers who were dearranged from receiving notes for the amount of their Depreciation, which must hurt me much as mine is £450. I should not thing so much of it had not many of them that applied early received theirs; and even some of the same Regt. with me; the kindness I have received from your Excellency, induces me think your Excellency will not forget me on this occasion. I have the Honour to be, with Esteem, Your Excellency's most obd. & very Humble Servant

J. Lawrence, Jun'r.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

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[No. 3598.]

*Captain Townsend, in Applying for Exchange, Throws Light upon the Treatment of American Prisoners in New York.*

Provost, New York, 26th March 1781.

Hon'rd Sir, I am under the Disagreeable Necessity of troubling your Excellency, with my present unhappy Situation.

I had the Missfortune to be made prisoner, by a party of Col. Delancey's Horse thieves, att Veals Ford, the 18th of Novem'r last, and by them Strip'd of all my papers, Publick & private. The little Money and Clothing, was also strip'd from me, so that all the Clothing left me was not worth four Dollars. I was Conducted to Delancey's Quarters the next Morning, and was most grossly Insulted by him, and on my asking him whither I might not have my private papers, that could not be any Service to any person excepting myself, he replied along with that Fellow, and in my presence, he told two of the Fellows that took me, viz. Jacob Van Wart, & John Montross, take me along & do what they pleased with me. I was then mounted behind one of them, (Pinioned), carried round to visit all the Hutts in Morrissenia Woods, with shouting & acclamations of joy, and after sporting with me in that way near five Hours, I was conducted to the provost at Fort Washington. I was there used with the greatest Civility by the officer of the guard & was inform'd by him that Coll. Delancey had ordered me to the provost att New York, and not to be exchanged without the Consent of the Refugees. The next Morning, the 20th, I was Conducted from guard to guard, and after the usual Method of gallanting prisoners of war round the City, without ever being asked a single Question, by any officer, I was safely lodged in the dungeon in this house, where I lay without seeing fire or Candle Light, untill the 3d of December (13 days) was then ordered into the Congress Room (the first five days all the provisions Rec'd was from the Bounty of friends in town) I continued in the Congress Room, with the other prisoners of war & lived as comfortable as close Confinment would admitt, being supplied with Money & provisions by my Friends in town, untill

the 28th of January last, when I was again ordered into the same dungeon, on two thirds allowance of bread and water only, being debarred from anything further that might be brought in. In this situation I suffered ten days, till the 7th of February, without being asked a single Question, or told the reason of such Treatment. I was then ordered into the Congress Room, where I as yet continue. I was surpris'd, about three weeks ago to see my name & Maj'r Brush's struck off the provision Roll with the prisoners of war, and annex'd to their own Criminals confin'd here, and being since Inform'd by an officer in this room, that Capt. Cunningham\* told him that they did not look on Maj'r Brush & myself as prisoners of war, and that if all the prisoners were Exchanged, that Brush & Townsend would not be, and also being inform'd from good authority that neither of our names were enter'd on Lowering's Books as prisoners of war. These Circumstances being weigh'd must fully, convince any person that every cursed art that Hell can devise is bent to prevent our exchange as long as possible. All the prisoners of war in close Confinement in New York, is here fifty seven in number, about one half of them is Inhabitants of West Chester County.

And as your Excellency is well acquainted with my Character both in publick & private, and after being Inform'd with the Ill Treatment Rec'd by the Enemy, which I concieve principally occasioned by Coll. Delancey, & the present unhappy Situation I am in, being debarred from writing a single Line to my friend in publick, I cannot have the least Doubt, but your Excellency

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\*Captain Cunningham, a wretch fully as malignant as Captain Wirz, Keeper of the Ander-onville prison pen during the War of the Rebellion, presided over the jail, which stood at the northeast corner of City Hall Park. For many years it was used, and known, as "The Hall of Records." Its demolition was ordered by the city authorities, July 17, 1902.—STATE HISTORIAN.



will Immediately Interfere in my Behalf, and procure my Exchange as soon as possible, which will much oblige your Excellency's unfortunate friend & Very Hum'le Serv't

Saml. Townsend.

His Exc'cy George Clinton, Esqr.

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[No. 3599.]

*Governor Clinton Communicates with Governor Haldemand, of Canada, in Regard to Exchanging Women and Children Captured on the Frontier.*

Albany, March 27<sup>th</sup> 1781.

Sir, While I entertain too high an opinion of your character as a gentlemen to suppose you inclined to add to the miseries of war by involving in it the Captivity of helpless women and Children, permit me to assure you it has always been my Desire from motives of humanity, to afford them whether connected with friends or enemies, any relief that their situation required and circumstances would admit. Influenced by these considerations I directed Coll: Gansevoort last fall to forward to Major Carlton, who was then in the vicinity of Crown Point, upwards of one hundred women & Children whose husbands and parents were then in Canada.

I now inclose your Excellency a list of the names of sundry women & Children, who at different periods have been taken by parties in the British service in their ravaging incursions on the frontiers of the State over which I have the Honor to preside, and have to request, that your Excellency will order them to be liberated, and furnished with the necessary means to return to their families. It becomes at the same time my duty to inform your Excellency that unless the inhuman & unmilitary practice of capturing women & Children ceases, I shall be reduced to the

disagreeable necessity of detaining & treating the remaining families of those who have gone into the British Lines as objects of Exchange, and thus involuntarily increase the Distresses of many whom the Fate of War have separated from their nearest Connections. I have the Honor to be with Sentiments of personal respect your Excellency's most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

Since writing the above I have rec'd the original List of the women & Children sent last Fall to Canada, a copy of which & of Lieut. McDonald Rec't I have the honor of inclos'g; their No. is 159.

[To Governor Haldemand.]

Within Limits of Colo. Bellinger's Regt., Tryon Cuinty.

Elizabeth Shoemaker	Elizabeth Clyne
Anna Sharer	Margaret Clyne
Margaret Sharer	Maria Clyne
Anna Staring	

Taken near Fort Planck, 2d Aug't, 1780.

	Age.		Age.
Jacob Lambert	11	Fredrick Lepper	1
John Francis Lambert	8	Adam Haverman	10
John Seber	8	Cathrina Woolindorf	20
Jacob Keller	10	Margret Lones	24
Eve Miller	25	Margaret Lones	5
Catharina Miller	2	Martinus Lones	3
Mary Snyder	14	Cathrina Lones	1
Rachael Snyder	9	Christina Bettinger	7
Christina House	16	Elizabeth Bost	20
Elizabeth House	11	Frena Brooner	13
Coenradt House	7	Mary Gywitz	17

	Age.		Age.
Elizabeth House	21	Margaret Walls	13
Christina House	4	Maria El'h House	17
Jacobus House	1	Maria Litz	7
Eve Myer	5	Coenradt House	15
Elizabeth Rush Sleyfer	20	Coenradt Kreemer	13
Rebecca Schreiber	25	Susannal Makley	7
Elizabeth Schreiber	7	Anna Mackley	3
Abraham Schreiber	4	Cathrina Friesleman	30
Maria Schreiber	1	Margaret Friesleman	10
Barbara Schneck	37	Elizabeth Friesleman	5
Margaret Schneck	13	Anna Friesleman	1
Christina Schneck	1	John Snouts	10
Jacob Eccles	7	Maria Steed	19
Mary Lepper	24	John Steed	1

Jacob Fieling, taken Aug't 1780; Coenradt Lawyer's son, taken 16th Oct'r 1780; a Daughter of late Jost Davis; a son of John Kring; John Staring's wife with two Sons & four Daughters; Frederick Rasbach's wife and Son; Samuel Ball's wife; John Duer's wife; John Street's son age 12; John Garter's 2 sons; John Keyser's 2 sons; Fredrick Windecker's son; Daniel Lapton's 3 or 4 Sons; Jacob Forbes son; Three Daughters of Honestil Biggs, Hannah, Abigail & Esther taken from Skeensborough 1780; Sarah Elder, an Inhabitant of the State of Pennsylvania, taken from the Frontiers of that State.

Men: Colo. Dubois Regt. of Levies.

Capt. Mark Demot taken in arms Oct'r 1780.

Colo. Benninger's Regt. Militia, Tryon County:

Lieut. Tibalt Becker, Do Jacob Klock, Jacob Heppely, George Demot, Nicholas Demot. Peter Davis. Henry Davis, Samuel

Hakeney, Fredrick Riegel, Mark Shell, Henry Shell, Rudolph Forrer, Adam Forrer, Henry Sheffer, John Maetener, John Hellmer, Jost Klock, Bartholemew Pikert, Jacob Van Slyck, Fredrick Windecker, Peter Piper, Jacob Piper, Fredrick Christman, Jury Ittig, Rudolph Hyser, Lawrence Frank, taken Sep'r 1778 not in arms, John Neller, Jacob Dennis, George Ogd, Nicolas Keller, Jacob Wydrig, George Rabold, Matheus Miller, Tibalt Steinwax. George Brown, Jacob Ayrer, taken 3d Apl. 1780 not in arms, George Ayrer, Stephen Easeman, John Jost Bellinger, Son of Colo. Bellinger, Mark Kessler, Henry Staring, John Shoemaker, Christopher Shoemaker, John Frank, taken 8 June 1778 not in arms, Frederick Tobias, Leonard E. Keeler, Michael Lighthall, Francis Lighthall, John Hauss, Jacob Hyser, Henry Passage, Diederick Bell.

Nicolas Herder, George Dochstadder, taken in arms Oct'r 1780.

Fredrick Dornberger, Coenradt Lawyer, taken 16 Oct'r 1780; [                    ] Taken near Fort Planck 2d Aug't, 1780 Jacob Brooner age 63; George Snouts 50; Peter Casselmen, taken latter end of July; Henry Rymer Schnyder, John Nicol's Wolleber, Jacob Staring, Rudolph Ferry, John Duer.

Jacobus Van Slyck, Gerard Van Slyck, taken 3d April 1780, not in arms.

John Forenboss, Jost Klock, Nicolas Forenboss, John Seiffert, Bartle Picker, taken 3 Apl. 1780, Adam Furry, John Street, John Garter, taken not in arms 3d Apl. 1780, Jacob Klock, John Keyser, Capt. of militia, Johannes Helmer, taken 3d Apl. 1780 not in arms, Henry Schafer, Daniel Lapton, Peter Hansen, taken in Oct'r or Nov'r 1778.

Of Caghawaga District, Tryon, Taken May 1780: Adam Fonda, Fredrick Sammons, Hermanus Terwilliger, Benjamin Deline, Joseph Myers, Barent Hansen, Samuel Kennedy.

Of Harper's Field, Tryon County, Taken 7<sup>th</sup> April 1780: Capt. Alexander Harper, Lieut. John Hendry, Isaac Pachin, William Lamb, William Lamb, Jun'r, David Brown, John Brown, Solomon Brown, Esaray Thorp, Doctor Brown, Freegift Patchin, Joseph Newman, taken 3d April 1780, not in arms.

Of Harper's Levies: Capt. Walter Vrooman Capt. Joshua Drake

James Duggan, a Com'y taken at Skeensborough, 22d March 1780.

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[No. 3600.]

*Governor Clinton Informs Colonel William Wallace that He Must Seek Redress in the Legislature.*

Coughnawago March the 28 1781.

Honoured Sir, May it pleas your Excellency, I wold inform you that I have served sence the Commencemet of this war in the Servis and have not a farthing to show for it. I entered in the Continental Service May th 6 1777, in Colo. James Levingston's Regtm. and served till the 18 of August 1779, and I wold flatter my self that I am entiteled to the Depretiation of the Money after his Honour wold be Properly informed. I hope that your Hon'r wold thinck so far as to grant it to me, as I thinck I am justly deserveing of them after my long Servis. I wold inform your Honour that Colo. James Levingston could inform your Honour of my Servitude in the Melitia, Mr. Batchalor Mr. Garrison and V. Hoorn, the Caus of my resing was on account of my angust father, my brother being sick who died

shortly after I came home, other wise I should not resign. I beg to subscribe my self yours to serve

Wil'm Wallace.

Late Lieut. Colo. James Levingston's Regtm.

To His Excellency George Clinton.

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Sir, I receiv'd your Letter of the 28<sup>th</sup> Inst. & wo'd be happy in rewarding the Merits of any officer who has served his Country, were it in my Power, but as this is not the Case, your application must be to the Legislature, who alone can do you Justice on this occasion. I am

[G. C.]

[To Wil'm Wallace.]

[No. 3601.]

*General Clinton Predicts Disaster on Our Frontier Unless Provisions Are Supplied to the Troops.*

Albany, March 29th 1781.

Sir, I am again Reduced to the Disagreeable necessity of Informing your Excellency, that the Distresses which the Troops under my Command experience for want of Provisions as represented in my letter of the 27th ult., still exists, and as the small supplies we had then to depend upon are now exhausted, I have been already obliged for want of Provisions to issue orders to withdraw to Saratoga the Troops stationed at Fort Edward, and I am hourly under apprehensions that the Remaining Different Posts occupied for the Defence of the Frontiers of this State, will be abandoned and the Country left open to the Ravages of the Enemy, unless some means can be imediately taken to furnish them with subsistance. I am, Sir, your most obed<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

James Clinton.

His Excellency Gov<sup>r</sup> Clinton.

[No. 3602.]

*The Legislature Brings the Provision Proposition to Washington.*

Albany, March 30th 1781.

Sir, We do ourselves the honor to inclose your Excellency copy of a message from His Excellency, Governor Clinton, with copy of the letter referred to therein; could the legislature have afforded immediate relief or was there the least prospect of procuring any provisions of the meat kind in time to prevent the evil should not have troubled you on the occasion. But altho we have empowered our state agent to draw on our treasury for money to make purchases of beef, yet he cannot derive any advantage from it, as the treasury is entirely destitute of money; nor is there the least prospect that any will come in until a new State currency which we have directed to be issued can be prepared for emission, and, that we cannot reasonably expect to be, in less than two months; we are, therefore, impelled by the Irresistable force of necessity again to intreat your Excellency's Intervention and beg that orders may be given for a continued supply; for should the troops be under the necessity of abandoning the posts they now occupy they will be instantly followed by the remaining Inhabitants, occasion unspeakable distress to them, be productive of a very prejudicial Influence on the minds of the people; afford an advantage to the Enemy and be extensively detrimental [to] the army and the states in general. The alarming prospect before us can only apoligyze for this Intrusion, and we are persuaded it will be a sufficient one with a gentleman who feels so sensibly for every part of the country.

His Exc'ey Genl. Washington.

[No. 3603.]

*Mr. Van Cortland Reports the Robbery of His Horses.*

Lower Yonkers, ye 31 March 1781.

Excellency Governor Clinton:

S'r, I take the Liberti to acquaint your Excellency, that Martine Post, Michal and Abraham Dyckeman, Archer, Pine, and Honavel, as I am Informed, came to my Brother's Barn, on Monday night ye 19 Febr. broke open his Stable, and drove out of it five Horses, four of them very valuable, two of which belonged to my Brother, and three to myself, as I am Confident it is Contrary to your Excellency's orders, I Prevaled on Mr. Isaac Vermjlyea's son to go to the Commanding officer at Crompond, in order to Interead with him to get them returned; his answer was, that he had no Command over the militia, therefore, he could not Interfear; he likewise went to the above Persons, who had held a Vandue, and brought them amoungst themselves; they woud not return them, nither could they render any Reasone for taken of them. I shall be much obliged to your Excellency, if it be agreeable, to order them, to deliver the said Horses, to the Bearer; the favor of which, I shall always asknowledge. I remain your Excellency's most obedient & Very Hum. Sarv't

Fred V. Cortlandt.

[No. 3604.]

*Captain Jacob Lansing Appointed Muster Master.*

Sir. I do hereby authorize & impower you to receive & muster any men who may be inlisted in pursuance of the act entitled "an act for raising two regiments for the defence of this state on bounties of unappropriated lands" passed 20<sup>th</sup> March Inst. and to give them individually certificates of their inlistments



to entitle them to the bounty & creation (?) offered in said act. You will be particularly careful to pass none but such as shall be able bodied men, and fit for immediate service and such as would be received in the Continental army.

.....31 March 1781.

[To Captain Jacob Lansing.]

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[No. 3605.]

*List of Prisoners of War—Albany and Tryon.*

Names of Prisoners of War in the Counties of Albany & Tryon:

William Boon, Lieut. Butler's Corps; Zadock Wright Major, Coll. Peter's Corps, George Werthoff, Serjt; Andries Boetger, Ernst Rahia, Paulus Hartman, Johannis Muller, Frederick Gleyseman, Andries Walters, Conraedt Albeas, Hendrick Schinneman, Hendrick Bruineman, Christiaen Bruns, Ludwig Brunner Ludwig Gelt, Christian Bar, John Henry Zacharias Bonse, Johannes Kempsey, Gebhard Coolman, Julius Eggers, John Otto Meyneke, Andries Kogh, George Peatzhold, Godfred Israel, Christian Smith, Frederick Neese, Frederick Keeping, Johan Eylers, Christopher Papist, Hendrick Hoffman, Hendrick Kreykenbom, Jacob Sieringer, Cunrad Beeler, Michael Norff, George Aple, Johannis Plugh, Hendrick Burghdoff, Christian Just, Hendrick Kogh, Carle Weegenar, Hendrick Henecke, John Weather, Frederick Westfahlen, Carle Meyer, John Leedeke, Adolph Bruns, Christopher Keenholtz, Jacob Lawenstien, Johan Henry Rysnard, Andries Heleman, Frederick Streder, Frederick Lauwas, Hendrick Miller, Christopher Cartner, Jury Hoofman, Hendrick Cogh.

James Parks, Isaac Arse, Adam Hooper, in Confinement.

[3606.]  
*Levies Raised in Westchester County for the Continental Battalions.*  
 Return of the Men received from the Several Classes in West Chester County.

Regiment	Class	Men's names	Place of abode	Where born	Height		Colour of Eyes	Colour of Hair	Complexion	Age	Trade or Occupation
					Feet	Inches					
Col. Crane's	Cap. Lawrence	Peter Dickens	Cortland's Manor	Salem	5	7	Light	Light	Fair	17	Farmer
Do Drake's	Do Boyd	Joseph Wilkins	Woodberry	Woodberry	5	8	Dark	Dark	Dark	20	Farmer
Do Thomas	Lieut. Miller	Lewis Brady	West Chester	North Castle	5	9	Dark	Dark	Dark	19	Farmer

[No. 3607.]

*Charles Toll Petitions for a Remission of His Fine.*

To his Excellency George Clinton, Esquire, Governor of the State of New York, General and Commander in Chief of all the Militia & Admiral of the Navy of the same.

The Humble Petition of Charles Toll, Sheweth that your Petitioner is an Exempt & has an Adjutant's Commission, but being an Infirm Man and unfit for Military duty by Reason of the Rheumatism, he was obliged to hire a Man to serve in his stead for during the War, and Whereas, last May there was an alarm, and your Petitioner was not warned by any of his officers in a proper Manner, nor by any Body but a Boy belonging to Colonel Yates's Regiment: and some of your Petitioners nigh neighbours who were Exempts as well as him, were not warned by any Person; which makes him think that he was Fined out of Spite; and it has been proved at the Court Martial that your Petitioner was not warned by his Officer nor was not deemed as a Delinquent. And notwithstanding your Petitioner was fined five hundred Dollars which he thinks your Excellency will be pleased to Redress his Grievance in that Case and as in duty Bound he will be for ever obliged to your Excellency.

P: S: The undernamed Officer Witnesseth.

Cornelius Vandenberg Capt.

[No. 3608.]

*Three Albany Companies Consolidated into Two.*

The Field Officers of the City of Albany Regt., with the Commissioned Officers of the three Companies of the first Ward of the City of Albany, convened agreeable to the request of Genl. T. Broeck, for the purpose of Dividing the above Compa's into two. Which they humbly propose as follows: Capt. Jacob Roseboom's Com'y to begin at the City Hall of the City of Albany, thence West up a Lane to the Corner House of Obadiah Cooper, thence North into the Corner House of Edward Butler thence West up Churchyard Street, taking all residing on the south side & all residing to the North of the above Line as far as the first Ward of said City extends.

Capt. John Scott's Com'y to be composed of all those resident in above Ward to the south of Capt. Roseboom's Com'y.

V. Vechten

Bery

Henry

Capt. Roseboom's

Ob. Cooper

Butler Churchyard Street

[No. 3609.]

*Congress to Pay, Subsist and Clothe the Two Regiments Raised by New York for the Defence of the State.*

By

The United States in Congress assembled.

April 2d 1781.

\* The Report of the Committee on the Letter of the 19th of March from the Governor of New York was taken into consideration, whereupon,

Resolved, That the two Regiments of Militia proposed to be embodied in the State of New York to serve till the first day of December next, as mentioned in Governor Clinton's Letter of the 19th of March last, be paid and subsisted while in Service at the General Expence on the same Terms as the Troops on the continental Establishment.

That the two Regiments of Infantry proposed to be raised in the said State, to serve for three years as mentioned in the aforesaid Letter be paid, subsisted, and clothed while in Service at the general Expence, on the same Terms as the Troops on the continental Establishment: provided, the said State shall first fill up their Quota of Troops for the Continental Army, and that the Regiments, particularly the two last mentioned, be officered as far as may be, by the reduced officers belonging to that State, and that the officers be proportioned to the Number of Men actually in Service.

Extract from the Minutes.

Chas. Thomson, Secy.

[No. 3610.]

*The Governor Explains to Du Simitiere His Failure as a Correspondent.*

Sir. I did myself the honour to transmit to your Excellency by Mr. Frederic Jay, who left this city the 31st December last, a couple of pamphlets which I hope may have proved acceptable. I would have sent the inclosed sooner had I been informed in time of the messenger that was dispatched from here some time ago, as I wish to be the first to furnish your Excellency with what new publications appears here.

Your Excellency is no doubt well convinced that it is impossible to keep up a correspondence when it is carried on only on one Side, indeed it is rather no correspondence at all! The case is exactly so with me. I have continued writing to your Excellency for upwards of two years and done my best efforts to transmit every pamphlet, paper &c. that I thought would be entertain'g and acceptable, but I have had hitherto very little encouragement to proceed. I would have been happy on many

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\* See document 3612, page 737.

accounts to have had the pleasure to have entered your Excellency's name in my register, as a benefactor to my collection, at the head of 34 names of persons that contributed to it during the course of last year, but am deprived of that Satisfaction.

I shall form no Conjecture on your Excellency's Silence for so long Space of time, and shall for the present take my leave of your Excellency, of whom I have the honour to be with the greatest respect, the most obedient and most humble Servant,

Du Simitiere.

Phila. Feb'y 22, 1781.

His Excellency Governour Clinton.

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Pokeepsie 3d April 1781.

D'r Sir, I confess I am not a punctual Correspondent. I have been favoured with your agreeable Letters of the 30th Dec'r & 22d Feb'y last, since I had the Honor of writing you; but you will recollect I apprized you at the Commencement, that this woud be the Case & therefore I expect to stand excused without being oblidge'd [to] appoligize for passt & future Omissions. I am much oblidge'd to you for the many marks of Attention in the earliest Transmission or Pamphlets &c. & I intreat you to believe it is not owing to want of Inclination that these kind Offices have not been reciprocal or that I have not yet the Honor of being registered with those who have contributed to your Curious & useful Collection.

Our Situation is such that we afford nothing new in the Literary Way what we receive through the medium of other States & principally by the Way of Philadelphia, so that these are old before they reach us. I may venture to assure you, that I hav not been remiss in indeavours to Procure Material for your Collection & that I have not yet succeeded is a Missfortune

not imputable to Inattention. I had flattering Prospects in Tryon County where my Friends had collected some Indian affairs & natural curreosities I had, but before they could be forwarded to me, the Enemy had entered that Country & they were losst in the general Desolation. The proceedings of our Legislature & Laws of the State, I have laid by for you, they are too large for the present Conveyance. You enjoy in Philadelphia the Pleasures of Peace. I wish you most sincerely a Continuance of it; but I must insist that you make proper allowances for those that scarcely know what it is. One month at most, out of the last twelve, have I enjoyed the Society of my Family & that not without Interruption by alarms from one Quarter or another; and I have not better to expect the present year. I am with great Regard &c.

[G. C.]

[To M. Du Simitiere.]

[No. 3611.]

*The Reverend John Stuart's Bond for Effecting His Negro's Exchange.*

Know all men by these Presents, that we John Stuart, clerk, Barent Van Aalen, and Josua Bloore of the City of Albany, in the State of New York, are held and firmly bound to Henry Dodge, Esqr. Commissary of Prisoners for the State of New York, in the Sum of five Hundred Pounds, current and lawful money of New-York to be paid to the said Henry Dodge, his Executors administrators or assigns, to which Payment will and truly to be made, we bond ourselves our Heirs Executors and administrators, jointly and severally by these Presents, seal'd with our seals, dated the fourth day of April 1781.

The condition of this obligation is such that whereas the afs'd John Stuart is proposed in Exchange for James Gordon, Jeramiah Snyder, Alexander Harper, or Adam Fonda or either of them, and one able body'g negro man the Property of the Said John Stuart, for any Subject of this State Prisoner in Canada. Now, if the afs'd John Stuart shall procure to be sent out in exchange for himself, the afs'd James Gordon, Jeremlah Snyder, Alexander Harper, or Adam Fonda, or either of them and any Subject of this State a Prisoner in Cauada for his negro man, or return again with his Negro man from Canada to the City of Albany, when required, then this obligation to be void, otherwise to be in full force.

Scaled & Delivered in Presence  
of  
the word clerk being interlined  
in the second line of the obligation

James Clinton.

W. Popham.

John Stuart [seal]  
Barent Van Alen [seal]  
Joshua Bloore [seal]

[No. 3612.]

*President Huntington Forwards the Act of Congress Relating to the Two New York Regiments.*

Philadelphia April 4, 1781.

\*Sir, In Consequence of your Excellency's Letter of the 19th<sup>th</sup> Ulto., Congress have passed the Act of the 2d Instant, Copy of which is enclosed, for securing the Pay & Subsistence of two Regiments of Militia & two Regiments of Infantry mentioned in the Act at the Expence of the United States while in Service.

Your Excellency will readily observe the Saving that will be made by appointing half pay Officers, as far as may be, to command these Corps, beside the Advantage of their Experience if in other respects meritorious. The Preference of experienced Officers will readily coincide with your Excellency's Sentiments; yet from the nature of the Case, your Wisdom & Discretion must be exercised in directing the Appointment in such Manner as shall appear most eligible & beneficial.

Your Favour of the 23d Instant, covering the Exemplification of an Act of the State authorizing Congress to lay a Duty on foreign Merchandize imported into the State is this Day received. The Legislature of Pennsylvania have published a similar Act for Consideration which will, it is said, be enacted into a Law in a Day or two. I have the Honor to be with very high respect & Esteem, your Excellency's most obedient Servant

Sam. Huntington, President.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

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\* See document 3609, page 734.

† Governor Clinton's letter of March 19, 1781, is not found in the Clinton MSS., nor in the legislative or Congressional records in possession of the State of New York.—  
STATE HISTORIAN.

[No. 3613.]

*Colonel Hughes Furnishes the Governor with Particulars of Greene's  
Affair at Guilford Court House.*

Fishkill, April 4th 1781.

Sir, I do myself the Honour to inclose your Excellency a Letter which I found in the Office yesterday, but who bro't it, I cannot tell.

As your Excellency is but just arrived from Albany, it is possible that you may not have receiv'd the Particulars of the action between General Greene & Cornwallis. Such as I was favour'd with last Evening, I will offer, which are, "That Genl. Greene having collected a considerable Force, determin'd to engage his Lordship, and, according, on the 11th ult. they met each other by mutual Consent. General Greene took a proper Position & form'd his Troops. The North Carolina & Virginia Militia compos'd the front Line. The second I dont recollect, but the Continentals form'd the Reserve. Lieut. Col. Washington with his Horse, cover'd the right Flank, and Lee's were posted on the Left. Cornwallis advanc'd in three Columns, with Tarlton in Front, who was met by Lee, who being at first advanced of his proper Position, skirmish'd with Tarlton on the Retreat, and then took his former Post on the Left. The N. Carolina Militia fir'd at a great Distance & behav'd well & suffered considerably. The action at Length became general & Fortune, for some Time seem'd doubtful, but General Greene finding his Continentals not a Match for the whole of the British Force & the Militia having given way, and deserted, order'd a Retreat, which was properly conducted. Four Field Pieces were left behind, as the Horses attached to them were all kill'd.

The General speaks of this action as rather fortunate, than



otherwise and thinks the Enemy's Loss very considerable, particularly, that of the Guards, who were charg'd by Col. Washington's Horse, follow'd by the two first Mariland Regmts. with Bayonets, and almost totally cut to Pieces. Besides, as the Enemy did not pursue an Inch, it is natural to imagine they were severely handled.

Loss of Continentals 290 killed, wounded & missing;

N. Carolina Milia            9        Do            Do;

Virginia                        90        Do            Do;

Major Anderson, of the Maryland Line, kill'd, several Capts. & Subs killd and wounded.

General Hager wounded in the Hand & General Stephens in the Knee.

Many of the Missing, or those that had been missing, were coming in when the acc'ts left Camp. The Enemy have but very few Prisoners, we bro't off some."

I hope you will receive a more particular acc't from Mr. Floyd,\* as I observe his Signature to the Inclosure. I have the Honour to be, with the most respectful Regard, your Excellency's most obdt.

Hugh Hughes.

His Excellency Governour Clinton.

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[No. 3614.]

*Courts Established for the Trial of Piracies.*

An Ordinance for establishing courts for the Trial of Piracies & Felonies committed on the high seas.

Whereas, by the ninth article of the confederation & perpetual union of the thirteen United States of America, It is agreed that the United States in Congress assembled, shall have the sole and exclusive right and power (inter alia) of appointing courts for the trial of Piracies & felonies committed on the high seas; And, whereas it is expedient that such courts should be speedily erected; and it is reasonable that the same mode of trial should be adopted for offenders of this kind on the high seas as is used for offenders of the like sort upon the land.

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\* See document 3587, page 708.

Be it, therefore, Ordained, and it is hereby ordained, by the United States of America in Congress assembled, and by the authority of the same; that all and every person and persons, who, heretofore, have committed or who, hereafter, shall commit any piracy, or felony upon the high seas, or who shall be charged as accessories to the same, either before or after the fact, may and shall be enquired of, tried and judged by grand & petit Juries according to the course of the common law, in like manner as if the piracy or felony were committed upon the land, and within some county district or precinct in one of these United States. And the Justices of the Supreme or superior Courts of Judicature, and judge of the court of admiralty of the several & respective States, or any two or more of them are hereby constituted and appointed Judges for hearing and trying such offenders.

And be it further Ordained that if any person or persons shall be indicted for any piracy or felony done or hereafter to be done upon the high seas, or as accessories before or after the fact, either on the land, or upon the seas by a grand jury for any county, district or precinct within any of these United States, before the Justices of the Supreme or superior court and Judge of the admiralty, or any two of them, that then such order, process, Judgment and Execution shall be used, had, done and made to and against every such person and persons so being indicted as against Robbers, murderers or other telons for Robbery murder or other felony done upon the land within such county, district or precinct as by the laws of the said State is accustomed; and the trial of such Offence or Offences, if it be denied by the Offender or Offenders shall be had by twelve lawful men of the said county, district or precinct; and such as shall be convicted of any such Offence or Offences, by verdict confession or otherwise in the said court, shall have and suffer such pains of death, losses of lands, goods and chattles or other punishment, and by the same authority as if they had been convicted and attainted of any Robbery, felony or other the said Offences done upon the land, and shall be utterly excluded the benefit of clergy where the same is taken away or not admitted for such like Offences committed within the Body of a county or on land, where such trial shall be had.

And be it further Ordained, that if there shall be more than one Judge of the admiralty in any of the United States, that then and in such case the Supreme executive power of such State may, and shall commissionate one of them exclusively to join in performing the duties required by this ordinance.

And be it further Ordained, that all losses and forfeitures of lands goods and Chattles incurred upon any such conviction and attainder shall go and belong to the State in which the said conviction & attainder shall be had.

Done by the United States in Congress assembled the fifth day of April in the year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred and Eighty one, and in the fifth year of our Independence.

Attest

Chas. Thomson, Secy.

Sam. Huntington, President.

[No. 3615.]

*The Governor Writes to Abraham Skinner in Regard to the Exchange of Prisoners.*

Pokeepsie, 5th April, 1781.

D'r Sir, I should have been happy to have seen you here before you sett out for New York, as there are many Matters I wish to mention to you, but as Mr. Legget informs me you are to commence your Journey Tomorrow, I fear I am not to expect that Pleasure. I sincerely wish that Measures could be taken

to effect the Exchange of Capt. Townsend & Major Brush. They are both meritorious & useful Citizens. The former may be considered as having some Connection with the Army as Assistant State Agent: neither held any Command or were taken in arms.

I wish to be informed whether there is any prospect of effecting an Exchange of those taken to the Northward & at different Parts of our Frontier. I think you mentioned a hope of this kind when I had last the Pleasure of seeing you. I am collecting a List, as well of their Names, as such as are Prisoners to us & scattered about the Country which I will transmit you by next Conveyance.

If you can conveniently & consistently I shall be glad you would inform yourself whether the Business I spoke to you about last Winter can be accomplished & the best manner of executing it & be kind enough to let me hear from on your Return. Your

[G. C.]

[To Abraham Skinner.]

[No. 3616.]

*The Governor Writes a Confidential Letter to General McDougal,  
Mostly on the Vermont Affair.*

Pokeepsie, 6th April 1781.

(Confidential)

Dr Sir, In my last hasty Scroll from Albany I promised you a more lengthy Epistle the first Leisure Hour. It has not yet arrived; & if I was to wait for it I am apprehensive I should be charged with Inattention. Our Official Letters and the Copies of Laws transmitted with them to Congress with the List of the Acts inclosed to Mr. Duane, will give you a general Idea of

the Business of the last Meeting; & the inclosed Copies of Messages & Resolutions will serve to explain the Conduct of the Legislature or rather the Senate respecting our Controversy with the Inhabitants on the Grants. I have, therefore, only to give you a detail of the Management of a Measure, which had it succeeded, I am perswaded you will agree woud have reflected lasting Ignominy & Disgrace upon the State & this Consideration alone ought to have forbid it.

By my Proclamation, the Legislature was to have convened at Albany the 3d of January, but the unpunctual attendance of the Members prevented their forming a Quorum until about the first of February.

In this Period Mr. Ira Allen arrived at Albany, with the Letter alluded to in my Message (the original being lodged with the Clerk of the Assembly, I am prevented from giving you a Copy). The Members who attended mett daily to arrange & prepare the Business under the Idea of promoting Dispatch. Mr. Allen was introduced & the Letter was opened in my absence. The Proposition it contained was immediatly tho informally agitated & every Engine set to work to prepare the Minds of the Members as they arrived to accede to it.

Our Northern & Western Frontier could only be protected from the Ravages of a barbarous & Ruthless Savage Enemy by the Numbers & Military Prowess of the State of Vermont, that we could not expect their Assistance without relinquishing our Jurisdiction over them & yielding to their Claim for Independency; That in this Case we should conciliate their Affections & be enabled to enter into a Compact with them & be safe. The greater Part of the Citizens of Albany, Schenectady & the Inhabitants of the Northern Frontier were easilly gulled by the

Leaders for this Measure into a Belief of all that they advanced in Favour of it, and daily Reports of the Intentions of the Enemy to penetrate the Country in Force as soon as the Lakes were Froze & at Times that they were actually on their Way circulated to promote this Favourite Object. The Discontentments & Commotions which at the Time too generally prevailed in the State were also in some Instances employed to answer the End & among the grievances complained of by some Districts not the best effected to the Cause of their Country the Opposition given to the Independency of Vermont was voted as one. On more Minute Inquiry, I discovered that Measures as early as last Fall had been taken to promote this Hopeful Business & that a certain Gentlemen (an old Friend of ours) had then declared his Sentiments on the Subject & his Intentions to agitate & support it at the then next Meeting of the Legislature. This I have reason to suspect induced some of our monied Gentlemen to speculate in Lands & solicit what, on such occasions you may judge would be easily obtained, Grants under the Government of Vermont & by this means they became warmly interested. Under these Circumstances it is not strange that a Majority of an honest & well meaning Senate speaking of them as a Body should have been lead into measure from which they were induced to believe so much good was to result & not sufficiently apprized of the Evils attending it, nor that my Message to the Assembly on the Subject, declaring my Intentions to prorogue was an unpopular one in Albany. Your Official Letter informing that there was reason to hope for a speedy & just Decision of the Controversy by Congress, arrived very opportunely. It changed the Sentiments of some & for the present stopped the Mouths of all, & occasioned the laying aside a long address,

moved in the Senate in Consequence of my Message to the Assembly, but not yet agreed to.

