Thenestady May 11- 1813 0 Dear di, you will see by the date that 9 and now on the banks of the Mohawh, I left Greenbush yesterday ofternoon and owing to some defficulty with air baggage weggens whe can get no further today. Our destinction is to Oswego by the way of Mica but shed I fremmo eventually go to Jackets harbour. Our men have been very much traubled with very much. In fact it is an attack of the prevailing typhus fever. Our men are on the recovery though they are weak. The measters & mounts made their appearance to afflict us but their course was limited. The measles are very mild thought we thought is prudent to leave several on the road before we arrived at Green but fish with them. Have will probable that the particulars or her as they are known here of the taking of Little york before you receive this . I shall not therefore duly observed there have thought so place of considerable consequence as a deposit of military 2 indian stones. Thong and are called as fine recounts as even manufed through this section of the fountry, Interest and Sixteen do non Brown from Erro Stathett \$ 5,20 from Nahmun Walke t Filskie 2 6 2 \$ 5, from to Solso conclude to in close the contract of the more from 66 ments. Jonk to his Brothe Niholas yok firs of Shepligh & one more for change. all amountary to twenty eight dellars your Mention to these matters will no doubt oblige the from above named. ... My John & Brak sorry learn thirty that Bradford had sich though I had the some time the satisfaction home that he was

on the recovery. I presume em this he is well. Simuit me, Li, to confer that I hold i gratiful remembraner the necessary 2 innumer ble kindnesses I have necessed from you & family I hope I shall never forget them. My affection to all the children & Hannah I suppose with think The is wronged if the is not particularly mentioned. My best regards to Min Holmes & May Brooks -I am it respectfully yours To fun Mantine

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Sacheli Harbor July 5 th 1813 Wills Jear In boats amilored is my deposition agreable to your True request. I have there stated the substance of what 1 They I could reaghest relative to the affair. Perhaps it is less particules then you expect but I believe I have thethe intelligibly whatever is important in I can give you but little information of Where the proceedings here come the then you der in of possible - Gen! Lewis has lately evouved I now command here. The rigging of the ge Pike goes on refidly - she will saw he ready to sail; till them we shall not venture out In the lake. Last wednesday his James Bea with about eight hundred men principally sailors starts from Hingston in beats with a determination to enter our herobor 2 destroy of our shipping in the night at all harrards. horoved so dark they would not find the way fore light and they thenfore landed on a point of land The mount of harbor called paint peninsula about 12 the miles from our shipping. They hauled Their bests ashore, covered them with breish a lay conecald on theirsday with a determination to part their plans in execution that night. but is many of their men deserted, Sir James thinking, It firesumed, that we had got information, I pearing to trust any longer to the fidelity of his men, preturned to things tow. One of the desetters got to camp just before night one thursday which put as on the alert & early next morning and feet went out to interest him, but he had made his escape. Fifteen deserters from him have already reported the roclos at this post a day that nearly fifty left him who have probably scattered into the country. We are constantly prepared for some desperate attack from the energy on our plent; for we know their great object is to detroy a part of it before the gen! Pike is ready , This is a very important abylit. I consider that on our superiority on the lake defends success of the campaign is a good measure. He are particularly on the olent tonight as it is reported that the

Enemy have four thousand trops unparted the attach this plan a the wained is very favoreth. do not believe the report because they have not shipping enough to convey half that number in addition to the ships us by susprise. If they do, I am confident they will repent of their rashness. If the every with their whole fleet I one thousand troops were obliged retreat when our whole flest were about I we had not moone their eight hundred were [except militial] I not more than six hundred in within They cannot expect any better secress now even if they bring four Mousand troops. In regard to the late attack I would observe that I have been very much surprised that with his form the energy died not succeed, but much of that surprin has ceased since we know that his loss was at least two hundred & eighty. They left whowards of fifty willed, wounded of prisoners I we have correct information that two product a thirty wounded were carried into their hospital in Hingston. They probably had many wounded who were not carried in a Lowe estimate the whole at mean fores hundred Among the hilled + warnded was a full proportion of Miles dame of our rewrite, it is treve, did not fight with the regularity of ald soldiers, but shalling by companies behind whation would sereen them they hefit who a most destruction to our discipline, completely failed the every: his orders bayonet but he found that when he attempted to charge one company they retreated I were covered so protected by others in the rease. The enemy boosts that he doore us deveral hours; this is tree, but in all that time he did not get helf a mile. The militia was stated and off they landed and all fled as soon as the energy were ashowed wants except a few under laft M. Nitt. Jun. Brown says one hundred, but Get Brown belongs to the militia & his particlity has probably more than doubled The real numbe. you. Porouve is no doubt a brave more but not a conque: mate general. The volunteers I believe fought will: I! know very nearly the number in each coops of an tatisfied that we had not mover than sever hundred engaged at one Worth's militia of The every had at least nine hundred

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in the engagement after alcebucking their probable lan in landing . Add to this the cossistance They received from their shipping which was considerable . Col. Mills was killed by a grape shot from one of this gun basts a considerable proportion of our killed a wounded wand. this main's from the same quester. Tis true we had some field pieces but I do consider That They rendered us so much service of the shipping this there the number angaged on our sade. I carnot determine in my own mind which had the adventage of ground. Where the enemy landed they fad a cleared what the wood, partly cleared, then a few large trees with under would & finely They ground they retreated from perfectly clear, Part of the time they had the disadvanting of being fair mark is the cleared ground white arm tracks were in the words & hast of the time we labored under the same shis advantage. The energy, is his official orders owners that and troops therew Thenselves it block houses which obliged him to retreat. This is not true: The probably meant in few miserable huts built of round thicks which had been occupied as barrache but which were to spen that I don'the whether. They were any benefit to the except they gave our men Some confidence & scored the eveny. In fact several of our men were shot in them . In the above shethe you have I believe very nearly a correct andust of the relative force a adamtage of batt parties & can Judge of american bradery when campared with british bravery aided by shill orslisupline I am sorry to bearn from your letter & one Ind from Mr. Goodwin of the contined virtues of Bradford and sincerely hope he is notonic to health , These been quit amuell bist a petent, restored to healt. My best wishes attend you I your wantly family it that your may enjoy health, hear I happiness is the current prayer af your friend & humble dervant Rufunt Patine Job I L' & J. Wentworth drave in joyed good hiet the make good saldiers. Exac Hoshell died in fine of an inflammating feeler in the way a very faithful & cyclist soldier & made a good non -- unitioned officers

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Salet Harbor Sept 11 th 1813 Dear di your of the 26th august left came to hand yesterday & and much ablique to you for the dance. your speculations is regard to the invasion of bounded a best made of conducting the was on the prouties are in my opinion very exercit, and are what I hope to see soon realized. The command of Sahr ontario is still doubtful - Both squadrons are out 2 a few days will devide the superiory The command of this Lake is not considered by Gen. Witherson as mustarily connected with the aperations of the probably, by defend on it. We then in what direction. We are ordered not to write to our friends any Thing relative to the movements of the arming till the close of the campaign you will therefore for cive the impropriety of my saying any thing that can be construed into a treat of the order. Gen! Witherion has gone to the Magara frontier - The Suretung of war is here gent Lewer has gone cartward - tis suit to the springs for his heat to - may the waters gen. Wilherson has infund new spirit in to the troop. A this post. He inspired a degree of confidence in every officer & Loldier that I never saw equalled. Under him I am confident the army will not show a want of courage or conduct. He throws a mystery that are imperestrable & are highly necessary when to mean the energy & where everything that can be known is inmediately communicated to the energy bol. Walbach, one of the adjutants generals, is here & is as popular as Adj. Gent as he was as Captain 2 commander of Fost Constitution. We have many ather Officer that wants do honor to any army. You speak of the army under Boyd as the nost

been harrasses and friqueted winte a degree of watchfulness & discipline that make them useful; but I dave engage that troops now here, should they ever be engaged with the every, will do as much honor to the ferrican name our any trades that ever faught under gen Boyd. There five companies of our Regiment here and are allowed to equal, both in appearance ? discipline, any troops in the service. Our But requence of their having thefit by the commanding general or a corps de reserve. The highest compliment that could be hair them. you mention the reports of to fotal sickness taid to present here - his there we have had many Lich principally of the diashed or camp disasder but not more than is common with all new armers till the men get habituated to or earning life. The health of the carries is greatly comproved - not one half so many our the sich report as there were in the first of august I the next of thou such are convalencent such toom be fit for artise service I have frequently heard of John Hourson - he was int the taking of york I we understood was not hurt he went to the taking of Fort George where he is nays with the from 11. I wrong the Marke Engeried. His manner of writing to his priends is not only inducarous a ungretaful but is directly against order. band he be convicted of it before a Court martial he would be eashired or was the descriting of was to know the fact he would be stouch from the volle of the avery I am sorry to know that Whos Bragelow has vice Mr. Johnson. he did very wrong it was my fault that the writt destayment returned. I sent it by mail

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but it did not arrive so soon as usual by a few hours. I told Bragolon I wonto pay him a agreed to affect a debt he owed my brother & I supposed the matter settled. Bragdon commence another action in content themselves with taking a bill of cost, unrecessarily awelled withed, from me. I shall write by agreement of the time I still the business - I believe by agreement of throughour I settle in the your a charge you had against him you have through write after, but have nothing to write expected the after of the army and of them we are forbidden to write or vather it is defficult to distinguish what is proper swhat it not. You very justly remark that there are many things about an avery that never reach you through the papers I believe the truth is never noone than half told that the most important is hight back. I I now that to be the can of Me attack a Sachete Harban I that gen. Brown was from a Brief Just in the militia to a story " gen in the require service - I will not say in consequence Thereof but I will say that had the every done what they night with ease theont the new ship been. Thowar wor to have been more consured than Snight or any ather. - It heavy carenonading is now heard on the the the fleets are undoubtedly engaged - They so near that I feel The carrach jas very sensibly every discharge (40'low).

The carranding continued one hours a hely very herey of an hour before school I extended her very most tremendously - almost a continual roar of cannon - since that not a gene has been heard 110 Viloch evening ! The command of the lake is I no don let now divided. The force of each nearly equal - very doubtful which has gained the victory. heard all day - I will not close this till I know the west would. The mail is stopped between this of the west of the are ablight to defend on the confinities I do not see a few or the controller it who to tend money or I would indon you 50 or loo olollare which I wish you had - I would also seed a few dollare to E. Harriels fether I some attens.

If the evening supposed that we should exe this have head Royal salute from Hingston as on athe that word proceed who the like after their secured to report & the commanding Gueral We are extremely singular to hear the containty of them things - There is a misil going again Show what indet to you this wints. I do not foren after towners says the wine win afritum or whiten captures a head of the county, yoursen. Refusts for the Malf only among the thousably - 8/ this he have in hours Chelium has that and that her have seen parking to Bit 1/4/1 th has how worth is done for withing

Basin Harbor, Grenother Island Act. 23 1813 Dear tim I med your last evening I having an apportunity of sending to the Lashit's Harbar I enclose you a Short of a part of the Shore of Ontario & Lawrence which you may only on as correct - you will hardly expect at this day a letter from me hem but the weether has been bad in the extreme athis is the general renderatous of and troops from Ragara & Lankets Harbor - a most beautiful pot by notine. Many of our bacts are Nove on the shore between here & fartis Carban but no lives lost - they are arriving daily - about 1000 men now heart & will be all in in two days If the weather with premit - I saw John We shall move as soon or honible I sent a The to you therday I let I Heather containing thisty dollars a hope you will recind it before you get this. I am i good watth the I have been send exposed seeing been in Chemont Pay two my to an my way here not being able to get round Point Peninsula. I have virty nine expition my first Lit Forthy transferred. I Bapt Brooks who has fines of hott attached to his company - my 2" LA Gray. appointed Queste Master - I my 3" It Lebbeur bustis non with me - he (buthis says he is acquaithed with M. Hahe has little been

Jaramoto from Jergean Maja - Give in wesheit too all friends a love to the children. The My Halines I am mul abliged to her for her information In great haste yours Rufin Wontine John Holins Bester

23 Oct 1813 From the digital collections of the New York State Library

Camp French Mills Der 8# 1813 Seas In, I wrote you from Greneshie Island Ath commencement of our late expedition & the promised something more when the comparign ended. I was there in high hopes of being able to write you from Montreal or some other part of his Magesty, chomines but the campaign has ended without herving those hopes realized - we have nothing to do but make anoselves comfortable this winte a try again in the spring. To make aurolous comfortable we had to build huts which are meanly done. Why has the expedition fails? Why was not Kings tone Oresett first relaced? My did not gen! Hampton coeperate with the Commande i Chief? I can cavily concieve that there & & thousand similar questions are every day asked by the good citizens who have been anyionsly waiting to see these events and are question which I am as unable to answer as apartiche are to remote from the scene. It is however understand here that the plan of the expedition was laid by the Secretary of War, 2 tis said, contrary to the opinion of Gent Milherson. I believe the old maxim had batter been adhered to (not to leave a strong oftost in the rear undich: dued). Osomoparte tis trew disregards this marin but Brannaparte moves with such rapidity that an eveny in the rear can do him no vigury we are not habitueted to send movements. Much of the failine of the expedition I think may fairly be into the It Laneren. As I cannot give you and information on the more important points I will endeavor to give you so faithful arrount of the expedition itself & in doing this I shall be more particular in the circumstances which fell inmediately under my observation. The last division arrived at France Creek - we found that first division that had arrived at that place had been attacked by a part of the OS. fleet and bresten them off by getting on show a couple of 18 pounders. Tous of the evenies schooners

