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THE GATES PAPERS

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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Gen. Gates to President of Congress

Head Quarters 15th Septm - 1777

Sir

In my last Letter I had the Honour to acquaint Your Excellency of the March of The Army from Van Schaacks Island to Stillwater; Thursday last I reconnoitred the Ground in advance from thence, and found This Incampment the properest Station the Army could take in the present circumstances -- from hence to Saratoga; thirteen Bridges were destroyed upon the Retreat of Our Army from Fort Edward; many of them large, these are all to Repair before we can either Advance with Artillery unto the Enemy; or they to us -- By Intelligence that may be depended upon, The Enemy have quitted their Camp on the East side of Hudson's and brought their Main Force and Artillery Over to the West Side upon the High Ground above Saratoga. This strongly indicates Genl Burgoyne's design at all hazards to force his way down The Country nothing is left unattempted to Defeat this rash Project; I keep a constant correspondence with Genl Lincoln; who will in every thing cooperate with me to complete the ruin which I hope awaits this Hero of the Britian Ministry -----

To the President of Congress

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Burgoyne to Gen. Powell

Camp near Stillwater Sept 20 1777

Dear Sir

I take the first opportunity to inform you we have had a smart and very honourable Action and now encamped in the front of the Field, which must demonstrate our victory beyond the power of even an American news writer to explain away.

The loss on either side cannot be particularly ascertained.

Be so good as give Sir Guy Carlton an account of this event with my respects to him 'till I can have an opportunity of sending him the particulars by a safe conveyance.

I am Dear Sir
with great esteem
Your most obedient Servant
J. Burgoyne

Brig Gen. Powell, commanding
at Ticonderoga.

(Intercepted)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Gen. Gates to Gen.

Camp at Behaus 22d September 1777
8 O'clock at Night

Dear General,

I have received Your Two Letters of this days date, the first about Noon with The Good News from Col Browne, the last within this Half Hour: I am of Opinion, in Case Ty, and Mount Independence fall into Our Hands that the whole of the Buildings and every thing that can Afford Shelter, or Comfort to an Enemy should be immediately laid in ashes, if This can be Happily Effected before General Burgoynes Army Retreat thither, he will then have no resting place until he reaches Canada at all Events the water Craft Large and Small should be destroy'd unless it be possible, to place them where the Enemy cannot upon their return, rescue them out of Our Hands: I am now to acquaint you that on Friday the 18th we had a severe and Bloody Conflict with the Enemy which lasted from One in the Afternoon until Dark in the Evening; when both sides quitted the Field of Battle, we have taken upwards of Sixty prisoners from the Enemy and have reason to believe They have suffered Greatly in Kill'd and wounded for further Particulare I must refer you to my Letter to Congress which you will soon see in the Prints since the Action, the Enemy have remain'd in Sullen Silence in their Camp but it is rumour'd this Evening they are upon the point of Retreating

Monday Morning Six O Clock

By my Scouts Just now return'd, it is past a Doubt That the Enemy's Army remain in their Camp, their Advance being within One mile of mine. I would therefore Urge on the Militia, and continue firmly in the Opinion, that

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

State of Vermont

In Council of Safety
Bennington 20 Sept^r 1777

Dear General

A Gentleman acquaintance, was last evening in Council from the Enemy's Head Quarters Monday evening last, who has had such indulgencies among them for some time past as to put it in his Power to learn their Strength and Situation very nearly.

They consist of 6 British Regts which amt to about 3000, and about the same number foreign Troops exclusive of Tories.---

They have about 6 weeks provision, which they Keep Constantly on Board their Water Craft The Gentleman learns further that they seem disposed to Risque all at once. --- The front of their Army expect to winter at Albany, if General Howe Penetrate up north River, if not at Ticonderoga, and their Rear in Canada. --- any thing in the Power of the Council is always Ready at your Command

I have the honor to be

Dear General

By order Your Most Obed^t Hum
Servant

James Fay Vice Presid

N.B. by a Person just arrived from Fort George only - only 30 Men are at that place and two Gunboats anchored at a distance from land and that the Enemy have not more than three weeks provision

The Hon^{ble} M. G. Gates

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Arnold to Gates

Camp Stillwater Sept 22 1777

Sir

When I joined the Army at Van Schaick's Island the first Instant you were pleased to order me to Loudon's Ferry to take the Command of General's Poor and Learned's Brigades and Colo Morgans Battalion of Rifle Men and light Infantry, your Commands were immediately Obeyed, I have repeatedly since received your Orders respecting these Corps, as belonging to my division, which has often been mentioned in General Orders, and the Gentlemen Commanding those Corps have understood themselves as in my Division.--- On the 9th Inst. you desired me annex the New York and Connecticut Militia to such Brigades as I thought proper in my Division, which I accordingly did and Ordered the New York Militia to join Genl Pears Brigade, and the Connecticut Militia General Larnards the next day I was surpris'd to observe in General Orders the New York Militia Annex'd to General Glovers Brigade which placed me in the ridiculous light of presuming to give Orders I had no right to do, and having then publicly Contradicted, which I mentioned to you as I thought it a mistake, of the Dep^y Adjutant General, you then Observed the mistake your own and that it should be mentioned as such in the ensuing Orders; which has never been done.

On the 19th Inst^t when advice was received that the the enemy were approaching, I took the liberty to give it as my Opinion that we ought to March out and attack them you desired me to send Colonel Morgan and the light Infantry, and support them, I obeyed your Orders, and before the Action was over I found it necessary to send out the whole of my Division to Support the attack no other Troops were Engaged that day except Colonel Marshalls Regt of General Petercons Brigade.--- I have been informed that in the Returns transmitted to Congress of the killed and wounded in the action the Troops were Mentioned as a Detachment from the Army, and in the Orders of this day I observe it is mentioned that Colo Morgans Corps not being in any Brigade or Division of this Army are to make Returns and reports only to head Quarters, from whence they are alone to receive Orders --- Altho it is notorious to the whole Army they have been in and done duty with my Division for some time past.--- When I mentioned these matters to you this day, you were pleased to say in Contradiction to your repeated Orders you did not know I was a Major Genl or have any Command in the Army --- I have even supposed a Major General's Command of Four Thousand Men, a Proper Division and no Detachment when composed of whole Brigades forming one wing of the Army and that the General and Troops if guilty of misconduct or cowardly behaviour in time of Action were justly Chargeable as a Division and that if on the other hand they behaved with Spirit and Firmness in Action they were Instly entitled to the applause Due to a Brave Division not Detachment of the Army, had my Division behaved ill, the other Divisions of the Army

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

would have thought it extremely hard to have been Amenable for their Conduct, - I mentioned these matters as I wish Justice done to the Division, as well as particular Regiments or Persons --- From what reason I know not (as I am Conscious of no Offense or neglect of Duty) but I have lately Observed little or no attention to any Proposals I have thought it my Duty to make for the Publick Service, and when a measure, I have proposed has been agreed too. It has been immediately contradicted, I have been received with the greatest coolness at Head Quarters, and often huffed in such a manner as must mortify a Person with less Pride than I have and in my Station in the Army --- You said you expected General Lincoln in a day or two when I should have no command of a Division, that you thought me of little Consequence to the Army, and that you would with all your heart give me a pass to have it whenever I thought Proper, As I find your observations very just that I am not, or that you wish me of little Consequence in the Army, and as I have the Interest and Safety of my Country at heart I wish to be where I can be of the most Service to Her --- I therefore as General Lincoln is arrived have to request your Pass to Philadel^a with my two Aids de Camp and their Servants, where I propose to Join General Washington, and may possibly have it in my Power to serve my Country altho I am thought of no Consequence in this Department.---

I am with due respect

Sir your H^l Serv^t

B Arnold

Hon^{ble} Major Genl Gates

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Gen. Gates to Gen. Arnold

Head Q^{rs} 23^d Sep^r 1777.

Sir,

You wrote me nothing last Night but what had been sufficiently altercated between us in the Evening. I then gave such Answers to all your Objections as I think were Satisfactory. I know not what you mean by Insult or Indignity. I made you such replys only, as I conceived proper. as to the Opened Letter, I sent you to ^{Mr} Hancock it was the civillest method I could devise of acquainting Congress with your leaving The Army - & is to all intents & purposes as full a Pass as can be desired - I sent it unsealed, as being the more complaisant to you and is what is commonly done upon such Occasions, that not being so agreeable to you as a common Pass, I send you one Inclosed

I am Sir.

(Hon^{ble} Genl Arnold)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Gen. Gates to President of Congress

23 Sept. 1777.

Sir,

Major General Arnold having desired Permission for Himself and Aide de Camp to go to Philadelphia, I have Granted his Request. His reasons for Asking to leave the Army at this Time shall with my Answers be transmitted to Your Excellency. I am Sir

So.

HG.

23^d Sep^r 1777 -

His Excellency
presid^t of Cong^{re}

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Arnold to Gates

Camp Stillwater Sept 23^d 1777

Sir

When I wrote you yesterday I thought myself Intitled to an answer, and that you would at least have condescended to acquaint me with the reasons which had induced you to treat me with affront and indignity, in a publick manner, which I mentioned and which has been observed by many Gentleman of the Army, I am conscious of none but if I have been guilty of any Crimes deserving such treatment I wish to have them pointed out that I may have an Opportunity of Vindicating my conduct I know no reason for your Conduct unless I have ben traduced by some designing Villain -----

I requested a Permission for myself and aids to go to Philadelphia instead of which you have sent me a Letter to the Hon^{ble} John Hancock Esq^r which I have returned if you have any letters for that Gentleman which you think proper to send sealed. I will take charge of them. I once more request your Permission for myself and Aids to Pass to Philadelphia.