While these Matters were transacting in Albany & the Rebels (who had their Emissaries among us) had every Reason to expect that their Demand woud be fully complied with, their Council & Assembly then sitting at Windsor, came to the Resolutions, a Copy of which I inclose you, extending their Claim to the deepest Channel of Hudson's River &c.\* These Resolutions you will observe is prior to those of our Senate four Days, & you will easily perceive the use which was to be made of them, if we had been mad enough to have relinquished our Jurisdiction. These Resolutions appear to me to have been a secret Transaction. I obtained a Copy by mere accident & I am the more inclined to believe this to be the Case, as by the Proceedings of a Convention, composed of the Friends of New York, Chittenden's & Alcot's Parties, including two Counties on the East Side of Connecticut River, tho it appears they have agreed to unite & form one independent Government, including the several Townships on the East Side of Connecticut River to Mason's Line, not a Word in the Minutes is said of this Western Extension to Hudson's River, & I am perswaded the Inhabitants on the East of the Green Mountains (who now compose a large Majority) woud not readily accede to it, as it is a Capital Object with them to establish their Seat of Government on the Bank of Connecticut River, against which this Western Extension woud militate & in the End defeat. I most devoutly wish this unhappy Controversy was decided. I wish for a just & Honorable Decission; but I am perswaded almost any that Congress can have in Contemplation is better than

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\* See document 3544, page 642.

further Delay. To their Decission as made by the proper Tribunal, we must & can, with a degree of Honor, submit & a Decission by them will, in a great Measure, destroy the bad Effects which wou'd result from these Turbulent People establishing themselves in Defiance of their & our authority. They daily gain Strength at our Expence & the Divissions which this Dispute excite among ourselves, I fear will have an unhappy Effect on our public Councils. If they are to be a State, which I, however I deprecate, it is essentially our Interest that they should extend to Mason's Line as for the Reasons abovement'd, it will be our best Security ag't future Encroachments; besides in this Case, the Weight & Influence of governm't will be in the Hands of Sober, discreet People & many of them warmly attached to us. I am, my Dear Sir, yours Sincerely

[G. C.]

The hon'ble Major Genl. McDougall.

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 [No. 3617.]
*Governor Clinton to Governor Trumbull in Regard to Legislation.*

Pokeepsie, 6th April 1781.

Sir, I have had the Honor of receiving your Excellency's Dispatches of the 9th ultimo, and of communicating them to the Legislature & I have the Pleasure to inform your Excellency, that they have approved of the Proceedings of the late Convention held at Hartford, and agreeably to the Recommendation of Congress, signified by their different Acts of the 3d & 7th February, have by an act passed at their late Meeting, vested Congress with a Power of Levying Duties on the Importation of Foreign Merchandizes and on all Prizes & Prize goods brought into this State for the Purpose of raising a Fund for the Dis-

charge of the public Debts & the support of the War. I am at the same Time requested by the Legislature, to inform your Excellency, that as the principal Object which appears to have induced the former to recommend a second Convention is now removed by the Agents of his most Christian Majesty having already made Contracts with Individuals for supplying his Fleet & Army with such articles of Provisison as this State afford, they conceive it unnecessary to appoint Commissioners to attend the Convention proposed to be held at Providence on the 12th Instant.

I have also to acknowledge the Receipt of your Excellency's Letter of the 19th March. In addition to the several Laws of this State against Treason, another was enacted last Session which tho' not exactly simular to that received from your Excellency, is in the same Spirit & I have reason to hope will prove equally effectual, a Copy of which as soon as I can have it printed, I will do myself the Honor of transmitting to you. I am, with the highest Respect & Esteem Sir your most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

[To Governor Trumbull.]

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[No. 3618.]

*The Governor's Picture of the Condition of Affairs in this State to John Jay.*

Paukeepsie, 6th April 1781.

Dear Sir, It is some Time since I have been favouted with your Letter of the 20th June, the third and last I have had the Honor of receiving since your Arrival in Europe. I have addressed three to your Excellency, my last the 1st of June Ultimo, I am sorry to find neither had been received tho I am not much



surprized at the Misscarrriage, as the Opportunities of Conveyance did not appear certain or direct.

The particular Situation of this State has undergone no considerable Change since you left it, except by the Desolation of several of the Frontier Settlements, against which the British with their Savage allies, have carried on a barbarous depre-datory War, the most of Tryon County & Schohary have been destroyed. They are not, however, abandoned, the Inhabitants having hitted themselves, continue to improve their Farms & assist in the general Defence. Your native County (Westchester) frequently experiences the Resentment of the Enemy, but seldom unrevenged. Its Militia often unsupported & left alone to resist the Enemy, have maintained their Ground beyond the most sanguine Expectation. Every Man, indeed every Boy, has become a Soldier, and I do not believe a superior Spirit of Bravery & Enterprize ever possessed a People, and I have the Pleasure to assure you this Description is equally applicable to the Inhabitants of Orange County South of the Mountains.

A state, the Seat of War, exposed in every Quarter to the Incursions of the Enemy and excluded from Commerce as we are, you will naturally imagine must be greatly impoverished, but of this you will form a juster Idea than by any Description I can give you, if you estimate by the same Scale on which our Finances began gradually to diminish before you left America. Our Resources as a Nation are, however, yet great: we abound in Provisision and the Prices in Specie are nearly the same as at the Commencement of the War. The Term for which the principal Part of our Army were engaged you will recollect expired last Winter. The Enemy impatiently awaited this Period in the fullest Confidence that a Dissolution of the Ameri-

can Army woud take Place without the Power of recruiting it. You have, I presume, seen the New Establishment of our Army. The Quota assigned to this State is one Regiment of artillery and two of Infantry & I am happy in being able to inform you that we (I speak of this State) are nearly compleat. I am not informed of the Success of other States. In this I have discovered as ready a Disposition to enter into the Service as at any Time since the Beginning of 1777, with this advantage, every Recruit we now engage has the Experience & habit of a veteran Soldier. The Situation of our Finances is perhaps the only Thing in humane probability that can distress us.

I am pleased with your Plan of Trade. I am perswaded it woud have been Beneficial to the State & had a happy Effect on the Temper of the Inhabitants; but for many Reasons which I decline mentioned I fear it is too late to make the Essay.

Genl. Schuyler is in the Senate, and on this account, & his own particular Desire, is left out of the Delegation. The Chancellor\* continues in as a special Delegate but has not attended since last Fall. Our Friend Morris,† resides at Philadelphia & pursues his Profession. I think his Election as a Member of this State in Congress at the next meeting of the Legislature, not improbable.

The Controversy with the Inhabitants of the Grants is yet undecided but my last advices from our Delegates give me Reason to hope for a speedy & Just Decission. The Completion of the Confederation (on which I cordially congratulate you) will facillitate this Business.

I begg you to offer my best Respects to Mrs. Jay, to whom as

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\* Robert R. Livingston.

† Gouverneur Morris. The governor's surmise was not borne out, for Morris shortly after the above letter was written, was appointed assistant financier of the United States.—STATE HISTORIAN.

well as to yourself, Mrs. Clinton wishes to be rembered. Believe me, D'r Sir, with great Sincerity your most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

[To John Jay.]

[No. 3619.]

*The Governor Hopes the Vermont Business Will Soon be Adjusted.*

Pokeepsie, 6th April 1781.

Dear Sir, I have been favoured with your Letters of the 7th & 20th Ultimo. I trust you will believe me, when I assure you I entertain a grateful sense of your repeated Marks of attention & feel unhappy in not being able to observe that Punctuality in so agreeable a Correspondence as I could wish. The Legislature after a very Tedious Session adjourned on 31st Ultimo. I enclose you a List of the Titles of the several Laws they have enacted, which with the Copies transmitted to Congress & Official Letters, will give you a general Idea of the Business.

The Cession made of the Western Territory is much approved on a Presumption that it will finally Establish our Western Boundary agreeably to the Lines described by the Cession. The Conduct of the People on the Grants daily becomes more serious & I am perswaded must in the End convince Congress, that they ought long before this to have interposed. I have no Positive Evidence of a criminal Communication between them & the Enemy in Canada but there are Circumstances which sufficiently justify at least Suspicion. Chittenden & his Council, certainly opened a Correspondence with Gov'r Haldiman last Fall, & Flaggs under pretext of establishing a Cartel passed between them, when I believe it is a Fact, that they were not possessed of a single Prisoner to Exchange. It is equally certain that

Fay & several other of their Leaders in a number of Sleighs, set out with a Flagg for Canada this Winter but were prevented by the Badness of the Ice from proceeding. They openly deny the Authority of Congress & avow their Right of making a separate Peace. The Enemy last Fall, under Carlton passed by their Settlements near the Lake which were most accessible & destroyed ours on the Bank of Hudson's River. I most sincerely wish for a speedy Decision of our Controversy with these People. I should be happy if it might be a just and Honorable one for the State, but I am perswaded at the same that any Decision that can be made, not extend'g their original Claim, will be preferrable to Delay. They now daily gain Strength at our Expence & while the matter hangs in Suspence, it excites Divisions on the Subject among ourselves, which I am apprehensive will have an unhappy Influence on our public affairs.

The Legislature have granted a Credit on the Treasury in Favour of each of their Delegates to the amount of £300, but I am sorry to inform you that there is not one farthing in it, nor is there the most remote prospect of its being in a better Condition, until the new money intended to be emitted by the State is brought into Circulation. They have not appointed any additional Delegates.

The Chancellor, I am informed does not intend to give his attendance at Congress. Mr. L'Homedieu has been with the Legislature ever since the 1st of January & I cannot learn that Genl. Scott has it in Contemplation to return to Philadelphia, so that I have little prospect of relieving you, tho I am perswaded, you have a just Claim to a Respite or of the Representation of the State being continued until the next meet'g of the Legislature, which is appointed by their adjournm't on the first

Wednesday in June next & the appointm't of some additional members. I am &c.

[G. C.]

[To James Duane.]

[No. 3620.]

*Colonel Udney Hay Files His Returns with an Apology.*

Poughkeepsie, 6th April 1781.

Sir, Enclosed I have the Honour to transmit your Excellency returns of Provisions, short Forage and Hay up to the first of Jan. which, as I had it in my power, I acknowledge ought to have been sent you before now, and must request your forgiveness of the neglect, as it arose entirely from my having delivered to the Legislature in Albany, during your absence from thence, those returns which were designed for your Excellency's perusal. I have rec'd since that time, returns from only very few of the assistants, but from those I have rec'd and other informal information, am well convinced, but very little has been collected since; as, however, the new law respecting wheat and flour has been begun to be putt in execution, and as I have as forcibly as in my power enjoined the execution thereof, as far as depends on those I am connected with, I am in hopes that the returns up to the first of May (which I shall insist on being transmitted me as early in that month as possible) will be very considerable, of which your Excellency may rely on having the earliest notice in my power to give.

If there is any farther intelligence respecting the business of the Agency which you would wish to be acquainted with, I shall be happy in communicating it, either verbally or in writing, as you may think best, being with every sentiment of respect, Your Excellency's most obedient and very humble Ser't,

Udney Hay.

Governour Clinton.

General Return of Provisions &c. Purchased and Delivered, under the Direction of Udny Hay Agent for the State of New York, from Aug't to 31<sup>st</sup> December 1780, Inclusive.

Species and Quantity Purchased										Species and Quantity Delivered																								
Flour					Rye-meal					Wheat					Fat Cattle					Flour					Rye-meal					Fat Cattle				
Barrels	Cwts.	Qrs.	lbs.		Cwts.	Qrs.	lbs.		Bushels		Number	Pounds	Barrels	Bags	Cwts.	Qrs.	lbs.		Cwts.	Qrs.	lbs.	Number	Pounds	Barrels	Bags	Cwts.	Qrs.	lbs.	Number	Pounds				
1753	2,809	2	6			3	2	4	19,466		1,517	551,364	3,394	253	6,022	1	25		3	2	4	1,499	452,634											

Udny Hay.

General Return of Short Forage &c. Purchased and Delivered, under the Direction of Udny Hay Agent for the State of New York, from August, to 31<sup>st</sup> December 1780, Inclusive.

Species and Quantity Purchased										Species and Quantity Delivered.													
Rye	Indian Corn	Buck-wheat	Oats.	Barley	Pease	Bran	Short Forage	Rye	Rye-Meal	Indian Corn	B'k'wheat	B'k'wheat meal	Oats	Barley	Pease	Bran	Short Forage						
Bushels	Quarts	Bushels	Quarts	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	Quarts	Bushels	Quarts	Bushels	Quarts	Bushels	Quarts	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	Quarts					
894	7	2,121	16	1,884	16	5,493	13	20	287	24	2,080	763	55	1,854	4	2,446	8	223	5,069	16	284	3,205	172

Udny Hay.

General Return of Hay Purchased and Delivered, under the Direction of Udney Hay, Agent for the State of New York, from Aug't to 31st Dec'r 1780, Inclusive.

Weight of Hay Purchased				Weight of Hay Delivered				Total Purchased and Delivered
Tons	Cwts	Qrs.	lbs.	Tons	Cwts	Qrs.	lbs.	
1,257	17	1	19	1,026	17	3	7	

Udney Hay.

[No. 3621.]

*Congress Issues Instructions to Privateers.*

By the UNITED STATES In Congress Assembled, April 7, 1781.

BE it ordained, and it is hereby ordained by the United States in Congress assembled, that the following Instructions be observed by the Captains or Commanders of private armed vessels, commissioned by letters of marque or general reprisals, or otherwise by the authority of the United States in Congress assembled.

First. You may by force of arms attack, subdue, and seize all ships, vessels, and goods, belonging to the king or crown of Great-Britain, or to his subjects, or others inhabiting within any of the territories or possessions of the aforesaid king of Great-Britain, on the high seas, or between high-water and low-water marks. And you may also annoy the enemy by all means in your power, by land as well as by water, taking care not to infringe or violate the laws of nations, or laws of neutrality.

Second. You are to pay a sacred regard to the rights of neutral powers; and the usage and customs of civilized nations; and on no pretence whatever, presume to take or seize any ships or vessels belonging to the subjects of princes or powers in alliance with these United States; except they are employed in carrying contraband goods or soldiers to our enemies; and in such case you are to conform to the stipulations contained in the treaties subsisting between such princes or powers, and these states: And you are not to capture, seize or plunder any ships or vessels of our enemies, being under the protection of neutral coasts, nations or princes, under the pains and penalties expressed in a proclamation issued by the Congress of the United States, the ninth day of May, in the year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and seventy-eight.

Third. You shall permit all neutral vessels freely to navigate on the high-seas, or coasts of America, except such as are employed in carrying contraband goods or soldiers to the enemies of these United States.

Fourth. You shall not seize or capture any effects belonging to the subjects of the belligerent powers on board neutral vessels, excepting contraband goods; and you are carefully to observe, that the term contraband is confined to those articles which are expressly declared to be such in the treaty of amity and commerce, of the sixty day of February. One thousand seven hundred and seventy-eight, between these United States and his most Christian Majesty, namely: arms, great guns, bombs with their fuses and other things belonging to them, cannon-balls, gun-powder, matches, pikes, swords, lances, spears, halberts, mortars, petards, grenadoes, salt-petre, muskets, musket-ball, bucklers, helmets, breast-plates, coats of mail, and the like kind of arms, proper for arming soldiers, musket-rests, belts, horses with their furniture, and all other warlike instruments whatever.

Fifth. You shall bring all such ships and vessels as you shall seize or capture, with their guns, rigging, tackle, apparel and furniture, and lagings, to judgment in any of



the Courts of Admiralty that now are or hereafter may be established, in any of these United States, in any Court authorized by his most Christian Majesty, or any other power in alliance with these United States, to take cognizance of captures and seizures made by the private armed vessels of these states, and to judicially hear and determine thereon.

Sixth. You shall send the master or pilot and one or more principal person of the company of every ship or vessel by you taken in such ship or vessel, as soon after the capture as may be, to be by the Judge or Judges of such Court as aforesaid examined upon oath, and make answer to such interrogatories as may be pronounced, touching the interest or property of the ship or vessel and her lading; and at the same time you shall deliver or cause to be delivered to the Judge or Judges, all passes, sea-briefs, charter-parties, bills of lading, cockets, letters and other documents, and writings found on board, proving the said papers by the affidavit of your self, or of some other person present at the capture, to be produced as they were received, without fraud, addition, subduction or embezzlement.

Seventh. You shall keep and preserve every ship or vessel and cargo by you taken, until they shall by sentence of a Court properly authorized, be adjudged lawful prize, or acquitted, not selling, spoiling, wasting or diminishing the same, or breaking the bulk thereof, nor suffering any such thing to be done.

Eighth. If you or any of your officers or crew, shall in cold blood, kill or maim, or by torture or otherwise cruelly, inhumanly and contrary to common usage, and the practice of civilized nations in war, treat any person or persons surprized in the ship or vessel you shall take, the offender shall be severely punished.

Ninth. You shall by all convenient opportunities, send to the Board of Admiralty, or Secretary of Marine, written accounts of the captures you shall make, with the numbers and names of the captives, and intelligence of what may occur, or be discovered, concerning the designs of the enemy, and the destinations, motions and operations of their fleets and armies.

Tenth. One third at least of your whole company shall be landsmen.

Eleventh. You shall not ransom or discharge any prisoners or captives; but you are to take the utmost care to bring them into port; and if from necessity, you shall be obliged to dismiss any prisoners at sea, you shall on your return from your cruize, make report thereof on oath to the Judge of the Admiralty of the state to which you belong; or in which you arrive, within twenty days after your arrival, with your reasons for such dismissal; and you are to deliver at your expence, or at the expence of your owners, the prisoners you shall bring into port, to a commissary of prisoners nearest the place of their landing, or into the nearest county goal.

Twelfth. You shall observe all such further instructions as shall hereafter be given by the United States in Congress assembled, when you shall have notice thereof.

Thirteenth. If you shall do any thing contrary to these instructions, or to others hereafter to be given, or willingly suffer such thing to be done, you shall not only forfeit your commission, and be liable to an action for breach of the condition of your bond, but be responsible to the party grieved, for damages sustained by such malversation.

Extract from the Minutes,

Charles Thomson, Secretary.

[No. 3622.]

*General Heath Confiscates Provision from a Sloop Carrying a Flag to New York.*

Westpoint, April 7, 1781.

Sir. This day the sloop Polly, Capt. Davis, came to anchor off this place. The Captain came on shore and presented me your Excellency's permission for the wives of Cadwallader Col-

den, Esquire, and Mr. Eltinge, with their families and effects (except males capable of bearing arms, and provisions more than necessary to support them to the enemy's post) to go to New York. Upon the officer of police searching the vessel & examining the people, it appears that only Mr. Eltinge's family and effects were on board; among them a son of about 18 years of age, and among a great variety of other articles, the provisions born on the inclosed invoice. The quantity of provisions appearing much too large, and your Excellency having on a former occasion signified your pleasure, that the provisions over and above what appeared necessary to support the families on their way to the enemy, should be seized and put into the public stores and the state credited therewith, I ordered the several articles mentioned in the inclosed receipt to be taken from the vessel, and lodged in the hands of the magazine Commissary at this post. If your Excellency thinks proper, Colonel Hay, the state agent may charge the several articles of provisions to the public account. The barrel of bees-wax is stored, subject to your orders, as are the other articles, if you disapprove the above mode; respecting which I wish to know your pleasure. The young man I have sent back. I have the honor to be with the highest respect your Excellency's Most obedient servant

W. Heath.

P. S. I have this day hinted to his Excellency General Washington, some secret intelligence which has been communicated to me, and in which, as the report says, your person, among others, is concerned. I am informed his Excellency apprised you of it. Perhaps there is nothing to fear, but it may be best to be on your guard. I am as before,

W. H.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

Pokeepsie 10th April 1781.

D'r Sir, I am this Moment favoured with your Letter of the 7th Instant. I recollect giving the Permission to Mrs. Colden & Mrs. Eltinge last Fall & on my Arrival from Albany I was informed that Mrs. Eltinge had obtained a Flagg from the Com'r in Chief to proceed to New York. I perfectly approve & am obliged by your sending back Mrs. Eltinge's son & divesting her of the articles of Provisson which were not necessary for her Passage & to which she was by no means entitled to carry with her. I wish a rigid observance of this Rule on every similar Occassion. For the Provisson, Colo. Hay will charge as proposed as soon as he is furnished with the Issuing Commissary's voucher for the Purpose. You will oblige me by ordering the Wax on Board of Davis on his Return to this Place. I am with due Respect your most

[G. C.]

I have been apprized the Intelligence you mention & begg you will accept my Thanks for your attention.

[To General Heath.]

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[No. 3623.]

*The Governor Informs Representative L'Hommedieu that Governor Trumbull's Attention Has Been Directed to Connecticut Plunderers on Long Island.*

Middletown April 10th 1781.

S'r, Mr. Hubbart returned home from this Place about the Time we left Albany; probably you may have seen or heard from him; by the Papers he left for me, I find something has been done and 'tis probable considerable will be done in a short Time of which I shall give you the earliest notice. I am confined to my House, owing to a fall out of a Carriage; as soon as I am able

to travell, which I hope will be in a few Days, I shall pay particular attention to that Business; great delays have been made in Consequence of an Edict of the Governor & Council of this State, (while the assembly were sitting, without their knowledge & which gives great umbrage in many Parts of this State) giving permission & Commission to goe on Long Island and take any British goods from the Inhabitants; by this means many good whigs there, who were under good Circumstances have lost their all, & this Plunder is carried on without regard to friend or foe, and numbers of the Inhabitants are suffering, who have never been concerned in any Trade; a Considerable Quantity of Cloathing is brought of which was intended for a good Purpose. Some of the Inhabitants whose attachment to the Cause is notorious, have come off, claimed their goods, and are determined to know whether one state or the Governor of one state, has a Right to take the property of those Inhabitants of another State, who are so unfortunate as to be under the Power of the Enemy. I have thought whether it would not be expedient for you to remonstrate against this Conduct, to Governor Trumbull; possibly it might have some Effect towards those friendly Inhabitants recovering their goods. The Bearer, Mr. Wells, who is a Refugee from Long Island, can give you a full account of this new mode of Privateering. You will excuse this bad writing of mine, as I cannot sit up to write. I am, S'r, with the greatest respect & Esteem your Excellency's most obed't Serv't

Ezra L'Hommedieu.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

April 16th 1781.

D'r S'r. I am fav'd with your Letter of the 10th, & have in consequence remonstrated to Gov'r Trumbull ag't the enormities

committed (by Parties from Connecticut) on our Friends in Suffolk County.

I have received a Letter from Judge Hobart, since my return from Albany, in which he speaks of some small Success. I think the existence of our Troops depends much upon the measure & therefore, hope no pains may be spared to execute it.

I wish to write you more fully, but as the Gent'n who conveys this Letter is waiting, I must postpone it, until Major Woolsey sets out which I expect will be in a few Days. Yrs. &c.

[G. C.]

[To Ezra L'Hommedieu.]

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[No. 3624.]

*The Governor Promiscs to Repay a Loan Raised for Major Davis.*

Fishkill, 10th April 1781.

Sir, I do myself the pleasure to forward to your Excellency two Letters, one of which came to hand, by express, early this morn'g: also half a Bushel of wheat, or thereabouts, which Mr. Tillinghast left with me yesterday for you, Sir.

Colonel Griffin has called on me for payment of the money which I borrowed of him, in your Excellency's name, for Major Davis. The Sum was twelve new Emission, and two thousand five hundred and twenty old Continental Dollars, equal, at that Time to three thousand old Dollars. I am, with every Sentiment of the highest Respect, your Excellency's very obedient Servant

Jno. Keese.

His Excell'y Gov. Clinton.

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Poughkeepsie April 10th 1781.

Dr Sir, I thank you for your attention in forward'g the Letters & wheat. I am unhappy that it is not in my Power at

pres't to send you the money borrowed of Colo. Griffen for Major Davis: but you may be assured that out of the first monies I can lay my Hands on, this Debt, which was contracted on a very special occasion when our Treasury was exhausted, shall be discharged. Be pleased to inform Colo. Griffen of this & that he may rely on my using every means to repay him his money, with Interest. I am &c.

[G. C.]

[To Major Jno. Keese.]

[No. 3625.]

*Vermont Reaching Out for More Territory and Providing for the Defence of Her Frontier.*

\* State of Vermont, Windsor April 10, 1781.

Agreeable to the Order of the Day, the Governor, Council and General Assembly of Representatives met, and formed into a Committee of the Whole, for the Purpose of taking into Consideration the several Petitions hereafter specified.

His Excellency Thomas Chittenden, Esq; in the Chair.

After some Debate on the Subject, a Sub-committee of nine was appointed to consider said Petitions, and make Report; which is as follows, viz.

Your Committee, to whom was referred the Consideration of several Petitions and Letters of the Inhabitants of Granville, Cambridge, &c. requesting this State to exercise Jurisdiction over them, for the Reasons therein specified—beg leave to report, viz.

That the Legislature of this State, do recommend to the People inhabiting that Part of the former Government, over which Gov. Skeene was to preside, to which this Legislature at their Sessions in February last, laid a jurisdictional Claim, to appoint Members to attend a Convention at Cambridge, on the second Wednesday of May next. That the Legislature of this State, appoint a Committee, to meet said Convention, at said Time and Place—That said Convention and Committee, take into Consideration the Defence of the Frontiers; and if they can mutually agree on Articles of Union, that then such Convention proceed to resolve to raise their Quota of Men, for the Defence of the Frontiers, with a proper Proportion of Officers; which shall be returned to the Board of War and commissioned in the same Manner, that the Troops heretofore ordered to be raised for the present Defence of this State are, and do Duty in the same Manner—That in Case said Convention and Committee do agree on Articles of Union, raising Men, &c.—then such Articles of Union shall be transmitted to the several Districts in said Claim, when the People of said Districts are requested (provided they agree to such Articles of Union) to choose Members to attend this Assembly, except such Districts had instructed their Member or Members, in Case Articles of Union were agreed on, that then their Members should be empowered to take Seats in this Assembly. That in Case two Thirds of the Districts in District meetings, choose Members as aforesaid, that then such Members shall take their Seats in this Assembly.—That this Assembly adjourn to the second Wednesday of June next, at Bennington.

John Fassett, Chairman.

Windsor, April 11th, 1781.

In Grand Committee, April 11th, 1781.

The foregoing Report was read and accepted.

Attest,

In General Assembly, April 11th, 1781.

Joseph Fay, Clerk.

The aforesaid Report was read and accepted, and sent up for Concurrence.

Attest,

Roswell Hopkins, Clerk.

In Council, April 11th, 1781.

Read and approved.

Attest,

In General Assembly, April 11th, 1781.

Joseph Fay, Sec'y.

Resolved, That a Committee of Six, to join a Committee from the Council, be appointed to meet a Convention, to be held on the second Wednesday of May next, at Cambridge, for the Purpose specified in a Report of a Committee of both Houses, of this Day's Date; and that a Majority of such Committee, are hereby empowered to transact the Business pointed out for the said Committee, in said Report, and make report of their Doings, to the next Sessions for their Approbation. The Members chosen, Mr. Walbridge, Mr. Porter, Mr. Williams, Mr. Prentice, Mr. Curtis, and Mr. Child.

Extract from the journals,

Roswell Hopkins, Clerk.

In Council, Windsor, April 11th, 1781.

Resolved to appoint a Committee of Three, to join the above Committee. Members chosen, Ira Allen, John Fassett, and Jonas Fay, Esquires.

Attest,

Joseph Fay, Sec'y.

[No. 3626.]

*Governor Clinton to Captain Dodge in Relation to Exchange of  
Military Prisoners.*

Poughkeepsie, 11th April 1781.

Sir, As I am informed the Enemy in Canada have lately permitted a Number of the Inhabitants of this State who they had captured on our Frontiers, to return to their respective Homes on Parole to be exchanged, it has become necessary that you should pay attention to their Case & endeavour by every mean in your Power to have their Exchange perfected & at the same Time improve the Opportunity which the Present Occassion may afford, to negotiate a more Extensive one. For this Purpose, I now inclose you a List of Prisoners of War at Albany & of Inhabitants who have requested to be exchanged & to which I have consented and also a List of one hundred & fifty nine Women & Children who were permitted to join the Enemy in Canada last Fall, with a Copy of Lieut. McDonald, of the British, his Receipt for them. These can with Propriety be placed ag't an equal Number of our Women & Children now returned from the Enemy, which as there can be no good Reason offered against it & I have written very fully to Gov'r Haldi-

man on the Subject, I presume will not be objected to by the Enemy. Genl. Stark to whom I wrote some Days since, will give you every necessary assistance; & Capt. Bevier, late of the 5th New York Regt. offers his Service, if it should be wanted to conduct a Flagg on this Business. Colo. Willet informs me, that a Brother of Lieut. Samons of his Regt. is now a Prisoner in Canada & is remarkably cruelly treated, and that he will send a Prisoner from Tryon County to Albany to be give in Exchange for him. It is my desire that you do every thing you can consistently with Justice to others to have him liberated. The Commissioners of Conspiracies in Albany, will give you every aid in their Power to facillitate the Duties of your office to the Northward. William Shepard & Joshua Bloore, both confined in Albany Gaol, have requested to be exchanged, but the former being Bondsman for the Exchange of Doct'r Smith & the later for Parson Stuart, I cannot consent to their Exchange untill Smith & Stuart shall have effected theirs. I am &c.

[G. C.]

Capt. Henry Dodge.

[No. 3627.]

*Jacob Cuyler Makes Return of Prorisions Purchased.*

Albany 11th April 1781.

Sir, Agreeable to your Excellency's Order of the 13th Ulto. I have the Honour to inclose you the Return requested; it was not in my power to have it ready so soon as the Law directed. Indeed its with great difficulty I have it now compleat and I believe pretty exact, excepting what has been procured by Capt. James Reed of Amenia Precinct between the periods of March and August and tho I have had an Express there, I received



an evasive answer, perhaps your Excellency may be able to get him to do it. It will be necessary, Sir, to inform you that in my Order, I directed that it should be particularized what had been voluntary sold or procured by an authority of the State to which I have been generally answered, that it was impossible to be done. I am your Excellency's Most Obedient Humble Servant

Jacob Cuyler.

George Clinton Esqr. Gov'r &c. &c. &c.

A Return of Wheat and Flour procured in the State of New York, under the directions of Jacob Cuyler late D. C. G. Purchases, from the 1st December 1779 to the 31st July 1780.

Quantity of Flour		Quantity of Wheat	
Cwt.	Qrs.	lbs.	Bushels
5198	0	5	17,763

Albany 11th April 1781.

Jacob Cuyler.

[No. 3628.]

*Three Spies Sentenced to Death by Court Martial.*

Proceedings of a General Court Martial. Colonel Abraham Brinkerhoff President. Members: Captains Thomas Storm, Stephen Hendrickson, Israel Veel.

Lieutenants Johannes DeWitt, Jun'r, Christian Dubois, Jacobus Van Debogart, Jacobus Freer, Eliphalet Platt, Theophilus Sweet, Job Tanner, Cornelius Arriance, John Cooper. John Copp acting as Judge Advocate.

His Excellency, Governor Clinton's Orders for the Court to sit were produced by the Judge Advocate, being read, are as follow

"In Pursuance of the Act entitled 'an act subjecting all Persons who shall come out from the Enemy and secretly lurk in any Part of this State to Trials by Courts Martial as Spies,' a General Court Martial is appointed to meet at Poughkepsie, on Thursday the 12th Instant, for the Tryal of Henry Wickes, and such other Offenders as may be brought before them, Colonel Brinkerhoff to be President and the Members to be taken from General Swartwout's Brigade, Captain John Copp to act as Judge Advocate." &c.

Head Quarters Poughkepsie April 7 1781.

April 12th.

The Court assembling agreeable to Orders, the President Members and Judge Advocate being sworn—The Judge Advocate prosecuting in the Name of the People of the State of New York—The Court proceeded to the Trial of Henry Wickes against whom the following Charges was exhibited vizt. "For adhering to the Enemy, and coming out from the Enemy & secretly lurking within a Part of this State." The Prisoner Henry Wicks, appearing before the Court plead not guilty to the Charge.

Tabor Bently (sworn).

Question. Were you present Mr. Bently when the Prisoner before you (Henry Wickes) was taken? No. Where did you see the Prisoner first? Behind a Log. Did it appear to you that he lay behind the Log with Intention to conceal himself? It did. Q. Will you please to inform the Court what was the Cause of your discovering them? I was felling a Tree which was inclining towards them, or as they (Abraham Wickes, John Vermillier and Abraham Ackerly) told me, they would not have discovered themselves to me. On Account of the Danger they were in from the Falling of the Tree, I was surprised with a Pistol at my Breast by a certain Earl, one of the Gang who afterwards got off, and after some Conversation I promised to bring them some Victuals which they demanded of me.

Q. Do you recollect what passed between you and the Prisoner in the Conversation you mention? He said there were some such Men as I was, who pretending to be their Friends, might betray them, and likewise told me that I should suffer if I should, & I reply'd that if I brought them out, they might scalp me. They ask'd me how far it was to Jonathau Denniston's, Quakerhil & Colonel Van Deburgh's and whether Colonel Vaudeburgh was a Friend to his Country.

Q. Did the Prisoner inform you where he came from? From within the British Lines and said that he belong'd to De Lancey's Corps. One of the Party said that he would be damned if some particular Persons should not suffer before they returned, and to the best of my Knowledge Wickes said that some should suffer, by God. One of them (I am not certain who) ask'd me if I did not expect the Enemy, I answered that they had been expected for two or three years past; Either Wickes or Ackley swore, by God, we should be relieved soon and we might depend on their coming through this Summer.

Colonel Van Deburgh swore, That he took Henry Wickes himself, endeavoring as he thought to make his Escape, and after he presented his Gun at the Prisoner, he call'd for Quarter. That he confess'd that he belong'd to De Lancey's Corps. That he came from within the British Lines and intended to return, if he had not been taken in eight or nine Days from that Time.

Abraham Ackerly, appeared before the Court; The Judge Advocate prosecuting as in the foregoing Case and the same Charges being exhibited against him. The Prisoner plead not guilty.

Tabor Bently being sworn.

The 1st 2d 3d and 4th Questions that were ask'd him, being nearly similar to those put to him in the Case of Wickes, were answered in the same Manner.

Question. What did Ackerly say to you after your being surprised by Earl? That they had been driven off, and that he would be damn'd if some particular Persons did not suffer for it before he return'd to New York.

Q. Did the Prisoner signify that he was in the Service of the Enemy? It was the Voice of the Whole of them that they belong'd to De Lancey's Corps.

Q. Did he tell you how long it was since he left the British Lines? Near a Fort-night, and that they were about returning when they were taken.

Q. Did the Prisoner in particular tell you this? Not that I recollect, I took it to be the Sense of the Whole of them.

Q. What was the Occasion of your leaving them? A Boy that lives with me appearing. I told (Ackerly, Wickes and Vermillier) then, that they might probably be discovered. They immediately concealed themselves where I first saw them, behind the Log, and I left them to alarm the Neighbourhood.

Col: Vaudeburgh swore That the Prisoner fold him that he belong'd to De Lancey's Corps & that he expected to be exchanged soon.

Henry Van De Burgh, Being Sworn:

Quest: Was you present Mr. Van Deburgh when the Prisoner was taken? I was.

Q. Where was he taken? The Prisoner Henry Wickes and John Vermillier were each of them taken whilst I was present, in Beekman's Precinct, near my Father's House.

Q. In what Manner did you take them? Running from a Place where it appear'd by the Position of the Logs and Collection of Leaves the aforementioned Persons had been lurking for a considerable Time, and which by the Description of Mr. Bently was the very Place where he discovered them first.

Q. Did the Prisoner acknowledge that he came from within the British Lines? He did, as did Vermillier and Wickes also, That they respectively belong'd to De Lancey's Corps, & that they had been out eight or nine Days.

John Vermillier then appeared before the Court with the same Charges exhibited against him—the Judge Advocate prosecuting as in the foregoing Cases. The Prisoner Plead not Guilty, and the Court proceeded to Trial.

Tabor Bently, sworn.

Questions similar to the 1st 2d 3d and 4th in Wickes' Tryal and to the 2d 3d 4th and 5th in Akerly's Trial were severally put to Mr. Bently and answered by him in the same Manner, nearly Verbatim.

Colonel Van Deburgh sworn, His Evidence against the Prisoner, the same as against Ackerly.

Henry Vandeburgh sworn,

Questions, the same in Substance as those asked in Akerly's Trial, were put to Mr. Van Deburgh who answered them in the same Manner, against Vermillier.

The Prisoners respectively urged in their Defence that they had been misled and came out with no bad Design and intended to live peaceably amongst us.

The Judge Advocate then ask'd the Court if the Evidence already produced was sufficient and satisfactory, there being no Negative—The Court adjourned 'till Friday Morning 8 O'Clock.

Friday Morning April 13th 1781.