Suffered considerably. On the 5-we were again ambarked & the ment morning proceeded down the Piere to Morristown about 5 as 6 miles above Ogdendungs & Prescott - Here we lay the next day the Egolensburgh by land leading the boats, & proceed down by the Fort in the after heart of the night. As we haved through lighting bourge village the every high up a continual cannon ading Many of their balls & shell were very with directed but did us no danny When the backs haved in the morning they again happy who wery heavy cannonading to bout little faffest - your least any touched us I that hite I wound three men. In the forence of the 8. The boots came a shore at Lisbon at seven miles below Prescott & took on board the troops that marched down. I believe I mentioned before that led. Maront had command of this books de reserve. This corps was oftwards new organized and called the books d'Elite. It was composed of the Rifle corps of about 150 0, 200 under Major Forsythe; The albany Voluntum unde Vajor Herhimer about as Throng; a detachment of the 20 th Deft Infr and Richmond Volunteers under bol Clandoff about as strong; and live companies of the 3" Blest of arts about 250 or 300 throng under the brave bol Scott of the 2 Best art who joined us here as a volunteer to obtained this command - The whole commanded by bal. Macomb. This corps instead of a reserve was now to the in advance -a kind of standing van quard I were to take the lead in every thing that looked like difficulty or danger - an ardious, dangerous but glorious dervice had the campaign to proceed down in advance about 10 or 12 miles & land on the Consider Show about a nucle above a battery which was situated on a narrow hast of the Prices - to march clower a take the lettery we aromplished without loss though vie visit in fired on ley about town hundred militia previous to air landing. The bettery was abandoned by the enemy or sair Novi 9 army came clower 2 ferried over the dight story was always army came down 2 ferried (Vrova 10.5) aux piequets were attached at revelle at Elite were ordered out to support them some opposed the enemy fled up the River. The Elite, Light Fragoons, one Company of Sight artitlery & gent Porowers Drigable the whole canda gent Brown were there ardued tomand down towards Barrowell I we started off immediately. We that day reached the plan which was the seene of artists of the 11th a there faired: the homainder of the army that had proceeded down i basts the home incoming of the 11th Comments of the Mariney of the 11th Comments

tech up the lin of ment carry & proceeded on till about noon immolested, It this we found a bridge broken down - Major trossythe with his coops were examining the bridge & attempting to repair it when they were fined as from bithing a little vising ground on the other side. The Riflemen heft up a scattering fine as they could see an object or lead . Scott with his command I a fording place. The bushes oven thick & retarded and mand but we it length found a fording place I wased - it was a few minutes too late for the enemy just slight us - had we been ten par fifteen minutes soone we should have cut off a pew hundred of them - The front company however liked one indian + took two of three canadians prisoners. The liftimed hilled I wounded several. Tomsego fames of the Rifle coops alone pursued a party of six or eight of the every, hilled one & took one prisoner. He took one prisoner who was reconnectiving us - he fined at another, wanted him but he rade off we have sense head that he died of his wounds?

The enemy made another stand his wounds? about a mile below in force from 8 to 12 hundred militia o bout 30 indians but a shot from the Riffmen dispersed then it the woods - we then proceed to within four miles of bornwall a accompand - The mext day manhed two miles firsthe a waited for the boots: After we left the army on the morning of the 11th boots: After we left the army on the morning of the 11th the eveny made their appearance above in germ boots as They came some & commenced a five on a part of the avery that lay higher who then the rest. Gents Day 2 beington were ordered who with a part of their brigades to dislodge them from their fait - this they effected the crewy retreated a threw then selves int a ravine of them converge the laving the coolinating made a stand the enemy the having the evening dane hat a follow them. This of heart to be the distribute basts a come down. This of heart of previous men of the office you will see a fruit I prevenue many particular arcounts of it. I was not there so com Thech from my own howledge. On the 12 th boats cause down to where we (the advance) were encomped & on the 13th one emborhed & and arrived at the place. It was no doubt proper to leave banada at the time we did - without the cooperation of you Hampton

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we could not expect to get Montain as the hunny Las while we see 2000 men horrassing us a new. The oppearance of this sheet warning me to finish - mon herefte - write ene soon - yours during Olufun Monthon John Helmes Cosy to A brooky has deserted some I have been here I happen to Fauford Sugar Motioner is Concade - when the boat starts on the morning of the little that should wan choose to was lift tilling it to have the time was lift tilling it the house the time with of the diffe with hough - . I lost how Hours Dieter or very deart office. I will green somether John Hamer is hone & is heath - the is some in building hick do. of other how with light has been wing living bring bring

Come (Onerde la State of N Golf Mand 17 #814 I wrote you from Sarkets Harbon some time since. Sime that time we have been ardered westward & larnived at this place Yesterday - Formarrow we proceed on towards The Niagara frontier or we have into any detachment six companies of the 5 byt arts one of the 2 "Byt arty - I one of Light artilly averaging a haut eighty men to a company all in fine health. I under the command of Dobal Mitchell a Bottation of the 11-th Ply & Inft und It bal Bedel here bed here yesterday so the same distinction. bed Diply with the 21th agt - Info marches heave today I the gt Buf Infly are expected here to day I will fallow we one day after us. Gen! Brown left here yesterday & will command is. bal. Scott- (probably ene this a Brig. Gal) is on his way from Albany to same plan. Batavia, a Town about forty miles interior from Fort Niagara is the point to which we are all orders at present. To what point on the frantier are shall from themer be ardered I know not. Jou can quess as well as any other yanker. Our march averages about twenty miles per day which our mer perform with ease. Their 1510 health clevers in proves on a march if good questers are abtained at night. This we shall be the to abtain through the whole march as there

are villages distributed all along from ten to twenty five miles distant from each other where sixor sover hundred mer can easily be quarterned. This is the reason for having the several regiments follow each other a days march distant The lette 2 wrote, at Lasheti Harbor I sent to Portsmonth by bapt Vose it contained 50 dalls. Leave fathers belonging i your neigh boshood. The lette I presume will go safe but with not probably arrive much some them this . I am i huste I cannot write more at present. I should be happy t receive a lette fra you - Plan to direct it to me at Batavia 2 will make arrangements to get it -Give my vespetts to all friends - M. daywards enthe Goodwin's families in particular - your own family will always vetair my most grateful remembrane and Li, with the lighest respect your most abilist Lervat 2 affection to france (Rufus Monthise How John Hoolmes

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The March 1814 Com we John Holmes Comselle at Low Affred york be Dis Main From the digital collections of the New York State Library.

Patavia, State of N Joh, Repril 13th 1814 Dear Sis, Our riginest arrived I this place on the 29th celt in excellent health that somewhat fatigued by swenteen days marking five of the last of which was the mid ande deep . you have probably learned by the public papers that afte we had performed a part of our marche we retrogaded to Salina . by that vetrograde movement wel (an regiment) lost nearly five days. This village is twenty nine miles from Williamwithe or cleven mile ever where the militia have been stationed I whither a part of our negular force have gone. The 25th Oly t Inff have marked towards Lavistawn

Ithe rest of the half that left Sachet, Harbor consisting of the 9th 21- 2 for bettallion of the 11. have your Millians with. Williamsville, on the road hence to Buffalor 2 chosen miles this side that place. The militia have within two or three days all been discharged. Our regiment are waiting for tents which are expected

hourly. We care in no great hurry as probably nothing will done untill and train of artillery

comes up. It left barrandeigne yesterday - barran dagua is forty nine miles from this plan and the

roads are to exusively back that het will not reach this plan i len than four days. The road

to Milliamsville is till worse The inhabitant say it

never was so bad. The distance from Milliamswille to Niegava is over thirty miles so that if operations one

to be made against that Fort we commot commencer there in less than three or four weeks. If on the other hand we do not go against Fort Niagara but was over

near black back I march down against Frost George (which I am of the opinion would be most advisable) we cannot evan till one have built boats or with the flut comes down from Evice and I do not think we have here yet sufficient force to attempt to plant this Comercian stendard on the every's shore and on the whole I do not think we lose any thing if we remain here a fornight longer. What will be the plan I aperations in this quarter is uncertains. Gen! Brown commands the troops under him were selected by him at Lackets Harbon all youker regiments except ours which was raind i N. England & the middle states. Two companies of the 2" of loty & one of the Light lots are attached to our . Gen! Brown who has been promoted aver so many Brigadien Gent I who so much possess the confidence of the government feels to inportance of doing something I he has great confis dem i the troops under his command. Brig! Gen! Scott so distinguished as a fighting character (d is my aprimion the best officer in the whole army of any grade I has formed us s is the only Origeather present. If it be possible to meet the energy I know Scott will meanage to meet him if he can do it on any thing like equal ground. Her expresses the highest confidence i our regiment in particular I assures us that as we shall not all be furnished with pieces of artillery he is anxious to lead that part who will act as Infantry to the charge. The troops under youl. Brown probably at present amount to about two Thousand. The anemy have about five hundred men is Fort Niagara I have greatly in proved the fort. Mercan take it I think by laying a regular sign to it that the experse is time, men, I money with in my opinion counterbalance my advantages resulting from the possission of it

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In fast I see but little advantage the eveny have in the possession of the Tis true is wounding to the notional pride for the anny t heep it atherina it is of but little importance. The evening command nothing but the bane site of the fort 20 mile of plane about it a are dependant for supplies of every hind from the ather side of any army be sufficiently strong to evan a accupy Fost Goorge & Youdark the garrison must capitalete i one fortright or be attarved. Their mer deast every apportunity. Went ten days ago fourteen deserted from a small de-tarkment they sent and about a mile to destroy helf the regiment will desert the first opportunity It is the 100 th Right & have been considered the most loyal of any, I is fast were lately sent with the fort to that amount t relieve some troops that appeared less loyal. There is a report here that the enemy's fleet is out. There of their vessels were said to be seen from the minut of Genese rider a few days ago - many with infamer people however seen that it is unpossible for them he aut to carry expe There heard from Dr. M. Parsons sine I arrived here - are informed he is at the sis married. E. black has frequently writte to me & bar Marond di his last complains of being that unwell. Lucre where is he? I wish him to jain him this frontie as well as some attens of my sompany who attained furlangly. last fall is granting fewlages than five recentiting Junote you before I felt turket Harbor I I presumen your have ved the lette eve this. iny respects to all enquiring briends - Mor Holmer in fourtheles. Jours most respectfully Prefusible Matine

Alfred, Joh Co Lockmed From the digital collections of the New York State Library.

Volney, Oswego Falls (12 milighor the Fort) May 9 # 18/4 Dear dir have had an action with enemy at hat Ornego he here competies to metres to this place. The eveny offer destroying or taking away what they could pind retired my morning. The particulars I will endeure to give you L- van em judge whether we did one duly is not. Our force consisted of bapt Broyles Romagnes, Montines, Pierces and Cotty formely the 3 th swell Melvins 48 of light arth Melvins 48 of light arthur and the some the some has some - flor a march of more than 150 miles of the rate of more than 30 miles per day and found the fast in some which defence len situation The part was once an excellent one swhen i repair with its out works was large enough to contain 2000 men & fight there to advantage. The hand of time hart distroyed every prinches to the escent would be carrily areads ed on any part - in some places as carily or through the gate: We hound fire fieres of artitlery in it the 4 panders - one six a one nine - all very ald-three without tremishes & all most unsingly mounted times such parainge as they had not gray Indeed their were all constended pieces but had been from in ians of necessity 2 me were competer to you then from to some course the mountains not about refusing paring platformy someting cartily to be. The pieces were attached to bapt Bayler be - three of their placed a a buttery is front of the fort of the other two is the bosting companies artist of Supartry. Early in the morning of the 5th inst. we discovered a fleet - soon made it out to be the covering's consisting of four ships, one brig a two hermefilmedite brigo with gun beats of a bomb catch for throwing shells I vailets and a long throng of backs is love. The wind being light they did not fither lifter moon get who before the fort within a mile or mile as hely where they are should a the boats being filled with troopy removed thought a shore for a colony side the commodorer ships a round showly be shown for a ceceled respiritly by their give boats when they commend a receded respiritly by their give boats when they commend a connonading from the basts & Sufer on an fort I little hetting which was shiritly returned by but I Boyle quotly from the g hounds as the fairs work not reach there a the six under the direction of It Typete after a few discharges burst authoring any misches baft Boyle having several times struck the boots their retired a the wind springing their versels a they run down the lake with the loss of several boats which were finded up by the citizens one was taken with your soldiers ainty feet long races 36 vary could carry to a soldiers