I am

Sir

Your Obed^t Hble Serv

Hon^{ble} Major Genl Gates

B Arnold

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

New City Sept^r 25 1777

A Return of British Prisoners taken 19 Sept

Ensign Dantre Roche
Ensign Phillips Wounded
Sergt Major Green
Sergt Guff

Blane

James

Cashell

Roll

Reed

Green

Norton

Ford

Snavell

Olhoga

Nash

Procton Wounded

Corporal Waight

Parker

Stephens

Settlemlen

Drum Logan

Ward

Markan

Podkin

Mr: Vincrey

Mr Guire

Spence Wounded

Bornhouse Do

Delvat Do

Potts lost his Leg

Worth wounded

Mr Assistant Com^d

Spilland

Nathaniel Morgan, deserted

9th Robert Hyman

Daniel Harvey

20 Wm Graceman

John Tom

21 John Thomson

John Bankin

24 John Held

4 (Simsten

4(Tuck.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Note to Gates

General Arnold presents his Compliments to General Gates, and needs not be told that the Commander in Chief only of the Northern Department has a right to Order payments, He consives however, He has a right to offer a reward as it was done in the absence of Genl Schuyler when Genl Arnold had the Command of the Army, He is surprised to find the Justice of his Certificate For the pitiful Sum of Fifty Dollars Disputed. He believes no other Person would have suspected him guilty of a Deceit sooner than they would have done General Gates

Camp Sept^r 27 1777

The Hon^{le} Major Genl Gates

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Gen. Gates to Gen. Arnold

28 Sept- 1777.

Sir,

I am surprized you should be Offended at my Answer to your Certificate in favour of the Continental Soldier who killed the Indian upon the Retreat of the Army from Fort Edward since you know, I was blamed last year for Granting my Warrants upon such Certificates; as to the Smallness of the Sun, that is no Reason for my breaking my Instructions; - The Justice of your Certificate I have never called in Question, nor Suspected you of Deceit in that particular, so cannot see the Shadow of a Reason for the last part of your Note.

I am Sir.

Your humble servant

HC.

Camp 28 Sept 1777.

Hon^{ble} Maj^r Gen^l Arnold

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Gen. Gates to Jerry Powell

Camp in Behms's Heights 29. Sept. 1777.

Sir

Yesterday Evening I was Favoured with your Honour's Letter of the 23^d Instant, with the Resolve of the Honourable House of Representatives Inclosed - This Army cannot by their best Conduct & Actions, show themselves more than sufficiently sensible, of the Great Attention paid them by the Legislature of the State of Massachusetts Bay and of the Kindly & Noble reinforcement Commanded to Our Aid. My Public Letter to Congress giving an Account of The Great Success of the Arms of the United States, in this Department will reach your Honour before this Letter: I am nevertheless happy, in Repeating to Your Honourable Board that the Glory of the Action of the 19th Instant, was entirely owing to the Valour of the Rifle Regiment & Corps of Light Infantry under the com'd of Col Morgan. The Brigades under General Poor & General Learned with the Regiment Commanded by Col. Marshal not any of the Right Wing & Center being Engaged, except Marshall's Regiment, nor they until the Affair was almost decided. As the Enemy kept their Left Wing compos'd of the German Troops intirely out of action but now ready to Fall upon our Right: This they never Attempted; Why is best known to themselves -

permit me, now, Sir, to return my particular Thanks, to your Honourable Council & to the most Honb^{le} the Legislature of your State for their Generous & Liberal Support of the Common Cause in the Department undermy Command, & I beg, Sir, you will assure them I am most Gratefully Impressed with a proper Sense of the distinguished Honour they have shown me.---

General Lincoln to whose assistance in distressing the Enemy's posts in their Rear, I am much Indebted, has Joined me I am happy in having the aid of so valuable an Officer. I am

Your Honour &c.

EG.

Honb^{le} Jerry Powell Esq.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Arnold to Gates

Camp Stilwater Oct 1 1777

Sir

Notwithstanding the repeated Ill Treatment I have met with and continue daily to receive treated Only as a Cypher in the Army, never consulted; or acquainted with one occurrence in the Army which I know only by accident; while I have every reason to think Officers some of Inferior Rank to me who have had little experience In Military matters are consulted on all Occasions.

Notwithstanding I have reason to think your treatment proceeds from a Spirit of Jealousy, and that I have every thing to fear from the Malice of my Enemies. - Conscious of my own Innocency and Integrity, I am determined to Sacrifice my feelings present Peace and quiet to the publick good, and continue in the Army at this Critical Juncture when my Country needs Every support

I beg leave to say that when Congress sent me into this department, At the request of his Excellency General Washington they thought me of some Consequence and I believe expected the Commander in Chief would consult with me on at least have taken my Opinion, on Publick Matters.---

I think it my Duty (which nothing shall deter me from doing) to Acquaint you the Army are Glamorous For Action; the Militia (who compose great Part of the Army) are already threatning to go home, One fortnights Inaction will I make no doubt lessen your Army by sickness, and desertion at least Four thousand Men In which time the Enemy may be reinforced or make good their Retreat.

I have reason to think from Intelligence since received that had we Improved the 20th September it might have ruined the Enemy; that is past let me Intreat of you to improve the Present Time.

I hope you will not impute this hint to a wish to Command the Army or to out shine you, when I assure you it proceeds from my Zeal for the Cause of my Country In which I expect to rise or fall -

I am
Sir
your humble Serv^t
B. Arnold

Hon^{ble} Major Gen Gates

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

(General Order.)

^d
3. October, 1777.

One hundred & fifty Men properly Officered, to be furnished by the different Brigades in Rotation, to March daily at Gun Fire, with three Days Provisions, West of Saratoga Lake to the Rear of the Enemy, and harass & distress them by intercepting convoys, destroying the Roads, &c. This Duty to commence with the N. York Militia, & to succeed in line of Rank,-----

N. Y. Militia	4	
Poor	5	(2)
Nixon	6	(1)
Massa. Militia	7	
Learned	8	
Patterson	9	
Glover	10.	

(General Order.)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Gates to Clinton

Camp on Behaus's Heights
4th : October, 1777. -

Dear General,

I have the satisfaction to acquaint Your Excellency, that The Public Affairs in the Northern Department have a pleasing appearance. By a Variety of Intelligence, such as Intercepted Letters, the information of Deserters, & spies, I have good reason to believe, that Gen^l Burgoyne has only three Weeks Provisions in His Magazine - it will take him Ten days to make anything like a Regular Retreat, & Even in that Case, he must Abandon some Precious Articles, to Those from whom he would wish to Withhold Them, - perhaps his Dispair may Dictate to him; to risque all upon the One Throw; he is an Old Gamester, & in his Time has seen all chances. I will endeavour to be ready to prevent his Good Fortune, & if possible, Secure my Own. By accounts received from Deserters & others, I am confident G. Burgoyne expects a great Effort will be made by G. Clinton, to open a passage through the Highlands to Facillitate his (G. Burgoyne's) Approach to Albany. Your Excellency & Gen^l Putnam, will be prepared to Defeat that Attempt. I desire Your Excellency will be so Obliging, as to forward the Packet to Congress by a Trusty Carrier.

I am, Sir,
Your Excellency's Most Obed^t
Humble Serv.
Horatio Gates.

His Excellency Gen. Clinton.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Gen. Gates to President
of Congress

5th Oct^r, 1777. Behnuss' Heights.

The Inclosed Letter for His Ex^{ty} General Washington, which I send Open for the perusal of Congress will particularly describe the present Situation of The Two Armies. I desire it may be seal'd & sent without Delay to His Excellency. - Inclosed are Copies of the Letters that have passed between G. Burgoyne & myself, since I had the honour to write to Your Ex^{ty} by Major Troup, together with certain intercepted Letters which at different Times have fallen into my hands - by two British Deserters, who came this morning from the Enemy, I am assured there is but Fifteen days provisions in G. Burgoyne's Magazine; the Bread part consisting intirely of Canadian Flour, which is intolerably bad. Every Means that can be devised, is taking, not only to Repel the Enemy's assault, but to cut off his Retreat. The Distressed Situation of G. Burgoyne's Affairs, makes me not only Guard against his Despair but take also the most Active measures to attack Him to Advantage, upon his return to Tyconderoga.-

(To His Exe^{ty} John Hancock.)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Gen. Gates to Pres^t of Congress

Camp On Behnus's Heights.
5th October, 1777.

Sir,

The Intercepted Letters Inclosed, were by some mistake, left out of the packet which I had the Honour to forward Yesterday to Your Excellency. By all the Intelligence I can procure from spies, Deserters from the Enemy, & such of Our Own Men who Escape from Captivity; I am convinced, that General Burgoyne's principal hope of getting to Albany, is on General Clinton's Forcing the pass of the Highlands, and defeating General Putnam; Of this, I advertized Governour Clinton in my Letter of Yesterday - too many Precautions cannot be taken to prevent the Enemy Forcing their way up The North River; The Conquest even of Rhode Island is of infinite less Importance than the securing the pass of The Highlands; - If both can be done, I am sure both is best. - The Military Chest in this Department, wants replenishing exceedingly.

I am, Sir,
Yr. Excell^y's
do., do. do.
H.C.