The Court having maturely consider'd the Charges and Evidence against the Prisoners and their Defence, unanimously, find them guilty of adhering to and coming out from the Enemy, and secretly lurking in a Part of this State, and by Virtue of an Act of the Legislature of this State made and provided against such Offenders, "entitled an Act for subjecting all Persons who shall come out from the Enemy to Trials by Courts Martial,"

Do sentence the said Henry Wickes, Abraham Akerly and John Vermilliar to suffer Death at such Time and Place as his Excellency Governor Clinton may appoint.

The Court adjourns without Day.

Abm. Brinckerhoff, Coll. Pres't.

John Copp, acting as Judge Advocate.

Rec'd & filed April 13th 1781. April 14th approved & ordered: that the several Culprits be hanged, by the neck until they be dead, & that the Sherif of Dutchess cause the order to be carried into execution on Saturday the 21st April 1781.

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[No. 3629.]

*General Ganseroort Reports the Albany Militia Destitute of Arms and Ammunition—The Governor's Reply.*

Albany, April 14th 1781.

Dear Sir, A few Days since arrived at this Place, eight Barrels of Powder from the main Army for the use of the Militia in this Quarter; But not a single Pound of Ball or Lead, or any Cartridge Paper, Twine or Thread are to be had at this Place to make the same up into Cartridges, nor are we furnished with any Flints. I, therefore, find myself necessitated to apply to your Excellency for Information, from whence I am to be supplied with these necessary articles.

Many of the Militia in this Part of the County are destitute of Arms & were occasionally supplied from the Continental

Armony in this Place. But I find that General Clinton has, by Order of His Excellency General Washington, directed Mr. Rensselaer, the Dep'y C. Genl. of Military Stores, not to deliver out any arms to the militia in future, and that he has ordered all those arms which are already in the Hands of some of the Militia, to be immediately collected & returned into the Store.

The Men who were so furnished with arms by the Public, are so poor as not to be able to purchase for themselves and there is not a Shilling, to my Knowledge, in the Hands of any Militia Officer here, which may be applied to the purchase of arms as the Law directs.

I shall be very happy, if your Excellency will be pleased to apply to General Washington for his Order to the Deputy Commissary Genl. of Military Stores here, to deliver out arms to the Militia Officers in this Quarter for the men who are destitute, subject to be accounted for by such Officers; and that a Supply of Flints Lead or Ball, Cartridge Paper, & Twine & Thread may be sent to this Place, as soon as possible, for the use of the Militia.

I have ordered the Officers commanding regiments of my Brigade to make Returns to me, without Delay; as soon as I receive them all, I will do myself the Honor of transmitting to your Excellency a General Return. I am, with sentiments of Respect & Esteem, Dear Sir, Your Excellency's most Obed't Serv't

Peter Gansevoort.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

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Poughkeepsie, April 19th 1781.

Sir, I have rec'd your Letter of the 14th Instant. As the Militia in every Part of the State are subject to the same Diffi-

culties from the want of ammunition & arms, I flattered myself when those in your Quarter received a Supply of Powder they would not have been found deficient in the other articles, of which great Quantities have from time to time been delivered out, & which are not so subject to waste or Damage: from the Returns I do not believe that we have any Flints &c in Store, & if there is not, you are sensible we have not the means of procuring them & I fear whether they are to be had from the Cont'l magazine. The militia must, if possible, be induced to provide themselves with the means of Defence, for unless this is the Case from the lavish expenditure of that drawn from the Public they will always be found deficient. In this Part of the Country we have encouraged the Traders to import from the Eastw'd, Powder &c. for sale, & I am in hopes by this means the militia here will soon be able to provide themselves or left without excuse if they do not. I wish the People in your Qr. could be prevailed on to promote a similar measure. I shall make an application to the Commander in Chief for Flints &c. but I have little Reason (from the Sentiments he has repeatedly expressed to me on this subject) to expect any arms. Indeed I believe there will not be any to spare if our army is compleated.

I am

[G. C.]

[To General Peter Gansevoort.]

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[Nos. 3630, 3631.]

*Mrs. Goes Appeals to General Van Rensselaer and to the Governor for Permission to Bring Her Daughter from New York.*

Sir, You have doubtless already heard of the heavy loss I have met with, and as my Daughter Bata is now in New York alone and doubtless in a disconsolate and distressed Condition,

I have taken the Liberty to write his Excellency the Gove'r, to Permit her to return to me with the Effects of my Deceased Husband, as you will be by the Letter which I enclose and leave open for your Perusal. I am in hopes you will not be averse to do me a kindness which you [may] do with Propriety: and must, therefore, request of you to be good enough to write to the Gov'r in my Behalf, if you judge the Request Reasonable, which I make no doubt you will, and do what you can to promote my Request. Should you soon go down, I would be exceeding glad to have you carry the Letter and deliver it to him, otherwise I will endeavour to get one of my Brothers to go down with it; if you see any of them before my letters reach them, could wish you would urge them to go for me to the Governor, and endeavour to bring me his answer. Your kind Compliance with my Request, will ever lay me under the greatest obligations of gratitude to you, while I remain, Sir, your much Distressed Friend, and Humble Servant

Helena Goes.

Kinderhook 14 April 1781.

Genl. [Robert] Van Rensselaer.

P. S. You will please to seal the Letter to the Governor before you send it along. One of my Brothers will call on you for the Letter to the Gov'r and such as you will be pleased to write in my Behalf.

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\*Sir, I beg leave to acquaint your Excellency that I have lately received the Melancholy Tidings of the Death of Mr. Mathew Goes Jur. my late Husband, who your Excellency knows was in the Month of January last sent to New York.

In the deepest Distress and anxiety of mind which this heavy Dispensation of Divine Providence unavoidably lays me under, and which is much increased when I consider the deplorable Situation of my poor Daughter Bata who went with her Father, and is now left as it were alone in a strange Place without the means of supporting herself; I am emboldened most earnestly to intreat your Excellency to Permit her to Return to me with the Effects of my late deceased Husband. Your Excellency's Compliance with this reasonable Request and which to me is of the greatest Importance will ever lay me under the greatest obligations, and be most gratefully acknowledged, by your Excellency's Much Distressed and most Humble Servant

Helena Goes.\*

Kinderhook 14th April 1781.

His Excell'y Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 3632.]

*J. Lawrence Reports Slow Progress in the Raising of Levies—The Governor's Reply.*

Rockland, Orange County April 14th 1781.

May it please your Excellency, I have not had the opportunity as yet, owing to the badness of the weather, to execute what I expected agreeable to the permission granted by your Excellency, in respect to the well affected Inhabitants of West Chester County; as soon as the weather will permit, I shall go about it. I have expected the General Orders with respect to Levies these some days. Colo. A. H. Hay informs the Inhabitants he has received directions from your Excellency, not to raise any. As I look upon it to be without the least degree of truth, I hope to hear from Excellency how it is, to be. Mr. Taulman the

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\* See document 3638, page 779.

bearer waits upon you to offer his service for the Levy Service, he is the gent'n I mentiod to your Excellency at Mr. Livingston's; an officer of your own appointment, in Colo. Malcom's Regt. and who bears as unexceptionable Character as an officer; my best Respects to your good Lady & family. I have the Honour to be with Esteem, Your Excellency's mo. obedient Humble Serv't

J. Lawrence, Jun'r.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

17th Apl. 1781.

D'r Sir, I am favoured with your Letter by Mr. Talman. I am sorry that his application is so late that I am apprehensive I shall not be able to provide for him & Mr. Kirkpatrick agreeable to their Merrit & Expectations. I shall be happy how soon the Business of removing our Friends is effected, & I wish you may be fortunate enough to bring off Thomas. I consider myself under obligations to him for the attachment, as discovered in an Hour of Danger. Colo. Hay as well as every other Regt. in the State, is to deliver every 20th Man for the Defence of the State & he has some Time since received orders for the Purpose. I am &c.

[G. C.]

[To Captain J. Lawrence, Jr.]

[No. 3633.]

#### A SINISTER STORY AGAINST THE GRANTS.

*Correspondence on the Subject Between Clinton, Washington and Schuyler.*

Pokeepsie, 16th April 1781.

Dear Sir. I take the Liberty of inclosing you a Copy of a Letter I have this Moment received from his Excellency Genl.



Washington, together with a Copy of the Intelligence therein alluded to communicated by Mr. Fish & of requesting that you will be pleased to make the use of it proposed by the General conducting the Business in the Manner mentioned in his Letter. I am not personally acquainted with either Fish or Harris, but have some Reason to believe they may be both confided in. Fish is Sensible & I imagine will observe a proper Degree of Secrecy on the Occasion. The present Intelligence is corroborated by that which you may remember was given by young Mors, who came in from Canada last spring & accounts in some Measure for the Preparations he reported were making for early Operations on the Part of the Enemy in that Quarter. In addition to the Reward to Harris & Fish promised by the Genl. I have added a Promise in Behalf of the State, of something Handsome in Case of Success, to which I am perswaded you will contribute by every means in your Power. I am, with great Respect, your most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

The Hon'ble Philip Schuyler, Esqr.

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Head Quarters New Windsor 15th April 1781.

Dear Sir, The Bearer Mr. Fish of Saratoga district came to me this morning, with the intelligence of which the inclosed is a Copy. How he obtained it from one Harris, he will inform your Excellency. Harris, whose Character perhaps your Excellency may be acquainted with, is to meet the party under the command of Ensign Smith the 20th of this month—is to convey a packet to Albany and to carry another back to them. He proposed to Fish to seize him at a place to be agreed upon and to take the letters from him. But I think a better way would

be, to let him carry the letters and answers in the first instance to Genl. Schuyler, who might contrive means of opening them without breaking the seals, take Copies of the contents, and then let them go on. By these means we should become masters of the whole plot; whereas, were we to seize Harris upon his first tour, we should break up the chain of communication, which seems so providentially thrown into our hands. Should your Excellency approve of the measure which I have suggested, you will be pleased to write to Genl. Schuyler upon the subject, and desire him, should business call him from Albany, to leave the conduct of the affair in proper hands in his absence. I have promised Fish that both he and Harris shall be handsomely rewarded if they execute the Business with fidelity.

I have rec'd your Excellency's favors of the 30th ulto. and 8th Inst. Every thing in my power shall be done to keep up the supply of provision to the Northward, but our great difficulty now lies in getting it from the magazines in the neighbouring States. The Quarter Master is moneyless and the people refuse to work longer upon Certificates. With the highest Respect and Esteem, I am, yr. Excellency's most obt. Serv't

Go. Washington.

His Excellency Gov. Clinton.

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Copy.

March 29, 81.

Being on the frontier in the neighbourhood of Skenesborough on the 16th instant, and being taken to be a tory, were introduced to a party of the enemy from Canada, commanded by Ensign Thos. Smith, late of Albany and David Higginbottom, Caleb Closen and Andrew Rakeley; the whole four in number

come on a plot to destroy the independence of this and the other states; it not being possible for me to betray them with safety, concluded it best to act the hypocrite for once and succeeded so far as to draw from them that the Grants had capitulated privately to lay down their arms on the approach of the British, which is to be done early this spring, when the British are to proceed to Fort George and take post and fortify on Gages Hill, for which purpose they now have their boats and shipping ready framed at St. John's and other places to bring and put into Lake George with all other preparations, even their pickets to fortify the above post with. I further learned their strength consists in Eight thousand troops and loyalists, and many in the state of New York were concerned, gentle & simple not only on the frontier but throughout.

From the 16th at Evening to the 22d.

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[No. 3634.]

*The Commands of the Two New Regiments Offered to Colonels Willett and Weissenfels.*

Pokeepsie, April 15th 1781.

Sir, The Legislature at their last meeting passed a Law for raising two Regts. for the immediate Defence of the State, on Bounties of unappropriated Lands, to serve for the Term of three years, to be payd subsisted and clothed at the expence of the continent, if Congress should approve of it. Last Evening, His Excellency, received an answer from Congress to his Dispatches on the Subject: they engage to pay subsist and clothe these Troops at the genl. Expence, on Condition that this State compleat their Quota in the cont'l line & that the above mentioned Regts. be officered as far as may be by the reduced

officers of this State on half Pay. Warr'ts in the first Instance are to be issued to the officers until two thirds of the Corps are raised, which is to be compleated on or before the first of Aug't next. The Council of Appointment will meet at this Place on the 26th Inst. to appoint the officers. His Excellency directs me to write on this Subject, and to request that you will by that Time signify to him your Sentiments whether it would be agreable to you to accept of one of these Regts. & if so he would be glad to see you at the meet'g of the Council. I am &c.

R. B. [Robert Benson]

Colo. Willett. A similar Letter was sent to Colo. Weissenfels.

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[No. 3635.]

*The Governor Asks Major McKinstry to Report Progress in Recruiting for the Two Regiments.*

Poughkeepsie, April 15th 1781.

Sir, By the Return of Colo. Troop from Phila. last Evening, I received an act of Congress engaging to pay subsist & clothe the two Regts. intended to be raised on bounties of unappropriated Lands for the immediate Defence of this State; and altho' this engagem't on the part of Congress is conditioned that this State will compleat its quota of Troops in the cont'l Line & that the officers, as far as may be, of the abovementioned two Regts. be taken from among the reduced officers of the cont'l army; yet I should be happy to be informed as soon as possible, what Progress you and the other Gentlemen have made & what Prospect of Sneess you have in the recruiting men for this Service. I have called the Council of appointment to meet at this Place on Thursday the 26th Instant at this Place & I wish of you

could find it convenient to see you here on that Day. In the meantime I must request you to give every Encouragement in your Power in the Promotion of this Service. I am &c.

G. C.

Major McKinstry.

P. S. I do not apprehend that many of the reduced Officers will offer themselves for this Service. I am extremely anxious that the men be recruited without Delay, & beg you will use every Exertion for this Purpose.

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[No. 3636.]

GRAVE CHARGE AGAINST ETHAN ALLEN.

*Accused of Entering Into Correspondence with the Enemy—Governor Clinton and Colonel Paine's Letters.*

Stillwarter, April 16 Day 1781.

Dear Gov'r, On my Return home from Albany, I found a general Disatisfaction in the minds of your subjects on the east side of the River, which I find was occasioned by Mr. Allen's spending several Days in the Difarant Districts, perswading and Deluding the people; a number of the Inhabitance of Cambridge, I ware Informd had send a petition to state of Vermont as they call it for Protection, which on my ariving at that place I found too true, but after spending some time their, I flatter myself I had such influence that I have Reason to believe they will Raise their men for the present campain; from the above place, I went to White Creek and alltho the above gentealman had been to Doctor Williams for three or four Days at a time, yet I found the people Determined to Raise their men; we elast the Regt. and some had ingaged before I left the place.

But alas, Sir, the great Distress is the want of provision; the Troops have left Fort Edward and would have left the Barricks if I had not let them have a Barrel of meat out of my family store; the Reason why provision is not sent to these posts we know not; the Inhabitance are moving off every Day, notwithstanding every argement is used to keep them on their farms.

While I was at White Creek the Commisioners ware informd that Genll. Allen had Rec'd letters from the enemy at New York, the inclosd is some confirmation of the matter.

We heard that the Enemy had got to Crown Point some Days ago but I beleve it is not so; if Provision should be sent heir their must be some fortification built Immediatly; we hope to have your Direction as soone as possible in the matter. Genl. Schuyler has given a warrant to Capt. Wright to Raise a Company for three years, and we hear has returnd the name of a man for Capt. which the solders hear will not go under; they have agreed to go under Capt. Holtom Dunham, who is as good a Capt. as any in Col. Van Vacter's Regt. The surcomstance of my Family is such that it is impossible for me to go in the services this campain. I shall, theirfore, expect to be excusd; the Levis from the four north Regts. in Albany County and my Regt. will make two good companys; the other officers will be returnd as soone as possible.

Before I subscribe this Letter I must once more mention the affair of Vermont; their is many in these Parts that was your frinds, that was sorry when they heard you was against Relinquishing the jurisdiction of this state over that tract of land, but they begin to alter their minds, and I make no Doubt, will do very thing in their power to Defend this state, provided, provisions are sent in time for the troops heir.

It gives the greatest uneasiness to the people heir, to see large Quantities of flower at Mr. Palmer's mills in this place, and our garrisons breaking up for want; and now the flower is to go down to Albany, which indicates to us that their is to be none sent up to our guards above. I shall wish for a line from you. I am, your Excellency's Most Obediant most Humble Servent

Brinton Paine.

His Excellency, George Clinton, Esqr.

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Coll. Warner Inform'd me about the begining of March last that in consequence of his being inform'd of General Allen's receiving Letters from the Enemy, that he went to said Allen, and upon mentioning the Matter, Allen denyed that he had received any Letters, but on close examination, he confessed of having rece'd two Letters, one of which he burnt, and the other he delivered to the Council when sitting, in Arlington, and that Coll. Warner Inform'd me one of the Letters was from Beverly Robi[n]son, in New York.

White Creek April 12<sup>th</sup> 1781.

John Williams.

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Pokeepsie 27th April 1781.

Dear Sir, Your Favour of the 15th [16th] Instant was delivered me yesterday by Genl. Ten Broeck. I am unhappy that your Private Concerns are such as not to admit of your taking a commission this Campaign, as I had placed Dependence upon your Services. I am sensible you have suffered much & I shall not, therefore, insist upon it, especially as I am perswaded, you will be much wanted at the Head of your own Regt. God only knows how we shall be supplied with Provision; with you, I am

apprehensive of the Evil Effects the Want of it may have on the Minds of the People as well as the real Injury it will be to the service.

Dunham is appointed a Capt. in the Levies & his Commission will be forwarded to him as soon as the Sec'y can make it out. I wish you to apprize the People in your Quarter of the fatal Consequences that must result to them should they swerve from their allegiance by encouraging & uniting with the People of the Grants. I inclose a short Letter addressed to you on this Subject only of which you will make the proper use. I am, D'r Sir, with great Regard your most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

[To Colonel Brinton Paine.]

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[No. 3637.]

*Governor Trumbull Notified that Depredators from Connecticut Plunder Long Islanders.*

Pokeepsie 16th April 1781.

Sir, It has been lately represented to me that several of the Inhabitants of Suffolk County whose attachment to the Cause of America is indisputable, have been divested of their Property by Parties acting under Commission from your State. While I entertain too high an Opinion of the Justice of your Excellency & Council to believe that these Enormities are warranted by the Instructions under which these Parties act, I have the fullest Confidence that Restitution of the Property will be ordered to the Individuals who have suffered & whose Conduct has evinced an affection to the Cause of their Country. I am sensible, Sir, that the most vigorous measures are necessary to prevent all Intercourse and Trade with the Enemy, & I shall



cheerfully acquiesce in any that may be necessary for this Purpose, & at the same Time affords Security to our Friends against abuses, which may tend to alienate their affections & give Strength to the Common Enemy. I have the Honor to be &

[G. C.]

His Excellency Gov'r Trumbull.

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[No. 3638.]

*Governor Clinton Disapproves General Van Rensselaer's Plan to Attempt a General Round-up of Depredators.*

Claverack, 16th April 1781.

Sir, Inclosed I send you two Letters from Mrs. Goes,\* the one directed to his Excellency the other to me, by which you will see her request respecting her Daughter & the Effects of her deceased Husband. It is needless for me to second her application as I am sensible his Excellency will do every thing in his power to relieve the afflicted when consistant with the duty he owes his country.

Robberies have been frequent in this part of the Country during last week; have done every thing in my power to apprehend the villains. Colls. Van Ness's & Van Rensselaer's Regiments have been out and scowed the whole Country between this & Dutches County; several persons have been taken upon Suspicion of being concerned but fear we shall be deficient in proof; one among them is Wilhelmaus Lampman, from Lonenburgh, who says he joined the Enemy in 1777; that he left Long Island the 7th Inst. with a Design to Surrender himself; with him were found 700 False Continental Dollars; he says he parted with 320 upon the Road from New Haven to this place;

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\* See documents 3630-3631, page 767.

was I certain the Court Martial was still sitting at Poughkeepsie would send him down.

I would suggest if a certain Day was fixed upon for every Regiment from the High Lands up to Albany to turn out and scower each a certain District of country, whether it would not be attended with good consequences; should his Excellency approve of this Suggestion and fix a time, I would undertake the Limits of my Brigade and part of the Manor of Rensselaer and endeavour to intimidate the Villans from making any further attempts. I am, your Excellencies most obed't humble Serv't

Robt. V'n Rensselaer.

To his Excellency, Govern'r Clinton.

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Poughkeepsie, April 17th 1781.

D'r Sir, I am this moment favored with your Letter of yesterday. The Plan you suggest of making a Genl. Scowering through the several Districts, I have for some time had in contemplation: but on consulting many of the Officers this way, they apprehend that it would not answer the Purposes intended, as the objects to be apprehended would be fully apprised of the measure before it could be carried into execution & of course fall upon means of escaping or concealing themselves so as not to be readily come at; frequent patrolling Parties through the Districts of the several Regts. as practised by many of the Regts. in this County seems to be thought the most eligible Plan for detect'g these villains.

Mrs. Goes's Daughter will have my Permission to come out with the first Flag. Yrs. &c.

G. Clinton.

Genl. Rensselaer.

[Nos. 3639, 3640, 3641.]

*Governor Clinton Consents to the Exchange of Thomas Menzies,  
Through Judge Tompkins.*

Sir, Judge Tompkins informs me that he has in my behalf Signified to your Excellency my inclination of being exchanged, and that, agreeable to my request he informed you, in general, that I would pledge myself to send out any person or family (not in a Military line) that are desirous of coming and is Exchangeable by the rules of war and laws of nations, that your Excellency requirs, and that whatever Indulgence, I receive they shall have the same. The particular Indulgenecies I request, and which Judge Tompkins tells me he mentioned to your Excellency are, That myself and family may be sent in a safe manner, furnished with a flag, at my own Cost, to the first British post. That I may be allowed to take with me, such part of my moveable effects as I shall think proper, live stock Excepted, and all kind of provision, Except what will be necessary for the support of my family on the Journey. That I may hire Carriages under such regulations as your Excellency thinks proper, to Transport my family and Effects. And as a special Indulgence, that I might take two of my Horses, I binding myself that the person or family Exchanged for me, shall have the same Indulgence, if required, otherwise that I will Transmitt the value of the Horses, to which, Judge Tompkins informs me you agreed, and for which I gratefully acknowledge my obligation to your Excellency.

I have another favour to ask of your Excellency. I have a negro boy ten years old, and a negro girl six year old. If your Excellency will be pleased to allow me take them with me I

will Engage for them in the same manner I do for the Horses, if required.

Mrs. Menzies is in a very low state of health, and is at present so Circumstanced, that unless we remove very soon, she will not be removeable for some time; I would, therefore, wish as well on that account as to accommodate Judge Tompkins, to whom I have disposed of my farm, to go as soon as possible. I would propose if agreeable to your Excellency in three weeks at farthest.

That I may know what there may be further necessary for me to do, and whether your Excellency is agreed to my proposals, I beg an answer by the bearer. I am, with the greatest Respect your Excellency's most Obedient & most Humble Serv't

Thos. Menzies.\*

Fredericksburgh April 16th 1781.

N. B. If it is a matter of Indifferance to your Excellency I would chuse to go by water as I think it much the safest way. To His Excellency, George Clinton, Esqr. Governor of the State of New York.

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Pawling Precinct, 16th April 1781.

Dear Sir, I take the liberty to inform your Excellency that Mr. Menzies has conveyed to me the whole of his Improvements, and has advertised his movable Effects for Publick sale except, his houshold furniture and two Horses, which he hopes he may be permitted to carry with him, agreeable to the Information I gave you, when I saw your Excellency last, and likewise upon the same Conditions; Mr. Menzies engages that whatever Indulgence is granted him, the same he will engage shall be

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\* See Volume V, page 184.

given those that comes out in Exchange for him; and as the gentleman appears to act much upon Honour I could, therefore, wish he may have every Indulgence your Excellency may deem Consistant with the safety and Honour of the State; and as the season for farming Business is now commencing, makes it necessary for me to move on to the farm as soon as Possible; should, therefore, take it as a particular favour that Mr. Menzies and family may be Permitted to go as soon as possible, as nothing will detain him after your Permission is obtain'd, as he well knows my situation;

I am desired by the gentleman to Request the favour of your Excellency that you would signify by a Line by the bearer, (my son), what articles he may be permitted to carry with him, and what is necessary to be perform'd on his part Prior to his going, and whither he must go by Land or water, if by Land, there is persons here that will go with their Carriages to remove him, of known attachment to the Independance of America, and such only he chuses as he Informs me, as he expects to go by a Flagg. I am, sir, your Excellencies most Obdt. Humb'e Servant

Jonathan G. Tompkins.

His Excellency George Clinton.

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Poughkeepsie, April 16th 1781.

Sir, I have rec'd your Letter of this Day covering one from Mr. Menzies, enclosing his application to be exchanged as a Prisoner of war; which is filed with the Secry. of the State agreable to Law. I enclose your Instructions to Mr. Dodge, Commiss'y of Prisoners for this State, who set out this morn'g for your neighbourhood. On your delivering them to him he will take the necessary steps towards Mr. Menzies' exchange. I

cannot consent to his taking with him any articles which may be useful to the Enemy. His other property he is at liberty to dispose of as he shall think proper. I shall not insist on having a Person taken in arms in exchange for him, but it must be one of equal Rank in life.

[G. C.]

[To Judge Tompkins.]

[No. 3641.]

By His Excellency George Clinton, Esqr. &c. &c.

Consent is hereby signified to the exchange of Thomas Menzies, a prisoner of war, for any subject of this State, Prisoner with the Enemy, of equal Character & standing in Life; he is not to be permitted to take with him any arms, military Stores or other articles, which may be useful to the Enemy. His family (males of sixteen capable of bearing arms excepted) are to go with him.

Given &c. this 16th April 1781.

G. Clinton.

To Henry Dodge, Esqr., Commiss'y of Prisoners for the State of New York.

[No. 3642.]

*Officers Assigned to Take Charge of Newly Raised Levies.*

April 16th 1781.

Sir. You will please to direct Capt. Hunter to receive & take charge of the Levies of Cantine's Regt.; Lieut. Hardenbergh, those of Snyder's and you will call in the other Officers whom you have recommended (& who reside in your County) & dispose of them with the Levies raised in the County, so as to give the best security to the frontiers until further orders. Yrs. &c.

[G. C.]

Colo. Pawling.

[No. 3643.]

*Colonel Henry Livingston Volunteers for the Levies.*

Phila. April 16, 1781.

Dear Govern'r. A few days since, I was informed, that your Excellency intended raising four state Regiments, for the defence of the Frontiers, as I should wish to be employ'd in any service of the state that your Excellency should think fit, I will take the liberty, to offer my service as an officer, in one of the New Regiments for the term of three years, as I am inform'd, that it is to be the period of their enlistments; should your Excellency think my abilities in that station will be of any use to the public, I wil esteem as a great mark of your favor to exert your interest in my behalf. I am, with great esteem your  
 Excell'e'y Hum. Serv't

Henry Livingston.

P. S. I shall at Poughkeepsie in 14 days from this.  
 To his Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 3644.]

*Captain Elihu Marshall Volunteers, Also.*

Peeks Kill, April 17th 1781.

Sir, Thinking perhaps, that my declining the army on the last establishment, might induce your Excellency to believe I was averse to the service, and being informed of the intention of the Legislature to raise a body of Levies, to serve the ensuing campaign, gives me an opportunity of ofering my service, if required. I do not solicit an appointment, actuated by principle of love to my Country; I am always happy to serve it, yet if as good, or better men, can be procured to officer the Levies, I shall not be mortified, if neglected. Your Excellency (as I am told)

being invested with the power of appointments, will I doubt not, select those gentlemen whom you think best qualified. Should I be honoured with a Command, I should prefer a Company raised in this part of the State, because they will be the most likely to remain in this quarter, which would give me an opportunity, of paying some attention to my family, the particular circumstances of which, was the only motive for leaving the Regular army. Your Excellency will be pleased to observe that I shall expect to rank and Command agreeable to my Continental Commission, which I believe is always customary in all Countreys when half pay officers, are called into service, that is to rank agreeable to the Commission, on which they draw half pay. Will your Excellency be pleased to honor me with an answer as soon as convenient as my other business will depend upon it; address to me at Capt. Dusenberry's Peeks Kill Hollow. I have the honor to be with much esteem, Sir, your Excellency's most obdt. H<sup>l</sup> S

Elihu Marshall.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

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[No. 3645.]

*Citizens of Newburgh Protest Against the Interference of Military Officers in Civil Affairs.*

To his Excellency George Clinton, Esquire Governor and Commander in Chief of all the Melitia and Admiral of the Navy of the State of New York.

The Petition of the Major part of the Inhabitants of the German Patent at Newburgh, Most humbly Sheweth,

That among the many Difficulties your Petitioners are labouring under in Consequence of their Situation being so near the Quartermaster's Department at the Continental Dock, that of the deputy Quartermaster, Mr. Mitchel and the Deputy Clothier, Mr. David Brooks, interfering in some Instances in the most violent manner against the Civil authority at this place, that is the said Brooks in perticular, an Instance of which your Excellency has, heretofore, in some measure been acquainted with. And that of their interfering in the Internal policy of the said Patent, a recent Instance of which happened on the 16th Instant, when the Freeholders and legal Inhabitants and only proprietors of the said Patent were legally convened for the purpose of electing a Trustee for the management of the Glebe belonging to the Proprietors and Inhabitants of the said Patent, when their appeared 40 Votes for Thomas Palmer and 8 for



Henry Smith, whereupon Uriah Mitchel, the Deputy Quartermaster and David Brooks, a Deputy Clothier, interfered with the soldiers, mechanicks and Servants, under their Command, and demanded and Insisted they had a right to vote, which they did themselves, and those under them as aforesaid and by that means made a Majority in favour to Mr. Smith; that, thereupon, Mr. Isaac Belknap closed the Poll in favour to the said Mr. Smith; that the said Brooks in perticular came up in the most menacing and abusive manner threatening and abusing the Inhabitants in a most scandalous manner, supporting himself by those with him by damning many of the good Citizens for Tories &c. by which means your Petitioners are, therefor, deprived of their Charter rights and Priviledges of the said Glebe by violence. As we most humbly conceive that those in the line or staff of the army altho they may for a time be stationed here, have no right to interfere in our Charter, or any of the Internal Pollicy of our affairs concerning of it. That matters in Consequence of their Interfearence has got very high between the Inhabitants and those interfering as aforesaid, and except some moderate measures are taken, it may be attended with the most dangerous Consequences.

Your Petitioners, therefore, most earnestly pray that your Excellency will, as far forth as may be within the Power and consistent with your Honor, and the Justis of our Complaint, interfere in favour to your Petitioners and order and direct that justis may be done them in the Premisses, grounded upon the facts aforesaid, assuring your Excellency at the same time that we want nothing more than our rights and Priviledges, and if the matter can be settled by a line from your Excellency to the said Mitchel and Brooks, we shall be satisfied, at least as to Mr. Mitchel and the others at this Post, but as for Mr. Brooks we think him too abusive and dangerous a Person to remain in the place. Therefore, Pray, that your Excellency in behalf of your Petitioners and for the future peace and safety of the place, will apply to the proper office for his Removal. One Instance of his abuse to the Legislature we think too heinous to pass over without notice and that is, because he was displeas'd at the law for Classing and raising men for the Defence of the Frontiers, did on the day aforesaid viz. on the 16th Instant Publicly declare that all Persons concerned in Framing that Law or such of them as give their assent to it, were dam'd Rascals and desired people to take notice, and repeated again and said that he called them dam'd Rascals and that he would tell them so to their Faces. In Confidence, that your Excellency will do us all the Justise in your Power concerning the Premisses; your Petitioners as in Duty Bound, will ever Pray.

Dated at New Burgh, 18th of April 1781.

Jno. Graham, Reed Albertson, Alexand'r McCrary, Solomon Buckingham, John Bishop, Isaac Brown, Hugh Stevenson, and many others.

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[No. 3646.]

*Mat Visscher Renews the Charge of Treason Against Ethan Allen.*

Albany, 18th April 1781.

Dear Sir, In my attendance at the Court in Charlotte County last week, I found that several Petitions had been set on foot in that and parts of this County by agents of Vermont to come under the Jurisdiction & government of that State. Granville and Skenesborough have almost to a man signed it, and so has Cambridge. White Creek are in general against it: at this place, I was informed that Letters had been received in a secret manner from New York by some Persons in Vermont. This I

found to be true upon a Conversation, with a Man from that State, and by the best information I could obtain, they were from Genl. Robertson to Ethan Allen, and that they were on the subject of treating with them on the Terms of the Proclamation of the Enemy, as a distinct People not under the authority of Congress.

I last night received the enclosed Paper\* and note from Dr. Williams, which I have the Honor to transmit your Excellency for your Consideration. Mr. Marsh is waiting, therefore, cannot enlarge. I am with the greatest respect your Excellency's most obt. Serv't

Mat: Visscher.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

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Little White Creek, April 15th 1781.

Dear Sir, This† was put into my hands this day, & in consequence of a promise to his Excellency, the Governor, I transmitt it to you requesting you will forward it to him with all posable Dispatch, so that the necessary precaution may be taken as the urgency of the Case requires; remain yours

Jno. Williams.

P. S. The greatest Secreey is required in this.

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[No. 3647.]

*John Younglove's Letter Covering Proceedings in Vermont.*

Cambridge, 18 April 1781.

Honored Sir, I take the Liberty to enclose you a paper which accidentally fell into my hand yesterday but without the design of some of our people who now take the lead here about matters

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\* See document 3625, page 760.

† The third document under No. 3636 is the same resolution &c. of Vermont, which appears under No. 3625.

relative to s'd paper. Mr. Ira Allen & others has bean taken much pains threw the different destriets around us; the People or many of them are in grate disorder; they have had many meetings on the subject of joining the people of the Grants. A Convention of Committees from different destriets meats here to-day on the subject. A trustee from hear has just returned home from over the mountain. I have bean at but one of the meetings & then advised the people to be cairful of ther conduct. I am told that Mr. Whitesid & Col. Blair are much in favor of the plan & as near as I can find about one hundred more of the others also. You will pleas. sir, not to let this came abroad, for if our people shold find that I am buisy agains the plan, it wold be high treason & cost me some troble as they are very zealos. A line of direction by the barer, James Colter, wold much oblige, sir, your very humble sarvent

John Younglove.

To Robert Yates, Esqr.

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[No. 3648.]

*Colonel Klock Making Progress in Raising His Levies—Suggests Names for Officers.*

Tryon County, 18th day of Aprill 1781.

Sir, According to general orders to raise levies to continue in service untill the first day of January next, I have form'd all the male Inhabitants of sixteen years and upwards into Classes, twenty in each class; some of the Classes have already delivered their man, and the others are busy to git theirs. I have appointed three officers to receive the Recruits, namly at Fort Walrath, and Fort Nelles, which two Plasses are intire fronteer, and each of them Plasses is a christ mill, and the only mills we

have in this neighbourhood, and ought to be gaurd'd if said mills should be destroyed, we mus of course leave this Place,

His Excellency has requested the officers of Brigades and of Regiments unbrigaded to make returns of the names of such gentlemen as are willing [ ] as officers in said service, so as that necessary means might be taken for their being commissioned. I should, therefore, recommend (the above Persons whom I have appointed to receive the levies), Jacob J. Klock as Captain, Samuel Gray, as first and Konrath K. Timmerman, as second subalterns; the former has been an officer in the Con-tenantle service for four years, and the two latters, are officers in the militia, put have frequently been called out in service, and are well disablind, I have no more to add, as that the general orders, which I have rec'd are not signed, and am in doubt, whether I have a right to but the said orders into execution (if any delinquitney should happen in my Regt.) without further deriction from his Excellency, I should, therefore, request his Excellency, to give me further instructions how to act in the Premisses.

Also that I have some men in my Regt. who have been Prisoners with the enemy, and are now at home on Parole, who are also classed but refuse to pay towards procuring a man, untill they are assured of their being exchanged, I should, therefore, be glad his Excellency would be gind anove to give me his obenien on this head, the names of which is Henry Haber, Capt. Henry Walrath, John Petry, Jun'r and Cornelus Lamperson. Remain, Sir, your most Humble Serv't

Jacob Klock.

His Excellency George Clinton, Governor &c.

[No. 3649.]

*Lieutenant McClaughry's Return of Recruits.*

Return of men received from the Classes to serve in the 2d  
New York Regt. during the war. April 19th 1781.