During the night the fleet frequently were sear making signals & one wer in sight nearly all night. A deserter assures in that a hast from the village brought a letter & from several circumstances we have no south they had some somminication from the shane hol Withell not perishing to divide his form by detarking any to the village side of the vives a wishing to decive the evering concealed all his born in the port weekt bept Boylis as it the bettery and ordered the texts is often to be pitched an rear of the village. a small buttery a breast work a by this deception the enemy were evidently amburrant the first day. On the morning of the I we again discovered the flest bearing who under easy soil. I hate full of men i tow. Wood 200 militia had by this time come is a were showing as the tento de the wood and in the view as continued scivilly so or to be thewn twee or About 10 A.M. they took their position basing before that him whoven a disposition to land on the village side. We were march out of the fait secretly into the woods a reade are appearance at the ferry & could over one company. This appeared to then a vicinforcement. When they had taken their position which was very judiciously made to nake every hant of the part of the plane I would adjacent they commend a most tremendous can monaday from every vessel assued at first whinty est and, little attemy of one of some for pounder but were unable to silver it for more then three hours I not then titl every certify was expended & they possession of the near of the fort. It degets it I pounde would not brong his priest bear on the messet stup from the battery & trenfor took it out I was entirely officed their fire due Ship was not much beyond mushet shot. At length shal. Mitchell discovered by this insvinents that this intertion was to band about one hundred rooks north earthy of the fort of the shore of the lake & ordered us who from the berry back of the fort into the dittely this and was propply aboyed though we had to vota the plane wade a continual thouse of round a grape that & some thells. We sent here not henticularly to protect the fant & harbor list the public property on this river to principal part of which was It the balls . bal. Witholk there for vesolved not to short himself it the bort but to beford the appoint eneway fast landing - fight as long as possible from the outs works but of math to refel then was resolved to retreat to this place I mache anothe stand. As percent approached the shore bel- UM. merched out two companies to the elith I met the a the share " enforced at a transaction shows of grape from the ship dinte. A his little band of about 100 men. after firing say or invisions be netreated slowly into the ditch followed by the eveny - we howed is the piece so brishly that were checked to retired broking some thusby to a rewine when they wave partially considered they then the other to fland our right which would not one right which would not one wight. A column the advance to an we here the the column the advance to an

left along the show of the lakes get possession of the fast between and left the bettery & we are then abliged to retreat often justaming the action 36 minutes at close mushet shot. We were not and with our 200 men in the dittle in for leapt Boyle's lo was etitle at the battery a to quard our the fact. To us was opposed 60 of De Watervilla's corps 600 marines & 250 sailors with the field fieres - 1450 in all who la ded in the first division with It gen! Douvemont so In Ja yes - The sailon under the inedicto communed of buft Muleustr of the navy & mont I cammand a said to be a bitter office the the commadore both Me was shot in the our & is dead. They had a reserver in boots is a sucond division at least eight hundred british troops. di James arknowledged a sty through his cap. an loss is 5 killed 28 wounded 3 since dead shout 24 presamers 2. 11 mining - Lt Blancy hilled at a un could with shifficulty get the sore treat - let in give the more fine "said they not knowing the every were in the fort. It is impossible to describe & do justin to the intropidate of bal. Mitchell. The was cont a sevene to constant appoint from the court of the commanding to the last at to finish his heroin character, while a the retreat hounted under a shower of short of every obscription from the ships a the minsketry of the troop dismounts, but the soldier on his horn swathed worly is ned of his men . He has been pleased to express his entire officellant of the conduct of all his officer. The every spoke i the highest terms of him & The number of the enemy I have given in the of the village who were present. The every oft plusting the willage taking what they could find burnt our pluston I lest the shore that night Ithe harbor the next morning. They took all there haggings public & private - we could have succeed it but were afraid of dishearthing our man by removing it ochast sing rather to saw fine every thing than hade our man prove way may made truck containing my lowards - my wester brought off a small truck containing my happens which is all I saved except that I had on. They afrom wounded - all the public property of any value they got was eight him if cannon intended for our fact a they were such but they bound As and of the I had you men any as 2 of the being sind - 2 had 2 hitted - 2 degrands a two fronts wanted three taken prisoners 2. three missing. Henry Hart son of moster Heart killed - all my brown bellews from your part of the country safe . It is automething our lass was so small considering has much then were expend. It Seems of the navy with about 20 sailors was with us in the dist. a advanced with dol. M. I the show they conducted well . The helpa our of et, the first him from the ships town them directs to the willow side of the viver both Ramagone or war and and to hear to the light of the light o has weeks till the public property be removed to by noticed in a paper to death of 1/27 Brooks. Person't by noticed in a paper found for the case of that amicable dead years have attention to me with the greatifule.

your any respects to all friends - tell Mr Wentwenth the Ichabad was is the aution of id his duty like a brown man. of the New York State Library Ruguer Mintine From the digital collections men enter your that are been by a find that former they had been the the second of the former they have the second that former they have been the they are the second to the second the second they are second to the second the named form they well the proson - our of the anti user nearly corners. It colarlates that they had not now. There force when is said there is

Sarkets Harbor August 1 18/4 It so long time There heard from alfred that I will now attempt by a seroul to provoke you to write me. The howspapers in pour of the public offairs at the eastward but I feel equally ampions to hear of the welfare of my friends 2 of their = -cedents which take place among them. The last letter Ind from you was written in april for what I am obliged t you but thouth he more so if it had been longer Bur fleet sailed this morning with a light breeze - destruction unknown . They have sixweeks provision on board. It rousists of the Superior, Mohang The & Madison, ships; the Sylph, Jones, Jefferson & Oncide brigs; and Lady of the Lake & the Touchens behoovers. The latter is to be served as a bount hetel or something like bot lis manned with batt archer be of bothly. Lingalor han but has proved huntely very brave y I is a man of talents. He is a little too filmed of new projects I spentitions I with within do much or nothing. Commodere Chancey has so par recovered his health has to go in the fleet the he is get low. His it health has to go in the fleet the he is get low. He some the I am probably delayed the sailing of the fleet some the I am not able to ascertain certainly when it has not sailed before there seems to be some mystery about it a the officer of the navy have some of their spoker freely on the tabject. I fear the enemy have been able to send such vein forements to the head of the take that Gent Brown with he competed to have the transday that I gent strong the stject of his expedition. The delay

in the wiling of our fleet must disappoint guil Brown & Ithing destroy his calculations of success. We have got information of his late Battle wherein year Brown & Scott were both swerely warmed a you will no doubt get the particulars before this maches your. The British General Real is our prisoner together with the bent twenty ather affices & nearly 300 prisoners and the every's antilling. It appears the bettle last about by hours when the enthry were drever et all points. It appears gent Brown was retreating e the every by a consultous movement were othersting to get in his hear but were dis appointed & defeated with great lass Gen Brown we two balls in his thing but remained on horse tite his army were quietly encomped . Gen! Gaines on the vet of the news by express left this post for Browns away where be will commend title the recovery of gal Brown whit will be shortly or the wounded as flesh one only. The buttle was forght between hereinstone & Chiffenay - I presume this & the bottle et Chiperay were the most regular I best paught hattles we have had this war I has furnished a fine sperimen of of great infravements this season. Gen! Brown is a very in ordustrious affecer but I consider gent frost es the life & Tout of that army laft fones of the arty & assisted legisles gent to that wing if the army I presume has controlleted much to this police, disaplace Le. Gel. I souse knows how to profit by the services of these intelligent men who know how to fight. Should the fleet said to the head of the lake which is probable, Elastit Haster will be much exposed - We have but few regular troops have having nearly all gone to hiegare & Platsburgh. - About 12 or 1500 militia are ordered in & have partly ornived gen! Martin commands them I the host led. Mitchell comman the regulars counting of his bettalion of artitley & some dismon Edragoons. Our betterey, redoutets to are however in goad ander I if properly supported by befantry will, able to regist in ving large force. If the militia fight (which will be the first time is this quarter) we can refet any form the every een brung agains

your up the lake to appose grad Brown. Could aux fleet take an baarid Gul. Brown & army & transport It to Hingston that important post would enewtably fall together with the fleet but I fee the fleet with be too lete. There is no probability of arm fleet's weeting the every's - his fames will no doubt ne man sung is Thingston till this new ship is ready which will be is bout two months I will carry 102 yours. A far days sime a lette bog from thiston for England was intercepted on the It Lawrence which there. The officer & borherters in this letters to this friends defrecate the service in boundar & complain much of sinhing look living sea & poor living Lear The troops at this post are immenably heating & ? understand Gent. Browns army are so also. The season has been very fine for health Le - worther cool I dry and but little flustration is the temperature. of about by the papers that Saithout is taken 2 think that the many with not attended perstock the learning with If or ever 30 thousand one buf with endeaver to clethra, the weapons to the hipping the source rather to make pean - have one shiffing vivale & Things is commerce. I justomy of us as revals i commence has no doubt been the cause of all the defredations I claims whom us I the same pealsons I fear with prevent their making hear at this favorable crisis of their offairs in Europe & yet our peace hearty are rejoining at that very winis!! I rope these looks adminer & faithful servants of the magnarinous crowned heads of Europe will share the fate of the Corter of Spain who have exhausting the transve & Milling the blood of Spaine. not for this liberties dot for the intends of this loving mester Terdinand who is now severely chartising the for this fidelity. A whole some lesson to them service lovers of contemptible tyrants. It would be a happy concernation

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for our learnitry if our administer of royal pagantry & vightful Loverign, can be predi convinced that magnavimous primes can be ingratiful as well as Republics - Excuse these areids edeas - I was i sensibly led to but them on this sheet. Those to write we a give me your opicion of the broshet of hear as well of the officers about you. Give my respects t Mr Holmes and old friends your respectfully Sleeful Matine is high show of hy often who on enquite B. The information I gave infuted W. Parson recomme was not would - any informant builtook to Parson for bu at the same postable was morned them. Batton

Fort Virginia, Sarkits Harbor, Sept 21 1814 (Dear shi Having long defined writing to you in hopes of first receiving a line from your but now despaining of that I will enchavor to 4510 extort asomething from you in your in your with those heard att with the public execut pieces hrints are this re four except puring this vicinity. Aur fleet sails this day faving on board gent I Zard I army - distination probably the head The lake or herhals Gensette River to re-enforce gui Brown. The light Rots marched yesterday by land for the migrown fronties of the Dry of the same Man Dragoons (dimonths) this day for the same plan. I know not the plane of operations, whether simply to join G. Brown or to attach there they I man i rear between For Jeoge & Burhighe I think the former because they are not provided with artitlery to act alone. The bad weather delayed the movement two or three days & it that continues to rain. We have had an incessent varie & storm for a weeks part which has made the roads extremely had I fear will dulay I injure the final result of the campaign. The enemy are said to be drawing their troops from Little Book de down to Hingston. Whether this be precautionary in anticipation of an attack from Gen! I Land or with intent to attack this ta host is uncertain - probably both. Most of the officers here are strongly expect an attach I we whether they will dufer an attack the their

her ship, which with mont over one hundred guns) be ready or whether they will come as soon to they hear of the absence of any fleet is uncertain. I am of opinion that, I this season of the year when the weather is so matterdy, they will not venture out the without their time of bother ship especially as she will be neady by the first of action or by the first 5. A fathest. Our fleet with toon notion 9. one not certain but bom. Chancey with engage the enemy that the disperity of force. bol. Heard of the malin for arrive this evening I will probably tothe command of the post. The regular force consists of the bottelies of any - a bellion of the 13th Infly of small bettaddies of the 45 - 2 In himle in the whole probably about 10 or 1200. The himle of militian I do not know but suppose about es many more - some voluntees & some the ditarhed militia. We have been constantly on fatigue this summer in throwing wh i chain of presonts around this place I have dignified them with the nomenal forts. We shall commence tomorrow to entrank the species between these works I is a few days the whole place will be completely surrounded with; at least, some thow of defence I do not know what dependence can be placed on the militia but believe they can be made to fight when humand in 2 dovered behing pickets so. It any rate let the enemy come is what force he may he will certainly hay dear for what he gets here. I have not havevere works a think them works a think them radically elefection, they being too scattlered for the force we have been more concentrated the force we have been more concentrated or indeed only one pregular fort with the same number of gum I were to the one of the defended against their the seconder force that it can it present. The mail which was lately intercepted between thiston Et Niagara contained an order from Lin G. Provoit to

if practicable. What ofteration may take please in them plan of aperations is consequence of M. Donneaugr victory & the object of their army before blattsburgh is uncertain. They have met with another thenh before live which are have just heard of . Jen! Brown writes that the evening had two batteries near him I trouble him much with their shells as mout that he was out of petiency 2 was determined & Lolly and I obstray haveng dustrayed haveng statoch 400 magazines, hillied I dod 400 d took 400 magazines, hillied I afficers. This own horisoness among them 2 officers. This own loss great in officers but trifling in men. Gut Rifly mostatly warmed of Gol. Gibbon 2 Wood hitled - valuable officers. Gen! Brown her 3000 militias who have would over the Evica part of them were in the late sally 2 diel well. Gal Portu was wounded. We have also heard of the repulse of the every near Brothmore. We rejoine t hear that militia begins to do the Unity a are sorry that there it Hamden! = grand the District of Maine - hope if h thenhot Portland or Portsmonth that the mulities will retrieve this character. How does gow! Strong like to be releved from the burder of governing a part of his territories? I am glad to find that some of his constitutions seruples are worm away I that he really believes their is some danger near. The fate of Alexanding has I hope destroyed the delimine expectation the Printish army would discrime into between their friends foes among our finter between their friends foes among our - citizens. Materies invoterary the arrany may show towards any political party in this country they are too well versed in the knowledge of human nature to place any confidence is or show any favors to men or harties of men who they cannot better they cannot to their own country. I traitery than traiters to their own country. who have resolution sufficiently only to dulare this wither & purpose, of their hearts but done not attempt to put them is exention. The incendiary made of warfare what our pious, honorable & magnaning

every have adapted on the scalared I hope will be if in-calcult benefit to the nation. It will track our admirers of the forbearing, humane, generous fritish that their fetal delusion has cost their country dear and that it is not only as patristic but quite as cornect to believe our own rulers, the men of our choice, have as much honesty, humanity I good faith as God throng; boathed bulwark of religion. The Manner which the every make war on the shores of the blusar of peaks would almost justify us on our past to make it a war of afterwination - to sacrific every maken who does but his fast antitrover of the suffice that will create a notional an our soil a But let it suffice that will create a notional partiality which betred or at least depart a too great notional partiality which hetred or at least depart a too great notional flyment which he workship too my Just my suffer to meyber princh especial especial se sons to send a subject of meybers prinched to my destruction. In ever a subject to many ment of her bear of the expense of feeling ment and her sons to bear sons to be for the expense of the mount of the sons from the proposition of free mount of the sons from the mount of the mount of the sons from month of the sons from the sons to make the sons from the mount of the sons from the mount of the sons from the sons from the sons from the sons from the sons from the sons the sons the sons from the sons the sons