His Ex^{ty} John Hancock, Esq.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Gates to Trumbull

Camp, Behuns's Heights,
Sep^r 17th 1777

Sir,

I have receiv'd certain Intelligence that General Burgoyne has caused Skeensborough, Fort Anne, Fort George, Fort Edward, and the posts he lately occupied to the Southward of Lake George, and Skeensborough, to be all evacuated; and the Artillery stores, and provisions to be brought to his army now at Van Vechten's mills, seven miles North of their Camp; except some heavy Cannon, which are carried to the five mile Island on Lake George. From this it is evident the general's design is to risque all upon one rash stroke, it is therefore the indispensable duty of all concerned, to exert themselves in reinforcing this army, without one moments delay --- The militia, from every convenient part, should be order'd here with all possible expedition.

I Am

Sir,

Your most Obed^t
hble Serv^t

H. Gates

Copy of a letter to His
Excell^{cy} gov. Trumbull and
the several Committees of
Albany, Bennington, Berk-
shire &c. &c.

(Copy)

Copy a Letter
from gen^l Gates
to gov^r Trumbull
&c.
dated Behuns's heights
17th Sep^r 1777.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

E. Lincoln to Gates

Fawlet Sep^r 17th 1777.

My dear general

Your fav^r of the 15th I receiv'd last evening 10 O'clock.

By my letter to you of the 14th you are informed of the movements of the troops here. --- I march this morning with six hundred men to Colonel Woodbridge - I think general Burgoyne intends to risque a battle with you. - That you may be shielded from harm and be victorious is the constant prayer of him, who hath the honor to be

Dear,

Sir,

Your most Obed^t

hble Serv^t

E. Lincoln

Hon^{ble} Maj. gen^l Gates

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Gates to B. Lincoln

Camp on Belknap's Heights
17th Sep^r 1777.

Dear Gen^l

I had the satisfaction to receive your favour of the 14th and entirely approve of all your plans to distress the enemy; their success I impatiently wait to be informed of - Yesterday general Burgoyne's army, halted at Van Veghtens mills, seven or eight miles from hence. --- as fort George, fort Edward Sheensborough and fort Ann, are evacuated, and your present views being accomplished, nothing worthy your attention, on that side will then remain; would it not be right, you take some station near or upon the North - river? The chance of war, is yet to be decided between general Burgoyne and me, be that went prosperous or adverse your posting your army, somewhere in the vicinity of mine, must be infinitely advantageous to both.

I am

Dear General

Your Affectionate

able Serv^t

Horatio Gates

Hon^{ble} gen^l Lincoln

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Gates to Lincoln

Behnke's Heights. 16th Sept 1777.

Dear Sir,

By the best intelligence I can yet procure, the enemy seem resolved to risque a battle with this army. - Their principal body of troops, a number of loaded waggons, and a large proportion of the artillery, being brought to the west side of the North river, and station'd yesterday, from the heights above Saratoga, to within one mile south-west of the meeting house - you have now a fair opportunity to gall that part of the enemy's forces, yet upon the East side of the river - your Scouts, and Spies, must join'd to your own wisdom, and experience, direct you in the glorious task

I am &c.

H. G.

Hon^{ble} Gen^l Lincoln

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

John Brown to Lincoln

(See F. F. Wilshin's report of Aug. 6, 1940 for complete letter, p. 60)

miles from this, guarded by six companies, having Artillery - I have much to fear with respect to the prisoners, being obliged to send them under a small guard. I am well informed that a considerable reinforcement is hourly expected up the lake under the command of Sir John Johnson - This minute received general Fowal's answer to my demand in these words - Vis. The garrison intrusted to my charge, I shall defend to the last. 'indeed I have but little' hopes of putting him to the necessity of giving it up, unless by the force under Colonel Johnson.

I am &c.

John Brown

Genl Lincoln.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Gates to Lincoln

Camp, Heights above Behms's,
Sept 19th 1777.

Dear general,

It is the opinion of all the general's that I have consulted with, that in the present position, and circumstances of general Burgoyne's Army, Consider'd with his apparent views, your army ought to be posted at Stillwater, and that no one moment should be lost in your marching them thither; upon your arrival thither you will take possession of the Heights upon the east side; and fix five or six hundred men thereupon; The rest you will encamp at the old station - General Burgoyne has not left the smallest article at any of the posts in his rear - This I informed you of in my last - you will march by the shortest rout to Stillwater. - Provisions &c. shall be provided for you there.

I am,

Dear General
Your Affectionate
hble Servt
Horatio Gates

Honble Majt genl Lincoln.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Israel Putnam to Washington

Head Quarters Peekskill
2^d October 1777

Dear General

Yours of the 28th Ult^o and a Copy of One the 23^d is
Duly Honoured with; Gen^l Varnum with his Brigade crossed King's
Ferry the Day before yesterday, and the same Evening Gen^l Parsons
arrived from the White Plains,

Last night Major Hughes (son to Colonel Hughes D QMG^l
to this Department) arrived here with an express from General Gates,
by which I learnt that the Army under his Command was likely to be in
the Most Deplorable situation for the want of flour as he had but
twenty Barrells with him, & only One Hundred at Albany, he also adds,
that his twenty thousand head Daily to feed, if so, I am fearfull they
will suffer greatly before any supply can possible be conveyd em; I
have had for some time past a Number of hands baking hard Bread at
Fish Kill, which I have Orderd with the Utmost Dispatch to be sent
up, & in order to be sure of a more speedy Transportation, I thought
proper to Order as many small Craft has Possible, Properly Man'd with
Cars, so that if the Wind should be unfavourable they may make Tolerable
Dispatch with Rowing There is a further advantage in sending these
small Crafts, as they can with great ease, take them up to the half Moon,
which is but about Sixteen Miles from Gen^l Gates's Army, -----

There appears to be (in all parts) the Utmost Confusion
with the Commissarys Departments, had I not exerted myself in Procuring
Cattle from Connecticut, we must have Used all the Salt Provisions at
this Post, which I think ought to be preserved as Much has Possible, I
hope to god that some better Regulations will soon take Place & Proper
Commissarys of Purchasers sent to the East Ward, as our Troop in General
will suffer greatly;

I Must still Expect & inform you, that from the best and
Clearest Intelligence I am able to get, the Enemys Strength in & abt^y
N. York amounts to at least Nine Thousand, they are Without Doubt pre-
paring for some Important Attack, from the last accounts I am Inform'd,
that they Officers from Kings Bridge as mov'd the greatest Part of there
Baggage to N. York,----- I have made such applications for the Connecti-
cut Militia, as I hope in a little time Will afford me some small assis-
tance but at Present this Post is very Weak, they Militia from this
State Will not Turn Out. ----- Since General Parsons Brigade left the
White Plains the Enemys L^y Horse has Made an Excursion up to the (San

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Pitts ?) and drove off a Number of Cattle; Another Party of the Enemy Crossed into the Jerseys but upon Genl Varnum approaching that Way they thought proper to take their Departure,---

The various Accounts I receive from the Southward respecting the Situation of your Army & the Progress of the Enemy makes me very anxious to hear the particulars from you, which will be thankfully Acknowledged by

D: General

Your Much Esteem'd &
Most Ob^d Hble Serv^t

Israel Putnam

Head Quarters Peekskill
2^d October 1777

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Gates to Washington

Head Quarters, Camp Belmus's Heights
October 31st 1777. ---

Sir,

Since the Action of the 19th Instant, the Enemy have kept the Ground they Occupied the Morning of that Day; and fortified their Camp. The Advanced Centrys of my piquets, are posted within Shot, And Opposite the Enemy's; neither side have given Ground an Inch.

In this Situation, Your Excellency would not wish me to part with the Corps the Army of General Burgoyne are most Afraid of. --- From the best Intelligence he has not more than Three weeks provision in Store; it will take him at least Eight Days, to get back to Ticonderoga; so that, in a fortnight at farthest, he must decide, whether he will Rashly risque, at infinite disadvantage, to Force my Camp, or Retreat to his Den. - In either Case, I must have the fairest prospect to be able to reinforce Your Excellency in a more considerable Manner than by a Single Regiment. - I am sorry to Repeat to Your Excellency, the Distress I have suffered for Want of proper supply of Musket Cartridges from Springfield, or the Materials to make them; - The Inclosed from the Commissary of Ordnance Stores at Albany, will convince Your Excellency of the Truth of this assertion. My Anxiety also upon Account of provisions, has been inexpressible; A greater Error has not been Committed this War, than the Changing the Commissaries in the Middle of the Campaign. - You, Sir, must have Your Grievances, I therefore will not enhance them by enlarging upon mine.

I am Sir
Your Excellency's
Most Obedient
Humble Servant

(His Excellency
General Washington.)