## Colo. Cantine's Regt.

Major Winecop's Class	Peter Kelly	April 8
Capt'n Schoonmahr's Company		
Lieut. Hordenbarack's Class	Eligah Aukerman	April 4
Major Hosbrook's Class	Joseph Griffin	not pass muster
Lieut. Colo. Hosbrook Class	Tilliman Oartouch	April 12
	Colo. Johnson's Regt.	
Capt'n Woods Company		
Lieut. Harkwood's Class	Eliakm Brush	March 31
Capt'n Johnson's Company		
Isaac Fowler's Class	Jack Gaule	Feb'y 28
Peter Decker's Class	Selvester Ourtouch	April 10
Colo. Johnson's Class	Mallager Upright	
Capt'n Masten's Company		
Cornelius Vanoay's Class	Jacob Herring	Jan'y 2
William Gee's Class a British Deserter	John Hara	Deserted
Capt'n Cross's Company		
Jno. McCreery's Class	Edward Weyley	Deserted
And'w Thomson's Class	William Hart	Deserted
		Jno. McClaughry.

[No. 3650.]

*Congress Calls upon States to Make Good Depreciation of Monthly  
Pay in One Regiment.*

By the United States in Congress assembled.

April 20th 1781.

Resolved, That it be and hereby is recommended to the States of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland and Virginia, to make good the depreciation of the monthly pay of the officers and Soldiers belonging to Col. Moses Hazen's regiment that are considered as a part of the quota of the respective states aforesaid, in the same manner they have made good the depreciation to the Officers and soldiers in the batallions belonging to the line of those States respectively.

Extract from the minutes.

Chas. Thomson, sec'y.

[No. 3651.]

*Lieutenant McClaughry Supports a Comrade.*

Albany April 21st 1781.

Sir, I am informed that Lieut. Pendelton's Conduct at Fort Montgomery on the sixth of October, seventy-seven has been call'd in question to his disadvantage, I, therefore, beg leave to inform your Excellency that I am, and shall be ready to appear in behalf of his injured Charraecter, at any time when call'd upon, and make no doubt Major Duboys will do the same, whereby the fullest sadesfaction may be given. I have the Honour to be with the greatest respect, Sir, your Most Obdent very Humble Servant

Jno. McClaughry.

His Excellency George Clinton, Esqr.

[No. 3652.]

*Lieutenants English, Jansen and Rossa Ordered to Receive Levies for Colonel Pawling's Regiment.*

Lieutenants English, Jansen and Rossa will in the first Instance, Receive & take Charge of the Levies raised for the immediate Defence of the State in Colonels McClaughry's & Lieut. Colo. Jansen's Regiments; none or to be accepted but such as armed accoutred and provided agreable to Genl. Orders. Deserters from the British Service are to be rejected. These Troops will compose Part of the Regiment commanded by Lieutenant Colo. Pawling, whose Orders they are to obey & to whom the Officers are immediately to make Returns.

Given at Pokeepsie, this 21st Day of April 1781.

Robt. Benson, A. D. C.

[No. 3653.]

*James Clinton Renew's His Complaints in Regard to Provisions—  
The Levies.*

Albany, Apl. 24th 1781.

Dear Sir, Your favor of the 15th inst. I have been honor'd with. I have in consequence of the Contents given directions for the necessary Returns to be made out without loss of time; but from the distracted State of the Troops in this Quarter. I shall not be able to furnish you with them untill the last of the month. I have not been able to procure any Return from that part of the first Regt. which is stationed at West Point. therefore, I must beg leave to refer you to Col. V. Schaick.

I have furnished Mr. Ten Broeck with a Return of all the officers who retired from Service on the first day of January, to be laid before the Council. I am informed (tho not officially) that the Resignations of Captain Wandle, Lieutenants Tierce and Henry, have been accepted, which will leave one vacancy, if Pendleton and Mott are provided for. To this vacancy, I would in a perticular manner recommend Serjeant Robert Wilson; it is unnecessary to add anything more on this Subject, as I am persuaded, you are disposed to appoint him if you should not see an impropriety in it.

I am also informed, that Ensigns Brown & Griffen have also resigned, in consequence of which I have recommended Ensign Carpenter to the Council, as he conceives himself injured in point of Rank.

The new Levies are coming in fast, but I cannot receive them for want of Provision. Stoutenburgh is not to be found, and Lush says he has no directions from Col. Hay for procuring any. Mr. Swarth has resigned and General Schuyler has recom-

mended a Major Grunbeck to supply his place. I wish to know if the Assembly did not pass an act for collecting Supplies in the stead of Taxes: the Law has not yet been published, nor is anything doing towards it. Our Situation is truly deplorable, and unless speedy and effectual measures are taken to procure timely Supplies, the Consequences will most certainly be serious. I am, Dear Sir, yours affectionately

James Clinton.

Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 3654.]

*Wolvert Ecker on the Subject of Taxation.*

New Burgh 24 April 1781.

Sir, Inclosed I send you a Copy of a Tax List\* of persons who have sons gon to the enemy & also of Mr. Borling, one of the people called Quakers, being Taxed in persuants of an act for reasen men to fill up the Quota of this State to serve dureing the war. I tenck, it will not be in the power of the Col- lacter to collect the whold is some of the persons taxed are not worth half the sum they are taxed. I am, Sir, your most obedient Humble Servent

Wolvert Ecker.

His Excellency George Clinton.

[No. 3655.]

*The Governor Replies to Colonel Thomas in Regard to the Disaffected and Patronage.*

Salem, West Chester County Apl. 25th 1781.

Sir, Your Excellency pleases with Respect of removeing the Disaffected from the Lines agreeable to a Law of this state, I could wish to know; the Necessity is truly great and unless

\* Not found.



some measures are shortly taken, we must no doubt give way and retire in the Interior parts of the Country; in the same Law your Excellency will observe that the power is Invested in the Gouvenour, or Commissioners to be appointed by him, for the purpose of accommodatēing persons with homes, whome are distitute; if this matter is shortly done, probably we may by our exertions stop the further progress of the Enemy. Capt. Sackett, the bearer, will give your Excellency further Information respecting the matter; there is one Whitmore now confin'd in Poughkeepsie Gaol, whom I could wish he could be Parol'd. The bearer, Capt. Sackett, will further Inform your Excellency of his conduct. The Leavies from my own Regt. have been ready to join this two weeks, for want knowledge whom is the persons that are to take the Command of them; they are entirely useless, and the County ravedged for want of them. I am, Sir, your Excellency's most Obt. Hum. Ser't

Thos. Thomas.

To his Excellency Gouvenour Clinton.

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Salem, W't Chester County. Apl. 25th 1781.

S'r, Your Excellency is not unacquainted of my application to the Council of Appointment for the purpose of having three persons appointed in order to take Charge of Boats to cruise the Sound, or on the Land, if required, which is agreeable to the plan that Connecticut adopts. Should those appointments be made, should take it as a particular favour, the Commissions could be Forwarded by the Bearer, Capt. Sackett, as the gun boat and Whail Boats are now ready to cruise agains the Enemy. I am, Sir, your Excellency most obedient Hum. Ser't

Thos. Thomas.

To his Excellency Gouvenour Clinton.

Pokeepsie, 30th April 1781.

Sir, Your two Letters of the 25th Instant by Capt. Sackett is (sic) received. Of the three Persons appointed in Albany to command armed Boats in the Sound, one, I understand, is lately hanged by DeLancy & the other, to wit, Hunt, has joined the Enemy. The Commission for the other Capt. Sackett can have, by applying to the Secry. Capts. Sackett, Williams & Codwise are to command the Levies intended for the protection of your County; Sackett's Company will be composed of those raised in your County; the other Companies will be formed of the residue and of those raised in Dutchess, of which you will have a full third Part. It is impossible for me to do any thing about removing the Disaffected from the Lines, until I am furnished with a Copy of the Law, as I am ignorant of the Powers granted me, & I am much mistaken if they are such as will answer your Ideas. As Whitmore is committed by the Com'rs of Conspiracies, I have not authority to enlarge him. I am, Sir, your most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

Colo. Thomas.

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[No. 3656.]

*Colonel Hathorn Announces His Determination to Resign.*

Fredericksburgh 25th April 1781.

Sir, I have had the honour of commanding a Regiment of Militia in Orange County since the year 1775 during which time my Endeavours were not wanting to Support the Credit of so Important and Honorable a Commission. Officers in that Station on the present Establishment are in a singular and very disagreeable Situation, more especially if the fortune of War should

throw them into the hands of the enemy. Instances, recent at this day evince it. No doubt the Legislature had an Eye to this, as an amendment of the Militia Law very justly in part has Provided for it. The duties required of the officers commanding Regiments are accumulated to a burthen too heavy for my narrow Shoulders to Support. The other Business assigned to me is more than Sufficient to engroce all my thought and attention; its obvious that the Business of my Military Commission have suffered and been greatly neglected.

If no Military operation will be deranged and the Publick in no degree Injured, by Indulging me with a resignation of my Military Commission will give me great ease and contribute to an Interest Inadequate to Support the credit and dignity of so honorable a commission.

Permit me to think that a Colonel of a Regiment, ought to be a Supernumerary especially when no danger can possibly arise and the office as well served by the Lieut. Colonel. I should do violence to my own conscience as well as tending to impose on the gentleman whose conduct at the head of the Militia as an officer, is endearing to the Soldier and real friend to his country, was I not convinced that, this will be the case in the present Instance.

I hope the above facts will give Sufficient Weight to Warrant my request, that your Excell'y will lay them before the Hon'ble the Council of Appointment, and second their being granted; it will be a Service ever acknowledged. By your Excellency's and the Council's most obedient and Humble Servant

John Hathorn, Col.

His Excell'y Governor Clinton.

[No. 3657.]

*Major De Witt in Want of Ammunition.*

Marble Town, April 25th 1781.

Sir. Agreeable to your order, I shall endeavour to have the men who are Rais'd out of Cols. Snyder's & Cantine's Regts. Mustered and Drawn out on the frontiers as soon as possible. I conceive it will be difficult to git the men Billited, as many of the frontier inhabitants have been Distress'd by the enemy who will not be able to contribute to their Subsistence. I am at Loss to know how to supply the men with ammunition, as their is no public store in this Quarter. I am, with due Respect, your Excellency's Most obed't Humb'e Sarv't,

Thos. De Witt.

His Excellency George Clinton.

[No. 3658.]

*Colonel Malcom's Officers Inquisitive About Their Pay.*

Walkkill, Aprile 26th 1781.

Dear Gov'r, I am called upon two or three times every week, sometimes much oftener, by the officers of the levies. I beg to know what prospect of getting the pay, that I may give them that much satisfaction. It is in vain to tell them I have nothing to do with the matter, and that I want my own pay as much as they want theirs.

My neighbour, Mr. Yeoman, (the bearer) has made an imprudent bargain, and it every day seems to grow worse; nothing will content him but an application to you, who he imagines knows every thing, & hath the power to do every thing. He is a poor honest man, with a large family, and if the Commissioner would be as favorable to him as the law admits, perhaps he

might obtain a present settlement, if not he will be greatly distressed. I have the Honor to be, with much Respect, your Excellency's most obed't H'ble Serv't

W. Malcom.

Congress I imagine have discovered their error in my case; it is now turned over to the Board of war, and I hope will be settled to my satisfaction. The Board is to delay the determination untill they know my inclination.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

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[No. 3659.]

*The Governor Acts with Firmness in the Attempt of Vermont to Expand Its Territory.*

(Copy)

Poughkeepsie 27th April 1781.

\*Sir, By a printed Paper, dated at Windsor, the 10th Instant, purporting to be proceedings of the Legislature of Vermont, it would appear that the Inhabitants of the Districts of Cambridge, Granville &c. &c. have by their Letters and Petitions, solicited an Extension and Exercise of the Jurisdiction of that usurped Government over them. On such Evidence, I am loth to believe that any of the Subjects of those Districts can have been so lost to a Sense of their Duty and allegiance as to have given the least countenance or encouragement to a measure not only tending to obstruct the Peace & good government of this State; but extremely dangerous to the general Confederacy of the United States. Lest, however, there should be any, who, by the Deception and Artifices of designing men or who from

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\* Endorsement: Copy of Letter from his Excell'cy the Governor, to Brinton Paine, John J. Bleecker, Alex'r Webster, Jno. Younglove & Jno. McClung Esqrs. Justices of the Peace, relative to Information that the Inhabitants of Cambridge, Granville &c. &c. have by Letters & Petitions solicited the usurped gov't of Vermont to extend & exercise their Jurisdiction over them.

Motives of private Interest or Disaffection to the common Cause of America, may have been led to swerve from their Duty, I have thought it expedient to address you as a magistrate, immediately concerned in support of the rightful authority of Government, on this occasion and to request that you will be pleased to make inquiry into this Matter and report the Result to me as soon as possible and in the mean time to encourage the People in your Quarter to a perseverance in their Duty; apprizing them of the inevitable Ruin which will be brought on those who may be found trifling with their allegiance. That they may be left without Excuse and should there be any Meetings or Conventions appointed to be held in your District to promote the above dangerous Measures, you are to report the Time & Place thereof to me and use every lawful means for Defeating them. I am &c. &c. &c.

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[No. 3660.]

This is a draft of the document of which No. 3659 is a copy.

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[No. 3661.]

*Governor Clinton Corrects an Erroneous Impression on the Part of  
Colonel Dubois in Regard to the Assignment of the Levies.*

Cats Kill, April 27, 1781.

Sir, In our present dangerous situation, I find myself under the necessity of applying to your Excellency for advice & relief. Last Sunday ev'ning Captain David Abeel, his son and two of his negroes was taken off & his House plundered; one of the negroes has since returned and by his Information they intend

to fetch several more, some of whom they have named, the others are gone to Niagara, We have with different parties, taken several routs in order to take them but to no purpose, The people at Kisketamanatia and other parts of our Frontiers, are all Disaffected and instead of discovering those parties, conceal and harbour them, and tho we cant make it appear, yet we have all the reason imaginable to believe, that some of those people have assisted in taking off and plundering Capt. Abeel.

The good people here are all under the disagreeable necessity of moving off over the river. & what adds to their uneasiness is a report which at present prevails, that the nine months drafts raised for the defence of the Frontiers, are to march to the southward. Tho I cannot believe such a report, yet I see the bad consequences which attend it, The Tories here are now a majority and if a part of the Whigs move, what will become of the rest? The answer is obvious. They will by two & three at a time be carried to Niagara, and by that means the enemy mean to carry their point. I sincerely wish that your Excellency would order as many of the Drafts which are first raised (with proper officers) as you shall deem sufficient to this Quarter, They will find all the assistance in every respect that we in our circumstances can give; mean while we shall use every exertion in our power to prevent any further Damage. And anxious for relief shall think the time long till I receive your Excellency's answer. But unless there is help for us very soon (altho there is no Law that will justify such a proceeding) we shall be under the necessity for the good of the cause and our own safety to send every Disaffected person to Albany Goal, or some other place of Confinement, in order to prevent them in future from

harbouring those plunderers. I am, with respect, yr. Excellency's most Obed: & very h'ble ser't,

Cornelius Dubois, Lt. Coll.

His Excellency Geo. Clinton.

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Sir, I have received your Letter of the 27th Instant. It will be impossible to prevent small Parties aided by the disaffected to take off the good People in your Quarter unless proper patrolling Parties are constantly kept out from the Militia & the Tories are moved from your Frontiers without whose assistance & support can only enable the Enemy to reach your Neighbourhood. The former every Commanding Officer of a Regt. by Law is authorized to do. The latter I will give orders to justify, the Moment you Magistrates & Principal Officers, furnish me with a Return of the Names of those whose continuance at their present Places Residence is dangerous, which may be as soon as possible. I am surprized that your People shoud Credit the Report respecting the Levies raised in your Regt. the least Penetration might discover it to be the Production of the Disaffected. Capts. DuBois & Conine, & Leuts. Van Valkenbergh are appointed officers in the Levies & I wish them to collect those of your Regt. & keep them out on your Frontier until they receive orders from Colo. Willet, who is directed the best Security our Circumstances will admit, to all the Frontier settlements of your Country. I am &c.

[G. C.]

I rec'd accounts last night of a Party of the Enemy having appeared at Minisnick & done some misschief which makes it necessary to keep a vigilant lookout.

[To Lieutenant Colonel Dubois.]



[No. 3662.]

*Governor Trumbull Points Out the Mode of Redress for Persons  
Plundered on Long Island.*

Lebanon, 27th April 1781.

Sir, I am this Day hon'd with your Excellency's Letter of the 16th inst. respecting the Suffering of some of the Inhabitants of the County of Suffolk in State of N. York. The Commissions lately granted by this State for the Purpose of preventing illicit Practices & comerce between the People of this State & the shores of Long Island, have been carefully guarded by Instructions given the comanders of the Boats, calculated to prevent the Practices you mention, accompanied by Bonds which have been invariably taken with good Sureties in the sum of £2000 L m'y conditioned, for the strict compliance with their Instructions, & engaging to make good all Damages for any illegal Practices they may be guilty of in contravention of their Instructions.

If any such Practices as you mention have been entered into, the People who are Sufferers have good right to enter their complaints & there is no doubt, but that on proper Proofs, Prosecutions will be made & full Justice may be obtained in due course of Law on the Bonds.

The real Design of the late comissions was intended to effect very valuable Purposes, a Suppression of the most dangerous Intercourse perhaps that has ever yet been devised by our Enemies. I fear, however, that in some Instances this good Intention has by evil men ben contravened, in which Instances I shall be happy, as your Excellency, that such Perpetrators should be bro't to effectual Punishment. With great Esteem

& Regards, I have the Honor to be, your Excellency's most  
Obed't hu. Serv't

Jon'th Trumbull.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

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[No. 3663.]

*Colonel Udny Hay to the Board of War on the Purchase and  
Transportation of Flour.*

Philadelphia, 27th April 1781.

Sir, Agreeable to the desire of the Board, I now do myself the Honor to give my Opinion on the advantages, which must accrue to the Public, from making Contracts with Individuals, in the State of New-York, for the delivery of Flour, at any part, on the Banks of Hudson's River, most contiguous to the place of Consumption, and not exposed to the Enemy; for illustrating of which with the greater perspicuity, it becomes necessary to Calculate, in Specie, what a Ton of Flour, lying at Philadelphia, Costs in being Transported to the nearest Landing on Hudson's River. The distance, including the Expense of the Water Transportation to Trenton, say,

150 miles @ 2/	is	£15
Wastage and payment of Officers on the Road, with the Expense of Water Transportation to the place of consumption, say		3
		<hr/>
making in the whole		£18

Suppose then the Individual in the State of New York, should be allowed an equal Quantity of Flour, lying at Philadelphia, for whatever Quantity he should deliver at such Place, on the Banks of Hudson's River, as the Public Officer, appointed to

make the exchange, should think proper to order, and for the Expense of Transportation should have an allowance of four Pounds per Ton, it plainly appears, the Public would then save fourteen Pounds per Ton, upon all they would otherwise Transport: suppose farther that this exchange should amount in a year to twenty Thousand Barrels or two Thousand Tons; the annual saving would be no less than twenty eight thousand Pounds. Nor is this the only benefit the Public would receive by adopting such a Measure. By the excessive Public Transportation, made hitherto, through Jersey, the Forage so necessary for the maintenance of the Horses of a part of our army, is almost entirely exhausted, and Cavalry, not only prevented thereby from being stationed in that part of the Country, where their Services are frequently wanted, and might on many occasions be very important; but many of the Horses, necessary with the army while in Winter Quarters, either starved to Death or sold at a very low Price.

I find some Gentlemen think that an exchange can be made, for a large Quantity, upon equal Terms, without any allowance for the Transportation to the place of Consumption. From these Gentlemen, I cannot help differing in Opinion. That it may be made, in a certain degree, I doubt not, especially by the Merchant, who may want to export; but it cannot upon these Terms, become an object for the monied Man, who intends to sell here; and whose profit, of consequence, must lay entirely in the difference of the Value of Flour in the two States; and the Surplus in the allowance made for the Transportation above what that absolutely costs him. Neither is it probable, especially should the French army come into the State of New York, that Flour will be even as Cheap there as here.

To give the Public, however, the fairest chance possible, for making the cheapest exchange; I would beg leave to hint, that the officer, appointed for transacting this Business, in the State of New-York, should have Instructions to advertise, that all who had an inclination to enter into such a Contrast, should give in their proposals in writing, against a certain day, and that he should have the most peremptory Orders to give the preference to whoever offered the best Terms, provided unexceptionable security was given for the performance of them.

I imagine one difficulty will attend this Business in its commencement, which it becomes my duty to mention. Public Credit is at so low an ebb, for a time at least, few, perhaps none, will be induced to deliver their Flour, 'till the Quantity they are to have in exchange is first deposited in the hands of their agent here. This difficulty, nevertheless, by a faithful performance of a few of the first Contracts, on the part of the Public, might be soon got over. I have the Honor to be, with the utmost respect, Sir, your most obedient & very H<sup>ble</sup> Servant

Undy Hay.

The Honorable The President of the Board of War.

(Copy)

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War Office May 10, 1781.

Sir, We have been favored with your Letter on the Subject of Bartering Flour, in New York State, for the like article in Philadelphia. We have no doubt of the saving to the Public in the article of Transportation. It is not, however, in our Power at present to give Flour in Philadelphia, let the Plan be never so eligible. Nor would we venture to do it, were we capable from the situation of our Magazines here, until we are

convinced that it would not interfere with the Supplies from the State of New York. If that State had procured her Quota, we should immediately adopt the Plan either in the whole or in Part. Under present Circumstances we should wish for the opinion & Concurrence of the Government of New York before we would even apply to Congress on the Subject. We are, Sir,  
Your very obed't Servants

Richard Peters

By Order.

Colonel Udney Hay.

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[No. 3664.]

*Colonel Willett's New Command—His Orders.*

Pokeepsie, 28th April 1781.

Sir, The Regiment of Levies for the Defence of the State which you are appointed to command, is to be composed of those raised in the Counties of Albany, Tryon, Charlotte and Part of Dutchess, and when collected & embodied they are to be so disposed of as to give the best Security to the Frontier Settlements of the three first above mentioned Counties. In making the Distribution for this Purpose, you are to have Regard to the Aid to be derived from the Continental Troops & Militia, and as your Regiment is subject to the order of the Commander in Chief of the army, you are to be governed by the advice of the Commanding Officer of the Northern Department. You will immediately dispatch Officers to the different Militia Regiments to receive their respective Levies & march them to such Places of Rendezvous as you shall appoint. The Officers for this Service must be instructed not to receive any but able bodied Men fit for active Service, compleatly armed & Provided agreeable

to Law, & to reject deserters from the British Service, if any such should be offered. To obtain from the Commanding Officers of Regts. Returns of the number of Men to be furnished by them respectively, that you may be able to determine when they have delivered their full Quota. If any should be rejected as unfit for Service either on account of Innability or not being properly armed &c., Report then with the Names of the Persons rejected & of the Persons at the Heads of the Classes delivering them must be made to the Commanding Officer of the Militia Regt. that he may cause others to be detached agreeable to Law to supply the Deficiency. The Levies of Dutchess will rendezvous at Fishkill and the Proportion of them intended for your Regiment will be dispatched from thence to Albany under such of your Officers as reside in that County. You will make Regular Returns to me of your Regiment, noting the Distribution you shall from Time to Time make of it.

Lient. Colo. Pawling Regt. is stationed on the Frontiers of Ulster, Orange & West Chester Counties, himself in Ulster, & it will be necessary that a constant Correspondence shou'd be maint[ain]ed between you & him & the earliest advice of the movements of the Enemy, reciprocally communicated. For a variety of Reasons, I conceive it will conduce most to the good of the service, that you shoud take Post yourself in Tryon County, & that Major McInstry be with that Part of the Regt. stationed to he Northward & I will give such orders to the Militia in that County as will enable you to avail yourself of their Aid. I am, Sir, your most Obed't Serv't

G. Clinton.

When you have taken the necessary Measures for drawing out & mustereing the Levies who are to compose your Regt.

& made the proper Distribution of them, you must then return to this Place & settle your Private affairs & provide yourself for the Campaign, when you will also be able to report to me what further arrangements will be proper to make of the Militia to enable them to render the most effectual assistance.

Colo. Willet.

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[No. 3665.]

*Fred. Slater Randolph Willson Volunteers for a Commission in the Levies.*

28 April 1781. Fishkill.

Sir, Last Tuesday I had ye honor to wait on your Excellency with a recommendation from the Hon'le M. General Parsons, & Colo. A. Brinkerhoof for a Commission in the nine Month Levies, at which time your Excellency was pleas'd to give me some hopes you woud employ me, provided, there was any Vacaney, & as Colo. Brinkerhoof informs me he has not receiv'd any advance from your Excellency, I again presume to trouble you, & must add that a Commission in the Levies to be rais'd on bounties of Land woud be the most desirable thing attainable in this World to one circumstanced as I am, having from principle attach'd myself to a cause which in all probability will divest me of all property in my native Country.

Genl. Swartout promis'd he woud exert his interest in my behalf, & if your Excellency thinks proper to employ me in the Service, then the Cement of Interest will be equal to that of Principle, & I shall ever be bound to acknowledge myself with the highest expressions of gratitude, the States, & your Excellency's most obt. servant

Fred. Slater Randolph Willson.

His Excellency G. Clinton, Esqr.

[No. 3666.]

*Orders to Colonel Parling in Regard to Indian Depredations.*

Poukeepsie, 28th April 1781 6 OClock P. M.

Dear Sir, The Moment I received accounts of the Appearance of a Party of the Enemy at Minissink on the Frontiers of Sussex & Orange Counties, and of Depredations committed by them in that Quarter. For the particular I refer you to the inclosed Copy of a Letter from Henry Wisner, Esquire,\* and of an intercepted Letter attested by Samuel West Broeck, Esqr. in what manner or where the latter was acquired, I am ignorant, & therefore, not able to form a proper Judgment of the Credit the Information it contains merits. It is, however, sufficient to put us on our Guard & to exert every Exertion in our Power for the Security of the Frontier Settlements. I have, accordingly, issued orders to the several Militia Regiments of the Counties of Ulster & Orange, a Copy of which Inclose you. You will observe that the Levies of Orange County are to be marched to Minissinck & put under the Command of Capt. Westfael; those of Ulster to be collected by the officers appointed to receive them & moved out to the Frontier, and it is my Desire that you so dispose of the whole as at the same with the aid of the Militia, to give the most perfect & general security to the exposed Settlements and the most effectual opposition to the Enemy. It is of the first Importance to procure authentic & early Intelligence & for this Purpose you must send small Parties composed of such Persons as are well acquainted with the back Country & who can be relied on which I request you to do, without the least Delay; any extra Expence attending it will be paid by the Public; make the earliest Report to me &

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\* Not found.



the officers commanding Militia Regts. of the Result. The arrangement of your officers is this Day compleated & will with the Proportion of Levies from this County intended to join you, be forwarded with the utmost Dispatch. I am, with great Regard, your most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

Colo. Albert Pawling.

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[No. 3667.]

*Another Disastrous Indian Raid at Cherry Valley Reported by Andrew McFarlan.*

Schenectady, 29th April 1781.

Sir, Agreeable to your Request to put you in mind at the meeting of the Commissioners of appointment for a Commission for Mr. William Peters, in one of the New York Regts. who has been in the Service since the year 1776. I shall likewise give you a paragraph of a Letter from what is called Bowmans-kreek, by some Connajoharry.

“Connajoharry, 26 April 1781.

Last Tuesday about 80 of the enemy came to Charry Vally, murdered and Captured all the people of that place, only Mr. Davis and his son and three of Thomson's boys escaped their hands; and about 15 of the party came down to our settlement and killed Peter Young, his wife, Isaac Young and his wife and children, and burnt them in the houses, burnt your houses and our Mill and Crommel's house and barn. From the best accounts I can get there was from 30 to 40 persons at Charry Vally. Since this unhappy affair many of the friends to the Country is a moving from the river. Few men and scarce any provisions. Our Nine Months men may be of service when

embodied if properly mustered and Returned; but from my observations in this part of the Countrey a proper person for mustering is Necessary. You may Depend on it that it Requires all your Exertion both in men and provisions to preserve this part of the Countrey altho this place and Albany abound in Flower; but in whose possession. I am, Sir, your Humble Servant

And'w McFarlan.

30 Apl. Sir, Since the above I learn that the killed in the whole amount to eight, and fourteen prisnors taken away; the rest returned.

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[No. 3668.]

*Colonel Snyder Reports the Marching of His Levies.*

Kingston, Aprl. 29th 1781. 11 aClock a. m.

Sir. Received yours of the 28th Instant the Levies Raised in my Regiment march'd the 25 Instant to our frontiers under the Command Coll: Albart Pawling & Lieut. Van Deusen, except a few who will join them within a day or two; a Party of the Levies are gone this morning to guard the family of Peter Short down from Woodstock. I was with Coll. Pawling yesterday for that Pupose; we have no late accounts from the frontiers since Capt. Abeel has been taken; the party that went in Pursuit of them are Returned, as I am informed last night without Success. Sir, I Remain your most obeident Hum'e Serv't

Joh's Snyder.

His Excellency George Clinton.

[No. 3669.]

*Orders in Regard to Levies, Supposed to be Issued to Major Van  
Bunschoten.*

Poukeepsie 30th April 1781.

Sir, The Levies for the Defence of the state raised in Dutchess County are to rendezvous at Fishkill with the least possible Delay, except those of Colo. Graham's Regiment, who have [been] ordered to march immediately & join the Regiment on the Frontier of Ulster County. Capt. Williams with his two Subalterns (Odel & Dyckman) have Orders to receive & take Charge of the Levies of Ludington & Field's Regiment. The whole including Ludington, Field's & Graham's are to be divided into three Parts, & distributed as follows, to wit: on the Frontier of Ulster & the other Third to compose Part of Colo. Willet's Regt. & are to repair to Albany. At the Foot, you have a List of the Officers appointed for the two Regts. residing in Dutchess County. These are to assist in collecting & mustering the Men. As soon as any Number shall have arrived at the Place of Rendezvous they must be forwarded with the utmost Expedition to their respective Places of Destination. You must be careful to receive none but able bodied Men fit for active service, armed, accoutred & provided agreeable to Law; reject Deserters from the British Service, & demand others in their stead. You will collect Returns of the number of men to be raised in each Regt. in Genl. Swartwoudt's Brigade and mark the Deficiencies if any. Copies of these you will transmit me as early as possible. Send a good Serjt. Corporal & twelve faithful Men to this Place as early as possible. I am &c.

[G. C.]

Pawling

Capt. Sackett, Leuts. Tucker & Moshier, West Chester;  
 Capt. Williams, Leuts. Odel & Dyckman, West Chester;  
 Capt. Codwise, Ab'm Odell, Capt. G. Livingston, Leuts. John  
 Oostrander.

Rich'd Dickenson, Hopkins, Paul Johnson, Do, Emanuel  
 Duel, Do.

Willett's

Capt. Anthony Whelp, Leuts. Bokee, Hopkins, P. Vandevooort,  
 Jun'r B'h'ff, Salkield, Hopkins;

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[No. 3670.]

*Lewis R. Morris Declares His Intention of Devoting His Life to the  
 Service of Arms.*

Claverack, 1st May 1781.

My dear Sir, Inclosed I transmit you two Letters of Recommendation, the one from General Rensselear, the other from my Father recommending Mr. Adam TenBroeck to one of the vacancies, in either of the continental Battalions. Mr Ten Broeck and myself should have waited upon your Excellency on this Subject, had not Papa intended going in a few days, which we thought might answer every purpose. His vouchers are so good that I think it will be useless to give you my knowledge of him. Since the year seventy six (in the course of which time, we have made several Excursions with the Militia together,) his behavior has allways been such as to entitle him to your Excellency's freindship, and every freind to his Country.

Relying entirely upon your freindship, not on any Merrit of

my own, excuse my soliciting your Interest for Promotion in the Military Line for myself; I am now in treaty for the purchase of a Company in Colonel Courtlandt's Regiment, and have been fortunate enough to procure the Consent of such Officers of the Regiment as are at Schenectady; the Situation of the rest hinders me from knowing their Sentiments; A matter so unpresidented will doubtless meet with many Obstacles, so that before a final answer can be obtained, it may be too late, nay, I suspect it will be necessary to get into the Line as an Ensign in order to succeed; if your Excellency will, therefore, be kind enough to have me appointed to one of those vacancies, it may be in my Power, either in my present view, or on some future Occasion to purchase a Company. My intention is to dedicate my Life to the profession of arms, and having procured my father's consent, must beg leave to trouble you for your good Offices and advice, and tho late in the day, I hope to share in the Military honours of my Country; and be fortunate enough to establish some professional Reputation; My Respectfull Compliments waits upon Mrs. Clinton and the Children, and am, with much Sincerity, your Excellency's most Obedient Humble Servant

Lewis R. Morris.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

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[No. 3671.]

*Lieutenant Weissenfels' Account for Recruiting Expenses.*

The State of N. York to Sundercys. Dr. by Charles Fredrick Weissenfels, Lieut. of the 2nd N. York Regt. from Dec'r 19th 1780 to May 1st, 1781 when on Recruiting Service:

	£	S	d
John Dykeman from the 26th of Dec'r 1780			
to the 14th of March 1781	646	16	0
Robert Henery from Do to Do	110	4	0
Joshua Hyat from the 15th of March 1781 to			
the 27th of April	798	6	0
John Hyat from Do to Do	194	0	
To my Owne Expences	568	0	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£2317	6	0
Cr. By Cash, Rec'd from Major Quackinbush			
D. Q. M. G. at Albany	160	0	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	Continental Currency £2157	6	0
	C. F. Weissenfels, Lieut. 2d N. Y. Regt.		

[No. 3672.]

*Colonel Ludinton Narrates His Troubles and Asks for More Field Officers.*

Fredericks Burgh, May 1st 1781.

Honoured Sir, I was yesterday a Comeing to wait on your Excellency, but hearing of my little Son (who is at School at Danbury) laying very dangerous with the plurycy, was obliged to turn my Course that way, for which Reason obliges me to commit my Errand in writing. Your Excellency no doubt has been inform'd of our troubles of late in Regard of a large party of Robbers being for near four weeks past near me in the mountains, which has occasioned me in some measure of being behind hand in turning out my men for the nine months Service, for the chief part of my Regiment has been out ever since the Robbers came among us, And, Sir, were you to be fully acquainted

with the Difficulty I now labour under you would think is impossible for me to do it, as I have but one field officer, which is Major Robinson who lives so near the lines that he has enough to take care of himself, The Circumstances of my wife and family renders it inconvenient for me to move amediately if I intend to save my life, or anything for my families support. My Captains seeing the Distresses that is daily comeing upon themselves by Reason of haveing their Sergents sued and torn to pieces for what Needsessity required them to do among the tories, while we was under the authority of Committees, and many of their best men are beat and robed by persons who say they are Refugees from below, It is only for them to call a man a tory, be him ever so good a man, himself, wife, and Children, gits beat in such a manner that he's obliged to turn out his Substance to save their lives. And at best the Regiment are very poor when compared with other Regiments and are call'd on to raise an eaquil number with the others, when I can affirm that ten farmers in Coll. Brinckerhoff's Regiment is able to purchase the whole of mine. In this uneaquil way, I have been obliged to turn out my men untill they are so much impoverish'd that they almost dispair.

It seems the power of Earth and Hell was let loose against me and my Regiment, Even one of the most abundant Ruffins is indulged to hold me up to public view for Cowardice, for challenging him to fight a Duel. It is what I never thought on, neither did he think I did, but was let loose upon me by the Instigation of a set of Ruffins who Conspired together to take my life, and I knowing this Kees to be a transient person who had neither Connection, Credit, Money or friends, nor no place of Residence here, that it was out of my power to get Recom-

pence from such a fellow as he, unless it was by giving him a flogging, and that he had put out of my power by Secreting himself. This being my Situation shall expect from your Excellency some Directions and advice by a line that will be best for me to doe. I something expect that General Swartwout will wait on you this day, who will be able to state some of the Difficulties I have mentioned, and wether it will not be best to anex my Regiment to some other Regiment, or give me some field officers, who in time of turning out my men, will be better able and more willing to assist me. Am, Sir, with due Regard your Excellency's Most Obed't and verry Hum'e Serv't

Henry Ludinton.

His Excellency George Clinton, Esqr.

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[No. 3673.]

*Colonel Hopkins Insists upon Resigning.*

Amenia, May 1st 1781.

Sir, I wrote to your Excellency about a fortnight ago to acquaint you that the Classes of my Regiment were to Deliver their men yesterday, and requested an officer might be sent to recive them agreeable to general orders, but no man or orders came. I was greatly non-plushed & knew not what to do, but have mustered the men and ordered them to meet at Peleg Tabors near Mr. David Johnston, on Saturday this week at 10 OClock to march immediatly off, when and where I hope your Excellency will give some one orders to take care of them. I fear they will not all appear at that time as no one has the care of them. I fear they will desert, they have got their bounties.

Sir, I must still insist on resigning my Military commission as I am wore out with the trouble & expence of it. I think it unaccountable that the vacancies in my Regt. are not filled up,



when I have made so many returns & requests, and have had no adjutant for near 2 years and orders to send to my Capts. very often indeed. Sir, I desire if any officers are appointed this way to go with these Levies, I might be informed by the bearer who they be; pray excuse the want of Paper for I have wrote up 4 quire in a short time lately in orders &c. all gratis, and know not where I can get more. I have collected some money from the delinquent classes for during the war. I am, Sir, your most Obed't Serv't

His Excellency Gover'r Clinton.