Sachetti Harbor Out 14 # 18/4 Dear Si. yours theted is Nov! came to hand the 20 instant - and growing grateful for your friendly letter - I feared I was forgotten by my old friends as I had not red any communication from them for a long time perhaps my the long silence of my friends. of the State of effairs in Mass. but I feel of their & things " which I cannot at this distance of place. I feel much inclined to visit home this winter to learn these para tienland as well as to see my connexious and friends. It thousable that the leaders of a entain party in N. lingland will can the clim Gowt of the M. States? Or will, they attempt The more peaceable but not less wished measure to negotiate a neutrality or sep-arate peace with the enemy? Afterwhit They have done I should not be surprised at any piece of July or villary they may attempt. I believe they have done att the mischeef they possible could in this blus tering but peaceful course and have the disposition to do much more if they done. Gentlemen who live out of N. England are sometimes of prementie of domestic difficulties from the strange proceeding of the trus last I their conduct. They consider your exercise those proceedings. Indeed many with whom I have conversed consider your continued presence presence A that host of danger to he ne--cessary to the public tranquility and however they I may wish for the benefit of your talents in Congress yet they think that the power of your cloquence is more usefully I effectually employed in apposing a suppressing treason in the Man. registative. Think not, his, that I am attemption to flatter you - there is no need of it and if !! there was, my inclination is less than ever to flatter any body and you know I was never much inclined to be a sycaphant. The teason of to far aeroanion when they are attach on this post has for sometime intindy subsided. The enemy may come when the ice bridges over the It Lawrence but it is not at all probable as the wish not be able in the winter to lay suge to the slave if an assault fails which would be almost certain. It is understood to be the determination of the enemy to attach I if necessary besiege the plan early mext spring. If he persists the next earthough will probably commence there - we shall be propared to meet them with the heroes of Chippeway, Paridewater of the I some other as good troops as any in the terrice. A British Lieutenant of the navy has letely desited + is now here on board the flest I solivite employ in our service. The commanded The Schooner which our Igrandren drove on shore last summen at the head of the lake. He says that for that and of destroying the Schooner he mas mightly reprimended by the first could his English spirit could not brook" If he is not a spy it it not probable that he is; it is more likely that he has been eashered for that or some ather conduct. an increase of our naval force on this take. The

med what additioned force to build nor will they title they is well bannoads ne Chancey Who left there about the 1 the suddenly I in haste for N. Galt or elswhere - this conjecture of my own. They opinion is against this was of this building on this lake for it now certain that the every will not meet us without an undoubted superiority, I will remain seeme in part when equal or injerio We councit therefore ever bring the thing to issue to issue to destroy the depot atten gets strong enough to destroy the depot at this to flect or drive them aut. I should have answered your letter before bent have been absent about ten days in the country, for the benefit of my health which has been thenely fully restoned. I had been much for several weeks I the physics Ecians yereito resommended exercise & the air inland from the lake. An invelid could not take much exercise at the Hearles for the nort nainy season ever hundre, a lay soil & constant passing made the whole willage & sicinity a continued mine almost imperiable for to horse. The cold has now made hard a a few inches of enour has made the ways toberably smooth. The hay was a few days

The only fact that has transfind worthy

of notice is that the agent of the boutour

to for building public ships here has for

ten days hast been extremely action in

making contract, for very large quantities

of Ship-timber to be delivered as soon

as possible. This gives rise to rumerous

reports I conjutures as to the found of

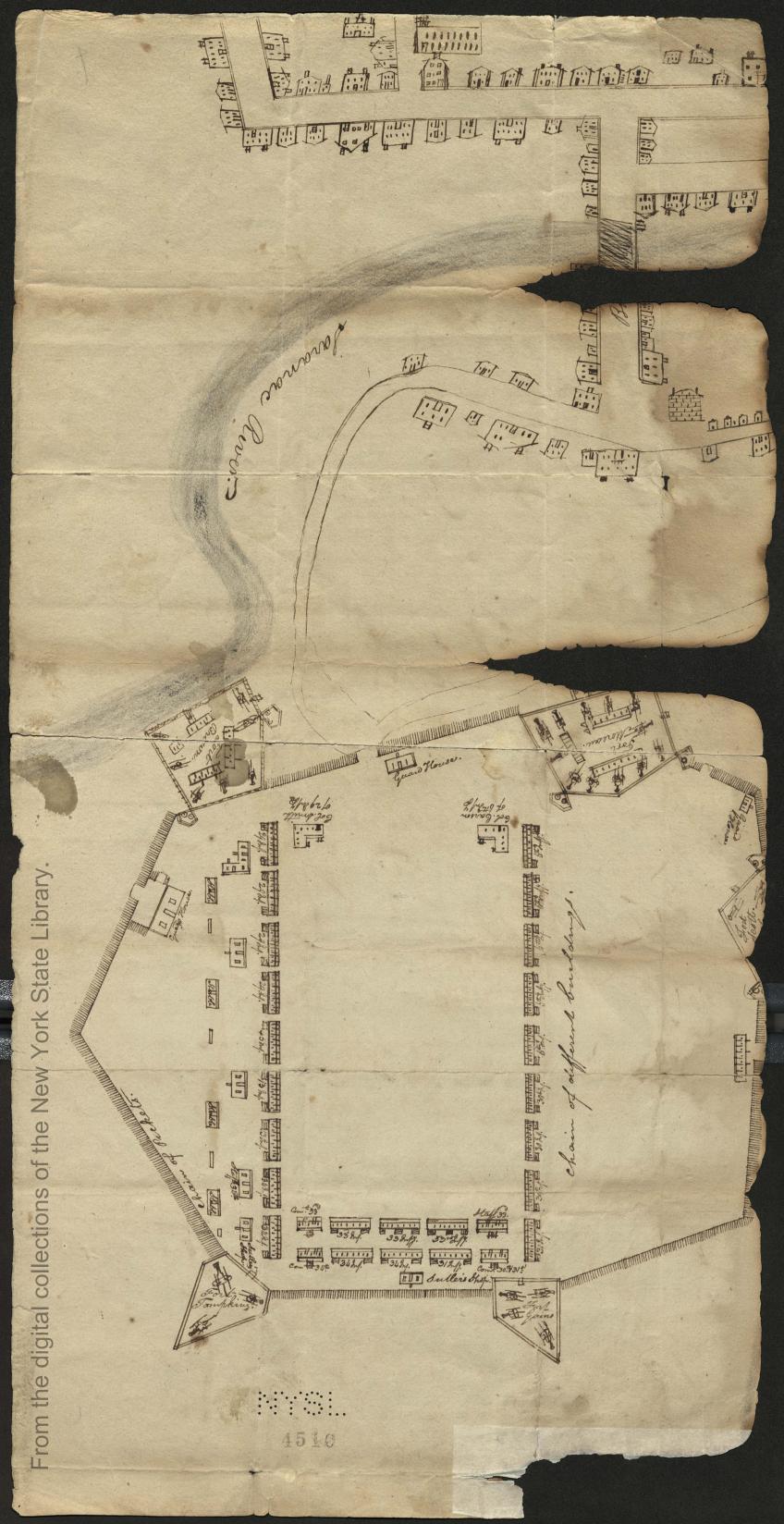
I you can draw as correct conclusions

ships to be built but nothing else is known

as any atten hereon to present. I don't

days time partly frazen over but is regain I net a letter sometime since from Mr Goodwin I regleted to answer it to long that I did mot know where to direct to go he then expected to go home ene this. If it home telling let me know a I will write him. just my respect to Mrs Gradwinde ever entitled to my gratiful remembrance & respect. The all there as they were when I left alfred & expect to be sur- proped at their alterations in size when I next be them. I need not seem you of a continueme Rufun My the ikkn Miller den som de collections of the New York O. S. I have transmitted to my described my state of the secret of the s

Cantonment, Stattsburgh N. York, half past twelve on Sunday morning, fant 1, 1815. Shows and showing wheel of James thaving roses in all Tell fredion of all earth end of mints. short note henned to you on bristance day, I I sketch our bantonfrent, which is asmered ow. and away to the heavy how as the very incorrect and the sound on the forms on the do many the islings in the reas . The forms have so to common the open the west so far as a fact of the bastons of the lingles, and principles where the lingles, and principles where the lingles, and principles common of the lingles, and the lingl powerful command the Dite which of protected this and the obstructions. To carry the works by escalade de ladders of kwesty feet in length, and should the to but all in all, it will answer good purposes. e souses, the General Hospitals, and aslificers shops



Sachetti Harbor Manh 4" 1815 you can Little and sould a don't horsen " I can with all her someting train, having once more taken her abade in the land of Freedom, + my bountry seeming no longer to require my geeble services in the tented field, I fondly anticipate the pleasure of soon visiting my conveyioust freeds herticipating with them is all the enjoyments of social life. The time has arrived when I can again induly sayelf in seeking a provision for myself. At this critical moment of commencing a new race, I feel a pleasure in having a Firend whose advice I am free to ask Lucho is to able &, I flatter my Last, withing to advise me. The army will probably in a month or two he disposed of when I shall be it liberty to look out for a Stand I at my age you know it will be necessary to do it immediately - but the great question is, where? - I have it in contemplate to visit the western country as for as the Indiana or Illinois Territories & solispy we self of the prospects there before I return to Maine. What

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think you of soul a project? Is the prospert in the D. Maine sufficiently encouraging as aught to destroy all thoughts in me of migrating into the western woods! Please to person me with your idease addie an this subject. I have an idea that, at present, law business in Marine must be small & lawyers plenty in general, the perhaps some particular apenings may effer where a biginner night with advantage commence. Do you know of any such! I do have her what charge may taken the County of york but suppose no prospect is any place there. I know of no plan neaver than thermebeck when then can be much prospect I not them except i new Towns that is course of time may offord business.

Nothing new here except what comes in the public heepers of which you are pirt informed. The shifts are planted over mostly your hours. The ships are planted up to the ports of the appen dech I calked mark to the loves ports. They swanted have been really to launch before appoint - One of them is the has more keel. They awanted have been more keel. The frame if another is completely needy I would have been det and the second street is completely needy. I would have been det and the second ways a launched in thirty days often the terms ways a launched in thirty days often the others. The ordiname, story a vigging want old have been

here by the L'of Opril. The every were also making great exertions but I think we should have herd the superiority by fune The land. Office of Highon has not yet med. afficiel information from his own government of the peace and consequently would not admit our flag officer it the Town when they carried the treaty de. In strictmen of military atiquette this was correct this perhaps the accasion night have justified a little more Wherality had they bett much cordiality an the event. Their offices who mit the blag treated us with extreme politimess this they were exidently chagnined of the termination of their famous N. Orleans expedition. They made but ful enquiries respecting the officer, seemed some on the subject, and the treaty coming immediately after, looked like their red the last blow. Soldin enlisted during was with he soon dinharged but not till they are paid - Those On this station can the return home with meanly loo dolls in their porkets. How do the Hartford contentionalists feel now! At a distance they look nother faolists. Juie my respect to Mr. Holming heighborn The fastions in the appearance your repetfully Referred Whatie

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Transcriptions

Transcription notes:

- Text in square brackets, e.g. [Jr?], indicates that the transcriber and reviewer could not be sure of the word(s).
- Sections in square brackets and highlighted in yellow, e.g., [illegible], indicate illegible or missing text (edges of some letters were damaged by fire or folding), or text provided based on an early transcription, which came with the letters when they were purchased by the New York State Library in 1919, but which cannot now be verified because of the condition of the letters.
- Sections in square brackets and italics are not part of the letter, but provide information about the format of the letter, e.g., [Page 2] or [Addressed to:].

Letter of May 11th 1813

Schenectady May 11th 1813

Dear Sir,

You will see by the date that I am now on the banks of the Mohawk. I left Greenbush yesterday afternoon and owing to some difficulty with our baggage waggons [sic] we can get no further today. Our destination is to Oswego by the way of Utica but shall I presume eventually go to Sackets Harbour.

Our men have been very much troubled with bad colds which have generally affected the stomach very much. In fact it is an attack - in most cases slight - of the prevailing typhus fever. Our men are on the recovery though they are weak. The measles and mumps also made their appearance to afflict us but their course was limited. The measles are very mild though we thought it prudent to leave several on the road before we arrived at Greenbush sick with them.

You will probably hear all the particulars as far as they are known here of the taking of Little York before you receive this. I shall therefore only observe that is here thought a place of considerable consequence as a deposit of military & indian stores.

Our detachment of our Regt is between 3 and 4 hundred strong and are called as fine recruits as ever marched through this section of the country. Inclosed [sic] are sixteen dollars 2,29 for John [Saywood?] [Jr?] from John Wentworth - \$3,60 to same from Ezra Haskell \$5,20 from [?] Wolke [to S. ? & Co.?] & \$5 from [?] to Simeon Hamilton = 2,29+3,60+5,20+5 = \$16,09. I also conclude to in close [sic] eleven dollars more from Clement S. York to his Brother Nicholas York [Jun?] of Shepleigh & one more for change, all amounting to twenty eight dollars. Your attention to these matters will no doubt oblige the persons above named.

I recd. a letter from Mr Goodwin & was sorry to learn thusly that Bradford was sick though I had the same time the satisfaction to know that he was now

[Page 2]

on the recovery. I presume ere this he is well. Permit me, Sir, to confess that I hold in grateful remembrance the numerous and innumerable kindnesses I have received from you & family & hope I shall never forget them. My affection to all the children & Hannah, I suppose, will think she is wronged if she is not particularly mentioned.

My best regards to Mrs. Holmes & Mrs. Brooks.

I am, Sir, respectfully yours

Rufus McIntire

Letter of July 5th 1813

Sacket's Harbor July 5th 1813

Dear Sir,

Inclosed [sic] is my deposition agreeable to your request. I have there stated the substance of what I could recollect relative to the affair. Perhaps it is less particular than you expect but I believe I have stated intelligibly whatever is important in the action within my knowledge.