Horatio Gates

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

G. W. Clinton to Washington

New Windsor 3 Miles from the River
9th Octob^r 1777 ---

Dear General

I have to inform you that in Consequence of Intelligence received by General Putnam from Gen. Parsons (who lay with his Brigade at the White Plains) of the Enemy's having received a Reinforcement from Europe, at New York, and that by their Movements there was Reason to believe they intended an Attack on Peekskill, and possess themselves of the Passes in the Highlands. - The General immediately wrote me these Circumstances; and to prevent, if possible, the disagreeable Consequences that might arise if the Army at the different Posts, was not timely reinforced, I ordered that Part of the Militia of this State that had not already marched to the Northward, to move, and Part of them to join General Putnam, and the Remainder to reinforce the Posts of Fort Montgomery and Fort Clinton; but it being a critical Time with the Yeomanry, as they had not yet sown their Grain and their being at that Time no Appearance of the Enemy, they were extremely restless and uneasy, solicited General Putnam for Leave to return, and many of them went home without his Permission; urged by these Considerations he thought proper to dismiss a Part of them. --- As I thought it essentially necessary that they should remain in the Field for some Time in Order to check the Progress of the Enemy should they attempt to put their Designs in Execution, I issued another Order, for one half of them immediately to march, Part of them to join General Putnam and a sufficient Number to reinforce the Forts and the Pass at Sydenham's Bridge at the Mouth of the Clove; and in Order to induce them to turn out with the greater Alacrity, I thought it necessary to fix their Time of Service to one Month, at the Expiration of which Time they were to be relieved by the other half --- While this was in Agitation, and before a proper Arrangement could possibly be made by the respective Officers, what Part of them could serve for the first Month, in which they were not so expeditious as was absolutely necessary, as the Event has fully evinced: For a Number of the Enemy's Ships having made their Appearance in the 3^d Inlet in Tarry Town Bay from whence they weighed Anchor the next Day, being joined by several Ships of War and Transports from New York. They proceeded up the River as high as King's Ferry, and at Daybreak on Sunday the 5th landed a considerable Body of Men on Verplank's Point. As I was apprehensive from many Circumstances that an Attack on the Forts was intended, I dispatched Major Logan, an alert Officer, who was well acquainted with the Ground on Sunday Evening thro' the Mountain to reconnoitre and if possible gain Intelligence of the Enemy's Motions --- The Major returned about nine O'Clock on Monday; informing me that from the best Intelligence he could procure, and the rowing of the Boats, he had Reason to believe they had landed a considerable Force on the West Side of the River at King's Ferry, and

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between that and Dunderbergh: But as the Morning was foggy it was impossible to discern them so as to form any Judgment of their Number.-- As soon as I had obtained this Intelligence I immediately dispatched Lieut. Jackson with a small Party to discover the Enemy's Movements; But they had not proceeded more than two Miles on the Haverstraw Road when they were attack'd by a Party of the Enemy who had formed an Ambuscade at a place called Doodle Town - they immediately retreated after returning the Fire - as soon as the firing was heard I detached Lieut. Colo. Bryn with 50 Continental Troops and as many of the Militia under Lieut. Colonel McLaughry to sustain Lieut. Jackson, the Garrison being at that Time so weak we could not afford them greater Aid, on that Road, and I imagined it would be necessary to send out a Party likewise on the Road which leads to the Forest of Dean. The Detachments under Colonel Bryn and McLaughry were soon engaged, but being too weak to withstand the Enemy's great Force retreated to Fort Clinton, disconcerting the Ground Inch by Inch. Their gallant Opposition and the Roughness of the Ground checked the Progress of the Enemy for some Time. While Matters were in this Situation in the Neighbourhood of Fort Clinton, a large Body of the Enemy were advancing on the Road which leads from the Forest of Dean to Fort Montgomery --- As I had only Field Piece at the above Fort, I ordered Col^d Lamb of the Artillery to send it off to an advantageous Post on that Road, with a Covering Party of 60 Men, and another of the same Number to sustain them in Order to give the Enemy a check and retard their Movements 'till I could receive a Reinforcement from Gen^l Putnam to whom I had sent an Express for that Purpose. This, Order being immediately complied with the Piece had hardly reached the Place of it's Destination and the Covering Party posted on strong Ground, when the Enemy were seen advancing with hasty Strides, but being unexpectedly annoyed by Discharges of Grape Shot from the Field Piece, and a well directed Fire from the Muskets which made great Havock among them, (or we have since been informed) they were repeatedly driven back 'till filing off thro' the Woods upon the right and left with a View of surrounding our Men, and the Handful of brave Fellows being alarmed at their critical Situation were constrained to abandon the Field Piece after rendering it useless to the Enemy by spiking it. In order to cover the Men who were retreating and to check the farther Progress of the Enemy I ordered out a twelve Pounder, which being well served with Grape Shot annoyed them greatly and gave the Men an Opportunity of retreating into the Garrison with very little Loss on our Side, except that of Capt: Lieut^t Penho, who commanded the Field Piece, and was made a Prisoner. This was about two O'Clock P.M. and the Enemy approached the Works and began the Attack, which continued with few Intervals till about five O'Clock when an Officer appeared with a Flag. I ordered Lt Colo. Livingston to meet him without the Works and knew his Business. Colo^l Livingston having demanded his Rank and Business, he was told by the Bearer of the Flag that he was Lieut. Colo^l Campbell, and that he came to demand a surrender of the Fort to prevent the Effusion of Blood. Colo^l Livingston replied he had no authority to treat with him, but if they would surrender them-

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selves Prisoners of War, they might depend on being well treated, and if they did not chuse to accept of those Terms they might renew the Attack as soon as he should return within the Fort, we being determined to defend it to the last Extremity. As soon as Lt Col Livingston returned the Attack was renewed with great Violence, and after an obstinate Resistance as our Situation, and the Weakness of the Garrison would admit of, having defended the Works from two OClock 'till the Dusk of the Evening, when the Enemy, by the Superiority of Numbers, forced the Works on all Sides --- The Want of Men prevented us from sustaining and supporting every Part, having received no Reinforcement from General Putnam. Our Loss killed, wounded and Prisoners is not so great as might have been expected, when the Strength of the Enemy and our Weakness is properly considered. My Brother Wounded with a Bayonet many Officers and Men, and myself, having the Advantage of the Enemy, by being well acquainted with the Ground, were so fortunate as to effect an Escape under cover of the Night, after the Enemy were possessed of all the Works. I was so happy as to get into a Boat, crossed the River, and immediately waited on General Putnam, with a View of concerting measures for our future Operations, to prevent the Designs of Genl Clinton and impede his Progress in facilitating the Movements of Burgoyne from the Northward I can assure your Excellency that I am well convinced if Night had not approached rather too fast to correspond with our Wishes the Enemy would have been disappointed in their Expectations, as a Reinforcement of 500 Men from General Putnam's Army were at the East Side of the River ready to pass for our Relief when the Works were forced, and many of the Militia in the Mountains on their March to join us, had not the Communication between us and them been cut off.--- I have to add that by some Fatality the two Continental Frigates were lost, they having been ordered down by Genl Putnam, for the Defence of the Chain; but being badly manned they could not be got off in Time, though I ordered the Ship Congress to proceed to Fort Constitution the Day before the Attack, lest she should meet with a Disaster and the Ship Montgomery, which lay near the Chain having neither Anchor nor Cables to secure her, it being the Tide of ebb, and the Wind failing she fell down so near the Chain that Captl Hodge was constrained to set her on Fire to prevent her falling into the Hands of the Enemy, and the Congress unfortunately getting aground on a Flat near Fort Constitution shared the same Fate, And Fort Constitution being destitute of Troops to defend it was evacuated, after bringing off Part of the Stores --- I am now about 3 Miles from New Windsor, with Col^l Samuel S. Webb's Regt of Continental Troops, the Remains of Col (DuBois's, and about 100 of Col^l Lamb's Regiment which escaped from the Fort with some Militia) and intend to collect what Force I possibly can to oppose the Enemy should they land on this Side the River. -----

General Sir Henry Clinton commanded in Person Governor Tryon, Gen. Vaughan and two other General Officers were with him. The Army who attacked us by the lowest Accounts consisted of 4000, chiefly British

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and Hessian Troops. The Garrison of both our Posts did not exceed 600 Men, and many of these unarmed Militia. The Ordinary Garrison was thus reduced by detaching Major Moffat with 200 Men to the Post at Sidman's Bridge on Col^l Walcott's Regim^t being ordered from thence, and 60 Men on Anthony's Nose by Gen. Putnam's Orders received the Day before the Action. I have only to add that where great Losses are sustained, however unavoidable, public Censure is generally the Consequence to those who are immediately concerned. If in the present Instance this should be the case I wish so far as relates to the Loss of Fort Montgomery and it's Dependencies it may fall on me alone; for I would be guilty of the greatest Injustice were I not to declare that the Officers and Men under me of the different Corps behaved with the greatest Spirit and Bravery. --- I am Dear Sir with great Regard

Your Most
Obed^t Serv^t

G. W. Clinton

I have not yet been able to ascertain the Number of Missing on our Side - Part of the Garrison were Militia from whom it is difficult to get Returns - Lieut Col Livingston Bryn, Major Logan & Ramsall one Bersarin, Colo Allison Lieut Colo McClaghry of the Militia & my Brigade Major Lushan missing - I hope my peculiar Situation will be good to account. Appology for not writing your Excellency sooner especially as I had Genl Putnam's Promise to give you an early Acc^t of this Important Event ----- I inclose your Excellency a Letter from Gen^l Sir Henry Clinton to Gen^l Burgoyne which I found on one Dan^l Taylor --- It was inclosed in a small Silver Ball which when taken he swallowed; but a strong dose of Tartaromettic brought it forth - I have good authority to assure your Excellency that the Enemy suffered great Loss at Fort Montgomery they had 9 Field Officers & a Young Noble Man a Volunteer killed & by their own Account show 300 Rank & File.

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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

James Wilkinson to Governor Clinton

Camp, Seneca's Heights
October 24th 1777. ---

Dear Sir.