Roswell Hopkins, Colo.

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Sir, In answer to yours of the 1st Instant I have to inform you that Lieuts. Johnson, Ducl & Becker of your Regt. are appointed Officers in the Levies. These will have orders to receive & march your Quota to the Place of Rendevonz. The last I received from you I answered a Day or two after it came to Hand. My Letter was forwarded by Judge Paine. If you apply to the Secry. I imagine you will find that the appointments for your Regt. agreeable to your Return have long since been perfected. Agreeable to a Notification in the public News Papers the Council mett at this Place on the 26th Instant. It woud have been proper to have applièd to them at that Time either to have had the vacancies in your Regt. filled up or to have made your Resignation as they only have the Power of doing the former or of accepting of the latter. I am &c.

[G. C.]

There may be some other gentlemen residing within your Regt. appointed officers for the Levies but of this I cant be certain as I am neither acquainted with its Limits or their Places of Residence. [To Colonel Ludinton.]

[No. 3674].

*General Return of Provisions up to 1 May 1781. No. 1.*

A General Return of Provisions purchased and delivered under the Direction of Udney Hay Agent for the State of New York from August 1780 to 1st of May 1781.

By whom Purchased	Species and Quantity Purchas'd										Species and Quantity Deliver'd														
	Flour			Wheat			Fat Cattle			Fresh Beef			Salted Beef			Fresh Pork			Salted Beef			Fresh Pork			
	Barrels	Cwts.	Qrs.	Qrs.	Busbels	Number	Pounds	Pounds	Barrels	Pounds	Barrels	Pounds	Barrels	Pounds	Barrels	Pounds	Barrels	Pounds	Barrels	Pounds	Barrels	Pounds	Barrels	Pounds	
Isaac Stontenburgh & Rich'd Lush	159	586	2 19	2,808	49	23,758	420	1,760	2 24	49	23,758														
Peter Van Ness	182	330	1 14	2,218	157	54,742	271	508	2 2	151	53,300														
Dirick Wynkoop	828	1,453	2 20	984	93	29,995	901	1,579	3 16	93	29,972														
Hendrick Welckoff	23	345	1 05 1	34	3,921	467	232,492	2,511	2,601	125	853														
David Van Ness	164	19	3 25	6,192	116	39,965	1,065	1,919	6	6	36,841														
John Fish	220	558	1 17	1,512	106	48,637	765	1,391	1 3	3	2	4													
James Monnell				525			100	199	11	13															
John Stags				57			280	545	1 8	154	69,765														
Joseph Wood				17			811			188	68,043														
Melanctor Smith				322			130	47,349		62	26,596														
Leonard Brunck				217			65	26,796		13															
John J. Bleeker				17			13	239	1 22	13															
Dirick Swat				470			535	17,698		56															
Henry J Van Ranselaar	25	242	4 0	2 1			25	242	4 0	1 1	230														
William Colbrath				488			205	406	2 1	266	488														
	48	2,614	6,720	1,134	24,215	1,597	695,855	3,021	14	6,018	5,524	878	6,154	12,820	1 4	3	2	4	1,653	556,770	2,511	9,6,201	805	12	

Udney Hay, State Agent.



[No. 3676.]

*General Return of Hay up to 1 May, 1781. No. 3.*

General Return of Hay &c. purchased and Delivered under the Direction of Udney Hay Agent for the State of New York from August 1780 to 1 May 1781.

By whom purchased	Weight Hay purch'd				Straw purch'd	Weight of Hay Deliver'd				Straw Delivered
	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	lbs.	Bundles	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	lbs.	Bundles
Benjamin Lightbourn	83	1				83	1			
Matthew Dubois	182	18	1	17	5,044	182	18	2	14	5,044
William Brown	57	15	2			57	15	2		
Messrs Sickles & Person	35	5				35	5	2		
Ebenezer Woodhull	137	19	3	17		81	1	3	17	
Cornelius Bradford	68	11				68	11			
Judah Burton	185	16	1	10		158	8	2	36	
William Keese	43	18	3	8		35	8	3	8	
Philip Lansing	259					259				
John Haynes	134	19				134	19			
Daniel Lier	258	5	3	2		258	5	2	2	
John Stagg	111	1	1	12	1,357	111	1	1	12	1,357
	1,558	12	2	10	6,401	1,465	17	0	23	6,401

Udney Hay, State Agent.

[No. 3677.]

*James Clinton Predicts Desolation for the Country Unless Provisions Are Supplied to the Army and Desertions Suppressed.*

Albany, May 1st 1781.

Dear Sir, Capt'n Machin informs me that he has enlisted a number of the nine month's Levies for the Continental Bounty alone, who are to join him at the Expiration of their first term of service. As these men are originally intended for Capt. Moody's Company at Fort Schuyler, I would send them there immediately, if it met your approbation.

Fort Schuyler as well as every other Post in the Department is in want of an immediate Supply, and if a Convoy was ready, there is not a Batteau man now in Service; so that Duty must

be committed to Persons who are ignorant of it. The Spirit of Desertion has prevailed; and if Provision is not very speedily sent up, every Post in the Department must inevitably be abandoned and the Country desolated.

Accounts have been received that the Enemy have sent three Ships to Crown Point. What Situation am I in to make opposition to a party, if they thought fit to send one into the Country.

Some inconsiderable Damage was done on Bowman's Creek last week. Particulars have not yet come to hand. I am, Dear Sir, yours affectionately

James Clinton.

Gov'r Clinton.

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[No. 3678.]

*Representative L'Hommedieu on Clothing and Finances.*

Middletown, May 2, 1781.

Dear Sir, I was honoured with your Letter, favoured by Major Woolsey, a few days ago. I did not see him, nor the messenger by whom the Letter came, so that I could not at that Time return you an answer. I wrote a Line to him at Hartford, which I heard he received, which no doubt he has informed you of. I beg you will not think that I have been unmindful of your Commission; every thing being so extravagently dear in this part of the County, I thought it not advisable to purchase, especially when I made no doubt you could be well suited with such articles as you wanted out of the goods sent on to you by Major Davis which will come vastly cheaper. I wrote to you by him, desiring that you would take any articles you might want for yourself and family; had I been well, I should have

taken out such things as I thought would be agreeable to you & have put them separate, but 'tis likely you will better suit yourself than I could have done. I have advanced my own monies, & stand engaged for considerable sums on account of this Cloathing, so that there cannot be any difficulty in your taking what you want, keeping account of the same, in order for settlement (if necessary) when we see each other. I am informed today that more Cloathing is ready, which tis likely will soon come on after Major Davis's Return. I am at a loss how to act respecting the procuring monies for the use of the State on my personal security or account, since the appointment of Comissioner, and should be glad of your advise. I would not by any means be thought to interfere in their Business. I have taken measures since my Return Home for procuring considerable sums which I am incouraged will be ready in June. I can now easily counteract the orders if it should be judged expedient.

Captain Norton, the Bearer of this & who is now with me, is desirous of obtaining a Commission to cruise the Sound in an armed Boat; as he is out of Business without any means to support his Family I believe such a Commission would be profitable to him, as he might (if permitted) bring a number of Families from Long Island who are selling their Estates in order to remove into the more interior Part of the state of New York. I have no suspicions that Captain Norton will abuse any Commission, and his having one may be advantagious to the Public as well as to himself.

Tomorrow comes on the Tryal here for Goods & Cloathing taken from the whig Inhabitants of Long Island to the amount of . . . . . should the owners loose them in this Court, they

will appeal to the Court of Appeals, & try the validity of the Commission of the Governor & Council of this State. One of the owners (Mr. David Gardner) desires me to mention to you, that he expects soon to wait on your Excellency for Permission to bring of his Family in order to remove into the state; as he is a friendly Person I conclude there will be no objection in granting him his request.

I conclude you have received the monies from Mr. Hobert which I am informed was about 700—(?) I should be glad he would send me an acc't of the sums and the Persons from whom received as I understand some if not all of them expect to receive my obligations for the same.

I have not yet recovered from my lameness occasioned by a fall from a Carriage, tho' I am much better than I have been. Mrs. L'Hommedieu returns her Compliments to Governor Clinton and is not a little alarmed at his mentioning Mr. L'Hommedieu's little ones, as she has had heretofore no suspicions of his having any abroad. I am, s'r, with sentiments of Esteem & respect your Excellency most Hum. Ser't

Ezra L'Hommedieu.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

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[No. 3679.]

*A Land Transaction Between the Governor and Gerard Bancker.*

Albany, 2d May 1781.

Sir, The time for settling the Business with Philip Rensselaer being just expired, and the other persons concerned therein being unprepared to do their parts, there was a necessity (in order to avoid the penalty,) for Mr. Rensselaer & me to compleat the Business without the assistance of the others, I

have, therefore, given him the necessary certificate in your behalf that the writings may be compleated, which I hope will meet with your approbation. I am still willing to bear such a proportion as your Excellency chooses, therein or none at all, just as you like. I am respectfully, Sir, Your most Humble Serv't

Gerard Bancker.

[To G. C.]

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Pokeepsie 18th May 1781.

D'r Sir, I am favoured with yours of the 2d Instant & am much oblided to you for your attention to my Business. It is perfectly agreeable to me that you should have Part of the Land & I leave it to yourself to determine whether a Third or half. I am with great Regard your most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

[To Gerard Bancker.]

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[No. 3680.]

*Preparations Made to Capture Certain Persons on their Way to New York.*

Pokeepsie 2d May 1781.

Dear Sir, The Bearer, Mr. John Elsworth, informs me that last Night he happened to fall in with a certain Owen Burnes, between Goshen & New Burgh, who discovered his Intentions of going to New York & that the Persons whose Names you have below with several others had agreed to go with him. Mr. Elsworth secured Burnes at New Burgh & came on here to give me this Information. You will see the necessity of apprehending the other Persons concerned before they are apprized of the Fate of Burnes. I have, therefore, engaged Mr. Elsworth to return immediately to secure Burnes effectually & examine



Burnes more particularly respecting the others concerned with him, so as to ascertain their guilt & Places of Residence &c. And I must take the Liberty of requesting, that you will immediately take measures for apprehending securing & sending them to this Place, as calling out the Militia for this Purpose will not be attend with sufficient secrecy or Dispatch; his Excellency on application I am perswaded will give you a small party for the Purpose. I am &c.

G: C:

Major Logan.

Owen Burne—taken by Elsworth

John McGowen, Robt. Yeomans, David Glen, Lidias Cole,  
Henry Broen, Wm. Burns, Charles Burns.

[No. 3681.]

*Thomas Shoemaker, of German Flatts, Petitions to Have His Wife  
and Children, Prisoners with the Enemy, Exchanged.*

The Humble Petition of Thomas Shoemaker one of the Inhabitants of the German Flatts Humbly Sheweth,

That your Petitioner since the present hostilities have commenced against Great Britan; have been reduced to a very low State. by being driven from his Habitation, with the loss of almost all his cattle. That on the Fifth of August last, his Wife and two children was made Prisoners by the Savage Enemy; which has left him in a Deplorable Situation with three children. Your Petitioner humbly begs your Excellency would please to point out to him some means by which he may have his Wife and Children restored to him again; as the difficulty attending him with three small Children left without a Mother, makes the situation of your Petitioner truly Miserable and if there is any way or means to have them restored again through your Excellency to your Petitioner. Your Petitioner as in Duty bound, will ever Pray

Thomas Shoemaker.

German Flatts May 2d 1781.

[No. 3682.]

*Adjusting the Bounties for Colbreath and Norton's Levies—The  
Governor's Precautions.*

Albany, May 2d 1781.

D'r Col: Mr. Colbreath is pressing me to settle with him the Bounty of 50 Dollars each for 9 Levies he recruited, and asserts

that the certificate and other vouchers to entitle him to the money, were left by him at your office; as the men to whom the money remains due, are clamorous, I wish to have the matter finished, but cannot do it till I have the vouchers; will you be so good as to send them up to me, as soon as you can, and if you have the vouchers of Capt. Norton, of Wisenfelts' Regiment, and will send them up with the Governor's Receipt on them for the money he paid Norton, I will repay the Governor the sum he paid, or give him Credit for it; the 3000 Dollars I formerly paid Capt. Colbreath I mean on a settlement with him to deduct, and then I shall not charge the Governor for it.

You never sent me the little Extract of a Law from Mr. Harpur, nor the Buttons. I am, yours &c.

G. Bancker.

To Col. Benson.

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Extract from Robt. Benson's Letter of the 18th May 1781 to Mr. Treasurer Bancker vizt.:

"By his Excellency's Orders & agreeable to your Request, I transmit you enclosed Returns certified by the command'g officers of the 3d, 4th & 5th New York Cont'l Battalions, of the Recruits enlisted in those Regts. resectively by Capt. Norton & Lieuts. Colbreath & Connoly, to serve during the war which will serve as vouchers for the payment of the Bounty. I also enclose you Capt. Norton's Receipt for 455 Dollars paid to him, by the Gov'r, towards the Bounty of the Recruits enlisted by him together with his Receipt to you for 2000 Dollars & Lieut. Colbreath's Receipts for 3000 Dollars. These last two Sums you will remember were advanced by the Gov'r's Orders & upon your producing him the Receipts now transmitted, he gave you

a Receipt for fifty Pounds & Emiss'n equal to the last above two Sums on acc't of his salary, so that he must be repaid or credited as well for these two Sums as for the 455 Dollars. The Gov'r observes by your Letter that Colbreath demands Bounty for nine men, whereas only seven are entitled to it, two having deserted & as such are marked on the Return. The Gov'r is not certain whether he did not make Colbreath some other advances &, therefore, wishes you to procure from him an acc't stated; as he took back that delivered in last winter. Colbreath's acc't of expences in recruiting is also enclosed. Norton's is not yet come to hand. As the enclosed Papers are the originals & the only vouchers his Excellency is possessed of respect'g this Business, he requests that you will make such entries & manage the matter so as that in case of accident he may not be put to any difficulty."

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[No. 3683.]

*General Scott Informed by the Governor that New York is Practically Unrepresented in Congress.*

Pokeepsie, 3d May 1781.

Sir, I have the Honor of inclosing you a Copy of a Letter I received yesterday from the President of Congress, by which you will be informed that at a Time when important & interesting Business requires a full Representation from all the States, this state is unrepresented, one Member only attending. I have made similar Transmissions to all the absent Members, and earnestly pressed their Immediate attendance; but I conceive it my Duty to mention that as Mr. Floyd has but lately returned from Congress; Mr. L'Homedieu is much Hurt by an accident

as to render him unable to Travel, & there is Reason to believe the Chancellor declines serving, I have not the least Hope of a Compliance. Unless, therefore, you give your attendance it is to be feared we shall remain unrepresented until the next Meeting of the Legislature. I have the Honor to be with great Respect, Sir, your most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

The hon'ble John Morin Scott, Esqr.

[No. 3684.]

*Mr. David Gardiner and Nathaniel Fanning Denounced and their Goods Condemned and Seized in Consequence.*

Middletown, May 3, 1781.

S'r, The Bearer, Mr. David Gardiner, will wait on your Excellency in order to obtain Permission to remove from Long Island with his Family & Effects into our state; some of his Effects are the remaining Goods not taken from him by Governor Trumbull's Commission; he has been a trader ever since the year 1772, and has always bore the Carecter of a Friend to the Cause, & has done a number of friendly acts during the war. The Goods taken from him were tryed & condemned yesterday on the Principal of his being a Subject of Great Britain, altho his attachment to the County was fully proved; one instance in particular was that he gave information last year to the Lieut. Governor of this state, of a Plan formed by the British last year to take him of, who lives near the sea shore; they produced an ex parte affidavit, that he had sold nine months ago, some articles to a person not named, who the deponent said belonged to Connecticut. This was sufficient with the jury to make him a British Subject & to forfeit his Estate; he has appealed to

Congress & I hope that court will do him justice & the others who have had their Goods condemned in simular circumstances.

At the same Time were condemned the Goods of Nathanel Fanning, son to Colo. Phinehas Fanning, which were Cloathing peculiarly adopted for the use of the army and purchased with an intent that the Troops of New York state should have the Benefit of them without pay till after the war; this was fully proved & not contradicted by their Council and that his Car-acter had always been friendly, but an ex parte affadavit, that he has parted with goods some time before to some People, names not mentioned, belonging to Connecticut, was sufficient to destroy his Carecter make him a British subject & condemn his Goods; he also has appealed; he tels me he must remove, he cannot pay for the Goods, and is apprehensive of a discovery for the use they were intended; he has some Goods secreted & thinks he could have more provided he could get permission to bring them of; their Design in getting a Permit from your Excellency is that they may more easily obtain one to come into & pass thro this state, from Governor Trumbull; whether they can succeed here or not I am not able to determine, if they cannot, they will not be worse of than they are.

Our Friends on the Island are in great Distress at present. They think the present conduct of this state is only a beginning of what they may expect; have you seen the late ordinance of Congress of the twenty seventh of March last? to me it is dark and intricate.

This much I will venture to predict, that except Congress will make some explanation the inhabitants of Suffolk County, will be universally plundered & destroyed in their Interest. Many, very many in this state take the ordinance to give such Liberty

& stand ready to execute what they say is intended. They doubt whether it can be done now or they must wait till after the first Day of November next; it was argued in Court that the present Commissions were consonant to the views of Congress by their late ordinance. I think our state ought to take some care of those unhappy People, which I trust the assembly will do at their next meeting. I write to you so often & so lengthly that I fear you will be tired of receiving my Letters. I am, s'r, with great Esteem & respect your Excellency's most obed't Serv't

Ezra L'Houmedieu.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

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[No. 3685.]

*Colonel Robert Cockran Submits a Plan to Surprise Buck Island.*

Fort Schuyler, 4th May 1781.

Sir, I am of the opinion, that an expedition against Buck Island, if successful, might be attended with good consequences, to our frontiers. I beg leave to lay before your Excellence, my plan, as follows; if two or three hundred of our best regular troops, well officered, was to be sent to this post, with a number of boats, sufficient to carry them, and to proceed down the Wood Creek, with one scaling Ladder in each boat, and to enter the Onyda Lake in the night, the men to have their provision cooked, and not to make any fires, whilst advancing; if this plan, was well conducted, I make no doubt, but they might arrive undiscovered, and as the garrison, is not strong, there would be the greatest probability, of carrying it by surprise; in this case the oars must be muffled, with green hides or old clothes; but no preparations, of this kind, ought to be

made, untill the boats arrived at this post; the only objection, to our arriving undiscovered, is that we must pass the Oswego Falls in the daytime; but I think, it would be ten chances to one, if ever we was discovered, as no enemy, resides near that place; if a plan of this kind, should meet with your approbation, I wish you to sollicite, the Commander in chief, for my haveing the Command; a good gide or two, would be necessary, as I never was there. I am, with the greatest respect, your Excellence's most obedient humble Servant.

Robt. Cochran.

Governor Clinton.

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[No. 3686.]

*Captain Doughty Makes a Firm Demand for Clothing for Lamb's Regiment.*

Sir, We have been informed that a Quantity of Cloathing is collected at Poughkeepsye for the Benefit of the officers belonging to this State. I am requested by some of the officers of Coll. Lamb's Regiment, who are much in want of that necessary article, to enquire of your Excellency whether the Fact is so or not; & if so, when it will be issued; what are the articles, & who will be entituled to receive them; whether the particular officers who were Inhabitants of the State, or the Regiment at large as it is become the Quota of the State since the arrangement of January last. Our Reason for being thus particular, arises from our great want of every article of Cloathing, & we would, therefore, wish to know the particular articles of Cloathing, if any, that the State will be enabled to supply us with, that we may make use of means to procure what may be wanting.

Capt. Lt. Hubbel our Reg. Clothier, has procured an order from Mr. Black upon Gilbert Levingston, for some donation clothing for the soldiers; he will wait upon your Excellency to know the Terms upon which they are to be received by the men, whether as a state gratuity, or as part of their Continental cloathing for the present year; if the former, the officers of the York companies would beg leave to suggest to your Excellency, that as their Companies have never received any Donations of cloathing, & as the Connecticut companies who form part of the Regt. have repeatedly been supplied from their State, they think that the one has a fairer Demand for the present supply than the other, especially as it is but small. I have the Honour to be, with the greatest Respect, your Excellency's most Obed't Serv't

Jno. Doughty.

Park of Artillery 4 May 1781.

His Excellency, Gov'r Clinton.

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[No. 3687.]

*Sheriff Nicoll, of Orange, Gathers in Nine Toreys—"A Set of Cursed Villings."*

Goshen, May 4th 1781.

Dear Governor, Since I saw you I have bin employed in taking up Toreys, and have now nine in actual custody; they are a set of cursed Villings, which have from the first of this ware, bin purswading peopal to go to the enemy, harboring expresses to and from the Indians, and conducting peopal to New York, which you will se by the inclosed examminations, which I have borrowed of the Jesticces for your purrusal, which you will be pleased to send back by the Bairer, Mr. Wells. There is one



John More, now in goal, who came out of New York to inlist Men; he inlisted seven negrows, one of which informed his master, and by that means a plan was laid for some white men to go to New York with him in order to be witnesses aganst him, and he ingaged to be their Pilat, and set out with them, but they tuk him up, and I have him now in Irons; if he is to be tried by a Court Marchal I hope you will order it as soone as Possable. Inclosed you have a notification to the judges which you will direct Mr. Wells wheare to carry it. I am, in great Haste, your Most Obediant Servent

Isaac Nicoll.

His Excellency George Clinton.

Poughkeepsie May 5th 1781.

D'r Sir, It does not appear clearly from the Examinations, or your Letter, that any of the Persons mentioned therein are subjected to Trials by C't martial. Brown, if he was found secretly lurking is, & if so I will immediately order a C't martial for his Trial. A special C't will soon be held for the Trial of the others. I return you the Examinations, & remain, D'r Sir, your most obed't serv't

[G. C.]

Isaac Nicoll, Esqr. Sherif &c. &c. &c.

[No. 3688,]  
*Calendar of Military Prisoners in Poughkeepsie Gaol.*  
 Calendar of Prisoners Confined in the goal of the County of Dutchess. May 4th 1781.

	Cause of Commitment	by whom Committed	When committed
James Holmes	Too Dangerous to go at large	Commissioners for Conspiracies	November 19th 1779
Francis Van Dyck	Do	Do	Nov'r 30th 1780
Richard Williams	imprison of Treason	Supreme Court	
Isaac Huddleston	Felony	Sheriff	
James Storm	too Dangerous to go at large	Commissioners for Conspiracies	Decr. 30th 1781
Hendrick Myers	Inducing men in the British service	Peter Tappan Esquire	Jan'y 27th, 1781
Peter Ferris	Dangerous	Commissioners for Conspiracies	Feb'y 8th 1781
Henry Lewis	Suspicion of Felony	Jonathan Landon Esq.	March 6th 1781
Jacob Newman	for attempting to join the enemy	Commissioners &c.	do 10 1781
John Bennett	under sentence of Death		
John Vermilyer			
John Hogeboom			
Peter Hogeboom Jr.			
Thomas Bowerman			
Jonathan Trip	Comforting, aiding and abetting Robbers	James Vanderburgh & Morris Pleas Esquires	Apr. 4th 1781
Jonathan Vincent			
Lodwick Shear			
Matthew Buree			
Catherine Buice			
Sarah Hogeboom			
Nehemiah Lounsbery			
William Tucker	Supposed Cow Boys	Commissioner &c	Apr. 9th 1781
Abraham Whitmore	an Enemy to the United States	Do	Apr. 10th do
Abraham Ladew Jr.	aiding and betting the enmys of this State	Thomas Storm Esquire	do 14th do
Sylvanus Travis			
William Adams	Suspicion of Felony	Samuel Dodge & Matthew Patterson Esquirs	Apr. 20th 1781
Major Adams			
Absohan Nelson			
Isaac Stokum	a deserter from the 7th Penselvania Ret.	Wm. Pearce Esq.	Apr. 20th 1781
Peter Honger	Prisoner of War		
Francis Farto	Solomon Baker belongs to Robinson's Corps	Commissioners &c.	Apr. 20th 1781
Solomon Baker	David Burtch Concealing feeding &	Martin Wilele Esq.	Apr. 25th 1781
David Burtch	William Burtch piloting the above	Thomas Storm Esq.	Apr. 26th 1781
William Burtch	Prosser	Do	Apr. 27th 1781
Ichabud Prosser			
John Jny Clous	Suspicion of Felony	Commissioners &c.	Apr. 29th
Jesse Purdy	for Comforting and harbouring Samil. Tiddle	Do	Apr. 30th 1781
John Baker	refusing to give surety for his appearance at court		
John Jaccoks			
Sylvanus Hughson			
Jacob Myer			

[No. 3689.]

*Major Ten Broeck Reports Further Delay in Forwarding Levies—  
The Governor's Reply.*

Manor Livingston, ye 4th May 1781.

Sir, In persuence of your Excellency's general orders for the quota of men from this Regiment for the nine months Levies, after haveing classed the men, I ordered them to have their men ready to take the field, armed & equipt, according to law on the 23d of last month, at a place I appointed, and requested of General Clinton previous to s'd appointed time, that I would be glad if an officer of said Levies could attend at said time and place to receive the quota of men from our Regiment, when the General informed me that he knew of but two officers that where then appointed, and that they could not be spaired from Albany, as they where wanted there to receive the men that where brought agreeable to my orders to classes; twenty men appeared on said time ready to take the field, but as no officer appeared to take charge of the men, I was under the necessity of dismissing them untill further orders, Since Capt. Peter Elsworth acquainted me that he was appointed a Cap'n of said Levies, and that if I would order the class to have their men ready on this day he would take charge of them and pass his receipt for the men to the classes, I, accordingly, ordered them to be at a certain Place this day ready to take the field, well arm'd and equipt, according to law ready to march from the spot. But to the great disappointment of me & the Classes of the regement who had men ready to march and would be glad to be rid of them, I rec'd a Line from Capt. Elsworth last evening, acquainting me, that he had entered into recognizance to attend court at Kingston, wherefore, could not be here to take

charge of the men, and desired that I would send the men up by the bearer Ens'n Handricks, which I did not thinck adviseable, as Ens'n Handricks had no warrent from your Excellency to authorise him to pass his receipts for the men; wherefore, the men must have remained at the risk of the classes, untill they passed muster, and as I could not be certain, when an officer might attend to take charge of the men, I have thought proper to dismiss them untill furdur orders, or if they did not receive orders untill Friday next, that they should be ready on said day at an appointed place to take the field, and hope I may not be disappointed again for the want of officers to take charge of the men. The bearer, hereof, is a man which General Rauselear has recommended to your Excellency for a Leut. in the nine months Levies; should be glad if there is a vacency left, that he might have a Leut's Commision, as there is a Vacency for a Leut. in the Company he belongs too. Joseph Laurence, of this Regement, it appears has had some incouragement from your Excellency, that if he ingaged in the nine months sarvice, your Excellency, would except of him as one of your gaurds, wherefore, he requested me to acquaint your excellency, that he had ingaged with a Class who had disappointed him and that he had now ingaged with another Class and . . . . . be with your excellency by the latter end of next week. I am, with great esteem your excellency's obedient and very Humble Sar't

Samll. Ten Broeck.

To his Excellency Governor Clinton.

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D'r Sir, The appointm't of officers was so far compleated before Genl. Renselaer's Recommendation reached me as to have prevented the appointment. A Resignation, since, how-

ever, leaves Room for him & I have accordingly ordered him to receive the Levies of your Regt. I am surprized at Capt. Elsworth's conduct. It merrits reprehension. Lawrence will belong to Pawling's Regt. & has encouragem't to be of the Guard at this Place. I am &c. &c.

[G. C.]

[To Major Ten Broeck.]

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[No. 3690.]

*Major McKinstry Recommends Doctor De Lano as a Surgeon in the Levies.*

Clavarak District, 4th May 1781.

Sir, As Doct'r Delano who was appointed for the three years service will most likely be out of Employ in the publick service untill after the Expiration of the Eight month service, I think as he has dispos'd his Domestick affairs in redeanness for the army, that it is reasonable he should have a birth in the Eight month Campaign, as he is a person Qualified for the Buisness and used to the service, and a grate inclination to serve his Country in his Capacity. I do, therefore, Recomend him to your Excelency for that purpose. I am, ever, sir, with the greatest Esteem, your Exelency's most obdt. & very Humbl. Serv't

Jo'n McKinstry.

N. B. Sir, if you think proper for to give the Doctor the Birth, you will please to grant him a warrant and send by the first oppertunity. I beg you, sir, to send & let me know where I shall apply to, or to who, for armes for the present service. His Exelency George Clinton, Esqr. Governor.

[No. 3691.]

## SUSPICIOUS CONDUCT ON THE GRANTS.

*General Schuyler's Summing up of the Situation to Governor Clinton  
—A Far from Encouraging Outlook to the Northward.*

Saratoga, May 4th 1781.

Dear Sir, Under cover of a letter from General Clinton of yesterday's date, I had the honor to receive your Excellency's favor of the 16th ult: with the several inclosures; both were delivered me by Mr. Fish, whom I have known for some years past as a man of good moral character and firmly attached to the cause of his country; Harris is an utter stranger to me; Fish informs me that since his return, Harris met, on the 29th ult: at Kingsbury with Thomas Sherwood and John Scouten, who had on that day arrived, from the enemy's shipping at Crown Point, but received no packet from them; they informed him they had come in order to prevail on some of the inhabitants to go to Canada; that a part of their party, was gone to the Scotch Patent, and another party to Palmertown; that he learnt from some of the inhabitants that a large number of the soldiers now here waited the arrival of a party from the enemy to mutiny, go off and join them; that the Grants had a body of men in readiness to march to Fort Edward and Skensborough as soon as the Committee which is to meet on Tuesday next have consented to a union with the grants. I have requested Fish to send for Harris and to meet me at this place on the 7th instant; when he arrives I shall carefully examine him, and if I find him intelligent, and have no reason to suspect that he is an imposture, shall put him into a train to acquire the full confidence of the enemy, that we may avail ourselves of any information he may receive, and obtain possession of any packets he may be

intrusted with, which will be disposed of agreeable to the general's request.

When I reflect that the people of the Grants are chiefly emigrants from the eastern states, that they have left behind them, their Fathers, Brothers, sons, and other relations, who must in common with others feel the consequences of their defection from the common cause, I do not know how to beleive that they are in league with the enemy. On the Contrary, when I daily learn that the Tories are removing from all quarters to reside with them, where report says they are well received, when I learn with certainty that more families are now actually settled at Skensborough, and these all from the Grants, than ever were there before, and that that place may be fairly considered as within the enemies lines, that Ethan Allen openly invites the inhabitants on the east side of Hudson's river down to its banks to annex themselves to the Grants and gives explicit assurances that they will not in that case be molested by the British, that the report is general, that the inhabitants of Granville who were on the point of moving into the interior part of the state, have since their junction with the Grants determined to remain, I say when all these circumstances are added to that of the negotiation last fall, and the recent intelligence of Harris, I confess my faith in the political virtue of these people is so staggered, as to be only supported by a hope that the bulk of the people are artfully misled by some of their leaders, who may make them believe that all their measures only tend to secure them against the claims of this state to the jurisdiction & soil. It is, however, a business of much too serious a nature to be slighted, and I shall spare neither pains nor expence to sift it to the bottom.

That the enemy intend to take post more to the south than were they are at present, I really believe, but I cannot imagine they mean permanently to do it on this side of Lake George,—should they fortify there at present, it must evidently be, with a design to take advantage of any movements of Sir Harry Clinton. A few days ago, I advised General Clinton that some of the British ships were arrived at Crown Point; as soon as I received that intelligence, I dispatched a trusty person, who will probably go on board, and learn as much of the enemy's intentions as the officers on board will communicate to him, whom they believe a Royalist. I expect his return by the 10th instant at farthest, and shall communicate to your Excellency the result of his enquiries.

When Colo. Van Dyke returns to this post, I shall advise with him respecting the corporal and party whom Harris says, released the party under Ensign Smith.

The garrison here has now been ten days without any meat, except what they procure by maroding; every eatable animal in this part of the Country is already expended, not a single scout can be kept out, and I fear that Harris's last account will speedily be verified, and that a great majority of the troops here will go off to the enemy, (they may move leisurely to Fort George or Skensborough and be there received into the enemies boats) unless provision is instantly procured for them. Flour, equal to about one hundred barrels, I have procured on my own account and have prevailed on the Schaktikoke people to furnish in advance their quota of the flour to be raised under the late act, (which I cannot learn has yet been sent to the supervizers or assessors) this will probably amount to forty or fifty barrels more.



There is still both beef and flour due on last year's assessment, and altho it has been said that all has been collected except from those who were assessed, and had none, yet, I certainly know that this is not the case. Colo. Hay, I think, should come up after leaving directions to forward all from below that can be procured there, especially beef. Only ten of the nine months men are arrived here; the inhabitants who had reassumed courage on the assurances which were given that troops would be sent up, are actually desponding and now begin rapidly to move. I even begin to think it far from eligible to remain here any longer myself, or to leave my servants here, I will, however, not move any thing but my best furniture, until towards the 20th of the month, and if by that time no assistance arrives I shall totally abandon this place.

I learn that the French troops are to march to the North river; if so General Washington may perhaps spare the remainder of our state line and some additional troops; should that be his intention, and your Excellency advised of it, let me intreat you to give me the earliest notice of it, that I may make the proper use of it amongst the inhabitants. I am, Dear Sir, with great esteem, your Excellency's most obedient Servant

Ph: Schuyler.

His Excellency Governor Clinton &c.

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[No. 3692.]

*General Clinton Convinced the Troops Will Abandon the Frontier—  
Tories Flocking Northward.*

Albany, May 5th 1781.

Dear Sir, I enclose a Letter to His Excellency, Genl. Washington, which I have left open for your Perusal, and request

you to seal and send it on with any thing else you may think proper to add on the alarming Subject.

From the present appearance, I am convinced the Troops will abandon the Frontier; it is absurd to suppose they can, or will exist, under their present Circumstances. However, let what may be the Consequences, I have nothing to reproach myself with; I have repeatedly call'd for assistance from every Quarter, but could obtain none.

Lush informs me that he has collected all the assessed wheat, but can procure none agreeably to the late Law pass'd for that purpose; he has written Mr. Stoutenburgh on the occasion.

I also send you a Copy of an Information left with me by Mr. Fish, which I have reason to depend on, as the disaffected Persons are flocking to the northern Frontiers.

I have been obliged to detain the Flag for a variety of Reasons, notwithstanding, the importunate Solicitation of Doctor Smith, and those nominated in the Flag. No less than four Packets from the Enemy have gon thro' this Town during the last winter. I am, Dear Sir, yours affectionately

James Clinton.

Gov'r Clinton.

#### FISH'S STATEMENT.

Agreeable to orders, I have been to the Frontier the Day after my arrival (which was the 29th Apl.) I was called on to see and consult with a Mr. Thomas Sherwood, and a John Stout on the 30th that Day arroved from the Shiping at Crown Point; no Packet was expected, but on a plan to seduce the Inhabitants to run into Canada and get inteligence; a part sent into the Scotch Patent this Party landed in South Bay. I learn'd from them there was another party gon into Palmer Town. I further

understand by the Inhabitants that there is a large number of the Soldiers at Saratoga, waiting to know when there is a party down, and will mutiny and go off, or privately slip to them; and likewise that the Grants are ready to garrison Fort Edward and Skeensborough, as soon as the Representatives of these revolted Districts meet to form the union which will be Tuesday the 8th May 1781. That Corpl. Schrim, Mecher, Gordonein, Stouten, and one whose name is not known, who were sent on a Scout last March to Lake George & South Bay, took a party of the Enemy with a Packet, but were prevailed on to liberate them with the Packet, by a Guinea each and two silk Handkerchiefs.

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[No. 3693.]

*Colonel Morris Graham's Levies.*

De'r Sir, The number of men Clased on my Regiment for the nine months, is 50, thirty of which will be musterd on Monday next; they will march immediate on being mustered; the others will march off on Thirsday next; the great searsity of money with the inhabitants has bin the principle Reason for my not Complying with the general orders sooner. I am, with great Esteam your Excellency's most obed't Humb. Serv't

Morris Graham, Col.

Rhynbeek, May 5 1781.

Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 3694.]

*Paul Johnson Declines Service in the Levies, but is Ordered to Temporary Duty as a Militia Officer by the Governor.*

To his Exelency George Clinton, Esqr. Governor &c.