I can give you but little information of

the proceedings here [more?] than you see in the public papers. We are disciplining our troops as fast as possible - Genl Lewis has lately arrived & now commands here. The rigging of the Genl Pike goes on rapidly - she will soon be ready to sail, till then we shall not venture out on the lake. Last wednesday Sir James Yeo with about eight hundred men principally sailors started from Kingston in boats with a determination to enter our harbor & destroy [illegible] of our shipping in the night at all hazzards. [illegible] night proved so dark they could not find the way [illegible] before light and they therefore landed on a point of land at the mouth of harbor called point peninsula about 12 miles from our shipping. They hauled their boats ashore, & covered them with brush & lay concealed on Thursday with a determination to put their plan in execution that night. but so many of their men deserted, Sir James thinking, it is presumed, that we had got information, & fearing to trust any longer to the fidelity of his men, returned to Kingston. One of the deserters got to camp just before night on Thursday which put us on the alert & early next morning our fleet went out to intercept him, but he had made his escape. Fifteen deserters from him have already reported them -selves at this post & say that nearly fifty left him who have probably scattered into the country. We are constantly prepared for some desperate attack from the enemy on our fleet; for we know their great object is to destroy a part of it before the Genl. Pike is ready. This is a very important object. I consider that on our superiority on the lake depends the success of the campaign in a great measure. We are particularly on the alert tonight as it is reported that the

[Page 2]

enemy have four thousand troops embarked at Kingston to attack this place & the wind is very favorable. I do not believe the report because they have not shipping enough to convey half that number in addition to the ships' crews. They may however make an effort thinking to take us by surprise. If they do attack us, I am confident they will repent of their rashness. If the enemy with their whole fleet & one thousand troops were obliged retreat when our whole fleet were absent & we had not more than eight hundred [men?] (except militia) & not more than six hundred in [action?] they cannot expect any better success now even if they bring four thousand troops. In regard to the late attack I would observe that I have been very much surprised that with his force the enemy did not succeed, but much of that surprise has ceased since we know for a certainty that his loss was at least two hundred & eighty. They left upwards of fifty

killed, wounded & prisoners & we have correct information that two hundred & thirty wounded were carried into their hospital in Kingston. They probably had many wounded who were not carried in. Some estimate the whole at near four hundred. Among their killed and wounded was a full proportion of officers.

Some of our recruits, it is true, did not fight with the regularity of old soldiers, but skulking by companies behind whatever would screen them they kept up a most destructive fire. This mode of fighting, though it does no great credit to our discipline, completely foiled the enemy: his orders were to fire one or two rounds on our line & then to charge bayonet, but he found that when he attempted to charge one company they retreated & were covered & protected by others in the rear. The enemy boasts that he drove us several hours; this is true, but in all that time he did not get half a mile. The militia were stationed near [where?] they landed and all fled as soon as the enemy were ashore [?] would except a few under Capt McNitt. Gen. Brown says one hundred, but Genl. Brown belongs to the militia and his partiality has probably more than doubled the real number. Gen. Brown is no doubt a brave man but not a consumate General. The volunteers I believe fought well. I know very nearly the number in each corps & am satisfied that we had not more than seven hundred engaged at one time including the volunteers and I may perhaps add Capt. McNitt 's militia. The enemy had at least nine hundred

[Page 3]

in the engagement after abducting their probable loss in landing. Add to this the assistance they received from their shipping which was considerable. Col. Mills was killed by a grape shot from one of their gun boats & a considerable proportion of our killed or wounded recd. their wounds from the same quarter. 'Tis true we had some field pieces but I do consider that they rendered us so much service as the shipping did them & besides I reckon the men that manned them among the numbers engaged on our side. I cannot determine in my own mind which had the advantage of ground. Where the enemy landed they had a cleared spot, then woods partly cleared, then a few large trees with underbrush & finally the ground they retreated from perfectly clear. Part of the time they had the disadvantage of being fair marks in the cleared ground while our troops were in the woods & part of the time we labored under the same disadvantage. The enemy, in his official orders, asserts that our troops threw themselves into block houses which obliged him to retreat.

This is not true: He probably meant a few miserable huts built of round sticks which had been occupied as barracks but which were so open that I doubt whether they were any benefit to us except they gave our men some confidence & scared the enemy. In fact several of our men were shot in there. In the above sketch you have I believe very nearly a correct account of the relative force & advantage of both parties & can judge of American bravery when compared with british bravery aided by skill & discipline.

I am sorry to learn from your letter & one I recd from Mr. Goodwin of the continued sickness of Bradford and sincerely hope he is restored to health. I have been quite unwell but am perfectly restored to health.

My best wishes attend you and your worthy family & that you may all enjoy health, peace & happiness is the earnest prayer of your friend and humble servant

Rufus McIntire

P.S. [I?] & J. Wentworth have enjoyed good health & make good soldiers. Ezra Haskell died in June of an inflammatory fever – he was a very faithful & excellent soldier & made a good non-commissioned officer.

Letter of September 11th 1813

Sacket's Harbor Sept 11th 1813

Dear Sir,

Yours of the 26th August ult came to hand yesterday & am much obliged to you for the same. Your speculations in regard to the invasion of Canada & best mode of conducting the war on the frontiers are in my opinion very correct, and are what I hope to see soon realized. The command of Lake Ontario is still doubtful – Both squadrons are out & a few days will decide the superiority The command of this Lake is not considered by Gen. Wilkinson as necessarily connected with the operations of the army tho' the particular movements of the army will

probably depend on it. We expect to leave this place soon but cannot conjecture in what direction. We are ordered not to write to our friends any thing relative to the movements of the army till the close of the campaign. You will therefore perceive the impropriety of my saying any thing that can be construed into a breach of the order. Gen' Wilkinson has gone to the Niagara frontier - The Secretary of War is here. Gen¹ Lewis has gone eastward – tis said to the springs for his health – may the waters prove salutary to - the army of the U. States. Gen. Wilkinson has infused new spirit into the troops at this post. He inspired a degree of confidence in every officer & soldier that I never saw equalled. Under him I am confident the army will not shew a want of courage or conduct. He throws a mystery

[over our army over our manoeuvers & future intentions?]

that are impenetrable & are highly necessary when so near the enemy & where every thing that can be known is immediately communicated to the enemy

Col. Walbach, one of the Adjutants generals, is here & is as popular as Adj^t. Genl. as he was as Captain & commander of Fort Constitution. We have many other officers that would do honor to any army.

You speak of the army under Boyd as the most experienced troops – they are so no doubt and have

[Page 2]

been harrassed and piqueted into a degree of watchfulness & discipline that makes them useful; but I dare engage that the troops now here, should they ever be engaged with the enemy, will do as much honor to the American name as any troops that ever fought under Gen. Boyd. There are five companies of our Regiment here and are allowed to equal, both in appearance & discipline, any troops in the service. Our Reg^t have not distinguished themselves yet in consequence of their having been kept by the commanding General as a corps de reserve, the highest compliment that could be paid them. You mention the reports of a fatal sickness said to prevail here. Tis true we have had many sick principally of the diarrhea or camp disorder

but not more than is common with all new armies till the men get habituated to a camp life. The health of the camp is greatly improved – not one half so many on the sick report as there were in the first of August & most of these sick are convalescent & will soon be fit for active service.

I have frequently heard of John Hanson – he was at the taking of York & I understood was not hurt he went to the taking of Fort George where he is [now. I have not heard from N. Parsons tho I have] enquired. His manner of writing to his friends is not only indecorous & ungrateful but is directly against orders. Could he be convicted of it before a Court martial he would be cashiered or was the Secretary of war to know the fact he would be struck from the rolls of the army.

I am sorry to know that Th^{os}. Bragdon has sued M^r. Johnson. he did very wrong – it was my fault that the writ was not returned. I sent it by mail

[Page 3]

but it did not arrive as soon as usual by a few hours. I told Bragdon I would pay him & agreed to offset a debt he owed my brother & I supposed the matter settled. Bragdon commenced another action & he & Libbey settled all affairs and, as I supposed, would content themselves with taking a bill of cost, unnecessarily swelled, from me. I shall write to York at this time & stop the business I believe by agreement If Bragdon settles with you a charge you had against him You [? turning?] to your [books? ?] whether that be the case.

I should write often, but have nothing to write except the affairs of the army and of them we are forbidden to write or rather it is difficult to distinguish what is proper & what is not. You very justly remark that there are many things about an army that never reach you through the papers I believe the truth is never more than half told & that the most important is kept back. I know that to be the case at the attack on Sacket's Harbor

and that Gen. Brown was promoted from a Brig Gen¹. in the militia to a Brig^r. Gen¹. in the regular service – I will not say in consequence therof [Text Missing] but I will say that had the enemy done what they might with ease (burnt the new ship) Gen. Brown would have been more censured than Smyth or any other. ------- A heavy cannonading is now heard on the Lake – the fleets are undoubtedly engaged -- they are so near that I feel the barrack jar very sensibly every discharge (4 O'clock PM) – I was interrupted when I written the above The cannonading continued one hour & a half very heavy [Text Missing]

of an hour before [sunset?] & continued to till [sunset?] most tremendously – almost a continual roar of cannon – since that not a gun has been heard.

(10 o'clock evening). The command of the lake is no doubt now decided. The force of each nearly equal -- very doubtful which has gained the victory.

A few guns like signal guns or those in chase were heard all day – I will not close this till I know the result. The mail is stopped between this & Utica & we are obliged to depend on the expresses. I do not consider it safe to send money or I would inclose you 50 or 100 dollars which I wish you had – I would also send a few dollars to E. Harkels father & some others.

[At 90 degrees to previous]

I have mentioned to G. [Wentworth?] to send home his money & he says He will. I could not get Jellison to say whether he would send any to his wife or not. He may have sent some by E. Clark who has gone home on furlough.

Give my best respects to M^{rs}. Holms & children. I hope M^r. Goodwin's family, M^r. Hayward's family & all my neighbors are well.

John Hawkins Esq.

Yours most respectfully Rufus McIntire

[Page 4 -bottom]

PS Sept 14th. We have waited in vain for certain information from the fleets in the Lake. It is reported & believed here that our fleet has been seen passing up the Lake since the action and were thirteen sail and among them three ships. If this is true we have captured a part of the enemy's squadron. Reports

from other sources say that the Wolf only escaped & that all the others were captured or destroyed and that the Pike is a complete wreck. I do not know what credit to give these reports.

[Page 4 – top]
If the enemy had been successful
we should ere this have heard
Royal Salute from Kingston as on other
like occasions. It is not improbable that our
fleet would proceed up the Lake after their
services to report to the commanding General
We are extremely anxious to hear the certainty
of these things. There is a mail going again. I must close.
Rufus McInt.

[At 90 degrees to the above, addressed to:]

John Holmes Esq. Counseller at Law Alfred York Co. District of Maine

[At 90 degrees to the above] Rufus McIntire 11 Sept, 1813

Letter of October 23rd 1813

[Letter addressed to:]

Hon. John Holmes Esq^r Counseller at Law Alfred York County Dis Maine

Basin Harbor, Grenadier Island Oct^r. 23rd. 1813 <u>Dear Sir</u>

I rec^d. yours last evening & having an opportunity of sending to the Sackets' Harbor I enclose you a chart of part of the shore of Ontario & S^t. Lawrence which you may rely on as correct - You will hardly expect at this day a letter from me here but the weather has been bad in the extreme & this is the general rendezvous of our troops from Niagara & Sackets' Harbor, a most beautiful spot by nature. Many of our boats are stove on the shore between here and Sackets' Harbor but no lives lost – they are arriving daily – about 1000 men now [back?] & will be all in in two days if the weather will permit. I saw John Hanson here but he has gone on to gravelly point. He is very well & has command of a company of 125 men. We shall move as soon as possible. I sent a letter to you the day I left S. Harbor containing thirty dollars & hope you will receive it before you get this. I am in good health tho' I have been much exposed having been in [Chemont?] Bay two nights on my way here not being able to get round Point Peninsula. I have sixty nine effective men with me in my company and but one L^t. my first L^t. Farley on the hour of embarkation transferred to Cap^t Brooks who has pieces of Art^y attached to his company – my 2nd. L^t. Gray appointed Quarter Master & my 3rd. L^t. [Libbens?] Curtis now with me – he (Curtis) says he is acquainted with M^{rs}. Holmes having formerly lived with M^r. [Kent?]. He has lately been

[Page 2]

promoted from Sergeant Major - Give my respects to all friends & love to the children. Tell M^{rs} . Holmes I am much obliged to her for her information. In great haste yours Rufus M^c Intire

John Holmes Esgr

December 3rd 1813

Camp, French Mills Dec^r. 8th 1813

Dear Sir

I wrote you from Grenadier Island at the commencement of our late expedition & then provided

something more when the campaign ended. I was then in high hopes of being able to write you from Montreal or some other part of his Majesty's dominion but the campaign has ended without having these hopes realized – we have nothing to do but make ourselves comfortable this winter & try again in the spring. To make ourselves comfortable we had to build huts which are nearly done.

Why has this expedition failed? Why was not Kingston & Prescott first reduced? Why did not Gen. Hampton coeperate with the Commander in Chief? I can easily conceive that these & a thousand similar questions are every day asked by the good citizens who have been anxiously waiting to see these events and are questions which I am as unable to answer as you who are remote from the scene. It is however understood here that the plan of the expedition was laid by the Secretary of War & tis said contrary to the opinion of Gen. Wilkinson. I believe the old maxim had better been adhered to (not to leave a strong fort in the rear unsubdued). Bounaparte tis true disregards this maxim but Bounaparte moves with such rapidity that an enemy in the rear can do him no injury we are not habituated to such movements. Much of the failure of the expedition I think may fairly be attributed to the delay getting into the St. Lawrence the causes of which no [man had in his control.?] As I cannot give you any information on the more important points I will endeavor give you a faithful account of the expedition itself & in doing this I shall be more particular in the circumstances which fell immediately under my observation. The last division of the army left Grenadier Island Nov. & the same day arrived at French Creek - we found that the first division that had arrived at that place had been attacked by a part of the B. fleet and beaten them off by getting on shore a couple of 18 pounders. Two of the enemies schooners suffered

[Page 2]

suffered considerably. On the 5th we were again embarked & the next morning proceeded down the river to Morristown about 5 or 6 miles above Ogdensburgh & Prescott. Here we lay the next day till evening when a part of the troops landed & marched down through Ogdensburgh by land leading the boats which were doubly manned at the oars to proceed down by the Fort in the after part of the night. As we passed through Ogdensburgh village the enemy kept up a continual cannonading. Many of their balls & shell were very well directed but did us no damage.