General Gates has this Moment received a Copy of your Letter of the 7th Inst to the Council of Safety, and being much engaged has desired me to tell you, that he condoles with you on the loss of so important a Pass; but congratulates you on the bravery and Address of your little Garrison - To compensate for this Disaster, we had on the 7th Inst an Action with General Burgoyne which reflects the highest Honor on our Arms, as we carried his Encampment and advance Works, took two twelve & six Six Pounders brass. with a number of Carts Tents & a considerable quantity of Baggage - made Prisoners the commanding Officers of Artillery of a foreign Brigade & of the British Grenadiers with his ADCamp Sir Francis Clarke, a Ql General of the Army & a number of inferior Rank with about 250 noncommissioned Officers & Privates; the Slain both of Officers and Men is considerable among the former is Genl Frazer The Consequent hurry has prevented a Return, but I am sensible do not exceed 70, of the former there is barely one subaltern Officer among the latter is the Gallant Gen. Arnold so badly injured as to render the Amputation of a leg Necessary; to aggravate this Misfortune General Lincoln yesterday on the Lines received a chance Shot which also fractured a leg in such a manner as to deprive us of his important Service - General Burgoyne last Night evacuated his Post leaving behind him - upwards of 300 Sick & Wounded among whom are Six Captains with quantity of Flour & has retired towards Fort Edward; but as General Gates had taken the Precaution to throw about 2000 Men in his Rear on the east side of the River; it is probably they will obstruct his Retreat & give us time to come up with him - The Militia you demand were yesterday ordered down & the Albany County with 300 Connecticut - Militia under General Walcot will this Day, if the Weather permits, follow them. ---

I have the Honor to be
Your Excellency's
most obedt Servant
James Wilkinson -

Camp, Seneca's Heights
October 24th 1777. ---

Governor Clinton. ---

(Copy) ---

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

George Clinton to Putnam

Kings Town 18th October 1777
10 OClock - Wednesday Evening

Dear General

What follows is the Copy of a Letter from the Chairman
of the Committee of the City of Albany to the Presd^t of the Council of
Safety, I congratulated you on the Important Intelligence Contained in
it -----

General Putnam

Albany 15th October 1777

Last Night at Eight OClock the Capitulation whereby
General Burgoyne & Whole Army surrendered themselves Prisoners of War
was signed, & This Morning they were to March Out towards the River
above Fish Creek both the Honours of War (and there Ground there Arms,)
they are from thence to be Marched to Massachusetts Bay ----- We Con-
gratulate you on this happy Event & remain ---

Yours &c

Geo. Clinton

(Copy)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Lebanon 29th September 1777.

Sir

Yours of the 17th by Brown was received the next Tuesday, together with the accounts of the action of Friday. Permit me to congratulate you on that affair --- such a begining augurs well of what is to follow -- We have accounts since by Bennington, that Col^o Brown has succeeded in his Enterprise against Ty --- I hope this will prove true - This moment we have accounts from the Westward of General Howe's having outgeneraled us, and stole a march for Philadelphia --- I don't give you the particulars, as I find from General Putnam that he has already sent you the News - 'tis strange that such an Army must continually retire without once daring to fight an Enemy, who at the same time they affect to consider their inferiors.

Troops are collecting in this, Massachusetts and Rhode Island States, for the attack of the Enemy at NewPort. -- The numbers are for the Massachusetts ----- 5,000
Rhode Island ----- 2,500
Connecticut ----- 1,500

in two Regiments, under Command of Colonels Ely & McClellan - two very good Officers --- The first Regiment has been in service these three months, the other is raised for the occasion --- Every method is taken to prevent any correct intelligence from getting to the Island - the Descent will probably be made the second week of October---

I have sent Brown to the Western Army and Congress --- In his place, I wish you to send a Jabeen Fitch one of your Militia Horse - His Captain I have forgot, but Maj^r Hyde, or Lieut. Abraham Fitch will point him out to you --- He is trusty, and there are particular inducements for me to ask his Discharge --- By then, Brown will have returned.

My Son, your Paymaster will deliver you this, & can give you all the Stories which fill the Country -----

I am Sir
most respectfully
Your very Obedient
hble Servant
J --- T. --- L.

Honble. Maj^r General Gates.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Gates to Governor Trumbull

Camp Beaus's Heights.
5th. Octo^r. 1777.

Dear Sir

Yesterday I had the honor to receive Your Excellency's letter by Col^d. Jonathan Trumbull --- I am happy to hear our beginning has given such general satisfaction --- My care and constant attention are continually at work to make the close of the Campaign glorious to the Army, and ruinous to the Common Enemy of the United States.

By the information of Spies, Deserters from the Enemy, and those of our own Troops who have escaped from Captivity I am convinced that General Burgoyne expects a violent effort will be made by General Clinton to force the Posts of the Highlands, and untar the Door which the Army under his (Burgoyne's) Command have not yet been able to break open --- I have acquainted Gov^r. Clinton of this State, with the intelligence I have received, and desired he would prepare Gen^l. Putnam for that event. - I have also wrote in the strongest terms to Congress, to direct their attention to the important Object -----

The Recovery of Rhode Island is doubtless an Enterprise of great moment, but that might be done at leisure - to defeat the design of the Enemy in the main plan of their Operations, should at present, engross all our care -----

Mr. Jabeen Fitch presents Your Excellency with this Letter --- I am pleased with his being appointed to supply the place of Brown ---

I am, Your Excellency's most affectionate
hble Servant

Horatio Gates.

My affectionate Compliments to Colonels Jo and John.
His Excellency Gov^r. Trumbull.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Jonathan Trumbull to Governor Trumbull

Albany 6th October 1777.

Hon^d Sir

I yesterday left General Gates at Still Water where all remain quiet at present - nothing material having happened since the Action and return of Colonel Brown - the latter having effected the taking a number of Prisoners from the Enemy, and releasing some of our Prisoners, burning Boats, Stores, &c. &c. at Ty-- landing and on lake George --- The Enemy's principal Stores, Artillery &c. not with them in Camp, are on an Island called 5 Mile Island - near the bottom of lake George, - these Brown scarcely attempted, the Enemy having discovered him previous to his arrival there --- He found by their shots they were ready for him, and exceedingly expert at firing --- The Action of the 19th holds out equal to what we heard --- The Enemy are now in fortified Camp - partly on the Ground where the Battle was fought --- Our Camp seems very advantageously situated, and strong - no fear of an attempt on their lines --- The Enemy seem waiting some event to determine their movements - some Troops are expected under General St. Leger, to reinforce them; perhaps 1,000 --- Our numbers are now full equal to the General's wishes - the fear is that the Enemy will be quiet until the Militia grow uneasy for Return --- Prisoners and Deserters are coming in every Day --- These generally agree that the Enemy have not more than three weeks' provisions - some say not more than two weeks --- Our Expectations are not towards the Southern Army and extent - if nothing very untoward on our part happens from thence - hopes are very sanguine with regard to Mr. Burgoyne ---

Will Brown come this way on his return from the Southward? The General expects a constant River --- I have mentioned to General Gates the quantity of Salted Provisions and Spirits in our parts, suppose he will write on that head --- Provisions have been extremely scarce sometimes not more than two or three days on hand --- Once not one - The prospect on this head grows much better --- Bread is most wanted - Fresh Beef is plenty - but at a very great price ---

I am Sir

Your most Dutiful Son
Jonth. Trumbull Jun^r.

We seem to know nothing of Southern operations in this Quarter - their Communications to us are very scanty --- May I beg the indulgence of your intelligence as it turns up, and you are acquainted --- We don't to this Day know the fate of Philadelphia - or the Destination of Congress.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Jonathan Trumbull to Governor Trumbull

Albany 14th. Oct^o. 1777.

Hon.^d Sir

I wrote you pr. Capt. Treat going to N. Haven, since that have had no opportunity till this. I have only a moment now and little to say more than that the Enemy seem to be in a very secure situation for us - being near compleatly surrounded by great numbers - apparently sufficient on all sides --- From present appearances we have great reason to expect Mr. Burgoyne in Albany soon - tho' not in the way he has expected --- The Enemy got no farther than Saratoga - where they now lie - they have left, burned, and destroyed great quantities of Stores, Provisions, Tents, Medicines, Ammunition, Boat, Shot, Lead, &c. &c. - and are now probably reduced to very scant allowance --- General Gates is so secure of possessing them, that he has little thoughts of attacking them, unless provoked to it by being attacked - Deserters and Prisoners continually coming in --- The Enemy burned Genl. Schuyler's House, Out Houses, and Mills, Barracks, &c. In the action of 7th. Brig^r. Gen^l. Frazier was killed --- His Death is esteemed a great loss to M^r. Burgoyne - being accounted an experienced Officer, and much depended on by Burgoyne --- Maj^r. Ackland the famous Speaker in Parliament is now in Town - his Lady, Daughter of the Earl of Ilchester is with him --- Sir Francis Carr Clark, Burgoyne's Aid, is likely to die --- He is a Gentleman of great fortune & interest in England --- Maj^r. Williams of the Train is in Town, and some others --- Our two wounded Generals seem in a fair way --- Their activity and exertions are much needed at this time ---

Your most affectionate Son
Jonth. Trumbull Jun^r.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

James Wilkinson to Congress

York Town
October 30th 1777

I have it in charge from Major General Gates to represent to the Honourable the Congress ----

That,

Lieutenant General Burgoyne at the Time He Capitulated, was strongly Intrrenched on a Formidable Post with twelve Days Provision: That, the Reduction of Fort Montgomery & the Enemies consequent Progress up the Hudsons River, endangered our Arsenal at Albany: a reflection which left Him no Time to contest the Capitulation with L^d General Burgoyne, but induced the Necessity of immediately closing with his Proposals, hazarding a disadvantageous Attack, or retiring from his Position for the Security of our Magazines: this delicate Situation abridged our Conquest & procured L^d General Burgoyne the Terms he enjoys. - Had an Attack been carried against L^d General Burgoyne, the dismemberment of our Army must Necessarily have been such as would have incapacitated it for further Action this Campaign.-

With an Army in Health, Vigour & Spirits Major General Gates now waits the Commands of the Honourable Congress.