S'r, I am informed by Colo. Hopkins that your Exelency, together with the Honourable Council of Appointment, have

seen fit to appoint me to serve in the new raised Levies this present Campaign, agreable to a Recommendation from Colo. Hopkins. Every favour of this Nature lays me under fresh obligations, but I must confess, that I think Colo. did not consult my Intrest when he wrote to your Exelency in favour of me, for although he is a Neighbour of mine, he did not so much as let me know any thing less or more, untill after he had returned my name to your Exelency, and in consequence of this way of proceeding I am laid under the disagreeable nesesity to desier the appointment may be reconsidered, as my Circumstances will not admit of my leaveing my family, for I expect that I shall be laid under the nesity to seek some place for Shelter in a few days for my self and Family, as I am at the mercy of a Landlord at present dureing pleasre.

I, therefor, take the earliest opportunity to acquaint your Exelency of my Circumstances and desier that I may be excused from this Tower of duty. I am exceeding sorry it is out of my power to serve the publick at this time, as it is always my delight to be in the service. I can asure your exelency that it is not Rank or any thing of that nature that I have to dispute, it is intierly my disagreeable circumstanes. I am, S'r, your Exelency's most obedient and most Humble Servent.

Amenia May 5 1781.

Paul Johnson.

Poughkeepsie, May 5th 1781.

Sir, The Council were lead to believe that Colo. Hopkins had consulted you before he recommended you as an officer for the levies & they were moved to make the appointin't in consequence of his Recommendation, & with a view of promoting the service. However, if your situation renders it so inconvenient

for you to engage in the service as you represent, you must be excused. At the same Time as an officer is wanted to collect the Levies from Colo. Hopkins' Regt. & march them to the Place of Rendezvous I must request, you, (as a militia officer) to execute this Business & then you will be at liberty to return home. I am &c.

G. C.

Mr. Paul Johnson.

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 [No. 3695.]
*Orders to Lieutenant Hendricks.*

H'd Quarters, Poughkeepsie May 6th 1781.

Lieut. Hendricks will act as a Lieut. in Colo. Willet's Regt. of Levies, and collect & receive the Levies from the Manor Regt. and immediately march them to the Place of Rendezvous at Albany; he will accept of none but able bodied men fit for active service & who are armed & equipped accord'g to Law. Deserters from the British army are to be rejected.

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 [No. 3696.]

*Judge Robert Yates Asks for a Respite for Lampman, Convicted of Carrying Counterfeit Money.*

Albany May 6th 1781.

Sir, Wilhelmus Lampman was last April term, tryed and convicted for bringing from Long Island 700 Dollars of counterfeit paper money knowingly, and his execution ordered on the thirty first instant.

The proof against him arose from his confession made at different times. From this it appeared he was an Inhab't [of] .....ackie, [Coxsackie ?] who in the year 1777, joined the enemy while they were in Hudson's river, and remained with

them until this spring, when he quitted Long Island with intent to return home, and to surrender himself. That near Ancram, in the M. Livingston, he was met by a Captain of militia, and on suspicion was apprehended, and searched and the couterfiet money found, which he pretended he got from the Inh'ts of the Island, but denied knowing that it was couterfiet.

Before the Chief Justice he afterwards on his examination declared he had received the money of one Scott, on the Island.

Upon this proof he was found guilty, altho' from its defect in making out more circumstantially the scienter there was room for an acquittal.

The Scott mentioned in his confession, I have heard is an Inhab't of this state, who at times goes on the Island, and is expected at Claverack in about 14 days. From him possibly, was he examined, the truth might be found.

If Brother Hobart (whom I expect to be at Poughkeepsie) and who attended the Tryal should agree with me in sentiment, then I would recommend Lampman, to your Excellency for a respite of his Execution, for a month or two longer for the reasons above. I am, with the greatest respect your Excellency's Most obt. hum. Serv't

Robert Yates.

His Excellency George Clinton, Esqr.

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[No. 3697.]

*Washington's Vigorous Measures for Provisioning Frontier Posts.*

Head Quarters New Windsor, May 7th 1781.

Dear Sir, I had the honor to receive, last night, your Excellency's Letter of the same date.

In consequence of Brigad'r General Clinton's information of the 30th Ulto. I instantly ordered 50 Barrels of flour, & 34 of

Meat (being every Barrel of the latter we had on hand) to be sent to Albany; for a partial relief of the Garrison of Fort Schuyler. I know it was very inadequate, but it was our all, since which not a Barrel of salted Provision has arrived.

I have now directed 100 Barrels of flour (out of 131 which is our whole magazine) to be immediately transported to Albany. This supply, shall be followed by another of meat, if any quantity should come in from the Eastward. In the mean time, I have written, some days since, to General Clinton to draw (by military coercion if necessary) whatever supplies have been collected for the Continent, from all the Counties of Massachusetts most contiguous to him; I have also empowered him, to procure Fish by exchanging salt for them. Whatever more, within the limit of my ability, can be suggested, or done, for the security of Fort Schuyler, and the protection of the frontier, shall be most seriously attended to, and strenuously attempted by your Excellency's most Obedient, and very Humble Servant

Go. Washington.

P. S. I shall be extremely happy to see you, in order to converse freely on the subject of the Troops & Frontiers of this State.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

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[No. 3698.]

*Petition in Behalf of Zechariah Storey.* [Omitted.]

[No. 3699.]

*Washington Reports to Congress What He Has Done for the Frontier and Declares Unless a Decided Change Occurs, It Will be Impossible to Keep the Army Together.*

Extract of a letter from General Washington:

“ May 8th 1781.

Your Excellency will perceive by copies of letters from General Heath of the 6 instant and from brig'r genl. Clinton of the 30th April, and 4th instant, to what an alarming situation we are reduced at these posts and on the northern frontier. Upon the receipt of genl. Clinton's letter of 30th ult. I upon the 5th sent off to Albany 34 barrels of beef (which was every ounce in the magazine) and 50 barrels of flour. I am now upon receiving the letter of 4th sending off 100 out of 131 barrels in the magazine, of meat I have not a barrel to send. The Quarter Master is unable to transport what is at the distant magazines and the States neither do that nor send on beef cattle agreeably to requisition. I am sorry that I am obliged so often to wound the feelings of Congress with accounts of our distressed situation on the score of provisions, but duty calls upon me to represent what it is not in my power by my utmost exertions to prevent. Of this I am certain, that if there is not a very great and sudden change of measures, it will be next to impossible to keep the army together.”

[No. 3700.]

*Colonel Udny Hay Speaks of the Battle at Ninety Six and of Rumors that the English Propose to Leave New York.*

Philadelphia, 8th May 1781.

Sir, I am much affraid your Excellency may think my Conduct in staying here so long very reprehensible; it gives myself



much uneasiness, and yet when I reflect on the evil consequences which much result to the State as well as the public from a farther delay in the settlement of the public accounts, I cannot think I would be justifiable in coming away till I have obtained some answer to the Questions I have stated on that subject now laying before a Committee of Congress, who confess the necessity of answering them, and are to meet tomorrow morning for the purpose; a sense of duty added to inclination will render my journey home as expeditious as possible after my business is finishd. I have been much obliged to our Duane for his kind attention to my every application, but the very mode in which my business is obliged to be conducted occasions delays which cannot be prevented.

I cannot allow myself to suppose I shall not quit this place by Saturday at farthest, and have, therefore, written to a Friend at Trenton to get into his own charge the paper I bespokè at that place for printing the money on, that I may not be disappointed in a matter I know to be of so much consequence to the State; I shall contrive some means or other for bringing it on with me.

It is reported and believed that the Enemies post at Ninety Six is carryd and they to the amount of near four hundred made Prisoners, but there is no official intelligence of this rec'd as yet.

About twelve hundred of the Pensylvania line has marchd to the northward.

Various are the opinions of the Politicians here about the Enemies movements in New York; it is imagined by many they design to evacuate that place. I have the Honour to be, with every sentiment of respect, your Excellency's most obedient and very humble Servant

Udny Hay.

Governour Clinton.

[No. 3701.]

*Major Van Bunschoten Reports the Levies Come in Slow.*

Fishkeels, 9th May 1781.

D<sup>r</sup> Governor, I am sorrow to acquaint you that the Levies come in slow. I will not be able to make a report of the Delinquents untel Monday next. I shall dispatch them to thare respective places of Destination as sune as a softian number arives & offisers to march them.

I send you by Leut. Levinston, five men & a good ser't. I think the remainder will be at your Quarters this weeke. I am, your Ex'ly most obt. Hb. Srt.

E. V Bunschoten.

His Ex'ly Governor Clinton.

N. B. I beg indulgens may be granted to the sarg't of your gard to com dow one day this week to sittel his Business.

[No. 3702.]

*General Scott Gives Reasons for his Unwillingness to Attend Congress at This Time.*

Fish Kill, May 10th 1781.

Sir, On Sunday the 6th I was honored with the Receipt of your favor of the 3d instant. In answer to which, permit me to observe, that tho' my Health is sufficiently restored to enable me as well as ever to attend on the public Business, and my Inclination strongly prompts me to it; yet I have several reasons to deter me from an immediate attendance at Congress. I was on that Service & in going and returning, about 10 Months; during which I expended, and I conceive not unnecessarily, about 57,500 Dls. (exchange on an Equation of Time about 70 for one) amounting to about £328 Cur'cy and to little

more than 20 per day; tho' our delegates were allowed before depreciation, (and when living at Philadelphia was not half so dear as while I resided there in the public Service) four dollars per day. Of the above Expenditure, knowing I should be long absent from home and therefore, should be obliged to leave all the Money I then had, with my Family, towards their Support, I borrowed from Theodorus Van Wyck Esqr. one of the Commissioners of Sequestration, 15,000 Dls.; for which I gave him my promisory note, expressing the Loan to be made to me as a Delegate, and to leave Philadelphia with reputation to myself and the State. I was obliged to borrow near 10,000 Dls. on my private Credit, for want of Money in the Continental Treasury. The latter Sum to my great Mortification, I have, for want of Means, been hitherto unable to discharge: and as to the former, Mr. Van Wyck yesterday, wrote me a Letter, in which he informs me, that he had presented my Note to the Auditor General, and that he had refused to allow it in account. He, therefore, desires me to settle it with the Treasurer or the Legislature; as the non settlement of it prevents the auditing of the Commissioners accounts. And thus, Sir, besides an absence of ten Months from my Family and private affairs, I stand pledged for the public, for near 25,000 Dls., on the Score of my delegation, which I am unable, considering my great Losses to pay, and incur further Expences, in attending Congress immediately; unless I receive aid from the Treasury. Add to all this, I stand personally engaged to Messrs. Sears and Broome for £1101—6—0 lawful, being Money advanced by them, in procuring written Evidence from the Eastward in the Controversy about the New Hampshire Grants; and which I have not been able to pay; tho' it has been due a full year.

There is also a Reason of a private Nature, (& which therefore I mention last) against my immediately repairing to Congress. However cogently I feel its force, I shall barely hint at it. The Suspension by a Clause in a Law, whereby I am prevented for the present from the Benefit of Certificates lodged for me in Consequence of a former Law, for the House & farm now in the Occupation of John H. Sleght, has reduced my family to the dire Necessity of submitting, till I shall obtain Redress from the Justice of the Legislature, to a temporary Residence in a small ruinous House, not sufficient, were it repaired to contain a family much smaller than mine; with only eleven acres of poor Land adjoining to a bog-meadow, and entirely without fence, or even so much as an Hovel to shelter my Cattle from the weather. These, Sir, will I hope be deemed by the Legislature, Reasons sufficient (to justify my staying from Congress) till their Meeting. And in full Confidence in their Justice for a speedy removal of those Reasons, I shall make it my Business to attend in Senate with the utmost punctuality. I am, Sir, with the greatest respect, your Excellency's most obedient Servant

Jno. Morin Scott.

P. S. I send inclosed Copies of the acts requested by Col. Benson, by your Excellency's Order.

His Excellency the Governor.

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[No. 3703.]

*Judge Hobart Writes the Governour in Regard to Captain Grenell's Property.*

Sharon, May 10th 1781.

Dear Sir, Returning from Poughkeepsie on Sunday morning, I met a messenger with a Letter from Cap'n Grenell for me, in

which he states the difficulties that occurred to him in bringing off his Effects under the impress warrant. He says that should the curiosity or jealousy of the Connecticut People induce any of them to examine the packages, and any goods being found which could not be included in the Instructions which Davis and he have received, it would subject them to many inconveniences, the least of which would probably be the expence of a Lawsuit, and perhaps the loss of the goods, with a stigma fixed upon his Charecter as having abused the Confidence of government, and under the disguise of serving the state, carrying on a trade, universally acknowledged to be pernicious.

I came up with him at Pleasant Valley and found these considerations had made so strong an impression on his mind, that he was determined to risk the loss of his property on the Island, rather than bring it off without a formal permit from your Excellency. I told him that I beleived you had no objection to granting one, at least that you had mentioned none to me; that I would write to you on the subject and did not doubt but it would be obtained; Mr. T. Grenell, the Beater, will wait upon you for the purpose, and will carry the permit directly to his Brother at Middletown. I have the Honour to be, with very great respect and esteem, your Excellency's most obed't Serv't

Jno, Sloss Hobart.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

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[No. 3704.]

*General Clinton Acknowledges the Receipt of Supplies.*

Albany, May 12th 1781.

Dear Sir, Your two favours I have been honored with the inclosed Impress warrents. Two of them for five hundred Bar-

rels of Flower each and one for two hundred Barrels of Beef; I have put in the hands of Stoutenburgh, who has promised to have them faithfully executed. One for five hundred Barrels of Flower, and one for two hundred Barrels of Beef, I have sent to Genl. Schuyler, to be disposed of in such Hands as he shall think proper. The remaining one for five hundred Barrels of Flower I have directed Lt. Colbrath of the 2d Regt. to put in force amongst the Disaffected in Albany & Tryon Counties, where that Regt. is cantoned.

The Escort with the Supply for Fort Schuyler went off the 10th, but the Boats will be much retarded by the uncommon Flood, which has prevailed in this Quarter, tho I hope it will arrive in good Time.

Your Caution respecting the arrival of Cloathing was unnecessary, as the Information was received previous to the Receipt of your Letter. The men who are now with Major Davis, may continue with him, but those whom he requests to be sent to him, are at Fort Schuyler, & the Escort was gon before I received your Letter. I am, Dear Sir, yours affectionately

James Clinton.

Gov'r Clinton.

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[No. 3705.]

*Governor Clinton Explains Why Certain Scotch Families Cannot be Permitted to Pass to New York at This Time.*

Cats Kill, May the 12, 1781.

Sir, The Scotch people who have with Mr. Cumming settled in this Quarter, upon being warned to remove from our frontier have presented us with a petition which they mean to have laid before your Excellency. The person who will present you their petition, can inform you by what means they wish to leave the

State. We are of opinion, that if there are any Families in the Enemies lines desirous of an exchange, that this wou'd be a fair opportunity, and we believe that they have as Foreigners, done us as little injury as any other people of their principle. We, however, wish not to dictate or point out any measures for you to pursue, but do this only by way of Informatin. We are with respect, yr. Excellency's most Obed. and very hum. servants.

Anthony Van Bergen, Colo.

Cornelius Dubois, Lieut. Col.

His Excell'y Gov'r Clinton.

To His Excellency George Clinton Esqr. Governor of the State of New York.

The petition of the Subscribers, Humbly sheweth, that we are Natives of N. Britain and came to this state in July 1774, along with John Cumming, Esqr., upon whose Land we have resided ever since. Upon the commencement of the present war being ignorant of the nature, Cause and Consequence of the Dispute, being poor and strangers, we declined having any hand or concern in the War. Thus refusing Militia duty, we were brought before the committee, and giving our reasons, we were by the gentlemen of the Committee disarmed and acquitted from militia duty, and gave our word of Honour that we would not during the present contest, neither take up Arms nor hold any correspondence nor be any way assisting to either the Continent or King, which neutrality we have strictly adhered to, as the officers of the District can inform your Excellency.

This District having now become a frontier and especially this Tapugieht where we live, the Inhabitants of this District in general, do not think it proper that we shall remain on our place, and have consequently warned us to move on the other side Hudson's River and not return on any pretence whatever until they should deem it consistant with their safety unless we obtained a written permit from your Excellency; the which and our being intirely deceived with regard to the Ideas we entertain'd of this Country before we came to it, we have determined to return to the place of our nativity, if it would please your Excellency to grant us permission. Subjoined is a List of our Families, In hopes of Compliance, we remain your Excellency's most obed: and very hum'e Servants,  
Catts Kill, May the 12, 1781.

	Girls	Boys	
John Grant, has	3	1	John Grant
Wm. Frazer	4		W. F.
Wm. McKenzie			William McKenzie
John McDonald	2		J. D.
Danl. Grant, wife	1	2	Daniel Grant
Jas. Grant, wife	3		James Grant
Alex. Grant, wife	1	2	Alex'r Grant
Jno Grant, wife			John Grant
Jas. Calder, wife	3	1	James Calder
Alex. Cumming, mother	2		Alex'r Cumming
Lewis Grant, wife		1	Lewis Grant
Peter Grant, wife	2	1	Peter Grant
Widow Peter Grant	1	2	
Widow Danl. Grant	2	2	

May 16th 1781.

Gentlemen, Your Letter of the 12th together with the Petition of the Scotch People in your neighborhood has been delivered to me.

At present I know of no particular families within the Enemy's Lines who are desirous of being exchanged & coming out into the Country, & therefore, cannot determine when an opportunity of exchanging the Petitioners will offer, to permit them to pass to N. York on any other footing is altogether inexpedient. Mr. Cummings took with him two or three Persons for whom he engaged to send out an equal number of our friends which (altho' frequently requested he has not complied with). This must also be settled before any Indulgence can be granted the Petitioners. I am &c.

G: Clinton.

Colo. Vanbergen,

Lieut. Colo. DuBois.

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[No. 3706.]

*Major Woolsey's Letter Respecting Cole.*

Saturday Morning, May 12th [1781].

Sir, *Ille quem requiris, est inventum*—and if it is your Excellency's desire may be seen here any time this morning, I should have brought him up last night but tho't he might be discovered as it was near day; he has some intelligence tho' not of immediate importance. I am with ye greatest respect your Excellency's Humble Servant

M. L. Woolsey.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.



[No. 3707.]

*The Governor Informs General Schuyler of the Advance of the Tories.*

Pokeepsie, 13th May 1781.

D'r Sir, Yesterday I was favored with yours of the 4th Instant. From great variety of Circumstances I am left without a Doubt that the Leaders of the Faction on the Grants, maintain a Criminal Intercourse with the Enemy both in Canada & New York; how far the Bulk of the People are privy to it is hard to determine, I have charity, however, to believe that few among them the disaffected excepted are let into the secret that the disaffected are is natural to believe & it is confirmed by the Sentiments & Conduct of the Tories in different Quarters of the Country.

In the Course of the Week, about one hundred of the Levies of this County will be in motion for Albany, one Company of them I expect will embark at Fishkill Tomorrow. Colo. Willet is to command the Regt.; he set out for Albany some Day since & has orders to dispose of them as they arrive, for the Defence of the Frontiers. It has been a work of great Difficulty to raise the Troops, but I am in hopes in this & all the other Counties south of Albany, it is now nearly compleated & I am informed that those of Genl. Renselaer's Brigade is in good forwardness. The want of Provisision I have reason to believe, has hitherto prevented even those of them that raised appearing on the Frontiers. To obviate this Difficulty, I have issued Impress Warrants to Brig'r Genl. Clinton, which tho an odious Measure, is the only one in my Power & the necessity of the Case I am in hopes will at least prevent the Friends of their Country from censuring it.

There is a Report that the French Troops are to move to Fish-kill, but I have no Certainty that this will be the Case. I mean to wait on the Genl. in the Course of a few Days & you may rest assured I will possess him with the true Situation of the Frontiers & endeavour to obtain every Man that can possibly be spared for their Defence. I am &c.

G: Clinton.

The hon'ble Phil. Schuyler, Esqr.

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[No. 3708.]

*Major Hughes Solicits the Governor's Aid in the Exchange of His Men Captured.*

13th May 1781.

Sir, Your Excellency will certainly pardon the Intrusion of this Letter, when you condescend to read it. The Situation of those unfortunate Officers and Soldiers who were captured the 23rd of October last, detached from the Garrison at Fort Schuyler to Onondaga, excite those Feelings which every Man of Humanity, and more particularly myself, whom your Excellency was pleased to honour with the Command, must have, for his unhappy Companions in Service. My absence from the Field cannot detach me from the Interest I have in their Welfare. The Incitements of Friendship and Duty impell me to solicit for them. Though I am conscious that your Excellency cannot erase them from your Mind; yet an Obligation remains to be discharged by me.

The unarranged State of Cartel in the Northern Department, makes me at a Loss to ascertain their Mode of Exchange and it would add much to the many Obligations I am under to your Excellency, if I could possibly be informed of a Ray of Relief

for them, which I should think it my Duty to facilitate, if any-wise in my Power, when called upon.

Your Excellency will forget the Inelegancies of this Letter, when you recur to the Intentions of the Writer; who is, With the greatest Respect, Your Excellency's Obliged Humble Servant

James M. Hughes.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

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[No. 3709.]

*Major Van Bunschoten Instructed as to the Distribution of Levies.*

Fishkeels 13th May 1781.

D'r Governor, I have just Returnd from three days fortage receiving Colo. Vanderburgh Levies.

I beg to no what part of Ulster County I shall direct that part of the Levies to purposed for that Quarter, I have porposed Capt. Livingston for that Command & beg he may be as ney my post as posable. I am your Excel'cy most Obt. Hbl. Serv't

E. V. Bunschoten.

His Ex'ly G. Clenton.

N. B. I expose my poverty as to paper.

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May 13th 1781.

S'r, I have rec'd your Letter by Capt. Livingston. The Detachm't intended for the frontiers of Ulster are to proceed to Kingston. Colo. Graham's Regt. will furnish 50 so that no more are to be sent than with them will make up 100. I am anxious that those for Albany be dispatched as soon as possible, and it is my wish that a Part of those already on the ground be sent there as their appearance on the Frontier will give Con-

fidence to the Inhabitants. Field's & Ludington's Levies are intended for West Chester. Call in all the absent Officers immediately. Capts. Marshall & Whelp who belong to Willet's Regt. ought to join & take Charge of the Detachm't intended for Albany.

(G. C.)

(Major Van Bunschoten.)

[No. 3710.]

*General Swartwout Ordered to Take Immediate Measures to Organize Ludington's Levies.*

Poughkeepsie, May 13th 1781.

Sir, I am informed by Letter from Colo. Luddenton that he has not yet done any Thing towards raising the Levies from his Regt., that they are not even formed into Classes. I must, therefore, insist that you immediately take the measures directed by Law for drawing forth his Proportion of men, together with the Deficiencies, from all the other Regiments, a Return of which will be furnished you by Major Buntschoten on your application. The Service will by no means admit of Delay in this Business. I, therefore, expect your utmost Exertions. I am &c.

Geo. Clinton.

Brig'r Genl. Swartwout.

[No. 3711.]

*Relating to the Exchange of Captain Townsend.*

Bedford, May 14th 1781.

Hon'd Sir, I was informed by Mr. William Miller some time since, that your Excellency had give great encouragement respecting the Exchange of Capt. Townsend, thro' which I have

been Impatiently waiting a fortnight to see him, but am disappointed. I cannot learn wether Colo. Skinner, Comm'y of Prisoners, has yet been in, & if so, wether return'd or not; this I am verry anxious to hear by the bearer Mr. John Smith. If Skinner has returned and not Effected an Exchange for Townsend, I conceive it will be verry detrimental to the Public, as his Presence is highly Necessary, in the settlement of his Old acco'ts which are now Called for in the most pressing manner, and none so Suitable as the one by whom they are Contracted; for my part, I am entirely unacquainted with them, and would rather Choose so to Rest. I am, with respect & Esteem, your Excellency's most Obedient Servant

John Fish.

His Excellency Geo. Clinton, Esqr.

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Pokeepsie 18th May 1781.

Sir, I am informed Colo. Skinner is returned from New York & gone to Philadelphia. I have not seen him nor am informed what his prospects are with respect to the Exchange of Capt. Townsend, but you may rely that nothing shall be wanting on my Part to effect it. I am Sir &c.

[G. C.]

[To John Fish.]

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[No. 3712.]

*Governor Clinton's Reasons for Not Granting a Pass to the Dalmage Family.*

Sir, I hope it will Plese your Honor to permit Jacob Dalmage and his wife and sum Houshold furnuture to go to New York to their Children; they are two very old People; they must fall a burden upon the District if they are not permitted to go

to New York; he has shown me a very good pass from Charlotte County that he has behaved as a good and faithful Subject of this State; he has bin in this Neighbourhood three years next July waiting for an oportunity to go to his Children for Subsistence; they are very old and Infirm, and they have keep them selves very still in the house they lived in, so that I belive they are not able to bring the Enemy any intelligence.

Hezekiah Van Orden, Justice of the Peace.

Great Inbocht Albany County the 14 May 1781.

His Excellency George Clinton Esq: Governor.

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S'r, I have not the least doubt, from the opinion I entertain of you, that the Permitting of Dalmage & family to go to New York would be for the public good & I should, therefore, not hesitate to grant him a Pass for the Purpose, if it was not contrary to Law. I have only the Power of exchange'g Persons, who claim allegiance to Great Britain, for the Subjects of this State, Prisoners with the Enemy, & when exchanged to permit them to go within the Enemy's Lines. I am &c.

[G. C.]

June 4th 1781.

[To Hezekiah Van Orden.]

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[No. 3713.]

*New England and Middle States Called upon for Supplies and Transportation Expenses.*

By The United States in Congress assembled.

May 14th 1781.

Resolved, That it be earnestly recommended to the executive authority in the several States from New Hampshire to Pen-

sylvania inclusive, to forward on to such place as the quarter master general shall direct, at the expence of the respective States in the first instance, all such supplies of provisions as they have been called upon to furnish by the resolution of Congress of the 4th of Nov'r last, & that all such necessary expence as any of the said States are at in transporting the provisions aforesaid, shall be placed to the credit of the States respectively.

Extract from the minutes.

Geo. Bond, Dep'y Sec'y.

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[No. 3714.]

*Articles of Union Betwecn Sundry Towns of Charlotte County and Vermont.*

Articles of Union.\*

Proposed by Convention composed of the Representatives from the several Districts of Hosick, Schaghtekocke, Cambridge, Saratoga, Upper White Creek, Black Creek, Granvil, Skeenesborough, Kingsbury, Fort Edward, Little Hosick convened at Cambridge aforesaid this 9th day of May 1781 and by adjourn't to the 15th of the same Inclusive.

Article 1st. That the District or Tract of Land lying north of a Line being extended from the North Line of the Massachusetts to Hudson's River and South of Latitude 45 as Comprehended in the late Jurisdictional Claim by the Legislature of the State of Vermont be Considered as part of the State & the Inhabitants as free Citizens.

Answer agreed to by the Committee of the Legislature of State of Vermont.

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\*See document 3724, page 884.

Indly. That the whole of the Military force of the State of Vermont (as occasion may require) shall be exerted in our defence as free Citizens against any insurrection Invasion or Incurision whatsoever but especially against the Common Enemy.

Answer agreed to.

3rd. That application be made by the Legislature of the State of Vermont to the Congress of the United States to be admitted into Union with them as Circumstances will admit.

Answer agreed to.

4thly. That as the People within the aforesaid late Claim have been called upon and paid a Considerable part of the Continental Taxes into the Treasury of the State of New York, shall have Credit for the same, in Case the State of Vermont at some future Period should be called upon to pay their Proportion of money emitted by Congress.

Answer agreed to provided the Services done by the State of Vermont in the present war be Included.

Reply of Convention. Agreed to provided the expence of the said District in the present war be likewise included.

5thly. That all actions depending within the late Claim shall be transferred in the situation they shall be in at the Time of Compleating the Union to Courts that may be then forthwith erected under the authority of Vermont without Costs to the Parties other than would have accrued under the Jurisdiction of the State of New York.

Answer agreed to.

6thly. That the Change of Jurisdiction shall not be understood to affect or alienate private Property.

Answer agreed to.



Articles of Union proposed by the Committee of Legislature of the State of Vermont.

Article 1st. That the Independence of the State of Vermont, be held sacred, and that no member of the Legislature give his vote or otherwise use his endeavours to obtain any act, or Resolution of the assembly that shall endanger the existence, Independence or well being of the said State, by referring its Independence, to the arbitrament of any Power.

Agreed to by Convention.

Art. 2. That whensoever this State becomes united with the American States, and there should be any dispute between this and any of the United States respecting Boundary Lines, the Legislature of the State of Vermont will then (as they have ever proposed) submit to Congress or such other Tribunal as may be mutually agreed upon for the settlement of such disputes.

Agreed to.

The foregoing articles severally mutually agreed to by the Convention & Committee at Cambridge 15th May 1781.

John Rogers, Ch. of Convention.

Moses Robinson, Ch. Com.

Attest Jonas Fay, Clk. Com.

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Endorsement on this document: "The Districts are to have a meeting next Tuesday to approve or disapprove of the Proceedings. If approved then to raise every tenth Man. Those Classes that have raised Men and delivered to New York to have Credit; those not delivered to be sent to Chittendon and the Classes who have not raised any Men to raise two immediately.

[No. 3715.]

## PHILADELPHIA IN 1781.

*Du Simitiere's Graphic Description—Governor Clinton Promises  
Him Indian Curiosities.*

Philadelphia, May 15th 1781.

Sir, I have to return my thanks to your Excellency for the honour of your letter of the 3d ult. and beg leave to assure your Excellency that there was not the least need of an apology for the want of punctuality in our correspondance; all I thought was that you had almost forgot me, & I had not receiv'd any letters from your Excellency since one by Gen. Schuyler dated the 23d Feb'y 1780; yet it should seem by your last that you had done me the honour to write me previous to my letters of the 30th Dec. and 22d March last, which letter I assure your Excellency has never come to hands otherwise I would not fail have mention'd it. There is a kind of fatality attending our correspondance, for I find that in the year 1779 two of your Excellency's letters have miscarried also, either thro' the carelessness or design of those they were entrusted with.

There is another misfortune attending your Excellency's obliging endeavours to procure curiosities for my collection, that is they being destroyed before they can be sent me; this was the case once before in 1778, as I was inform'd by your Excellency soon after, yet if I understood rightly the verbal message which Mr. Denning brought me from your Excellency last Summer, with an account of some articles collected for me, it seems they were at your Excellency's ready to be sent and it was the reason why I was so sanguine in my expectations, I must beg leave to add also that I had really placed a great dependence on your Excellency's favourable disposition to contribute to my

collection especially in articles relating to the Indians, as I took the liberty to mention in several of my letters particularly in that of Feb'y 16th 1780. there were some articles I did not particularise then, but as they are desiderata with me I can not omit here; that is a belt of wampum, an Indian Scalp, a Scalping knife in its Sheat as I have seen them decorated with embroidery of porcupine quills, to which I add all kinds of books in any of the Indian languages, but I only mention them rather as a memorandum than in expectation of any of them as notwithstanding your Excellency's desire of assisting me it turns out so unlucky to us both. I must frankly own that before I was honoured with your Excellency's last letter, I could not help some time suspecting that some body might perhaps have been before hand and prevail'd on your Excellency to part with what had been collected for me, the more so as there is a kind of pretended virtuoso who rambles about the eastern States, a sturdy beggar that way, who takes no denial! However, I am now perfectly satisfied as to that Subject by what your Excellency is pleased to mention. The proceedings of your legislature, Laws of the State &c. will be very acceptable, as would also the newspapers of Sammy Loudoun & Johnny Holt of any date, I understand this last has lately stopt printing, I suppose for want of means; perhaps it might be in your Excellency's power to procure the publications of the would-be State of Vermont.

I have often reflected with pain on the distressed Situation in which this cruel war has thrown the State over which your Excellency presides and the fortitude and virtuous perseverance with which your Excellency has and still undergo the fatigues and dangers of the field, as well as the laborious application to the civil affairs of government commands my admiration and

respect, whilst my sincerest wishes attend your Excellency's preservation and Success. As to this great city, we enjoy in it, it is true a kind of peace, as the enemy has not made any incursions in this State; but we have not been without apprehensions from that quarter, as to the Situation of our internal affairs; it is wretched, our government weakly supported, the paper money entirely out of credit and its circulation almost stopt; in a word, all public affairs are in confusion, and every expedient attempted to remedy the disorders seems to encrease it; our resources failing for want of credit in the government and no prospect of bettering ourselves; the people at large are weary of the war, great part of that virtuous spirit of patriotism which animated thousands in the first years of this contest is evaporated! and what remain is by far too small a proportion for the urgencies of our distressed Situation, We are besides in the midst of a multitude of internal and secret enemies, to which must be added that every individual, (generally speaking) seems to be solely attach'd to what can benefit his own self, in short nothing but a powerful assistance from the allies of these States, and their success over our enemies, can give a favourable turn to our affairs, retrieve our credit and enable us to terminate this grand struggle by an honourable peace. So far, for public affairs.

As to the exterior appearance of things in this city, it is very far from denoting distress; the harbour full of Shipping, new vessels continually building, the stores and shops full and abounding with goods of all kinds, business going on as brisk as ever, houses, stores &c. building, our markets affording the greatest plenty of every article one can desire and as for luxury and extravagance in dresses, equipages, entertainments &c. &c.

it is carried to the highest pitch, in short, if one has but money, and that hard species, he may enjoy all the pleasures of life as well as in the profoundest peace, but for all that, as riches were never more unequally divided than at present, there is a great deal of private distress among individuals. By the inclosed State of the public accounts of this State your Excellency will form some idea of our public affairs. I have the honour to be, with great respect, Sir, your Excellency's most obedient and most humble Servant

P. E. Du Simitiere.

his Excellency Governor Clinton &c. &c. &c.

Pokeepsie 29th Sep'r 1781.

Dear Sir, I have now to acknowledge the Receipt of your Favour of the 15th May last & the Pleasure of transmitting you by the Bearer, my Friend Doctor Tappen, an Indian Mask, a Couple of Belts, a Stone Hatchet and an ornamented Indian Pouch, some of which may be thought worthy of a Place in your Curious Collection. I shall use my Endeavours to procure for you any Books that may have been published in the Indian Languages. A scalp, decorating, Skalping Knife in its Sheath, with a Council pipe I am already promised, but they are not yet come to Hand; as soon as I receive them, which I expect will be in the Course of the Winter they shall be forwarded.

We look to your Quarter for news; in this we are merely on the Defensive and as the Enemy, except small marauding Parties & the Traitor Arnold's Expedition ag't New London, of which I presume you have the Particulars, have confined themselves within their own Lines I have nothing worth mentioning. I am, with great Regard, your most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

Peter E. Du Simitiere, Esqr.

[No. 3716.]

*Colonel Greene Surprised and Killed by De Lancey at Pines Bridge—  
The Governor's Instructions as to Levies.*

Bedford, May 15th 1781.

Dear Sir, I have nothing new in this Quarter, only of Coll. Delancey surprising of Coll. Green\* at Pines Brige and killing him with sevreel more of his offers and men, with six and thirty Prisners taken; there has a flete of shiping saled from New York three days ago with sum troops; there destations is not known, nor could I obtain thar numbers, Coll. Drack's Rigment is to turn out thurty three men and Coll. Crane about twenty seven; Coll. Thoms about 13 men. I have reseivd from the difrent Rigments about forty nine men and Exspect the rist in a few days, when I will make your Excellency, return of all the men under my command. Capt. Willems sent to me his two Lut. with about 36 men, and by nixt Monday he is to have the ris of his men. I send by the barer, John Smith, only

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\* Colonel Christopher Greene of Rhode Island. Greene was held in high estimation by Washington. He had distinguished himself at Fort Mercer on the Delaware by withstanding the assault of Count Donop. For an excellent account of the Surprise of Colonel Greene at Pines Bridge, May 14, 1781, the reader is referred to a pamphlet prepared by Mr. M. D. Raymond of Tarrytown, N. Y., and read before the Sons of the Revolution of New York, April 26, 1902.

Col. H. Lee gives the following account of the affair:

"The enemy crossed the Croton before daylight and hastening his advance reached our station with the dawn of day unperceived. As he approached the farm house where Col. Greene was quartered the noise of troops was heard, which was the first intimation of the fatal design. Greene and Major Flagg immediately prepared themselves for defense; but they were too late, so expeditious was the progress of the enemy. Flagg discharged his pistols and instantly afterwards fell mortally wounded, when the ruffians (unworthy the appellation of soldiers) burst open the door of Col. Greene's apartments. Here the gallant veteran singly received them with his drawn sword. Several fell beneath the arm accustomed to conquer, till at length, overpowered by numbers and faint from the loss of blood streaming from his wounds, barbarity triumphed over valor. His right arm was almost cut off in two places; the left in one; a severe cut on the left shoulder; a sword thrust through the abdomen; a bayonet thrust in the right side, and another through the abdomen; several sword cuts on the head, and many in different parts of the body.

"Thus cruelly mangled fell the generous conqueror of Count Donop, whose wounds, as well as those of his unfortunate associates, had been tenderly dressed as soon as the battle terminated, and whose pains and sorrows had been as tenderly assuaged. How different was the relentless fury here displayed!