When the boats passed in the morning they again kept up a very heavy cannonading to but little effect – only one ball touched us & that killed & wound three men. In the forenoon of the 8th the boats came ashore at Lisbon at seven miles below Prescott & took on board the troops that marched down. I believe I mentioned before that Col. Macomb had command of the Corps de reserve. This corps was afterwards new organized and called the Corps d'Elite. It was composed of the Rifle corps of about 150 or 200 under Major Forsythe; The Albany Volunteers under a Major Herkimer about as strong; a detachment of the 20th Rg^t Inf^y and Richmond Volunteers under Col. Randolph about as strong: and five companies of the 3rd Rg^t of Art^y about 250 or 300 strong under the brave Col. Scott of the 2nd Rg^t Art who joined us here as a volunteer & obtained this command – the whole commanded by Col. Macomb. This corps instead of a reserve was now to be in advance - a kind of standing van guard & were to take the lead in every thing that looked like difficulty or danger – an arduous, dangerous but glorious service had the campaign continued any length of time. The Elite were now ordered to proceed down in advance about 10 or 12 miles & land on the Canadian shore about a mile above a battery which was situated on the narrow part of the River – to march down & take the battery. This we accomplished without loss though we were fired on by about two hundred militia previous to our landing. The battery was abandoned by the enemy on our approach. The [next day?] (Nov. 9) our army came down & ferried over the Light [Dragoons?] & Light [Artillery?] [Text Missing] (Nov. 10th) our picquets were attacked at revellie & the Elite were ordered out to support them & on our approach the enemy fled up the River. The Elite, Light Dragoons, one company of Light Artillery & Gen. Browns* Brigade the whole under Gen. Brown were then ordered to march down towards Cornwall & we started off immediately. We that day reached the plan* which was the scene of action of the 11th & there found the remainder of the Army that had proceeded down in boats & there encamped. On the morning of the 11th Gen¹ Brown's command

[Page 3]

took up their line of march early & proceeded on till about noon unmolested. At this time we found a bridge broken down & Major Forsythe with his corps were examining the bridge & attempting to repair it when they were fired on from behind a little rising ground on the other side. The Riflemen kept up a scattering fire as they could see an object – Col. Scott with his command immediately proceeded up the creek in quest of the enemy & a fording place. The bushes were thick & retarded our march but we at length found a fording place

& crossed - it was a few minutes too late for the enemy just slipt us – had we been ten or fifteen minutes sooner we should cut off a few hundred of them. The front company however killed one indian and took two or three canadians prisoners. The Riflemen killed & wounded several. Ensign James of the Rifle corps alone pursued a party of six or eight of the enemy, killed one & took one prisoner. He took one prisoner the night we first landed – an officer on horseback who was reconnoitering us - he (James) fired at another officer, wounded him but he rode off – we have since heard that he died of his wounds. -- The enemy made another stand about a mile below in force from 8 to 12 hundred militia & about 30 indians but a shot from the Riflemen dispersed them into the woods – we then proceeded to within four miles of Cornwall & encamped - The next day marched two miles further & waited for the boats. After we left the army on the morning of the 11th the enemy made their appearance above in gun boats & they came down & commenced a fire on a part of the army that lay higher up than the rest. Gen. Is Boyd & Covington were ordered up with a part of their brigades to dislodge them from their post – this they effected. The enemy retreated & threw themselves into a ravine & there made a stand. The enemy then having the advantage [Text Missing] but the enemy dare not follow them [Text Missing] boats & came down. This I believe to be the substance of that affair. You will see in print I presume many particular accounts of it. I was not there so cannot speak from my own knowledge. On the 12th the

boats came down to where we (the advance) were encamped & on the 13th we embarked and arrived at this place.

It was no doubt proper to leave Canada at the time

It was no doubt proper to leave Canada at the time we did – without the cooperation of Gen. Hampton

[Page 4]

we could not expect to get to Montreal as the enemy in superior force was waiting for us at <u>Cote du</u>

<u>Lac</u> while 2000 men were harassing us and near.

The appearance of this sheet warns me to finish – more hereafter – write soon – Yours [sincerely?]

Rufus McIntire

John Holmes Esq.^r

A. Crosby has deserted since I have been here. I hope he will be arrested if he goes to Sanford

I should have written before but have been very busy In building huts &c

John Hanson is here & in health – He is considered a very decent officer. I will give you some idea of the Rifle Corps hereafter – I lost Isaac Hanson in Canada – when the boat started on the morning of the 11th he had straggled on shore & was left behind & not heard from – he was unwell & I left him with the boat –

Rufus McIntire

[then at 90 degrees]

Hon. John Holmes Counsellor at Law Alfred (York Co D. Maine)

Letter of March 17th 1814

Rome/Oneida Co State of N York/ March 17th 1814

Dear Sir

I wrote you from Sackets Harbor some time since. Since that time we have been ordered westward & arrived at this place yesterday. Tomorrow we proceed on towards the Niagara frontier - we have in our detachment six companies of the 3rd Rg^t Art^y one of the 2nd Rg^t Art^y and one of Light Artill^y averaging about eighty men to a company all in fine health & under the command of L^t Col. Mitchell – a Battalion of the 11th Rg^t Inf^y under L^t Col. [Bedel?] marched hence yesterday on the same destination. Col. Ripley with the 21st Rg^t Inf^y marches hence today & the 9th Rg^t Inf^y are expected here today & will follow one day after us. Gen¹ Brown left here yesterday & will command us. Col. Scott (probably ere this a Brig Gen¹) is on his way from Albany to same place. Batavia, a town about forty miles interior from Fort Niagara is the point to which we are all orderd at present. To what point on the frontier we shall

from thence be ordered I know not. You can guess as well as any other Yankee.

Our march averages about twenty miles per day which our men perform with ease. Their health always improves on a march if good quarters are obtained at night. This we shall be able to obtain through the whole march as there

[Page 2]

are villages scattered all along from ten to twenty five miles distant from each other where six or seven hundred men can easily be quartered. This is the reason for having the several regiments follow each other a days march distant.

The letter I wrote you at Sackets' harbor I sent to
Portsmouth by Cap^t Vose - it contained fifty dolls.
& some papers belonging in your neighborhood. The
letter I presume will go safe – but will not
probably arrive much sooner than this.
I am in haste & cannot write more at
present. I should be happy to receive a letter from
you. Please to direct it to me at Batavia &
I will make arrangements to get it.
Give my respects to all friends – M^r. Saywards & M^r.
Goodwins' families in particular. Your own family
will always retain my most grateful remembrance.
I am Sir, with the highest
respect, your most obedient
servant & affectionate friend

Rufus McIntire

Hon John Holmes

[Address page]

Rufus McIntire 17 March 1814

[then at 90 degrees] Hon^{bl}. John Holmes Counsellor at Law Alfred (York C°. Dis. Maine)

Letter of April 13th 1814

Batavia, State of N. York, April 13th 1814

Dear Sir,

Our regiment arrived at this place on the 29th ult in excellent health tho somewhat fatigued by seventeen days marching five of the last of which was thro' the mud ancle deep. You have probably learned by the public papers that after we had performed a part of our march, we retrograded to Salina - by that retrograde movement we (our regiment) lost nearly five days. This village is twenty nine miles from Williamsville or (eleven mile creek) where the militia have been stationed & whither a part of our regular force have gone. The 25th Rgt Infy have marched towards Lewistown & the rest of the Infy that left Sacket's Harbor consisting of the 9th, 21st & [a?] battalion of the 11th have gone to Williamsville. Williamsville is on the road hence to Buffaloe & eleven miles this side that place. The militia have within two or three days all been discharged. Our regiment is waiting for tents which are expected hourly. We are in no great hurry as probably nothing will done until our train of Artillery comes up. It left Canandaigua vesterday - Canandaigua is forty nine miles from this place and the roads are so excessively bad that it will not reach this place in less than four days. The road to Williamsville is still worse - the inhabitants say it never was so bad. The distance from Williamsville to Ft. Niagara is over thirty miles so that if operations are to be made against that Fort we cannot commence them in less than three or four weeks. If on the other hand we do not go against Fort Niagara but cross over

[Page 2]

near Black Rock & march down against Fort George (which I am of the opinion would be most advisable) we cannot cross till we have built boats or until the fleet comes down from Erie, and I do not think we have here yet sufficient force to attempt to plant the American standard on the enemy's shore, and on the whole I do not think we lose any thing if we remain here a fortnight longer. What will be the plan of operations in this quarter is uncertain. Genl. Brown commands & troops under him were selected by him at

Sacket's Harbor, all Yankee regiments except ours which was raised in N. England & the middle states. Two companies of the 2nd Rgt. Arty & one of the Light Arty are attached to ours. Genl Brown who has been promoted over so many Brigadier Genls & who so much posseses the confidence of the government feels the importance of doing something & he has great confidence in the troops under his command. Brigr. Genl. Scott so distinguished as a fighting character (& in my opinion the best officer in the whole army of any grade) has joined us & is the only Brigadier present. If it be possible to meet the enemy I know Scott will manage to meet him if he can do it on any thing like equal ground. He expresses the highest confidence in our regiment in particular & assures us that as we shall not all be furnished with pieces of artillery he is anxious to lead that part who will act as Infantry to the charge. The troops under Genl. Brown probably at present amount to about two thousand. The enemy have about five hundred men in Fort Niagara & have greatly improved the fort. We can take it I think by laying a regular siege to it but the expense in time, men, & money will in my opinion counterbalance any advantages resulting from the possession of it.

[Page 3]

In fact I see but little advantage the enemy have in its possession. 'Tis true it is wounding to the national pride for the enemy to keep it - otherwise it is of but little importance. The enemy command nothing but the bare site of the fort & a mile of [plane?] about it & are dependent for supplies of every kind from the other side. If our army be sufficiently strong to cross & occupy Fort George & Newark the garrison must capitulate in one fortnight or be starved. Their men desert every opportunity. About ten days ago fourteen deserted from a small detachment they sent about a mile to destroy a battery up the river. These deserters say that one half their regiment will desert the first opportunity. It is the 100th Regt. & have been considered the most loyal of any, & in fact were lately sent into the fort on that account to relieve some troops that appeared less loyal.

There is a report here that the enemy's fleet is out. Three of their vessels were said to be seen from mouth of Genesee river a few days ago. Many well informed people, however say that it is impossible for them to be out so early.

I have heard from Dr. M. Parsons since I arrived here - am informed he is at Erie & is married.

E. Clark has frequently written to me & Col. Macomb & in his last complains of being still unwell. [Query?], where is he? I wish him to join me on this frontier as well as some others of my company who obtained furloughs. Col. Dennis did more mischief at Sackets Harbor last fall in granting furloughs than five recruiting officers could do good in three months.

I wrote you before I left Sackets Harbor & I presume you have recd. the letter ere this.

My respects to all enquiring friends – Mrs. Holmes in particular.

Yours most respectfully Rufus McIntire

[At 90 degrees to the above]

The election in N. Hampshire tho' probably not successfull has proved favorable beyond our expectations. Your speeches

in the Mass^{ts} senate are generally read in this part of the country & much admired by every friend to his country. They are spoken of in the highest terms of approbation. We wait anxiously to hear from Mass^{ts} Election.

Rufus McIntire.

Letter of May 9th 1814

Volney, Oswego Falls (12 miles above the Fort) May 9th 1814

Dear Sir,

We have had an action with the enemy at Fort Oswego & been compelled to retreat to this place. The enemy after destroying or taking away what they could find retired next morning. The particulars I will endeavor to give you & you can judge whether we did our duty or not. Our force consisted of Capt. Boyle's, Romayne's, McIntire's, Pierce's [Text Missing] Arty formerly the 3rd Rgt and Capt. Melvin's 68 of Light Arty

altogether amounting to 342 [men?] well who arrived at the fort 30th Apl after a march of more than 150 miles at the rate of more than 30 miles per day and found the fort in an entire defenseless situation. The fort was once an excellent one & when in repair with its out work was large enough to contain 2000 men & fight [them?] to advantage. The hand of time had destroyed every picket + the escarp could be easily ascended on any part – in some places as easily as through the gate. We found five pieces of artillery in it - three 4 pounders - one six & one nine all very old – three without trunnions & all most miserably mounted & even such carriages as they had [out of repair.?] [Indeed they were all condemned pieces but had been mounted in case of necessity & we- were compelled to use them from the same cause. We immediately set about repairing them, fixing platforms & making cartridges & c & c. The] pieces were attached to Capt Boyle's Co. + three of them placed on a battery in front of the fort and the other two in the bastions of the fort for defence on the land side – all the other companies acted as Infantry. Early in the morning of the 5th [?] we discovered a fleet – soon made it out to be the enemy's consisting of four ships, one brig & two hermaphrodite brigs with gun boats, a bomb catch for throwing shells & rockets and a long string of boats in tow. The wind being light they did not till after noon get up before the fort within a mile or mile & a half where they anchored & the boats being filled with troops rendezvoused along side the commodore's ship & rowed slowly for shore preceeded rapidly by their gun boats when they commenced a cannonading from the boats & ships on our fort and little battery which was shortly returned by Capt Boyle partly from the 9 pounder as the fours would not reach there & the six under the direction of Lt. Legate after a few discharges burst without doing any mischief. Capt. Boyle having several times struck the boats they retired & the wind springing up unfavorable to their operations their troops were taken into their vessels & they ran down the lake with the loss of several boats which were picked up by the citizens - one was taken up by our soldiers sixty feet long rowed 36 oars would carry 100 or 150 men.