York Town
October 30th 1777

James Wilkinson
AGeneral, N. Army.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Burgoyne to Gates

Publick House at Cambridge Nov^{ber} 14 1777

Sir

I transmit to you by Captain Seymour a correct return of the forces under my command the day of signing the Convention, the Provincials & Canadian Companies excepted, which could not be ascertained, but which taken together certainly did not exceed two hundred bearing arms. I should have acquainted myself of this engagement sooner had I been able to find a proper conveyance.

I have the satisfaction to inform you, Sir, that the British troops accomplished the march without any complaint either on their part or against them. There were some differences between M: Genl Reidsall & the officer of your troops who conducted his division, but no disagreeable consequences existed. I understand there has been a refusal of quarters & refreshments to the Hospital by a Committee upon the road, but having no regular report I will not trouble you with complaint.

I am sorry I cannot speak with satisfaction upon what has passed, & still passes here. The officers are crowded into the Barracks six & seven in a room of about ten feet square & without distinction of rank. The general officers are not better provided for. I & Genl Phillips after being amused with promises of quarters for eight days together are still in a dirty small miserable tavern, lodging in a bed room together, & all the gentlemen of our suite lodge upon the floor in a chamber adjacent, a good deal worse than their servants have been used to. The only prospect that remains to me personally, is, that I shall be permitted to occupy a house without a table, chair, or any one article of furniture for the price of an hundred & fifty pounds sterling 'till the first of April, but the same sum is to be paid tho' I should embark in ten days.

While I state to you, Sir, this very unexpected treatment I entirely acquit M: Genl Heath & every gentleman of the military department of any inattention to the publick faith engaged in the Convention. They do what they can; but while the supreme powers of the state are unable or unwilling to enforce their authority, & the inhabitants want the hospitality or indeed the common civilisation to assist us without it, the publick faith is broke, & we are the immediate sufferers.

I cannot close my letter without expressing the sense I entertain of the honour, candor & the politeness of your proceedings in every respect towards the army & myself. And I can with very sincere regard

Sir Your Most Obedient Humble Servant

J: Burgoyne

P.S: M: Genl Phillips who is now with me desires you to accept his compliments

M: Genl Gates &c

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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No title

Gen Clinton about 44 miles from Albany

Gates had notice before Convent. signed by letter from Gov^r Clinton that the enemy taken forts the river open & Burg in^o make his push & days provis. with Gates Army at the time of convention Albany was our Arsenal

Gen^l Gates rec^d several letters of the most alarming kind from Gen^l Putnam

Gov^r Clinton supposed S^r H. Clinton had 5000 men with him Burg. in his advance destroyed the bridge over Hudsons river.---

Garrison at Ticonderoga supposed 1000.

reported 7th the enemy had deposited large supply of stores on 3 mile island & diamond island.

Gen Starke is gone ag^t Ticond with ab^t 2000 volunteer militia & 4 p^t cannon

Gen Gates' army at Albany & moving down

Vaughan commands the enemy army

Body of N. E. Mil engaged to the last December

Col. Brown reported he had destroyed the en^y boats on his advance to the attack of diamond island

17 gun boats & armed Schooner taken in Lake George proceeded in them ag^t Ty & upon repulse left

Gen^l Gates waits orders from Congress

Col Morgan left Albany 21 Oct on his way to Gen^l Washington

Gov^r Clinton had bet. 1000 & 1500 Men two small cent reg. the rest militia at (Hurley ?)

Burg. couldn't subsist his army 12 days. his prov. flour & pork ----- a quant^y of pork taken from him before Gen by a body of vol Mil

Burg transported his prov to by water.

Burg in a strong camp fortif^d with Red. & breastworks

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Nov. 3. -----

Col. Wilkinson attended
delivered a message from Major General Gates ---
then delivered sundry papers

1. a Message from Lieut Gen^l Burgoyne to Major Gen^l Gates & Major General Gates Answer.
2. A Message from Lieut Gen^l Burgoyne to Gen^l Gates by Major Kingston Oct^r 1. 1777
3. Another message ^{accompanying the former} from Lieut Gen Burgoyne to Gen^l Gates by do Oct^r 14. 1777
4. Gen^l Gates' propositions to gen^l Burgoyne with gen^l Burgoyne's reply. do
5. A Message from gen^l Burgoyne to Gen^l Gates accompanying the former. do.
6. Gen^l Burgoyne's proposals & gen^l Gates Answer Oct^r 14. 1777
7. Message from Lieut gen^l Burgoyne to Major Gen^l Gates Oct^r 15. 1777
8. Message from Lieut Gen^l Burgoyne to Major Gen^l Gates Oct^r 16. -----
9. Message from Gen Gates to Lieut Gen^l Burgoyne Oct^r 16. -----
10. A return of Lieut Gen^l Burgoyne's army that surrendered to Major Gates 17 Oct^r 1777 ---
11. A return of Major Gen^l Gates Army. ---
12. Return of Ordinance taken at the surrender of J B.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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Varick to Laurens

Albany Nov^r 12. 1777.

Sir

I do myself the Honor to enclose You the Returns of all the Regiments lately in Service in this Department Except Colonel Warners Battalion & Colo Morgan's Corps of Riflemen. In one of the Returns marked B. I have particularly stated the Number of Men in each Batt^y engaged for the War, for three Years or a shorter Term. -

The Active Situation of our Army in this Quarter, which has prevented my taking the Musters of the Militia & has rendered it almost impracticable to compleat those of the Continental Troops Forces with Propriety, will, I hope, in some Measure apologise for any supposed Delays that may possibly have been imputed to me. -

The Regiments, which composed W. General Arnold's Division are greatly reduced in Numbers since the Muster in the Actions of the 19th Sept. & 7th Oct in which the three New Hampshire Reg^ts are the principal Sufferers.---

I am

Sir

with every Sentiment
of Respect
Your Most Obed
Humble Serv^t
Rich^d Varick

To the Hon^{ble}

Henry Laurens Esq. Presid^t &c; &c

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Cates to John Hancock

Camp, Heights above Schaus's
September 22^d 1777.

Sir,

Friday Morning I was informed by my Reconnoitring Parties, that the Enemy had Struck their Camp, and were moving towards our Left --- I immediately detached Col. Morgan's Corps, consisting of the Rifle Regiment and the Light-Infantry of the Army to observe their Direction, and harass their Advance: this Party at half after twelve, fell in with a Platoon of the Enemy which they drove, but the Enemy being reinforced, after a brisk Conflict, they were in Turn obliged to retire; this Skirmish drew the main Body of the Enemy and a Brigade from my left to support the Action, which, after a short Cessation was renewed with great Wrath and Violence --- At this Instant, hearing from Prisoners, that the whole British Force and a Division of Foreigners had engaged our Party, I reinforced with four more Regiments; this continued the Action till the Close of Day, when both Armies retired from the Field-----Inclosed is a Return of our Loss, and I am assured, by the concurrent Testimony of Prisoners and Deserters of various Characters, that General Burgoyne, who commanded in Person, received a Wound in his left Shoulder, that the 62^d Regt. was cut to Pieces, and that the Enemy suffered extremely in every Quarter where they were engaged --- The general good Behaviour of the Troops, on this important Occasion, cannot be surpassed by the most Veteran Army; to discriminate in praise of the Officers, would be Injustice, as they all deserve the Honour and Applause of Congress --- Lieut. Col. Coburn and Lieut. Col. Adams, with the rest of the unfortunate Brave, who fell in their Country's Cause, deserve a lasting Monument to their Glory ----- The Armies remain encamped within two Miles of each other --- The 17th Instant, I wrote to all the neighbouring States, and pressinglly demanded the immediate March of their Militia, when a proper Reinforcement arrives I hope to give your Excellency more interesting Intelligence--- Inclosed is a Return of the Army, which but barely equals, that of the Enemy.

I am

Sir,

Your Excellency's

most Obedient

Humble Servant

Horatio Gates

P.S. I have Prisoners about 70
of the Enemy's Regular Troops, amongst
which are two Commissioned Officers
of the 62^d Regt., one Commissary General, one
Sergt. Major, & some Drum Musicians.

His Excellency John Hancock Esq.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Burgoyne to Gates

Camp near Betons's Heights 27th Sept^r 1777.