"The Commander-in-Chief heard with anguish and indignation of the death of his loved, his faithful friend and soldier, in whose feelings the army sincerely participated."

one news paper, of the latest I could get, but in a short time, it will be in my Power to get them every week; and likewiss send you the last news from New York of thare movements. I am,  
Dear Sir, your Excellency's most humbel servant

Rich'd Sackett.

His Excellency Gorg. Clinton. Esq.

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Pokeepsie 18th May 1781.

Dear Sir, I have received & thank you for your Favour of the 15th & shall be blidged by your continuing to communicate the earliest Intelligence with the York Papers as they come to Hand. I am happy to learn that the Levies of your County are so near Compleat & I have hopes that the Detachment from Dutchess will soon join you. It is my Desire that they be disposed of so as to give the best general Security to the different exposed Settlements & that you woud procure a Meeting of the Field Officers of the different Regts. & be governed as far as may be with their advice, on forming the Disposition, as this will be most likely to give Sattisfaction & make your Command agreable. I am &c.

[G. C.]

[To Captain Sackett.]

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[No. 3717.]

*Congressional Legislation for Raising Funds.*

Albany, May 15th 1781.

D'r Col: By Mr. Sebring I wrote you a few Days ago and agreable to your request inclosed an account of the Taxes laid & paid into the Treasury. I omitted mentioning two Tax Laws, which tho' they had yet brought nothing into the Treasury, may

be necessary for the Governor's information. The Titles of them are,

“An act approving of the act of Congress of the 18th Day of March 1780, relative to the Finances of the United States, and making provision for redeeming the proportion of this State of the Bills of Credit, to be emitted in pursuance of the said act of Congress” passed June 15th 1780.

“By this Law there was ordered the raising the Sum of 2,500,000 Dollars by the 1st October; 2,500,000 Dollars more by the 1st January last; & 2,500,000 Dollars more by the 1st April last.

“An act for raising by Tax a Sum equal to 150,000 Dollars in specie” passed the 10th October 1780. I am yours &c.

G. Bancker.

Col: Benson.

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[No. 3718.]

*Micah Townsend Roughly Treated by Westchester Refugees—He Brings the Case of Colonel Holmes Before the Governor.*

Fishkill, 16th May 1781.

Sir, I have to thank your Excellency a thousand times for your kind Permission to go to Long Island, as I have been enabled to do my Business to my entire Satisfaction & should now wait on your Excellency to return you my thanks in Person, but have been detained at least a Fortnight longer than I wished, & left Mrs. Townsend in such Circumstances, that I feel great anxiety to be at home as speedily as possible.

I met with abuse from some of ye W. Chester Refugees; in the City have been once carried before his Worship, & have reason to think my life was in danger from a son of Lounsberry & others when I came out, which was obliged to do by way of



Elizabeth Town to avoid my old enemies. A thousand Pounds would not tempt me to a similar Visit.

As Mr. Loudon has ye last Papers do not mention ye news. I leave with Mr. Loudon for your Exc'y, a Newspaper & one of Gaine's Registers. If you are already supplied with a Register wish Mr. Loudon may have it. The paper I got when I expected to come out, but was afterwards delayed. Some of ye Long Island Whigs insist upon my speaking to your Exc'y in favor of Colo. Holmes. They say he first went to Rockaway & disagreed with his Landlord (a warm tory) so much about Politics that he left ye Place, & came to Cedaw Swamp, where he kept company only with Whigs. That the Refugees declined keeping company with him, he talked so much like a Rebel. That he was generally called by the Tories about his neighbourhood "ye rebel Colonel." That they have the highest evidence that he came back fully determined to join ye Country in support of its Independ'e, & they are fully convinced he would prefer staying in the Country, at liberty, to going within their Lines, as he must be exposed to great Insults there, which he well knows; they, therefore, wish the offer might be made him of being at Liberty to dwell in such safe Place as your Exc'y shall think proper: the upper part of Dutchess or Albany perhaps; & that he may not be compelled to be exchanged. Hope your Exc'y will pardon this incorrect Scrawl & believe me to be your most obed't & grateful Servant

Micah Townsend.

Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 3719.]

## FORT SCHUYLER RUINED BY FLOOD AND FIRE.

*A Disastrous Conflagration at Midday—General Schuyler Forwards  
Disturbing News from Saratoga.*

Albany May 16, 1781.

Dear Sir, This morning I received a number of Letters from Fort Schuyler and Saratoga, the former containing the disagreeable account of the loss of the Barracks by fire, the latter announcing the appearance of the Enemy on the Frontiers; my Letters to Colo's Cortlandt and Cochran, copies of which I inclose for your satisfaction, will inform you of the measures I have taken on this occasion, as I conceive it a matter of the utmost consequence. I would request, that if circumstances will admit, you should wait on the General in Person, and represent to him the difficulty of rebuilding the Barracks and repairing the works at this time and under our present circumstances, and that, however, necessary the Post may be, that it will be impossible to maintain it unless they are repaired; taking this Circumstances into consideration, would it not be best to remove the stores and take post at the German Flatts? this Query is suggested, the affirmative supported by the united opinions of the principle Inhabitants of this place, the principle reason for maintaining it being removed to wit: the Onida Indians returning to Schonectady. I inclose you a Letter from Genl. Schuyler for Genl. Washington, unsealed for your perusal, which you will seal and forward immediately. I am, Dear Sir,

yours sincerely

James Clinton.

Gov'r Clinton.

Albany [Fort Schuyler] May 13th 1781.

Sir, Since I wrote you last, the heavy Rains have almost ruined the works of this Garrison. Anxious to do every thing in my power and to justify myself, I called the office[r]s in Garrison together in Council to advise what was best to [be] done, the result of which I enclose you. I have put the Garrison on half allowance of Beef, and added one Quarter of a pound of flower. The General will doubtless consider, that it is much harder for men to be cut short of their allowance in this Post, than almost any other on the Continent, as there is nothing to be had but what they draw from the public store. I am &c.

Robt. Cochran.

Gen. Clinton.

(Copy)

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At a Council of officers in Garrison at Fort Schuyler held on Saturday the 12th of May one thousand and seven hundred and eighty one, to inspect and examine the works of said garrison.

Officers present:

of the 2d New York Regt. Lt. Colonel Cochran, Commandt.

Capt. Hamtramck

“ Towler

Lieut. Hovenbergh of the artillery

“ Deniston Capt. Moodie

Ensigns Woodruff Lieut. Brewster

“ Dodge

Report 1st that after having personally examined the Fortification of this Garrison, do find more than two thirds of the works broken down occasioned by the late heavy rains and as-

sure that the remaining will be in the same condition in a few days.

2d that the only remaining strength is the outside Picquets on the Glacis.

3dly that an attempt to repair the works cannot be made with the small number of men now in Garrison, being obliged to begin at the foundation and thereby open the remaining part of the works which would prove very dangerous in case of an attack, as no less than five or six hundred men under the direction of an Engineer, with a sufficient number of artificers, waggons, Tools &c. would repair it in the Course of the Summer.

Sign'd by order of the Council

Robert Cochran, Lt. Colo'l.

(Copy)

Dear Sir, I am sorry to inform you that this day between the Hours of Eleven and Twelve, this Garrison took fire and consumed every Barrack, notwithstanding every exertion was made to extinguish the flames. I still remain in possession of the works, and have saved the magazine, with a small part of the provisions, tho' at the risque of our lives; in my next shall give you every perticular. I am, &c.

Robert Cochran.

Fort Schuyler, May 14th 1781, 3 oClock P. M.

Genl. Clinton.

(Copy)

Albany, May 16, 1781.

Sir, I have just now received your favour of the 13 & 14 Inst. with the disagreeable Intelligence contained in them. I cannot find words to express my surprise at the unexpected accident, or how a fire should break out in the middle of noon day, in a Garrison where the Troops could not possibly be absent, after a

most violent and incessant rain of several days and be permitted to do so much damage. I am sorry to say that the several Circumstances which accompanied this melancholy affair, affords plausible ground for suspicion that it was not the effect of meer accident. I hope when it comes to be examined in a Clearer point of view such lights may be thrown upon it as will remove the suspicion for which there appears too much reason.

I have written to his Excellency on the Subject, and requested his farther orders, which I expect in a few days; in the mean time I would request that you keep possession of the Garrison and endeavour to shelter the Troops in the best manner possible; that you collect all the nails, Hinges &c. &c. of the ruins, and suffer nothing to be lost that is in your power to save. Colo. Cortlandt has my orders to afford you all the assistance which time and circumstances will admit.

James Clinton.

P. S. It is best that you send all the women & children down in the Boats.

Colo. Cochran.

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Albany May 16, 1781.

Dear Sir, I this moment received the disagreeable intelligence that the Barracks at Fort Schuyler were unfortunately consumed by Fire on the 14th Inst. between 11 & 12 oClock in the Forenoon and that the works &c. are almost ruined by the late heavy rains; as I am at a loss how to act in this case until I receive his Excellency's directions, I think it best that the mortar and cannon and military stores should be left at Fort Herkmer as it will be easy to have them Transported either up or down the river as occasion may require.

You will proceed with the Provisions to the Garrison and

afford them every assistance in your power which time and circumstances will admit; after which you will return with the Boats leaving the different corps in their respective stations where they will remain untill farther orders.

If the Levies should be ordered by Colo. Willett to take post on the Mohawk River, then Vandeburgh's Company will man the Boats and bring them to Schonectady as another Escort must go up in short time. You will be very cautious as you march, as by a Letter just received from Genl. Schuyler, I find there is a Body of Enemy out.

Colo. Cortlandt.

(Copy)

Saratoga, Tuesday Evening 15 May 1781, 10 oClock.

Dear Sir, Colo. Louis is just now arrived here with two other Indians; he has been hunting on the west side of the north Branch of Hudson's River, with seven other Indians, one whereof was a Caghnawaga, who left them on Sunday morning. On Monday morning having heard some firing, he and his party marched to discover who fired; after a few miles march, they were fired upon by a party of the Enemy and lost one man, an Onida, who is either killed or made prisoner; some of his party are gone to Schonectady; he does not know either the strength of the Enemy, or what rout they intend to pursue; he fell in with them on the road. Sir John Johnson, came last year to Johnstown, about 38 miles from this place; believes they are a large Body by their firing and transactions; and that they will very speedily attack some place either on this or the Mohawk River. I think assistance should be sent both ways and Scouts dispatched without delay from Schonectady. Colo. Van Dyck

has already sent a party out towards Palmer Town; no provisions are yet arrived here. I am &c.

Ph: Schuyler.

Genl. Clinton.

(Copy)

[No. 3720.]

*Captain Williams Accuses Colonel Ludinton of Dilatoriness.*

Fishkill May 16th 1781.

D'r Sir, Agreeable to your Exlancey's order, I wated on Colo. Luddenton to Receive the Lavies from his Ridgment; he promised to have them Ready the next week, but hearing he made no stur, I sent Lt. Dyckman to know when I might expect them, but he could not see him. I then went myself several times before I could see him; he at lenght set a day to Receive them but nighther he nor his men mad ther appearance. I cald on him the nex day to know the Reason, but he was out of the way. I then concluded to report him but by chance I met him on the Road; he then promised to turn them out the twenty first of the month. Should I bee disapointed again, I shall wait on your exlancey with the perticular and remain, with the greatest esteem, your exlancey's most obedient and most umble serv't

D'nl Williams.

His exlancey Governor Clinton.

[No. 3721.]

*General Clinton Makes Certain Suggestions Consequent upon the Destruction of Fort Schuyler.*

Albany, May 17th 1781.

Dear Sir, Since my last to you of yesterday, another Express has been received from Fort Schuyler. Copies of the contents

I send you under a flying seal, for your Perusal, and have to request that you seal & forward them to the General.

I informed you yesterday of the general prevailing opinion among the better part of the People in this Quarter, respecting Fort Schuyler. The recent Loss of the Barracks and ruinous State of the works have confirmed them in the propriety, and even the necessity of removing the Garrison to the German Flatts, near Fort Herkimer, where they are disposed to afford every assistance in their power to erect a formidable work, confident that it will be able to give more Protection, not only to that perticular Quarter but also to the whole western Frontier. I must confess that this has long been my opinion.

I have not hinted it to the General, as I conceive it will come better from you, who are acquainted with every perticular circumstance respecting it, and many Difficulties we shall labour under in putting it in any tollerable State of Defence.

As I have directed the Troops to keep Possession of the works, untill I shall receive Instructions from Head Quarters, I wish you may have it in your power to have a conference with the General on the subject, and transmit to me the result of it without Delay. I am, yours affectionately

James Clinton.

Gov'r Clinton.

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[No. 3722.]

*Copy of Parole of Jonathon Douglas.*

I Jonathon Douglas have taken this oath to his Majesty, the King of Great Britain, before Joseph Beaty, Captain of his Majesty's Royal Rangers.

I solomly and volunturly in the presence of Almighty God, to sware to return on the Parole of Honour to Canada within ten



weeks from this date, unless sonner discharged, & further do sware never to aid nor assist in any shape or manor whatsoever, against his Majesty's or any of his subject, during my prole or till properly exchanged.

Joseph Beaty, Capt. King Royal Rangers.

Copy

May 17th 1781.

[No. 3723.]

*Captain Elsworth's Complaint Against the Lirvingston Manor Levies.*

To his Excelency Govenor George Clinton:

May it Please your Excellency: According to your orders, I have attended the Regt. of Militia belongin in the Manner Livingston. Last Friday being the day appointed to muster, we attended & mustered out of forty seven Classes, thirty two, including Lieut. Codwise, Lieut. Handricks, myself and one John Lawrence, who had orders from your Excellency to come & wait on you. There remains twenty eight Classes, who produced an able bodyed man, acquiped according to Genl. Orders; after we had done mustereing, I ordered no man to be absent, but to remain where they was, that we where to march the next day at eight OClock, but instead of finding the whole number I found but sixteen which I ordered Lieut. Handricks to march to Albany. I have been inform by a waggoner who went up with them, that four more had left the Lieut. before he reached Albany. Yesterday, being another day appointed for mustering, meet again and mustered five men, whom I intend to march with this day with four Prisoners, whom the Chancelor has desired me to deliver in Albany Goal; if I cant receive no more man than from this Regt. in my Company, it will be exceeding small; it wont consist of more than twenty, including the non

commissioned off'rs, & I expect half of them will desert, as they appear to be a pack of villins, who has no regard for their Countrey. There is now ten classes delinquent, which I dont expect of which one will serve because they dare the officers to take them or strain any goods or Chattles from them, and indeed I dont think there is an Officer to attempt any thing of the kind, unless it is Majors Tenbroeck or Jansen, whom I look upon to be the only wigs in the Mannor that is officers, I have always heard of the Livingstons being in favor of their Countrey, but find them to the contrary, except it is the Chancellor, whose Class has delivered a Man; as for the Rest they all refuse to pay their Proportion. I am, Sir, with Esteem your  
Exc. Serv't

Peter Elsworth.

Major Jansen's 17th May 1781.

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[No. 3724.]

*Mat Visscher's Communication Concerning Vermont and the Leaders.*

Albany, 18th May 1781.

Dear Sir, I yesterday saw Copy\* of the articles agreed upon by the Convention of Committees who sat lately at Cambridge, Copy of which will be delivered your Excellency by Capt. Black, to whom I have given it for perusal. I enclose your Excellency Memorandum of Mr. Clark respecting the Correspondence of Vermont with the enemy.

The Districts are to meet on Tuesday next for the purpose of approving or disapproving the proceedings of the Convention.

The Sloop is waiting, therefore, cannot enlarge. I am, with the greatest respect, your Excellency's most obt. Serv't

Mat: Visscher.

His Excellency George Clinton, Esqr.

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\* See document 3714, page 865.

I have endeavoured to Investigate the Communication betwixt V. & the Enemy and from every thing I can lern it is nothing more than a treaty for exchange or ransom of Prisoners. Dr. Wms. informs me that its said a Copy of E. Allen's Letter to G. Clinton, was sent to the Grants which has desided against Allen's influence or Command in the military there. Members of their assembly say his commission was made out, but since receipt of s'd copy of his letter declare he shall not command in their state.

[No. 3725.]

*John McClung Finds Sentiment Strongly Favors Vermont's Expansion.*

Sir, I did not receive yours of the 27th ult. till after the sitting of the Convention, nor did I know of my Commission being continued from the last Sessions. Yet, nevertheless, I have conversed with several members of the Convention, who inform that the different districts seemed very much inclined to a union with the state of Vermont, as the only mean for their defence against the common enemy, & has agreed with a Committee of the Legislature of Vermont to articles of union to be laid before the different districts on Tuesday 22d inst. The result of which God only knows. I am informed many great ones favours it, & in my acquaintance few stands against it. But I perswade myself that such healing Measures will be adopted that it may not endanger the general confederation of the United States; nor be detrimental to the glorious cause of America. I am, Sir, with great Respect your most Humble & obed't Serv't

John McClung.

Cambridge, 19th May 1781.

His Excellency George Clinton, Esqr. &c.

[No. 3726.]

## THE FUTURE OF FORT SCHUYLER.

*Governor Clinton Advises General Clinton to Confer with Generals Schuyler, Van Rensselaer, Gansevoort and Others on the Subject.*

Pokeepsie, 19th May 1781 9 oClock A. M.

Dear Sir, Your Letter of the 16th Instant, was delivered me late in the Evening of the 17th. Business of Importance which I was then engaged in and which would not admit of Delay or my absence, made it impossible for me to wait personally on the Genl. as you requested & had this not been the Case I was apprized of his Intention of setting out early next morning for Weathersfield & was apprehensive I should not have been able to reach Fishkill in Season to see him without riding all night. I, however, wrote to him by the same Express which carried your Letter, stating your Ideas respecting the abandoning of Fort Schuyler & establishing a Post at the German Flatts. The inclosed Letter from his Excellency which was left open for my perusal will inform you of the Result. I consider it a Point of a great Importance and delicacy; I could have, therefore, wished that the Genl. (who is possessed of every Information that I am) had favoured us with his Determination on the Subject, especially as the Propriety of repairing & maint[a]in the present Post or the abandoning of it & establishing a new one at the Flatts, may in a great measure depend either upon the Operations of the ensuing Campaign or the regular Force, which may be employed for the Defence of the Northern & Western Frontier, of both which I am utterly ignorant.

If offensive Operations to the northward should take Place or a respectable Regular Force ordered for the Defence of the

Frontier it woud in my oppinion be most elligible to hold Fort Schuyler; but if neither shoud be the Case under our present Circumstances, a Post at the Flatts will afford the greater Security to the frontier Settlements of Tryon & be supported with least Risk & Expence. I will not, however, venture at this Distance to give any possitive Oppinion on the Subject. I have directed Genl. Renselaer, who commanded last year in Tryon County, & forwarded suplies to Fort Schuyler immediately to repair to Albany, that you may avail yourself of his Sentiments on this Occassion & I woud advise that Genl. Schuyler, Genl. Gaansevoort & such other principle gentlemen on whose Judgm't you can depend, be consulted, & that you be governed in your Determination on the Subject by their Sentim'ts, as far as Circumstances will admit & you may rest assured I shall chearfully acqiece. I am using every possible Exertion to draw out the Levies for the Defence of the Frontiers; & I have Reason to hope they will soon be complete. Yours affectionately

G. C.

Brig'r Genl. Clinton.

[No. 3727.]

*Jonas Caniff's Application for a Permit to Retire to New York—**Receired 19th May, 1781.*

To George Clinton, Esqr. Govenor of State New-York.

May it plase your Excellancy, whereas, I find myself much oppress'd by the present laws of this Country, for (as it is said) not being attach'd to the present proceedings of this Country must, therefor, beg your Excellancy's permission to retire with my family from the state, to put myself under the protection of the Troops of Great Britton, must likewise beg leave to take with me a waggon and one pair of Horses, and as much provis'n

as will serve my family three months, and due respect remain,  
 yr. Excellancy's, most obedient hum. s't

Jonas Caniff.

[No. 3728.]

*Solomon Baker Convicted by a Court Martial and Sentenced to Death  
 as a Spy.*

A General Court Martial held at Poughkeepsle the 17th Day of May Anno Domini, 1781 by order of his Excellency, the Governor, for the tryal of Solomou Baker, charged with having adhered to the Enemy, coming out from the Enemy, and secretly lurking within a part of this State.

Colonel Platt, President.

Members

Colonel Frear  
 Lt. Colo. Griffin  
 Major Schenck  
 Capt. V'n Wyck  
 Capt. Conkling  
 Lieut. Rapelyea

Lt. Colo. Landon  
 Lt. Colo. Hoffman  
 Capt. Swartwout  
 Capt. Storm  
 Capt. Reynolds  
 Lieut. McBride

Mel. L'd Woolsey, Judge Advocate, P. T.

The Court being duly sworn proceeded to the tryal of Solomon Baker upon the above Charge. The Prisoner being arraigned Pleads, not guilty.

Peter Weaver, being duly sworn deposeth & saith that he has seen the Prisoner with the Enemy at V'r Planks Point, which was then in their Power; that he was a Soldier in Robertson's Regiment & Further saith not.

William Burch, being duly sworn deposeth and saith, that he once saw him in the woods back of Fredricksburg ab't six weeks since.

- \* \* \* \* \*
- Ichabod Proper being duly sworn deposeth and saith  
 Q'n. Court. Do you know the Prisoner?  
 Ans. I saw him ab't a month ago at my house.  
 Q. Where do you live?  
 A. In the mountain Fredriksburgh.  
 Q. What time of day was the Prisoner at your house?  
 A. In the evening.  
 Q. What conversation had you with the Prisoner?  
 A. I dont recollect.  
 Q. Who was with the Prisoner?  
 A. One Samuel Rid.  
 Q. Court. Had you heard the Prisoner was in your Neighbourhood before you saw him?  
 Ans. I heard of it a day or two before.  
 Q. Who told you he was in the Neighbourhood?  
 A. Isaac Taylor who also told me that the Prisoner was coming to my House in order to go to a hiding place near a swamp.  
 Q. Did you direct the Prisoner the way to the Cave?  
 A. I went to the door with him & pointed out the way.  
 Q. Did you go no further than the Door with him?  
 A. Yes I went part of the way with him.  
 Q. How far?  
 A. Within twelve or fourteen Rods.  
 Q. Did you understand at that time, there were any Persons in the Cave to which he was going?  
 Ans. Yes.  
 Q. Who were they?  
 A. John Warden, Price Cooper, John Start & William Dunbar & Samuel Tid.

Q. How came you to know of their being there?

A. John Warden told me.

Q. Did either of the Persons in the Cave tell you they were going to N. York?

Ans'w'r. William Dunbar told me he was going.

Q. How far is the Cave from your house?

A. A half or 2 Quarters of a Mile.

Q. Was you never at the Cave while these People were there?

A. No.

Q. Did Worden tell you he was going to the enemy?

A. He did.

Q. How long did you know of Baker's being lurking ab't the Woods?

A. From Monday night 'till Wednesday night, when they were taken.

The Court adjourned 'till 10 O'clock on Saturday the 19th Inst.

May 19th 1781. The Court met according to Adjournment. Colo. Platt being detained, Colo. Frear is appointed President, Capt. Fort in Lieu of Colo. Frear as a member, & Lt. Colo. Griffin not attending Lt. Rosecrans is appointed a Member in his stead. The several Orders being read and the new members duly sworn, the Court Proceeded on the Tryal.

The Prisoner being arraign'd, and Capt. Pierce call'd as a Witness, who being duly sworn deposeth and saith, that on or about the 1st of April he heard of a Number of men being lurking ab't the Rocks which this Deponent determined if Possible to detect them, he accordingly collected a Party, & by means of two spies whom he had employ'd; found the Way to the Cave, on the night of the 19th of April, 1781 in which Cave was the Prisoner, (Solomon Baker) with several others, vizt. John Warden, William Dunbar & Saml. Tid.

Qsn. Court: Did you see Solomon Baker in the Cave?

Ans. Yes.

Q. At what time of Night?

A. After 12 O'clock.

Q. Was Baker armd?

A. There was a gun there that my spies told me Baker brought there. Dunbar also told me so & there were two other guns there, all three well charged.

Witnesses in Behalf of the Prisoner appearing, the Court proceed to their Examination.

Saml. Haight, being sworn deposeth & saith that he heard the Prisoner read a Pass from the Governor of Virginia & that he worked openly ab't the neighbourhood in the Nine Partners.

John Cherry, being sworn deposeth & saith that he saw a Pass from the Governor of Virginia & that he worked openly about.

Reuben Baker, being sworn, saith that the Prisoner came to his father's house in Feburary & show'd his pass from the Governor of Virginia, and was openly there; staid there four or five days.

The Prisoner in his defence says that he has been a Brittish Soldier and that he did not come out voluntarily but was cut off from his Party, that he always behaved well and asks the Mercy of the Court and Country.

After hearing the Law, and the Testimonies of the several witnesses read, the Court took into serious Consideration the Circumstances & evidence and were of opinion, unanimously, that the Prisoner comes under the Description of the act entitled "an act for subjecting all Persons who shall come out from the Enemy and secretly lurk in any part of this State to Tryals by Courts martial as Spies," and that he is guilty of being a Spy; and do Sentence him to suffer Death. The Court adjourn'd 'till further orders.

John Frear, President.

Solomon Baker, formerly an Inhabitant of Dutchess County, about 3 years ago went to North Castle, in Westchester, and there meeting with one Solomon Blindbury, went with him to New York, and there enlisted in Robinson's Regiment. When the Enemy were in pos'n of Verplanks Point, he left them by the consent of his officers to see his Father John Baker, of Beekmans Pre't & other friends, and to return to the Regt. again in the spring; was taken at Crum Pond, and pretended to be a deserter, was carried to Gen. Washington who gave him a pass to go home; remained in Beek's Prec't the winter of 1780; in the spring Coll. Rob'n sent a Wm. Bennet for Ex't with a

message, that if he did not join his regt. immediately, he should be ret. as a deserter. Ex't liv'd with his Father; in the spring ret. with Bennet to N. Y.

Went with Arnold to Virginia, when, being out with a partie on an Excursion to Westover, Ex't & Samuel Tid, were accidentally left behind the partie & the Militia being between them and their Friends they determined as the best means to get back, to deliver themselves up as deserters; they were brought to the Governor of Virginia who gave them passes to return to the state of N. Y.; they arived in Dutchess County in February. Work'd with Johann's Kershew in Feb. & March. Tid work'd with Stephen Badgley, in Charlotte; last week near the Widow Campbell's he & Tid met with John Worden, who informed that a party was going down to N. Y. and directed them where to find them at the Cave. Monday night got to the cave, Wednesday night was taken. al April 1781.

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Endorsement: "read filed & Proceed'gs approv'd & sentence confirmed & ord'd to be carried into execution on the 21st Inst. by the Sherif of Dutchess."

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[No. 3729.]

*General Schuyler Forced to Abandon Saratoga for Want of Troops  
and Because of the Situation in Vermont.*

Saratoga, May 19th 1781.

Dear Sir, Yesterday Major McCrakan was with me and informed me that Ethan Allen had some days ago been at White Creek attempting to seduce the Inhabitants from their allegiance to the state, that in conversation with him, he asked what part the Grants would take in case the enemy attempted to penetrate into the Country. Allen replied that he would neither give nor take any assistance from the state of New York.

The defection from the state by the Inhabitants on the east side of Hudson's river is become very general; the convention which met at Cambridge I am informed have agreed to join themselves to the Grants and that members are chusing to go to the Vermont assembly. Yesterday Colo. V Vechten shewed me an original paper of which the following is a true copy.

"Cambridge May 15th 1781.

Resolved, that it be recommended to heads of classes to make no destraints under the authority of New York till further orders, per order of Convention.

John Rogers, Chairman."



The Tories are going of in numbers to the Enemy, and I find by emissaries, whom I keep amongst those that remain, that they certainly and speedily expect the greater part of the British force in Canada, to come down. As only 39 Levies are as yet come up, and that we have not above 150 Continental troops here, and none of either that I can learn, expected, I cannot in justice to myself & family, any longer risk my property here, and intend to move tomorrow, unless I receive letters this day announcing the approach of more troops. It is a mortifying reflection that so fine a country must be abandoned for want of men and provisions.

Is it not possible to reinforce General Washington with a body of the neighbouring militia until the French troops arrive, to enable him to make a detachment of Continental troops for the protection of this part of the State? I am, Dear Sir, respectfully & sincerely your Excellency's most obed't Servant

Ph: Schuyler.

His Excellency Gov: Clinton.

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[No. 3730.]

*English Abuse of Clearance Papers.*

(Circular)

Philadelphia, May 19, 1781.

Sir, Your Excellency will receive enclosed, the copy of a resolve of the 17th Instant, recommending to the several Legislatures to enact Laws making further Provision (as specified in the Resolve) to guard against the Abuses & deceitful Practices of the British, by making use of Papers & Clearances they may take in American Vessels.

The Measures recommended in this and the former Resolve of the 11th of November 1780 become the more necessary, as our

Allies have not only suffered by the Deception of the British, but in several Instances our own People in the West Indies have also suffered from the French, under the Apprehension that they were British, for want of Evidence & proper Documents to evince the contrary. I have the Honor to be, with very great Respect your Excellency's most obedient & most humble Servant

Sam. Huntington, President.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

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By The United States in Congress assembled,

May 17th 1781.

Whereas the Hon'ble the Minister of France hath represented to us, that the precautions pointed out in the Resolution of Congress of the 11th of November 1780, are insufficient to prevent the abuse which the British may make of papers or Clearances they may take in American Prizes if confined to vessels of war and not extended to merchant vessels and in general all vessels dispatched from the United States, therefore,

Resolved, That it be, and it is hereby recommended to the Legislatures of the several States, that they enact Laws as soon as may be, ordering the naval officers in their respective ports to require the Master & Chief Mate of all vessels unarmed as well as armed, which shall be dispatched from their respective Ports to undersign their Clearances in the presence of the naval officer of the port, who is also to insert on the back of the clearance, a minute Description of the persons of the Master, and his mate, with their age, Stature, Complexion &c. respectively, and to certify the same under his Signature and Seal of office.

Extract from the Minutes.

Chas. Thomson, Sec'y.

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[No. 3731.]

*Governor Clinton Recommends the Abandonment of Fort Schuyler.*

Pokeepsie 19th May 1781.

Dear Sir, The Barracks of Fort Schuyler were lately unfortunately destroyed by Fire & the Works so much injured by the Heavy Rains as to render them untenable without considerable Repairs. Under these Circumstances it is a Question whether it woud not be most adviseable to abandon that Post & establish a new one at the German Flatts. I have, therefore, to request that immediately on the Receipt, hereof, you will be pleased to repair to Albany, that Brig'r Genl. Clinton, to whom

the Determination of this Matter is submitted by the Commander in Chief, may avail himself of your Sentiments & advice on the Occasion, & hope you will not fail as the situation of the garrison will not admit of Delay. I am with great esteem,  
D'r Sir, your most obed. serv't

[G. C.]

Brig'r Genl. Renselaer.

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 [No. 3732.]

*Several Petitions in Favor of Mrs. Buys, under Sentence of Death.*

[Omitted.]

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 [No. 3733.]

*Colonel Willett Writes Discouragingly of His Regiment of Levies—Orders.*

Albany, 19th May 1781.

Sir, Agreeable to my instructions I have sent officers to the regiments of militia, in the counties of Albany, Tryon, and Charlotte, and find that the County of Tryon, furnishes about sixty men, and that the County of Albany rather better than four hundred, exclusive of the regiment commanded by Colonel John Blair, which refuses to send any at present, having formed an alliance with Vermont. This is likewise the case with Charlotte County, so that the whole of the levies, which I expect to compose my regiment, (besides those that are to be sent from Dutches County) will amount to about four hundred & sixty or seventy men, and some of those are deserted. A very small number to be posted so as to range the frontiers, from Saratoga to Catskill, including Ballstown, Schohare, and the extensive settlements along the Mohawk River, where alone

there are upwards of twenty Fortifications, of one sort or another, which I have been requested to place troops in.

The levies in this quarter are mostly received, and I have been forming them into companies, and dissposing of them at diferent posts upon the frontiers as they arrived.

I have had a meeting with some of the Field officers of the County of Tryon, the particulars of which I shall report to your Excellency in a few days.

Major Schuyler has declined excepting of his Commission.

Since the arrival of the warrants for Impress, the prospect of a supply of Flower brightens. But our expectations of beef are exceeding slender. I have the honor to be your Excellencies most obedient and very humble Servant

Marinus Willett.

Governor Clinton.

Albany, 19th May 1781.

Regimental orders for Colonel Willett's regiment of levies.

The following is the arrangement of the officers who compose the said regiment.

Colonel Marinus Willet	}	Captain Silas Gray	}
Major Jno. McKinster		Lieut. Abra'm A. Fonda	
Major ——— —		Do Nathaniel Ford	
Captain Benjamin Dubois,	}	Captain Hotham Dunham	}
Lieutenant John Brown		Lieut. Nathaniel Cady	
Do George Passage		Do Soloman Barkley	
Do Peter Van Voort			
Captain Elibu Marshall	}	Captain Garrit Putnam	}
Lieutenant James Cannon		Lieut. Victor Putnam	
Do Peter ———		Do Garrit Newkirk	
Do John Low		Do Jno. Fonda, Jur., Q. M.	

Captain Anthony Whelp	}	Captain Stephen White	}
Lieutenant James Baker		Lieut. John Thornton	
Do Isaac Salkeld		Do Wm Moore	
Lieut. Benonuel Duel		Do Jellis A. Fonda, Adj't.	
Captain Philip Conine	}	Captain Lawrence Gross	}
Lieutenant Isaac V'n Valkenburgh		Lieut. Simmons	
Do Peter A. V'n B		Do Simon Vroman	
		Do Timothy Watters	
Captain Peter Elsworth	}		
Lieutenant Wm. Bloodgood		Wm. Petrie, Surgeon	
Do Bartle Hendricks		Johan Danl. Gross, Chap'n	
Do John Shaw			

The officers are to take rank agreeable to their former Commissions. The officers will take post untill farther orders in the manner following: Major McKinster with the companies of Captains Gray, Dunham and Whelp at Saratoga; Captain White with his company at Ballstown; Captain Marshall's company at Johnstown; Captain Elsworth's at the German Flats; Captain Gross at Conojoharie; Capt. Putnam at Fort Hunter; Captain Dubois at Schoharia; and Captain Conine at Cats-Kill; Captains Gray and Dunham's companies are to be composed of the levies that are already assembled at Saratoga together with such as are yet to be received from the regiments of militia commanded by Colo. Whiting, Colo. Van Ness, Colo. Blair, Colonel Van Veghten, Colonel Peter Yates and such as may be furnished by Charlotte County, which Major McKinster or the officer commanding at Saratoga will dispatch officers to receive without delay. Captain Marshal's company is to be formed of the troops already assembled at Johnstown under the charge of Captain McKain. Captain Elsworth's company will be made up of the

troops he has already rec'd from the manner of Livingston and those ordered to be haulted with Lieutenant Bloodgood at the German Flats; Captain White's company is to consist of those men he has already in charge and such as are yet to be rec'd from the regiment of militia commanded by Major Taylor, and Colo. Philip Schuyler, for which he is to dispatch one of his subaulterns without delay. Captain Putnam's company will consist of the levies from Colonel Fisher's regiment only, untill a more equal disstrubution can be made (then at present). Captain Conine will form his company of the levies from Colo. Van Bergen's regiment and those that are yet to be received from Colo. Henry Livingston, Colo. Van Alstine, Colo. Van Rensselear, of Claverick and Colonel Henry K. Van Rensselcar, to which places he will immediately disspatch officers to receive them, Captain Grosses company is to be composed of the levies from Colonel Wemple's regiment of militia, those aready ordered to him from Colonel Van Ness's regiment and those from Colonel Klock and Colonel Cloide's regiment, with such as are yet to be furnished by the regiment of Colonel Kilian Van Rensselaer's, to which last place Lieutenant Hutten will repair to receive them and march them to Conohoharia with as much expedition as possible. Captain Dubois is to take charge of the levies from Colonel Vroman's regt. and all those that may arrive from Dutchess County, except a sufficient number to form a moderate company for Captain Whelp.

Lieutenant Jellis A. Fonda is appointed adjutant to the regiment and Lieut. John Fonda, Jun'r is appointed Quarter Master.