[Page 2]

During the night the fleet frequently were seen making signals & one was in sight nearly all night. A deserter assures us that a boat from the village brought a letter & from several circumstances we have no doubt they had some communication from the shore. Col Mitchell not wishing to divide his forces by detaching any to the village side of the river and wishing to deceive the enemy concealed all his force in the fort except Capt Boyle's Co. at the battery and ordered the tents in store to be pitched in rear of the village & a small battery & breast work & by this deception the enemy were evidently embarrassed the first day. On the morning of the

6th we again discovered the fleet bearing up under easy sail & boats full of men in tow. About 200 militia had by this time come in & were shewn near the tents & in the wood ((so as to appear)) as numerous as po(ssible) and our troops in the fort were?] marched out in their view & returned secretly so as to be shown twice or thrice but they had now obtained too much information to be deceived. About 10 A.M. they took their position having before that time shown a disposition to land on the village side. We were march out of the fort secretly into the woods & made our appearance at the ferry & crossed over our company. This appeared to them a reinforcement. When they had taken their position which was very judiciously made to rake every part of the fort & the plane & woods adjacent they commenced a most tremendous cannonade from every vessel aimed at first entirely at our little battery of one 9 and one 4 pounder, but were unable to silence it for more than three hours & not then till every cartridge was expended & they had possession of the rear of the fort. Lt. Legate at the 4 pounder would not bring his piece to bear on the nearest ship from the battery & therefore took it out & entirely exposed to their fire our ship was not much beyond musket shot. At length Col. Mitchell discovered by their movements that their intention was to land about one hundred rods north easterly of the fort on the shore of the lake & ordered us up from the ferry back of the fort into the ditch. This order was promptly obeyed though we had to cross the plane under a continual shower of round 2 grape shot & some shells. We were sent here not particularly to protect the fort & harbor but the public property on this river a principal part of which was at the falls. Col. Mitchell therefore resolved not to shut himself into the fort but to oppose the enemy at landing & fight them as long as possible from the out work but if unable to repel them was resolved to retreat to this place & make another stand. As the enemy approached the shore Col. M. marched out two companies from this ditch & met them on the shore exposed to a tremendous shower of grape from the ship directed at his little band of about 100 men. After firing six or seven rounds he retreated slowly into the ditch followed by the enemy – we poured in the fire so briskly were checked & retired behind some bushes & a ravine where they were partially covered – they then attempted to flank our right which would cut off our retreat had they succeeded but we prevented it by extending our right. A column then advanced to our

[NOTE: at right side of page 2 is the following –]
Write to me at Sacketts Harbor & I can get it by an express

[Page 3]

left along the shore of the lake & got possession of the fort between our left & the battery & we are then obliged to retreat after returning the action 36 minutes at close musket shot. We were not much over 200 men in the ditch in all for Capt. Boyle's Co. was still at the battery & the guard was still in the fort. To us was opposed 60 of De Wateville's corps 600 marines & 250 sailors with two field pieces - 1450 in all who landed in the first division under Lt Genl Drummond & Sir James Yeo & the sailors under the immediate command of Capt Mulcaster of the navy & second command & said to be a better officer then this commodore. Capt M was shot in the groin & is dead. They had in reserve in boats in a second division at least eight hundred british troops. The officers took tea at a tavern in the village & there acknowledged a [shot while trying to tear down the American Flag over the fort. Two others tried it before him and were instantly shot.] Sir James acknowledged a slight wound in the heel and a ball through his cap. Our loss is 5 killed 28 wounded 3 since dead about 24 prisoners & 11 missing - Lt. Blaney killed & only one other officer slightly wounded. Our men fought most bravely & we could with difficulty get them to retreat & "let us give them one more fire" said they not knowing the enemy were in the fort. It is impossible to describe & do justice to the intrepidity of Col. Mitchell. He was cool and serene tho constantly exposed from the com^t of the commanding to the last & to finish his heroic character, while on the retreat mounted under a shower of shot of every description from the ships the musketry of the troops a poor wounded soldier begged for assistance when he dismounted, put the soldier on his horse & walked cooly in rear of his men. He has been pleased to express his entire approbation of the conduct of all his officers. The enemy spoke in the highest terms of him. The numbers of the enemy I have given is the smallest number stated by their deserters as well as by the citzens of the village who were present. The enemy often plundering the village taking what they could find burnt our platform &c & left the shore that night & the harbor the next morning. They took all our baggage public & private – we could have saved it but were afraid of disheartening our men by removing it choos ing rather to sacrifice every thing than have our men prove cowards – my waiter brought off a small trunk containing my paper which is all I saved except what I had on. They left our wounded – all the public property of any value they got was eight pieces of canon intended for our fleet & they were sunk but they found 8 out of 10. I had 72 men in my co. 2 of them being sick - I had 2 killed – 2 sergeants & two privates wounded, three taken prisoners & three missing. Henry Hart son of [Martin?] Hart killed – all my brave fellows from your part of the country safe. It is astonishing our loss was so small considering how much we were exposed. Lt Pierce of the navy with about 20 sailors was with us in the ditch & advanced with Col. M. to the shore & they conducted well. The militia run of at the first fire from the ships diverted

to the village side of the river. Capt. Romayne in vain endeavored to keep to the fight. We shall probably stay here or return to Oswego & remain there a few weeks till the public property be removed to Sacketts H. or elsewhere.

I very lately noticed in a paper the death of Mrs. Brooks. Permit me to sympathize with you & your family for the loss of that amiable Lady. I shall ever remember her attention to me with lively gratitude.

[Envelope on left side of flap]

Give my respects to all friends – tell Mrs. Wentworth that <u>little</u>
<u>lchabod</u> was in the action & did his duty like a brave man.

Yours most respectfully,
Rufus McIntire

John Holmes Esq

[Envelope information and address]
Rufus McIntire
May 9, 1814

S Harbor May 12th

> Hon John Holmes Counsellor at Law Alfred York Co Dis Maine

[Envelope right side of flap]

Our evaluation of their force when we saw them in their boats was nearly correct. We calculated that they had at least 1800 & from the best information we can get they had over that number. Two of their ships are new – they had all the navel force they will have this season – one of their new ships is a double decker & is called the Prince Regent that name being transferred from the brig that formerly bore it – The other ship is called the Princess Charlotte or the Queen Charlotte I know not which. Our large ship at the harbor is launched or will be ready as soon as we can get her guns & rigging through this place [?] a part having [gone?]. She is called the Superior The other two are nearly ready for sea called the Jefferson and the Jones nearly as large as the Madison.

Letter of August 1st 1814

Sacket's Harbor August 1st 1814

Dear Sir,

It is so long since I have heard from Alfred that I will now attempt by a scrawl to <u>provoke</u> you to write me. The Newspapers inform of the public affairs at the eastward but I feel equally anxious to hear of the welfare of my friends & of the incidents which take place among them. The last letter I rec^d from you was written in April for which I am obliged to you but should be more so if it had been longer.

Our fleet sailed this morning with a light breeze – destination unknown. They have six weeks provision on board. It consists of the Superior, Mohawk Pike & Madison, ships; the Sylph, Jones, Jefferson & Oneida brigs; and Lady of the Lake & the Tomkins schooners - the latter is to be used as a bomb ketch or something like that & is manned with Cap^t. Archer's C^o. of Artillery. Cap^t Archer has the direction of the Tomkins. He is a singular man but has proved himself very brave & is a man of talents. He is a little too fond of new projects & speculations & will either do much or nothing. Commodore Chauncey has so far recovered his health as to go in the fleet tho' he is yet low. His ill health has probably delayed the sailing of the fleet some tho' I am not able to ascertain certainly why it has not sailed before – there seems to be some mystery about it & the officers of the navy have some of them spoken freely on the subject. I fear the enemy have been able to send such reinforcements to the head of the lake that Gen¹. Brown will be compelled to leave the Canada shore without effecting the object of his expedition. The delay

[Page 2]

in the sailing of our fleet must disappoint Gen¹. Brown and I think destroy his calculations of success. We have got information of his late battle wherein Gen¹. Brown & Scott were both severely wounded & you will no doubt get the particulars before this reaches you. The British General Neal is our prisoner together with about twenty other officers & nearly 300 prisoners and the enemy's artillery. It appears the battle lasted about six hours when the enemy were driven at all points. It appears Gen¹. Brown was retreating & the enemy by a circuitous movement were attempting to get

in his rear but were disappointed & defeated with great loss. Gen'. Brown rec'd two balls in his thigh but remained on his horse till his army were quietly encamped. Gen¹. Gaines on the rec^t.of the news by express left this post for Brown's army where he will command till the recovery of Gen¹. Brown which will be shortly as the wound a flesh one only. The battle was fought between Queenstown & Chippeway – I presume this & the battle at Chipeway were the most regular & best fought battles we have had this war & has furnished a fine specimen of of great improvements this season. Gen¹. Brown is a very industrious officer but I consider Gen¹. Scott as the life & soul of that army Cap^t. Jones of the Art^y. & assistant Adjutant Gen¹. to that wing of the army I presume has contributed much to their [police?], discipline &c. Gen¹. Brown knows how to profit by the services of those intelligent men who know how to fight. Should the fleet sail to the head of the lake which is probable, Sacket's Harbor will be much exposed – We have but few regular troops here having nearly all gone to Niagara & Plattsburgh. About 12 or 1500 militia are ordered in & have partly arrived. Gen¹. Martin commands them & the post. Col. Mitchell commands the regulars consisting of his battalion of Artillery & some dismounted Dragoons. Our batteries, redoubts &c. are however in good order & if properly supported by Infantry will be able to resist a very large force. If the Militia fight (which will be the first time in this quarter) we can repel any force the enemy can bring against us at present. Kingston is drained of troops & Gen'. Drummond has

[Page 3]

gone up the lake to oppose Gen¹. Brown. Could our fleet take on board Gen¹. Brown & army & transport it to Kingston that important post would inevitably fall together with the fleet but I fear the fleet will be too late. There is no probability of our fleet's meeting the enemy's. Sir James will no doubt remain snug in Kingston till his new ship is ready which will be in about two months & will carry 102 guns. A few days since a letter bag from Kingston for England was intercepted on the S^t. Lawrence which gave us very particular information of every thing there. The Officers & [Carpenters?] in their letters to their friends deprecate the service in Canada & complain much of sickness & poor living &c &c.

The troops at this post are unusually healthy & I understand Gen^I. Browns army are so also. The season has been very fine for health &c - rather cool & dry and but little fluctuation in the temperature.

I observe by the papers that Eastport is taken & our whole coast threatened by a predatory war. I think that the

enemy will not attempt to penetrate the country with 18 or even 30 thousand men but will endeavor to destroy the seaports & shipping. It appears to me that the enemy are determined to pursue this course rather than to make peace & have our shipping rival theirs in commerce. A jealousy of us as rivals in commerce has no doubt been the cause of all this depredations & claims upon us & the same jealousy I fear will prevent their making peace at this favorable crisis of their affairs in Europe & yet our peace party are rejoicing at that very crisis!! I hope these admirers & faithful servants of the magnanimous crowned heads of Europe will share the fate of the Cortes of Spain who have been exhausting the treasure & spilling the blood of Spainnot for their liberties but for the interests of their loving master Ferdinand who is now severely chastising them for their fidelity. A wholesome lesson to these servile lovers of contemptible tyrants. It would be a happy circumstance

[Page 4]

for our country if our admirers of royal pageantry & <u>rightful</u>

<u>Sovereigns</u> can be convinced that <u>magnanimous</u> princes
can be ungrateful as well as Republics – Excuse these crude
ideas – I was insensibly led to put them on this sheet. Please to write
me & give me your opinion of the prospects of peace as well of the affairs
about you. Give my respects to M^{rs}. Holmes and all friends.

Yours respectfully
Rufus McIntire

[At 90 degrees to above text]

Rufus McIntire August 1st 1814 S Harbor August 1st [different hand?]

Hon^{ble}. John Holmes Counsellor at Law Alfred (York Co.) Dis. Maine

[At 90 degrees to above address]

PS. The information I gave reporting Mr. Parsons marriage was not correct – my informant mistook D^r. Parsons for another Dr. at the same post who was married there. Parsons is highly spoken of by officers who are acquainted with him.

Letter of September 21st 1814

Fort Virginia, Sacket's Harbor, Sept 21st 1814

Dear Sir,

Having long deferred writing to you in hopes of first receiving a line from you but now despairing of that I will endeavor to extort something from you in your leisure moments. You will have heard all the news in [this quarter] from the public prints ere this re[aches?] you except perhaps what has transpired in this vicinity. Our fleet sails this day having on board Gen¹. Izard & army – destination probably the head of the lake or perhaps Genesee River to reinforce Gen'. Brown. The light Art marched yesterday by land for the Niagara frontier & the Dragoons (dismounted) this day for the same place. I know no the plan of operation, whether simply to join G. Brown or to attack the enemy in rear between Fort George & Burlington. I think the former because they are not provided with Artillery to act alone. The bad weather delayed the movement two or three days & it still continues to rain. We have had an incessant rain & storm for a week past which has made the roads extremely bad & I fear will delay & injure the final results of the campaign. The enemy are said to be drawing their troops from Little York &c. down to Kingston. Whether this be precautionary in anticipation of an attack from Gen¹. Izard or with intent to attack this post is uncertain – probably both. Most of the officers here strongly expect an attack & we are preparing as tho' we were certain of it. Whether they will defer an attack till their

[Page 2]

new ship (which will mount over one hundred guns) be ready or whether they will come as soon as they hear of the absence of our fleet is uncertain. I am of opinion that, at the season of the year when the

weather is so unsteady, they will not venture out without their line of battle ship especially as she will be ready by the first of October or by the 4 or 5th at farthest. Our fleet will soon return I am not certain but Com. Chancey will engage the enemy notwithstanding the [great?] disparity of force. Col. Mitchell [] forces [] Heard of the Militia has arrived this evening & will

Heard of the Militia has arrived this evening & will probably take command of the post. The regular force consists of the a battalion of Art^y – a battalion of the 13th Inf^y. & small battalions of the 45th Inf^y. in the whole probably about 10 or 1200. The number of militia I do not know but suppose about as many more – some are volunteers & some the detached militia. We have been constantly on fatigue this summer in throwing up a chain of redoubts around this place & have dignified them with the name of forts. We shall commence tomorrow to entrench the spaces between these works & in a few days the whole place will be completely surrounded with, at least, some show of defence. I do not know what dependence can be placed on the militia but believe they can be made to fight when hemmed in & covered behind pickets &c. At any rate let the enemy come in what force he may he will certainly pay dear for what he gets here. I have not however much confidence in our works & think them radically defective, they being too scattered for the force we have – were they more concentrated or indeed only one regular fort with the same number of guns & men it could be defended against twice the force that it can at present. The mail which was lately intercepted between Kingston & Niagara contained an order of Sir G. Provost to Gen¹. Drummond to destroy this place, by siege if necessary, as soon as their fleet could get out or before

[Page 3]

if practicable. What alteration may take place in their plan of operations in consequence of McDonneaugh victory & the defeat of their army before Plattsburgh is uncertain. They have met with another check before Erie which we have just heard of. Gen¹. Brown writes that the enemy had two batteries near him & troubled him much with their shells as much that he was out of patience & was determined to sally out & destroy [them?]. This he effected

[?] to his [?] having destroyed all their batterys [blown up all their?] magazines, killed & [wounded?] 400 & took 400 prisoners among them [?]2 officers. His own loss great in officers but trifling in men. Gen¹. Ripley mortally wounded. Col^s. Gibson & Wood killed - valuable officers. Gen¹. Brown has 3000 militia who have crossed over to Erie a part of them were in the late sally & did well. Gen¹. Porter was wounded. We have also heard of the repulse of the enemy near Baltimore. We rejoice to hear that the militia begin to do their duty and are sorry that those at Hamden disgraced the District of Maine – hope if they attempt Portland or Portsmouth that the militia will retrieve their character.