Sir,

According to Your desire, I send a list of the prisoners taken the 18th Inst., and likewise of those taken some days before, and since that period.---

I understand that the discourse which passed between Doctor Potts and Doct^r. Wood, respected a mutual leave for a surgeon or physician to visit the Wounded prisoners after an Action.--- I have not the least Objection, to that Idea; and if you have an inclination, Sir; upon the present Occasion to send Doctor Potts or any other Medical Gentleman to my Camp he shall meet with due civility.---

I am obliged to You for Your Attention in sending back the Servant, and the Servant's Wife;- and am, Sir,

Your Obedient
Hum^{ble} Ser^v.
J: Burgoyne

P.S: Business prevented my answering your Letter sooner which you will excuse -----

M. Gen^l. Gates. ----- (turn over) -----

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Burgoyne to Gates

Sept. 27, 1777

A List of Prisoners taken in the Action on the 19th September 1777. ---

Capt: Van Swearingin

Capt: Jason Watts

Lieut: John More

Edward Insey

Jonathan Morgan

Jeram Hurilton

Saml Retherwell

Stephen Grover

Allen Davis

John Masters

Solomon Raymond

Dani Blaisdell

Leah Hurton

John Pickett

Henry Stevens

Reuben Hosman

Ebony Dewanny

Solomon Howard

Moses Rawlins

Willth Kerby

Smith Kent

Dani McCarthy

Amaziah Kerby

David Mahon

Ephraim Bowers

Samuel Pelham

Laurence Johnston

Timothy Shipman

Elisha Freeman

Edward Richmond

The above List was sent by Genl Burgoyne with the Letter on
the other side. ---

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Gates to Hancock

Camp Behms's Heights October 4th 1777.-

Sir,

The Inclosed Letter for His Excellency General Washington, which I send open for the perusal of Congress, will particularly describe the present situation of The Two Armies; - I desire it may be sealed, and sent without Delay to His Excellency.--- Inclosed are Copies of the Letters that have passed between General Burgoyne and myself, since I had the Honour to write Your Excellency by Major Troup; together, with certain intercepted Letters which at different times have fallen into my Hands.--- By two British Deserters, who came this Morning from the Enemy, I am assured, there is but Fifteen days provisions in Genl Burgoyne's Magazine, the Bread part consisting entirely of Canadian Flour, which is intolerably bad.--- Every means that can be devised, is taking, not only to Repel the Enemy's Assault, but to Cut Off his Retreat.--- The distressed situation of General Burgoyne's Affairs, makes me not only Guard against his Despair, but take also, the most Active measures to Attack him to Advantage, upon his return to Ticonderoga.---

I am,
Sir,
Your Excellency's
Most Obedient
Humble Servant
Horatio Gates

Your Excellency
John Hancock Esq:

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Gates to Hancock

Camp at Saratoga Octbr. 12: 1777.

Sir,

I have the Satisfaction to acquaint your Excellency with the great Success of the Arms of the United States in this Department --- On the 7th Inst. the Enemy attackd our advanc'd Piquets upon the Left which I on an Action, about the same Hour of the Day, and near the same Spot of Ground, where that of the 19th of Sept. was fought from 3 O'Clock in the Afternoon, until almost Night, the Conflict was very warm and bloody, when the Enemy by a precipitate Retreat determined the Fate of the Day - leaving in our hands eight Pieces of Brass Cannon, the Tents and Baggage of their Flying Army, a large Quantity of Fix'd Ammunition, a considerable Number of Wounded & Prisoners, amongst whom are the following principal Officers --- Major Williams who commanded the Artillery, Major Ackland, who commanded the Corps of Grenadiers, Capt. Macey, Q.M. General and S^r Francis Clarke, principal Aid De Camp to His Excellency General Burgoyne. The Lost upon our Side is not more than _____ Killed & Wounded, amongst the latter is the Gallant Major General Arnold, whose Leg was fractured by a Musket Ball, as he was Forcing the Enemy's Breast Work --- Too much Praise cannot be given to the Corps commanded by Col. Morgan, consisting of the Rifle Regiment and the Light Infantry of the Army under Major Dearborn: but it would be Injustice to say that the whole Body engaged did not equally deserve the honour and Applause due to such exalted Merit --- The Night after the Action the Enemy took Post in the strong Intrenched Camp upon their Left; General Lincoln whose Division was opposite to the Enemys going in the Afternoon to direct a Cannonade to annoy Their Camp, received a Musquet Ball in his Leg, which Shattered the Bone, this has deprived me of the Assistance of one of the Best of Officers as well as (Merit ?) his Loss at this Time, cannot be too much registered; I am in Hopes his Leg may yet be saved.--- The 9th At Midnight the Enemy Quitted their Intrenchments, and retired to Saratoga early in the Morning of the 9th I received the inclosed Letter from General Burgoyne, acquainting me that he left his whole Hospital to my Protection in which is 300 Wounded Officers and Soldiers --- Brigadier General Fraser, who commanded the Flying Army of the Enemy was kill'd the 7th Inst. --- At one O'Clock of the Morning of the 10th, I received the Inclosed Letter from General Burgoyne with Lady Harriet Ackland --- That Morning, as soon as the Army could be properly put in Motion, I march'd in Pursuit of the Enemy; & arrived here in the Evening, and found the Enemy had taken Possession the Opposite Side of the Fish Kill, in an Intrenched Camp, which they occupied upon their advancing down the Country; -- The Enemy have burnt all the Houses before them as they retreated, the extensive Buildings and Mills &c belonging to Major General Schuyler, are also laid in Ashes; this shameful Behaviour occasioned my sending a Duin, with the inclosed Letter to General Burgoyne.--- I am happy to acquaint your Excellency

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

that Desertion has taken a deep Root in the Royal Army, particularly amongst the Germans who came to us in Shoals - I am so much pressed on every Side with Business, that it is impossible for me to be more particular now, but I hope in a few Days to have Leisure to acquaint Your Excellency with every Circumstance at present omitted.---

I am with great Respect

Your Excellency's

most Obedient

Humble Servant

Horatio Gates

His Excellency John Hancock:

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Gates to Burgoyne

Saratoga October 12th 1777.

Sir

I had the Honour to receive Your Excellency's Letter by Lady Auckland, the Respect due to her Ladyship's Rank, the Tenderness due to her Person and Sex, (even I) pain sufficient Recommendations to entitle her to my Protection considering my preceeding Conduct with Respect to those of your Army, whom the Tribune of War, has placed in my Hands, I am surpris'd Your Excellency should think that I could consider the greatest Attention to Lady Auckland in the Light of an Obligation.----

The Cruelties which mark the Retreat of your Army, in burning the Gentlemen's and Farmer's Houses as they past along, is almost among civilized Nations without a Precedent, they should not endeavour to ruin those, they could not conquer, this Conduct betrays more of the vindictive Malice of a Monk, than the Generosity of a Soldier.----

Your Friend St Francis Clarke by the Information of Doctr. Potts, the Director General of my Hospital, languishes under a very dangerous Wound, every sort of Tenderness and Attention, is paid to him, as well as to all the Wounded, who have fallen into my Hands, and the Hospital, which you was necessitated to leave to my Mercy.

At the Solicitation of Major Williams I am prevailed upon to offer him and Major Weiba in Exchange for Col. Ethan Allen --- Your Excellency Objections to my last Proposals for the Exchange of Col. Ethan Allen, I must consider as trifling as I cannot but suppose, that the Generals of the Royal Arms act in equal concert with those of the Generals of the Armies of the United States.

The Bearer delivers a Number of Letters from the Officers of your Army, taken Prisoner in the Action of the 7th Instant.

I am
Sir
Your Excellency's
Humble Servant

Horatio Gates.

Lieut. Genl. Burgoyne.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Gates to Hancock

Camp at Saratoga 18th Oct^r 1777.---

Sir

I have the Satisfaction to present Your Excellency with The Convention of Saratoga: By which His Excellency Lieutenant General Burgoyne, has Surrendered Himself, & his whole Army into my Hands; & they are now upon Their March to Boston --- This Signal and Important Event, is the more Glorious, as it was Effected with so little loss to the Army of The United States ---

This Letter will be presented to Your Excellency by my Adjutant General Colonel Wilkinson, to whom I must beg leave to refer your Excellency for The particulars that brought this Great Business to so happy, and Fortunate a Conclusion.--- I desire to be permitted to recommend This Gallant Officer in the warmest manner to Congress, and entreat that he may continued in His present place with the Brevet of a Brigadier General The Honorable Congress will believe me when I assure them, that from beginning of This War I have not met with a more promising Military Genius than Colonel Wilkinson; and whose, Services have been of the Greatest Benefit to this Army ---

I am Sir
Your Excellency
most Obedient
Humble Servant

Horatio Gates

His Excellency
John Hancock Esq

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Gates to Burgoyne

Albany 24th October 1777--

Cory

It is hereby mutually agreed between Lieutenant General Burgoyne, and Major General Gates, that the following Officers, taken by Lieutenant General Burgoyne, shall be immediately released, and that the same number of Officers of Equal Rank, (or with proper allowance, where there is a superiority on either side) taken by Major General Gates, shall be released on his Part: agreeable to the following List:
Albany 24th October 1777 --

(Signed) Horatio Gates

Officers taken Prisoners by
Lieutenant Genl Burgoyne

Colonel Hale
Lt Col^l Bellinger
Captain Baldwin

James Carr
James Morris
Ebenezer Frye
Amos Huntington
Lane

Caleb Robinson
Enos Stone
Benjamin Walcott

Capt.ⁿ Van Swearingham

White
Nathan Watkins

Bri.: Major John Frey

First Lieut --- Bradford

Moses Dustin
Tewell
Thomas Hardy

Moore

Rowlin

Thomas Sill

Senter

Sec^d Lieut. Silas Chadbourn

Ensign Benjⁿ Butterfield

Demerry
Joshua Merrow
Adriel Warren

Officers to be exchanged by
Major General Gates

Capt.ⁿ Montgomery 9th Reg^t

Money 9th

Dowling 20th

Stanley 20th

Farguhar 20th

Ramsay 21st

Lt Petersham 29th

Craig 47th

Green 31st

Captain Fraser 34th Reg.^t

Major Campbell

Capt.ⁿ Blomefield Royl Artillery

Captⁿ Hughes T. M. of Montreal

Lieutenant Twiss Eng^s

D. Durnford Eng^s

Dowling 29th Reg^t

Wilford 27th Reg^t

Major Campbell

Lieut. Slack Engineer

Lieut: Skene

2nd Lieut: York Royl Artillery

2nd " Howarth D^y

Ensign Baron de Salans 9th Reg^t

Cornet Grant 16th Dragoons

Ensign Johnston 29th Reg^t

" Robertson Engineer

(Signed) Horatio Gates

N.B. Captain Money 9th Regt. exchanged in this List not being acquainted with it - Has negotiated a second exchange through Sr Henry Clinton with a field Officer of the Provincial Service.