The greenness of the troops, and the importance of the service they are called to, most powerfully point out the necessity of the greatest assiduity, vigilance and perseverance. The diss-

tresses of the inhabitants we are called to protect, demand every possible effort for their security. A cruel and barbarous enemy, that cant be too severely chastised, ought to stimulate every officer & soldier to employ every possible exertion for their chastisement. The thought of receiving any other treatment to such as fall into their hands but what is consistent with the most hellish barbarism should esestablish in every breast a determination never to be dissarmed by them, but with our latest breath. The enemy we have to deal, are artfull as well as cruel, and require all our invention as well as alacrity. The officers commanding at the diferent posts, will keep out proper scouts on all the trails leading to their respective posts, and observe a regular intercourse with each other in order to regulate the ground they are severally to range. They are to pay particular attention to the discipline & health of their troops, and by no means suffer them to straggle from their main body. Officers commanding companies, will make returns of the strength of their companies, particularising the numbers they have received for the different Militia regiments, including officers. That the exact deficiencies of the several Classes of Militia may be known, deserters are to be included in this return. They are likewise to make out a list of all deserters, with their names & the descriptions of their persons. The returns are to be forwarded to the adjt. at Schenectady, who is to dijest them into a regimental return. The levies from Colonel Bellinger's regt. at the German Flats are to be received by Captain Elsworth.

[No. 3734.]

*Hugh Hughes' Letter About Captain Wooster.*

Sir, I do myself the Honour to acquaint your Excellency that on my Tour through Connecticut last week, I met with Capt. Thomas Wooster, who desired me to inform you that he had answered your Excellency's Letter on the Subject of his appointment &c. which arriv'd in his absence, and to which if I understood him, he expected some Reply, as to Conditions &c. But finally concluded, as soon as he could settle his affairs, to wait on your Excellency.

The Inclosure\* I receiv'd from Miles. I have the Honour to be, with the greatest Respect your Excellency's most obdt. and very Humble Serv't

Hugh Hughes.

Fishkill May 21st 1781.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 3735.]

*General Schuyler Informs the Governor That the People of Saratoga Are "Ready to Fly."*

Saratoga, May 21st 1781.

Dear Sir, Yesterday I was honored with your Excellency's favor of the 13th Instant. Since my last, the Information contain'd in the inclosed to General Washington is come to hand, after perusal, your Excellency will please to seal and forward it.

The Inhabitants are all on the wing, ready to fly, and I apprehend if I leave this, that the whole will follow me. I shall, therefore, remain a few days longer, hoping the enemy may permit us, and that troops will arrive.

\* Not found.



The Impress warrants have afforded a timely relief in the article of flour, and seven or eight days allowance of beef is arrived. It is to be hoped if we can work along until grass fed beef can be procured, that supplies will be more regular. I am with great respect and esteem, D'r Sir, your Excellency's most obedient Humble Servant

Ph: Schuyler.

His Excellency Gove'r Clinton.

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[No. 3736.]

*Judge Morris Recommends Catharine Buys for a Pardon.*

Poughkeepsie May ye 21, 1781.

Sir, At the Special court of Oyer and terminer and goal delivery held at this place the last week, Catharine Buys, was under a Late act of the Legislature of this State (Entituled "an act for the more speedy tryal of felonies without Benefit of clergy for subjecting the accessories to such felonies to a like punishment with the principals and for the tryals of such accessories although the principals may not be convicted") tried and convicted of receiveing, relieveing, aiding, comforting, and assisting, Joseph Earl and Nathan Hoeg, knowing them to have been guilty of certain felonies mentioned in the Indictments and of receiveing stolen goods from Joseph Earl, The only material evidence to support the Charges was one Francis Cole, who from his own Testimony appeared to have been an accomplice with Joseph Earl. Twelve other persons were afterwards tryed for the same offences (by three several jurys) who in their defence produced several witnesses not only to impeach the Veracity of the said Cole (who was also the principle witness against them) but which tended to show a great weakness in his Intellect if not something like Insanity at times with other Circumstances which induced the said several Jurys not to credit Cole, for they acquitted them, notwithstanding, his Testimony was full and pointed against most of them; from these Circumstances, we think it wrong that the said Catharine Buys should be executed upon such Testimony only, and therefore, do recommend her to your Excellency for a pardon and are with the Greatest Respect your Excellency's most obedient Humble Servants

Ri'd Morris.

His Excell'y George Clinton.

[No. 3737.]

*Return of Colonel Willett's regiment of Levies.*

A Return of a Regiment of Levies raised for the immediate Defence of the Frontiers of this State Com-  
manded by Marinus Willett. Albany 21 May, 1781.

Lieut. Colo. Command't	Officers present			Officers collecting Levies			Non Com'd Officers & Priv. Rec'd			
	Majors	Captains	Lieutenants	Surgeons	Majors	Captains	Lieutenants	present	Deserted	In Gaol for Debt
1		7	20	1	1	3	6	326	19	2

## Militia from whence the Levies are Raised.

Number	From what Regt. or County	From what Brigades	Deficiencies
37	Colo. Henry Livingston	Genl. Van Renselaer	10
32	Ditto Whiting	Ditto	11
28	Ditto Van Renselaer	Ditto	2
22	Ditto Van Alstyne	Ditto	2
24	Ditto Van Ness	Ditto	4
17	Ditto Killian Van Renselar	Genl. Gansevoort	15
22	Ditto Henry K. V Renselaer	Ditto	5
	Lient Colo Blair	Ditto	
18	Ditto Van Veghten	Ditto	4
5	Major Tayler	Ditto	13
	Colo. Peter Yates	Ditto	
28	Ditto Philip P. Schuyler	Ditto	7
29	Ditto Ab'm Cuyler	Ditto	
25	Ditto Van Bergen	Ditto	
11	Ditto Ab'm Wemple	Ditto	
58	Ditto Vroman	Ditto	9
	Tryon County		
	Charlotte County		
	Dutchess County		
385			82

## Disposition of the Troops Received.

Where Posted	Capts.	Sub.	N. Com'd & Privates
Saratoga	2	4	70
Ballstown	1	2	15
German Flatts	1	3	69
Canajohary	1	2	53
Fort Hunter	1	2	29
Cats Kill	1	2	22
Albany		1	9
Johnstown		3	61
Schohary		1	11
Total	7	20	339

Deserted 19

(No. 3738.)

*Congress Calls upon the States to Make Good Their Ratio of Currency  
on a Specie Basis.*

By The United States in Congress assembled.

May 22d 1781.

The report of the Committee appointed to devise further ways and means to carry on the present campaign &c. was taken into consideration whereupon,

Resolved That the whole debts already due by the United States be liquidated as soon as may be to their specie value and funded if agreeable to the Creditors as a loan upon Interest.

That the States be severally informed that the calculations of the expences for the present Campaign are made in solid coin and consequently that the requisitions from them respectively being grounded on those calculations must be complied with in such manner as effectually to answer the purpose designed. That experience having evinced the inefficacy of all attempts to support the credit of the paper money by compulsory acts, it is recommended to such States where laws making paper bills a tender yet exist to repeal the same.

That the States be further informed, that the exigency and situation of public affairs is such, that any farther delay in complying with the requisitions of Congress must prove ruinous, and that, therefore, the treasurer of the United States is directed: immediately to draw orders on the treasurers of the several States payable at thirty days sight for their respective quotas of the three millions of dollars called for on the 26th day of August 1780, and which was to have been paid into the Continental treasury on or before the last day of Dec'r last and that he will in like manner continue to draw orders on them for their respective quotas of the sums called for by the acts of the 4th of November and 16th of March last, as they become due; and that it is expected the States will severally direct their treasurers to accept those orders as soon as presented and take effectual measures to enable their respective treasurers to pay them punctually as they become due.

Extract from the Minutes.

Chas. Thomson Sec'y.

[No. 3739.]

*Lieutenant Burnside Asks to be Relieved from Further Duty in Raising Levies.*

Harverstraw, May 22d 1781.

Sir, I send you inclosed, a return\* of the recruits I have inlisted and received for Colo. Lamb's regt. of Artillery. I am sorry that it has not been in my power to recruit more, tho' I can assure your Excellency that I have used every exertion to procure them, ever since I received your Orders for the purpose. It is now out of my power to inlist any more in this quarter, would, therefore, beg your Excellency that I might be recalled from this busness. I have the honor to be your Excellency's most obt. humble Serv't

Jno. Burnside.

His Excellency Governor George Clinton.

[No. 3740.]

*Officers of the Town of Orange Offer a Suggestion in the Line of Military Duty.*

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 the militia officers of the town of Orange, in Orange County, in behalf of themselves and those they have the Honour to Command.

Most Humbly Sheweth, That your Petitioners while able have been as forward as those of any other part of the State, in complying with the orders they have from time

\*Not found.

to time received from your Excellency, and it gives them pain even to think that they should not be able to keep up with others; yet such is the Case, that many of the inhabitants of said township have sustained such heavy Losses from the incursions of the enemy and the unnecessary waste and destruction committed by the army of these States, that your Petitioners are much perplexed with the orders for raising every twentieth man: the inhabitants being destitute of money and their grain has last year been destroyed by the army of these States.

That your Petitioners cannot avoid remarking that they have yearly, and every year, during the continuance of the present war, been called upon for men to guard the frontiers; that they have at all times readily complied, every time expecting, that, as they were a frontier part of the state and lay much exposed, the men raised among them would remain for the defence of the said township, but they have as often been disappointed in their expectations, and after having raised the said men, they have been under the necessity of keeping great part of the remaining militia upon constant duty. Your Petitioners, therefore, humbly pray that your Excellency will not insist upon the militia of said town raising every twentieth man in the manner required by the orders of your Excellency, but that your Petitioners may be indulged with keeping or furnishing a guard of as many men as will be equal to the number of men required, to guard and protect the frontier parts of said Township, and that the said guard may from time to time be relieved by an equal number of the militia of the said town. And your Petitioners shall ever pray &c. &c.

May ye 22d A. D. 1781.

Johannes Blauvelt, Capt. Mathias Conklin, Lut., Henry Hendrix, Lut.,

Johannis Bell, Capt., Daniel Onderdonck, Ensign, John Sitcher, Leut., William Graham, Lut.

J. M. Hogenkamp, Capt. Cornelus Blauvelt, Leut., Jacob Sickels, Ensign

Henry Tourneur, Capt. Walter Vanorden, Lieut. Thos. Blauvelt, Lieut. Theunis Taulman, Lieut. Derick V derbelt, Lieut. Harman Taulman, Ens. Andres Onderdunck, lut. John Meyer, ins.

John Smith, Major John L. Smith, Major.

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[No. 3741.]

### FORT SCHUYLER TO BE EVACUATED.

*Governor Clinton to Confer with Washington on the Frontier Problem—The Problem of Reinforcements and Subsistence.*

Albany, May 22d, 1781.

Sir, Your favour of the 19th Inst. with the Inclosed from Genl. Washington of the 18th I have had the pleasure to receive. Agreeable to your desire I have consulted with Generals Rensselaer, and Gansevoort, the Mayor and Council and several other Gentlemen respecting the abandoning of Fort Schuyler; and establishing a Post at the German Flatts, who are unanimous in opinion that under our present circumstances the Fort should be evacuated and the Garrison removed to Fort Herkemen; I have this day, accordingly, given orders for that purpose, a Copy of a Letter to Lieut. Colo. Cochran, I herewith inclose you.

As Genl. Schuyler is at Saratoga I have not had an opportunity to consult him on that head but have wrote him for his opinion.

If we Erect a Post at the above mentioned place, an Engineer will be wanted for that purpose. Last night I received an Express from Genl. Schuyler and Lieuts. Colo. Van Dyck, which contains all the news I have at present from the northward. The Letters for Genl. Washington here inclosed are left open for your perusal. I am confident the Enemy intend something serious against our Frontiers; in short, we have but few men to the northward as Colonel Cortlandt's Regiment with part of the new Levies will be for a considerable time employed to assist in the Evacuation of Fort Schuyler. I would wish to have the other six Companies of the Brigade which are at West Point, if I could see any prospect of supplying them with provisions, as I am confident that even they, will not be adequate. I have been able to procure a Quantity of Flour by impress; the Chief appears to be purchas'd for the use of French army, which is considerable, amounting to near three thousand Barrels. I have not been able to procure one Barrel of Beef or Fish; the Flour I have yet not removed, but the purchasers have promised not to send it off without my notice or consent.

23d. Since yesterday I have detained my Letter, expecting to receive farther intelligence from the Northward; last night Hagenbottom, the pretended deserter, and Meaker of the first New York Regiment, were brought to Town. They are both in Irons and Close confined; at the same time a second Letter from Genl. Schuyler was received with one for Genl. Washington which is left open for your perusal. I am, Sir, your Humb'le serv't

Governor Clinton.

James Clinton.

Pokeepsie 27th May 1781.

Dear Sir, Your Favour of the 22d & 23d Instant was delivered me Friday afternoon. I immediately forwarded its inclosures to Head Quarters; His Excellency the Genl. was at Weathersfield, & did not return before late yesterday Evening, which will account for your not receiving any Dispatches from him by the present Messenger. I intend to set out early Tomorrow Morning for New Windsor, to confer with the Genl. on the State of the Frontiers; you may rely on my using every Argument in my Power to induce him to order as great a Force for their Protection as can possibly be spared, & I am not without Hopes that he will give you the remaining part of your Brigade for this Service. I will also endeavour to have the Embarrassments you labour under, for want the means of Subsistence, removed, & acquaint you with the Result on my Return. Please to appologize to Genl. Schuyler for my not writing him by this Conveyance. I am &c.

[G. C.]

[To General Clinton.]

[No. 3742.]

*General Scott on a Legal Proposition.*

Fish Kill, May 23d 1781.

Sir, Mr. Edward Hicks, a Refugee from Long Island, has applied to me for a Sight of the Law enabling the person administering the Government to exchange persons as prisoners of war, for Subjects of this State Prisoners of War with the Enemy. He informs me that he applied to your Excellency on the Subject of an Exchange of John Halsted of this County and his wife & six Children for his (Hicks's) wife and six Children now on Long Island, & that for want of a Copy of the Law you referred him to me; at his request, I have framed for him a written application to your Excellency, founded on the Law which I suppose he will produce to you: should Halsted subscribe it, in order to obtain your approbation of the Exchange, to be indorsed thereon & filed and recorded in my office as the Law requires, there is nothing in the Law, which will prevent Halsted from converting his personal property into Cash; but his real Estate should the Exchange take place, will be ipso facto forfeited to the people of this State. And as Mr. Hicks is desirous to Exchange his place on Long Island for that of Halsted in this County for the Term of the Continuance of the war only, this can be done (if your Excellency should approve of the Exchange) by Execution of proper deeds of Exchange between the parties previous to your indorsing your Consent as abovementioned. In which Case, the Exchange being thus consented to, Halsted's deed will amount to a bona fide Lease to Mr. Hicks during the war and the Reversion will vest

in the people of the State. I am, with great respect your Excellency's most obedient  
 Servant

John Morin Scott.

His Excellency the Governor.

[No. 3743.]

*Petition for Exchange of William and Martinus Devoe, Taken from  
 Albany County under Trick, Coercion and Violence.*

To his Excellency George Clinton, Esqr. Governour Captain General and Commander  
 in Chief of the State of New York and Admiral of the Navy of the Same.

The Petition of the Parents and Neighbours of William and Martinus Devoe, Inhabitants  
 of the District of Halfmoon, Humbly Sheweth

That the two above mentioned young men, William and Martinus Devoe, having  
 always been attached to their Country, was a few Days ago prevailed on to Inlist  
 in the nine Months Service, by a certain Philip Riley (who proves to be an Imposter  
 and grand Villian) who enticed the above mentioned young men to come to a certain  
 House some little distance in the Bush, where he said the Classes were to meet.  
 As soon as they came there, a party of Tories headed by one, Joseph Bettes, took them  
 Prisoners, and are now carried Captives to Canada. Your Petitioners understanding  
 your Excellency intends a Flag shortly for that Place, therefore, humbly pray if it  
 may be possible, your Excellency would order an Exchange of the two aforesaid  
 young men, William and Martinus Devoe; as their aged Parents take it much to  
 Heart and grieve about them Continually, for they are much wanted in the Families.  
 And your Petitioners as in Duty bound will ever Pray.

Halfmoon, May the 24th 1781.

Isaac Devoe & Ruliff Devoe Fathers of the two young men.

Jacobus V'n Schoonhoven and many others.

[No. 3744.]

*Return of General Van Rensselaer's Brigade.*

Return of the Brigade of Militia of the County of Albany com-  
 manded by Brigadier General Robert Van Rensselaer. Dated  
 this 24th May 1781.

Names of Commandants.	Officers											Privates	Total
	Field			Staff			Com'd			non com.			
	Colonels	Lt. Colonels	Majors	Adjutants	Qr. Masters	Surgeons	Captains	Lieutenants	Ensigns	Serjeants	Drums & Fifes		
Colo: Peter Van Ness	1						5	11	6	24	6	309	362
Wm. B. Whiting	1	1	2	1	1	1	9	16	7	35	11	420	505
Ab'm Van Alstyne	2	1	2	1	1		6	9	6	22	10	258	317
Lt. Colo: H. V Rensselaer	1	1	1	1		1	5	7	4	18	3	195	236
H'y Livingston		1	2	1	1		9	18	8	36	2	402	480
Total	3	4	9	4	3	2	34	61	31	135	32	1586	1900

John Lansing, Jun'r., Major Brigade.



[No. 3745.]

*Draft of Letter to Governor Trumbull Requesting Copies of Laws for  
Emitting Money.*

Poughkeepsie, May 25th 1781.

Sir, The Legislature of this State have made it criminal, knowingly to pass not only our own, but also the counterfeit Currency of any other of the States; and, considering the great Intercourse between the several States, the Policy of the Law must be evident.

There is now a Person indicted at Albany for passing Counterfeits of the last Emissions of your State, and the Atty. Genl. has reported to me that in order to a conviction, it is requisite he should be furnished with Exemplifications of the Laws in consequence of which the Bills were emitted, as Evidence of a less nature will not answer. I have, therefore, taken the liberty to request from your Excellency, exemplified Copies under the great Seal of your State, of the Law or Laws passed by your Legislature for the purpose of emitting monies in the course of the year 1780. I have requested all the Laws, passed during the year, relative to this Subject, as the Culprit is charged with passing Counterfeits of various Dates. The Trial will come on in the ensuing July Term, and I, therefore, could wish to be favored with the exemplifications early in that month at farthest. I have the Honor to be &c.

G. Clinton.

His Excellency Jona. Trumbull, Esqr., Gov'r of the State of Connecticut.

[No. 3746.]

*Congress Forwards a Communication from General Greene Depicting  
the Situation in the South.*

(Circular)

Philadelphia, May 28, 1781.

Sir, I am directed to transmit your Excellency, the enclosed Copy of a Resolution of the 26th Instant,\* together with a copy

\*On the report of a committee, consisting of Mr. Witherspoon, Mr. Sullivan, Mr. M. Smith, Mr. Clymer, to whom was referred a letter from Mr. R. Morris, with the plan of a bank:

Resolved, That Congress do not approve of the plan† for establishing a national bank in these United States, submitted to their consideration by Mr. R. Morris, the 17th May, 1781; and that they will promote and support the same by such ways and means, from time to time, as may appear necessary for the institution, and consistent with the public good:

That the subscribers to the said bank shall be incorporated agreeably to the principles and terms of the plan, under the name of "the president, directors and company of the bank of North-America," so soon as the subscription shall be filled, the directors and president chosen, and application for that purpose made to Congress by the president and directors elected.

On the question to agree to this paragraph, the yeas and nays being required by Mr. T. Smith,

New Hampshire,	Mr. Sullivan,	ay }	ay
	Mr. Livermore,	ay }	
Massachusetts,	Mr. Lovell,	no }	no
	Mr. Ward,	no }	
Rhode-Island,	Mr. Varnum,	ay*	
Connecticut,	Mr. Huntington,	ay*	
New-Jersey,	Mr. Witherspoon,	ay }	ay
	Mr. Houston,	ay }	
Pennsylvania,	Mr. Clymer,	ay }	divided.
	Mr. T. Smith,	no }	
Maryland,	Mr. Jenifer,	ay }	ay
	Mr. Carroll,	ay }	
Virginia,	Mr. Jones,	ay }	ay
	Mr. Madison,	no }	
	Mr. Bland,	ay }	
	Mr. M. Smith,	ay }	
North-Carolina,	Mr. Sharpe,	ay }	ay
	Mr. Johnson,	ay }	
South-Carolina,	Mr. Matthews,	ay }	ay
	Mr. Bee,	ay }	
	Mr. Motte,	ay }	
Georgia,	Mr. Walton,	ay }	ay
	Mr. Few,	ay }	
	Mr. Howly,	ay }	

So it was resolved in the affirmative.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the several states by proper laws for that purpose, to provide that no other bank, or bankers shall be established or permitted within the said states respectively during the war.

Resolved, That the notes hereafter to be issued by the said bank, payable on demand, shall be receivable in payment of all taxes, duties and debts due, or that may become due or payable to the United States:

Resolved, That Congress will recommend to the several legislatures to pass laws, making it felony without benefit of clergy, for any person to counterfeit bank-notes, or to pass such notes, knowing them to be counterfeit, also making it felony without benefit of clergy, for any president, inspector, director, officer or servant of the bank, to convert any of the property, money or credit of the said bank to his own use,

† Plan for establishing a national bank for the United States of North America.

of General Greene's Letter therein referred to. I have the Honor to be, with very great Respect Your Excellency's most obedient & most humble Servant

Sam. Huntington, President.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

or in any other way to be guilty of fraud or embezzlement as an officer or servant of the bank.

On the report of a committee, consisting of Mr. Jones, Mr. Jenifer, Mr. Matthews, to whom were referred letters from major-general Greene:

Ordered, That a copy of major-general Greene's letter of 22d April, be transmitted to the executives of the states from New-Hampshire to New-Jersey, both inclusive; that the said states respectively may have before them, as fully as the same is communicated to Congress, the dangerous situation of the southern states; and from a knowledge of their circumstances, and consideration of their distress, may be prompted to make the utmost exertions for sending forward to the main-army their quotas of men, agreeably to the requisitions of Congress of the 3d and 21st day of October last, whereby alone the commander in chief can be enabled to give effectual succour to the southern states and prosecute with vigour the operations of the ensuing campaign.

On the report of a committee, consisting of Mr. Varnum, Mr. Motte, Mr. Carroll, to whom was referred a letter of J. Howell, auditor of accounts in the main-army:

Resolved, That the officers of the flying-camp, lately returned from captivity, be allowed depreciation by their respective states, in the same manner as officers of the line in such states:

That in settling the accounts of officers returned from captivity, and who are entitled to the benefit of the resolutions of the 24th November, 1778, and 22d May, 1779, the auditors allow the year's pay mentioned in said resolutions in bill of the new emission, issued agreeably to the resolution of 18th March, 1780, and which shall be paid by the pay-master general:

That auditors of the army cannot take notice of breaches of parole till the same be ascertained by courts-martial, and that the pay of such officers will vary from that of other officers, according to the sentence, and not otherwise.

I. That a subscription be opened for 400,000 dollars, in shares of 400 dollars each, to be paid in gold or silver.

II. That the subscription be paid into the hands of George Clymer and John Nixon, Esqrs; or their agents.

III. That every subscriber of less than five shares, pay the whole sum on the day of his subscription.

IV. That every subscriber of five shares, or upwards, pay one-half the sum on the day of his subscription, and the other half within three months of that day.

V. That every holder of a share shall be entitled to vote by himself, his agent, or proxy properly appointed, at all elections of directors, and that he have as many votes as he holds shares; and that every subscriber may sell or transfer his share or shares at his pleasure, the transfer being made in the bank books, in preference and with the approbation of the proprietor, or his lawful attorney, the purchaser then to become entitled to the right of voting &c.

VI. That there be twelve directors chosen from among those entitled to vote, who, at their first meeting, shall choose one as president.

VII. That there be a meeting of the directors quarterly, for the purpose of regulating the affairs of the bank; any seven of the directors to make a board, and that the board have power to adjourn from time to time.

VIII. That the board of directors determine the manner of doing business, and the rules and forms to be pursued, appoint the various officers which they may find necessary, and dispose of the money and credit of the bank for the interest and benefit of the proprietors, and make, from time to time, such dividends, out of the profits, as they may think proper.

IX. That the board be empowered, from time to time, to open new subscriptions, for

Camp before Camden April 22d 1781.

Sir, In my last I informed your Excellency of Lord Cornwallis's precipitate retreat from Deep River, of the Situation of our army for the want of Provisions, and of the Virginia Militia's time of Service having' expired, which reduced our Numbers greatly inferior to the Enemies. Finding that I had not a force to pursue them further, and that our army could not be subsisted either on the Route the Enemy had marched or in the lower country, I thought it most adviseable to push my operations into South Carolina to recover the expiring hopes of the people, to divide with the enemy the Supplies of the country, of which they had the entire command, to break up their little Posts of communication, and if possible oblige Lord Cornwallis to return to the State for their Protection. This last was the great object of the movement, and had we a force to prosecute the plan, I persuade myself it would take Effect; but for the

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the purpose of encreasing the capital of the bank, on such terms and conditions as they shall think proper.

X. That the board shall at every quarterly meeting, choose two directors to inspect and controul the business of the bank for the ensuing three months.

XI. That the inspectors so chosen, shall on the evening of every, day, Sundays excepted, deliver to the superintendant of the finances of America, a state of the cash account and of the notes issued and received.

XII. That the bank notes, payable on demand, shall by law be made receivable in the duties and taxes of every state in the union, and from the respective states by the treasury of the United States as specie.

XIII. That the superintendant of the finances of America shall have a right, at all times, to examine into the affairs of the bank, and for that purpose shall have access to all the books and papers.

XIV. That any director or officer of the bank, who shall convert any of the property, monies or credits thereof to his own use, or shall any other way be guilty of fraud or embezzlement, shall forfeit all his share or stock to the company.

XV. That laws shall be passed making it felony without benefit of clergy, to commit such fraud or embezzlement.

XVI. That the subscribers shall be incorporated under the name of "the president, directors and company of the bank of North America."

XVII. That none of the directors shall be entitled to any pecuniary advantage for his attendance on the duties of his office as director, or as president or inspector, unless an alteration in this respect, shall hereafter be made, by the consent of a majority of the stock-holders at a general election.

XVIII. That as soon as the subscription shall be filled, George Clymer and John Nixon, Esqrs; shall publish a list of the names and sums respectively subscribed, with the place of abode of the subscribers, and appoint a-day for the choice of directors, to whom, when chosen, they shall deliver over the money by them received.

want of which the matter remains doubtful. Upwards of five Months have I been in this Department with nothing but the shattered remains of a routed army, except the addition of Colo. Lee's Legion and a couple of small detachments from Virginia, amounting to little more than a Regiment, and those without discipline, or even Officers to command them. In this Situation, with a temporary aid of Militia we have been struggling with a very unequal force under every possible disadvantage, and surrounded with every kind of Distress.

We have run every hazard and been exposed to every danger not only of been beaten, but of being totally ruined. I have been anxiously waiting for Succour, but the prospect appears to me to be remote, except the temporary aid of the militia, which is too precarious and uncertain to commence any serious offensive operations upon.

The more I enquire into the natural Strength of North & South Carolina either to form or support an army, the more I am persuaded they have been greatly over-rated. More of the Inhabitants appear in the King's Interest than in ours, and the country is so extensive and thinly inhabited that it is not easy either to draw any considerable force together, or subsist them when collected. The Militia in our Interest can do little more than keep Tories in Subjection, and in many places not that. These States were in a better condition to make Exertions last campaign than this. The well affected last year spent their time and their Substance in fruitless exertions, and finding themselves unequal to the Conflict, and their families being exposed and in distress, hundreds and hundreds of the best whigs have left the country. Last year it was full of Resources; this, it is almost totally exhausted, and the little Produce that remains

lies so remote, and the means of Transportation so difficult to command, that it is next to an Impossibility to collect it.

The Enemy have got a firmer footing in the Southern States than is generally expected. Camden, Ninety-six and Augusta cover all the fertile parts of South Carolina & Georgia, and they are laying waste the Country above them, which will effectually secure those posts, as no army can be subsisted in the neighbourhood to operate against them. Below, they have a great many intermediate Points of communication, for the purpose of awing the country & commanding its Supplies. Nor can I see how we are to reduce those capital posts but with a superior army in the field. I wish Congress not to be deceived respecting the Situation of things in the Southern department, and, therefore, I hope they will excuse the freedom I take: If more effectual Support cannot be given than has been, or as I can see any prospect of, I am very apprehensive that the Enemy will hold their Ground not only of the Seaports, but the interior country. The conflict may continue for some time longer, and Generals Sumter & Marian deserve great credit for their exertions & perseverance, but their Endeavours rather serve to keep the contest alive than lay a Foundation for the Recovery of the States.

We began our March from Deep River on the 7th and arrived in the Neighbourhood of Camden on the 19th. All the country through which we passed is disaffected, and the same Guards & Escorts were necessary to collect provisions & forage as if in an open & avowed enemies country.

On our arrival at Camden we took post at Long Town, about half a Mile in front of their works, which upon reconnoitering were found to be much stronger than had been represented,

and the Garrison much larger. The Town is upon a plane covered on two sides by the river Wateree and Pinetree Creek, the other two Sides by a chain of strong Redoubts all nearly of the same size, and independant of each other. our force was too small either to invest the Town or storm the works, which obliged us to take a position at a little distance from it.

Before we began our March from Deep River, I detached Lieut. Colo. Lee with his Legion and part of the 2d Maryland Regim't to join General Marion to invest the Enemy's posts of Communication upon the Santee, and one of their posts is now invested called Fort Watson, and must fall if not relieved by a Detachment of Lord Cornwallis's army.

I have been greatly disappointed in the force I expected to operate with me. Fifteen hundred Virginia Militia were called for immediately after the Battle of Gilford, having this present Movement in contemplation at the Time; and the State gave an order for a greater Number than was required, but the busy Season of the year, and the great distance they have to march, prevents their coming to our assistance in time, is not in force. General Sumter also engaged to have 1000 Men in the field by the 18th to operate with us, but the difficulty of collecting the militia from the disagreeable Situation of their families, has prevented their embodying yet in any considerable force. These Disappointments lay us under many disadvantages, to say nothing worse. The country is extremely difficult to operate in, being much cut to pieces by deep creeks and impassable Morasses; and many parts are covered with such heavy Timber & thick underbrush as exposes an army, and particularly Detachments, to frequent Surprizes.

The Service has been so severe that it will be absolutely necessary to give the army some Relaxation soon: and, therefore, I lament the delay which is occasioned at this time for want of sufficient force to invest all the enemy's posts of communication.

Our Numbers are so reduced by the different actions & Skirmishes which have happened, and by the fatigue & Hardships of the Service, that we have but the Shadow of an army remaining: and this we are obliged to divide, to push our operations to any effect, tho' it is attended with danger, and may prove our Ruin.

I am extremely mortified at the Disappointment which happened in Virginia, in the plan of co-operation against Portsmouth, between our good ally and the Marquis de la Fayette. Success there, would have given us great Relief here, and I am persuaded that nothing can recover this country out of the hands of the Enemy, but a similar plan in the Southern States. At present, the enemy have as full possession of Georgia and almost the whole of South Carolina as they can wish. The last accounts I had from Lord Cornwallis, he lay at Wilmington, and his army it was said was getting very sickly. I have the Honor to be &c.

Nath. Greene.

His Excellency, The Presid't of Congress.

[No. 3747.]

*Colonel Hay Applies for the Exchange of Captain Townsend.*

Poughkeepsie 28 May 1781.

Sir, The merits of Capt'n Townsend, lately my assistant, as an officer, claim my particular attention, and induce me to hope



your Excellency will forgive my requesting you to mention his Exchange to the Commander in chief, if it can be effected in that way; the determination of Mr. Fish, appointed in his room, to resign, makes me wish in a particular manner for Capt. Townshend's return to the duties of his office. I have the Honour to be w<sup>th</sup> the utmost respect, your Excellency's most obedient and very humble Ser't,

Udny Hay.

Governour Clinton.

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[No. 3748.]

*Suffolk County Inhabitants Who Desire to Remove Across the Sound.*

Saybrook, 29th May 1781.

Sir, Many of the Inhabitants in Suffolk County have requested that Capt. Grenell and myself would apply to your Excellency for Permission to move of from Long Island, into the State of N. York, some of which have a very Considerable Quantity of Merchandize on hand; all of which that may be Suitable for the Publick they are willing to let them have, Provided Permission can be granted to Dispose of the rest in the State.

Capt. Grenell will be able to inform your Excellency more fully on this Subject, as well as the Business we are upon. I have the Honor to be, with Due respect and Esteem, your Excellency's Most Obed't Humble Servant

John Davis.

His Excellency Govnr. Clinton.

[No. 3749.]

*State of the nine companies of the Second Regiment of Artillery, May 29, 1781.*

State of Nine Companies of the 2d Regt. of Artillery, belonging to the State of New York. May 29th, 1781.

Companies	Officers														Total								
	Commissioned							Non-Commissioned															
	Colonel	Lieut. Colonel	Major	Captains	Capt. Lieut.	1st Lieut.	2d Lieut.	Adjutant	Pay Master	Qr. Master	Surgeon	Mate	Serjt. Major	Qr. Mr. Serjt.		Drum Major	Pte Major	Serjeants	Corporals	Bombardiers	Gunners	D. & Pte	Matrosses
Field and Staff	1	1	1					1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1	2	3	1	1	1	2	25
Captain Doubty				1	1	1	1										2	2	2	3	2	2	37
Mott				1	1	1	1										2	4	1	3	2	2	36
Bliss				1	1	1	1										2	2	4	3	2	2	35
Stevens				1	1	1	1										1	3	3	3	4	2	37
Fleming				1	1	1	1										3	3	3	4	2	2	40
Savage				1	1	1	1										3	2	2	1	2	2	35
Thomas				1	1	1	1										3	4	3	3	2	2	37
Maehin				1	1	1	1										2	2	1	2	2	2	39
Reed				1	1	1	1										4	2	3	4	2	2	39
Total	1	1	1	9	9	8	9	9	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	22	24	19	23	18	18	346
Vacant officers																	32	30	35	31			20
Wanting to compleat																							157
Establishment	1	1	1	9	9	9	27	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	54	54	54	51	18	351	651

N. B. 6 of the above Matrosses are Invalids. Capt Moodie's Company being at Fort Schuyler, the strength of it, is not known, supposed to be about 34.

E. Stevens, Lt. Colo., 2d R.

[No. 3750.]

*Gouverneur Morris Writes Entertainingly from Philadelphia.*

Phila: .....\*

Dear Governor, Yesterday the House were resolved [into] a Committee of the whole upon our Vermont Business and as far as \*..... rations can be trusted and appearances I hope we shall be able to render our State a good account of that Business. Nothing was concluded but on Tuesday next we are again to take it up in a Committee of the whole & I hope it will during the Course of the week be concluded to our satisfaction. Mr. Jay, and Mr. Duane who had the principal share in the Debate, did full Justice to the Cause and stated the merits with a Clearness and Force irresistible unless by Prejudice and Blindness.

I did flatter myself with the Pleasure of seeing you the Beginning of the next month. The Care of my Health which has much suffered by a long and unremitting attention, was a principal motive of my Design. Mr. Lewis who is with you, and Mr. Duer whenever he shall be with you, will be able to give a full & accurate account of the situation of our Public affairs here. For this Reason and as I have lately been blessed with an Interval of better Health than usual, I shall defer for some time my Return. This indeed I am compelled to do for the Business \*.....\* ortant Committees which Congress have done me \*.....\* upon hath so principally devolved to my manage- \*.....\* that I cannot quit it without injury to the Public. \*.....\* asures I have lately taken will I hope be productive of very \*.....\* Consequences to our state. To what extent & effect they may \*.....\* it is not in human Prudence to determine because Human Prudence cannot govern events. I am not now at Liberty to state these things but a little time will I hope display them.

\*MSS. torn.

The torrent of abuse which hath been poured out ag't me hath doubtless reached my Constituents. Those who know me will do me the Justice to think properly on the occasion. Could I beleive myself capable of any among the many things which have been said, I should heartily despise myself. One Consolation I derive from it, and that is a great one, those who vilify and traduce me are my enemies because I will not prostitute myself to the Purposes of Faction. Such enmity I shall court rather than avoid. Nor can it ever give me one momentary Pang unless it should affect the minds of my Constituents or my Friends.

I pray you to pardon the egotisms of this letter & to beleive me most respectfully yours

Gouv. Morris.

His Exc'y George Clinton, Esqr.

[No. 3751.]

*Account of Articles Furnished the Second New York Regiment by the Paymaster.—No Date.*

United States		Dr.		
To Lieut. Mich'l Connolly P. M'r 2 N. York Regt.			Dolls.	
April 17th, 1780	—493 pr. Brass Shoe Buckels at 4/			
	For the late 4th & 5th Regi- ments		£246.49/90	
	374 do for the 2d Regt. Deliver'd to the late Capt. Graham		187	
Janry. 81	237 do for the 2d Regt.		118	45
May	600 Leather half gauters at 5/4		400	
			<hr/>	
			Dollars	952

I have Examined the above acc't and find it to be just.

P. Cortlandt, Colo.

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