How does Gov^r. Strong like to be relieved from the burden of governing a part of his territories? I am glad to find that some of his constitutional scruples are worn away & that he really believes their is some danger near. The fate of Alexandria has I hope destroyed the delusive expectations that the British Army would discriminate between their friends & foes among our citizens. Whatever inveteracy the enemy may show towards any political party in this country they are too well versed in the knowledge of human nature to place any confidence in or shew any favors to men or parties of men who they cannot consider any better than traitors to their own country – Traitors who have resolution sufficiently only to declare the wishes & purposes of their hearts but dare not attempt to put them in execution. The incendiary mode of warfare which our pious, honorable & magnanimous

[Page 4]

enemy have adopted on the sea board I hope will be of incalculable benefit to the nation. It will touch our admirers of the forbearing, humane, generous British that their fatal delusion has cost this country dear and that it is not only as patriotic but quite as correct to believe our own rulers, the men of our choice, have as much honesty, humanity & good faith as Gov^r. Strong's boasted bulwark of religion. The manner which the enemy make war on the shores of the Chesapeake would almost justify us on our part to make it a war of extermination – to sacrifice every man who dares put his foot on our soil. But let it suffice that it will create a national

hatred or at least destroy a too great national partiality which has unhappily too [much &] too long prevailed. Yours &c
Rufus McIntire

Hon^{ble}. John Holmes Counsellor at Law Alfred (York Co.)/ Dis. Maine

[At 90 degrees to above address]

Give my respects to neighbors & friends especially to Esqr Laywards' & M^r Goodwin's families. M^{rs} Holmes is ever entitled most respectfully to my recollection. Bradford I suppose is now almost a man & Charles with his fine open countenance begins to look like a young soldier. Sarah Ann must not be forgotten & I fear Hannah is not so pretty as she used to be. I could make many enquiries respecting many neighbors & should like to hear from them all. I earnestly hope that you will not fail to write me. Yours most respectfully Rufus McIntire

Hon^{ble}. John Holmes

Letter of December 14th 1814

Sackett's Harbor, Dec^r 14th 1814

Dear Sir,

Yours dated in Nov^r. came to hand the 2nd instant – am very grateful for your friendly letter – I feared I was forgotten by my old friends as I had not rec^d any communication from them for a long time – perhaps my own negligence in writing accounts for the long silence of my friends.

The public papers give us a general sketch of the state of affairs in Mass. but I feel extremely anxious to know a thousand particulars of "men and things" which I cannot at this distance of place. I feel much inclined to visit home this winter to learn these particulars as well as to see my connexions and friends. Is it possible that the leaders of a certain party in N. England will cap the climax of their folly by open resistance to the Gov^t. of the U. States? Or will they attempt

the more peaceable but not less wicked measure to negotiate a neutrality or separate peace with the enemy? After what they have done I should not be surprized at any piece of folly or villany they may attempt. I believe they have done all the mischief they possible could in this blustering but peaceful course and have the disposition to do much more if they dare. Gentlemen who live out of N. England are sometimes apprehensive of domestic difficulties from the strange proceedings of the two last legislatures of Mass. & express much indignation at their conduct. They consider Your exertions to have greatly checked the violence of those proceedings. Indeed many with whom I have conversed consider your continual presence

[Page 2]

presence at that post of danger to be necessary to the public tranquility and however they may wish for the benefit of your talents in Congress yet they think that the power of your eloquence is more usefully & effectually employed in opposing & suppressing treason in the Mass. legislature. Think not, sir, that I am attempting to flatter you - there is no need of it and if there was, my inclination is less than ever to flatter any-body and you know I was never much inclined to be a sycophant.

The season is so far advanced [that all?] idea of an attack on this post has for sometime entirely subsided. The enemy may come when the ice bridges over the S^t Lawrence but it is not at all probable as they will not be able in the winter to lay siege to the place if an assault fails which would be almost certain. It is understood to be the determination of the enemy to attack & if necessary besiege the place early next spring. If he persists in his purpose of carrying on offensive operations the next campaign will probably commence here - We shall be prepared to meet them with the heroes of Chippeway, Bridgewater & Erie & some other as good troops as any in the service. A British Lieutenant of the navy has lately deserted & is now here on board the fleet & solicits employ in our service. He commanded

the Schooner which our squadron drove on shore last summer at the head of the lake. He says that for that act of destroying the Schooner he was unjustly reprimanded by Sir James Yeo which his "English spirit could not brook". If he is not a spy (& it not probable that he is) it is more likely that he has been cashiered for that or some other conduct.

Nothing for certainty is yet known respecting an increase of our naval force on this Lake. The

[Page 3]

The only fact that has transpired worthy of notice is that the Agent of the Contractor for building public ships here has for ten days past been extremely active in making contracts for very large quantities of ship-timber to be delivered as soon as possible. This gives rise to numerous reports & conjectures as to the kind of ships to be built but nothing else is known & you can draw as correct conclusions as any other person at present. I don't

[Text Missing]

[?] what additional force to build nor will they till they consult Commodore Chauncey who left here about the 1st Decr suddenly & in haste for N. York or elsewhere – this is conjecture of my own. My opinion is against this war of shipbuilding on this lake for it is now certain that the enemy will not meet us without an undoubted superiority & will remain secure in port when equal or inferior. We cannot therefore ever bring the thing to issue unless one party or the other gets strong enough to destroy the depot at Kingston or S.H. & thus destroy the fleet or drive them out.

I should have answered your letter before but have been absent about ten days in the country for the benefit of my health which has been thereby fully restored. I have been unwell for several weeks & the physicians recommended exercise & the air inland from the lake. An invalid could not take much exercise at the Harbor for the most rainy season ever known, a

clay soil & constant passing made the whole village & vicinity a continued mire almost impassable for a horse. The cold has now made it hard & a few inches of snow has made the ways tolerably smooth. The bay was a few days

[Page 4] days since partly frozen but is again open.

I rec^d a letter sometime since from M^r Goodwin & neglected to answer it so long that I did not know where to direct one as he then expected to go home ere this. If at home tell him to let me know & I will write to him. Give my respects to M^{rs} Goodwin & the M^r. Haywards & all other friends. M^{rs} Holmes is ever entitled to my grateful remembrance & respect. Tell all the children & Hannah in particular that I still remember them as they were when I left Alfred & expect to be surprized at their alteration in size when I next see them. I need not assure you of a continuance of my gratefull esteem & respect

Rufus McIntire

Hon. J. Holmes

[at 90 degrees to above]

Hon^{ble}. John Holmes Counsellor at Law Alfred, York C°.

Dis. Maine

[at 90 degrees to above address]

PS I have transmitted to my Brother my accounts for pay to the amount of about 200 dolls & directed him if he could get them paid in money acceptable to you to pay you over at least 100 dolls. I sent my accounts because I know that N. York bills in which I could have been paid here were at a great discount in Mass. & I have since learned that the Pay Masters at the Eastward pay in treasury notes only which are still lower in the market than N. York bills – I fear some delay in having those amounts converted into money. Yours. R.M.

Letter of January 1st 1815

Cantonment, Plattsburgh N. York halfpast twelve on Sunday morning Jan⁹ 1, 1815

[Dear Mister?]Holmes

The revolving wheels of Time having rolled us on to [another?] year — I thus early bid you and your family an [Text Missing] May it be fraught with health, peace and a full fruition of all earthly enjoyments. In a short note penned to you on Christmas day, I [promis?]ed a sketch of our Cantonment which is annexed – ow-[ing to?] some official duties. I have not been able more early to [comply?] and owing to the hurry I know it to be very incorrect in [some particu?] lars. The Cantonment is perfectly correct so far as it [goes, hav?]ing omitted many buildings in the rear. The forms [Text Missing] but fort Moreau is not rightly located, [Text Missing] to the west, so as to command the open [space?] between the barracks. The forts are surrounded by deep [ditches?] and pickets – within the ditch. The bastions at the angles, [give a?] powerful command of the Ditch which is protected [by aba?][ttis?] and like obstructions. To carry the works by escalade [it would?] [req?]uire ladders of twenty feet in length, and should the [enemy?] attempt it they must suffer an irrepairable loss. [Ma?]ny improvements might have been made to the [Canton?]ment, but all in all, it will answer good purposes. [The?] Houses, the General Hospital, and Artificers' shops [ought?] to have been within the chains of pickets; being suf-[ficient?] ground for those purposes unappropriated. A large [quantity?] of wood is ordered to be supplied, lest the enemy [besi?]eging us, should freeze, rather than starve us to [surren?]der. With a few more Troops, which are soon [to arrive?] so as to man our chains of Pickets – we may [d?]efy Johny Bull. It is said Gen¹. Macomb will [be?] absent, as suggested in my other scrawl, lest of [Text Missing] he expects.

[Written at 90 degrees to the above]

This exhibits an imperfect idea of the River Bay, and Village, some houses on this side of the River near Platt's Point were burnt, lying in range from our Forts to the British batteries; and the Court House, Jail and some of the nicest houses on the other side of the river were also burnt, behind which the enemy threw up batteries. Should the enemy attempt to shelter themselves in the village we can soon foil them, as most every building is within range of red hot Shot from our forts. I have given the range of our fleet, though not posted sufficiently near the western shore. It was judiciously posted within Cumberland Head so far from the main

Channel between that Head and Grand Isle on the east, as to be out of range of the enemies' long Guns. This arrangement compelled the Enemy to come within the Head to begin the conflict, which gave equal effect to our carronades with long Guns. Crab Island is half a mile to the South of our line. McDonough knew the enemy must have a north wind to come [up?] the La[ke?] and if they were disposed to fight him on equal footing they must haul [to in the?] wind [after?] clearing Cumberland [He?]ad, and range up in line with him. This was [done?] This posi[tion?] offered the enemy the temptation to cut off the right of our line, which if [at-] tempted Macdonough was [prepared?] to take a new alignment and thereby place hi[mself?] to the [west?]ward which would h[ave?] enabled him to choose his own distance to fight the [m?][Text Missing]

March 4th 1815

Sackett's Harbor March 4th, 1815

Dear Sir,

Peace with all her smiling train, having once more taken her abode in the land of freedom, & my Country seeming no longer to require my feeble services in the tented field, I fondly anticipate the pleasure of soon visiting my connexions & friends & participating with them in all the enjoyments of social life. The time has arrived when I can again indulge in seeking a provision for myself. At this critical moment of commencing a new race, I feel a pleasure in having a Friend whose advice I am free to ask & who is so able &, I flatter myself, willing to advise me. The army will probably in a month or two be disposed of when I shall be at liberty to look out for a stand & at my age you know it will be necessary to do it immediately - but the great question is where? -- I have it in contemplation to visit the western country as far as the Indiana or Illinois Territories & satisfy myself of the prospects there before I return to Maine. What

[Page 2]

think you of such a project? Is the prospect in the D. Maine sufficiently encouraging as ought to destroy all thoughts in me of migrating into the western woods? Please to favor me with your ideas & advice on this subject. I have an idea that, at present, law business in Maine must be small & lawyers plenty in general, tho' perhaps some particular openings may offer where a beginner might with advantage commence. Do you know of any such? I do not know what changes may have taken place in the County of York but suppose no prospect in any place there. I know of no place nearer than Kennebunk where there can be much prospect & not there except in new Towns that in course of time may afford business.

Nothing new here except what comes in the public papers of which you are first informed. The ships building here will not be finished - the carpenters are mostly gone home. The ships are planked up to the ports of the upper deck & calked nearly to the lower ports - They would have been ready to launch before April - One of them has more keel than any ship ever launched! The frame of another is completely ready & would have been set on the same ways & launched in thirty days after the others. The ordinance, stores & rigging would all have been

[Page 3]

here by the 1st of April. The enemy were also making great exertions but I think we should have had the superiority by June next had the war continued.

The Comd^g Officer at Kingston had not yet rec^d official information from his own government of the peace and consequently would not admit our flag officers into the Town when they carried the treaty &c. In strictness of military etiquette this was correct tho' perhaps the occasion might have justified a little more liberality had they felt much cordiality on the event. Their officers who rec^d. the flag treated us with extreme politeness tho' they were evidently chagrined at the termination of their famous N. Orleans expedition. They made but few enquiries respecting the affair, seemed sore on the subject, and the treaty coming immediately after, looked like their rec^g. the last blow.

Soldiers enlisted to [serve?] during war will be soon discharged but not till they are paid - Those

on this station can then return home with nearly 100 dolls. (dollars) in their pockets.

How do the Hartford <u>conventionalists</u> feel now? At a distance they look rather foolish.

Give my respects to Mrs. Holmes -- neighbors & friends are not forgotten. Where is Mr. Goodwin?

I remember all the children as they were particularly my little favorite Hannah. Two years, however, may have effected much alteration in their appearance.

Yours respectfully Rufus McIntire