Selections

From

THE SIR HENRY CLINTON PAPERS

W. L. Clements Library

Ann Arbor, Michigan

Report of a Dispatch on or about 20th July 1777

Sir

On the 6th Instant the Enemy dislodged from Ticonderoga and were driven on the same Day beyond Skeensborough on the Right and to Huberton on the left with the Loss of 126 pieces of Cannon - all their armed Gallies, and Ammunition, Military stores and provision to a vast amount ---

On the two succeeding Days the ascendancy of His Majesties arms was further established by two separate Actions at distant Places, and against superior Numbers, in Which the Enemies Loss amounted to above Six Hundred dead upon the field, above three times that Number wounded an one Colonel seven Captains, ten subalterns and near four hundred prisoners ---

Of the Kings Troops were killed 1 Major, 1 Captain, 3 Lt^s one Volunteer Lt of Marines. 2 Serjeants - 41 Rank & File wounded 2 Majors - 5 Capt^s 10 Lieut^s one Volunteer 13 Serjeants 142 Rank & file - Maj^r Grant of the 24th Reg^t was the field officer killed ---

J. Burgoyne

Camp Fort Edward August 6th 1777

Sir

I received yesterday the duplicate of your letter of the 17th July & shall strictly observe the Contents. My progress from Skeensborough hither was very laborious, through a Country Naturally difficult the Roads & bridges all broken up - and on the Face of the Enemy's who retired never the less from post to post with considerable loss in killed and prisoners and without any other Troops engaged on our side, than Indians & provincials - and these have suffered no Otherwise than in a few wounds. I have had the fullest satisfaction in the alacrity of the army, and the issue has gratified my Perseverance in preferring this Route to the retrograde Movement which would have been to have taken the more commodious one by Ticonderoga and Lake George --- The Garrison of Fort George in Danger of being cut off by my movement directly upon the Hudsons river abandoned, as I had expected, The Fort, and burned the

"Intelligence from G(en). Burgoyne by a Scotchman..."

Intelligence from G. Burgoyne by a Scotchman July 21, 1777

That Tic. was taken with

Copy of the Cypher part of Sir Henry Clinton's Letter to Lieut. General Burgoyne, dated the 10th of Sept^r. 1777.

You know my poverty, but if with 2000 Men, which is all I can spare from this important, post, I can do any thing to serve You, I will in about Ten days make an Attack upon Fort Montgomery, if You will let me know Your Wishes.

On the 28th of Sept^r- I received an answer in Cypher from Gen^l Burgoyne to the above Letter, dated about 21st; in these Words.---

"I have lost the old Cypher, but from the Tenor of Your Letter, I thought You would have it so read. An Attack, or even the Menace of an Attack upon Fort Montgomery, will be of Use, it will Move them from hence and I will follow them close; do it, My dear friend, directly.-

On the 5th of October, Cap^t Campbell came to me with a Letter from Gen^l Burgoyne, of the 20th Sep^r introducing him to me as an Officer of Confidence, from whom I was to learn the General's situation.---

On the 6.- I made my Attack on Fort Montgomery.

H Clinton.

on the 8th of Oct^r I received another letter in answer to mine of the 10th of Sep^r nearly a duplicate of the former in these words. " I made out your letter, I have beat the Enemy but as the night stopt the pursuit the Victory is not desisive, your immediate advance upon Montgomery would be of infinite service, But should you not be able to carry it, the keeping it besieged will help, should Gates detach to support Putnam, and I conceive he cannot be supported elsewhere, depend upon me to follow him, lose no time.

A true Copy of G. Burgoynes letter
of the 28^d of Sep^r which I received
on the 8th of Oct^r

Copy of the Passport of the Cypher part of Sir Henry Clinton's letter to Lt. Genl. Burgoyne dated the 10th Sept^r 1777

My dear General, You know my poverty, but if with 2000 men which is all I can spare from this important post I can do any thing to save you, I will in about Ten days make an (Attack upon Fort Montgomery if you will let me know your wishes ---

On the 11th I went on an Expedition to Jersey, on the 16th I returned from thence, this Expedition was intended to ---favour the Operations of both Armies in some small degree it was certainly made Critically

On or about the 26th 1700 recruits arrived from England.

On the 29th I received an Answer (in Cypher) from Lt. Genl. Burgoyne without date by the Messenger who carried my letter to him, his answer was in the following words

"I have lost the old Cypher, but from the tenor of y^r letter I thought you w^d have it so read: An Attack or even the menace of an Attack upon Fort Montgomery will be of use; it will move them from hence and I will follow them close, do it, my dear friend directly"---

On the 5th of Oct^r Capt^r Campbell came to me with a letter from Genl. Burgoyne of the 28th of Sept^r introducing him to me as an Officer of confidence from whom I was to learn the General situation. The purport of this Officers Message to me was to tell me the Strength of both Armies, describe the Ground they occupied, let me know that Genl. Burgoyne could not keep up his Communications with Canada, that he had provisions for no longer than the 20th and that finally he desired my orders whether he should advance to Albany which he thought very practicable or retreat to Ticonderoga and repossess the Lakes before the Ice Set in; he more over added that the Genl. wished to know on what day I would be at Albany and whether when I was there I would answer for keeping the Communicatⁿ open with New York

On the 6th I made my attack on Fort Montgomery with 2500 Men the arrival of recruits having enabled me to make an Addition to the little Army---

I succeed beyond all hope all their Forts are taken Artillery Stores &c, in the course of the Night they burn two Frigates some Gallies and leave a Privateer Sloop which S^r J. Wallace took possession of the following Morning, On the 7th preparations made to destroy the Chain and a Summons sent to Fort Constitution which was fired upon though under the Sanction of a Flag-

8th Genl. Tryon's Expedition to Fort Constitution which we found evacuated abandoned. S. Ja. Wallace proceeds towards the Chevaux de Frise to observe its state and explore beyond it, 9th Genl. Tryon's Expedition to the Continental Village in which he destroys great Magazines and Barracks for 1500 Men --- Cap. Scott arrives 10th Strong N.W. Wind nothing moves.

11th Make my arrangements in York, beg borrow and Steal Troops and order Provisions for 8000 Men for 6 months, order small Vessels ready to make a push to Albany --- 12th return to the Army ---

13th Order 1700 Men under Gen^l Vaughan to embark Sir James Wallace reporting it was practicable

14th The Transports not getting up, the Troops embark this day --- 15.th pass the Chevaux de Frise but most of them touch - Gen^l Vaughan had orders to feel for G. Burgoyne assist his Operations, receive his orders and let me know if there is a possibility of communicating with him, and getting provisions to Albany, in which case - I would risk every thing to do it.

16th Gen^l Vaughan above Esopus

17th received Gen^l Howe's orders to withdraw except under certain conditions, which conditions not being the case I dispatched my orders accordingly

In the course of a few days I withdrew all, dismantled the Forts &c &c ---

Copies of Letters & Messages to, which passed between Lieut^t General Sir Henry Clinton & Lieut^t General Burgoyne between the 10th of September and the 23^d of October 1777.

In a Letter wrote about the 10th of August to Gen^l Burgoyne, I acquainted him that the Commander in Chief was gone from hence, and with my being left in so starved a defensive that it would not be possible for me to attempt any thing to favour his Operations. but that I was determined if possible to try something towards the close of the Year.

I had not heard from General Burgoyne since the 6th of August from Fort Edward, at which time he seemed to have a good prospect of getting to Albany by the 22^d of that Month. about this time all acc^{ts} agreed that he was in a most flourishing way.

About the 10th of September, finding by all Accounts that he was still at Saratoga near 60 Miles from Albany, I thought it possible he might be in want of some little diversion, and I wrote to him the following Letter.

You know my 'good will, and are not ignorant of my poverty. If You thing 2000 Men can assist You effectually, I will make a push at Montgomery in about Ten days. but ever jealous of my flanks, if they make a move in force on either of them I must return to save this important post. I expect reinforcements every day. let me know what You would wish.

On the 11th - I started on an Expedition to Jersey intending by that movement to favour the Operations of both Armies, and to observe what effect it might have on that part of the Rebel Army left to guard the Highlands. This movement was made at a most Critical time, being on the same day that General Howe attacked the Rebel Army at Brandywine. Whether it was of the least Use to his Operations, I do not pretend to say. One good effect however arose from its, the supplying ourselves and depriving the Enemy of resources they much depended upon; and it might possibly have prevented the Neighbouring Counties from sending their Militia to either Army. Be taht as it may, it was well intended, and could not have been more critically made.

On the 16th - I returned.

On the 24th - A Reinforcement, consisting of 1700 Recruits for the British, Hessians & Artillery Arrived.

On the 27th - I wrote the following Letter to S^t William Howe.

Sir,

"Major General Robertson will set out for Rhode Island soon, but as I probably may be tempted, having this small Reinforcement, to undertake something offensively, I have requested his stay for a few days, as I wish to leave him in a particular Command during my absence.

Sir Thomas Wilson I shall likewise detain for a short time having already obtained Your permission.

I most sincerely give You Joy, Sir, of Your Victory at the Brandywine, of which I have had some particulars through the Commodore.

Being totally unacquainted with your present situation, that of the Rebel Army, Your plan of Operations, or how far I can cooperate with it by any small detachment I can make from the Army under my Orders, I wait with some impatience to receive Your Commands. But being ever desirous of attempting something that might favour the Operations of both Armies, particularly that of General Burgoyne, If I do not receive your Excellency's Commands before the latter end of next Week, I shall probably make an Attempt upon Fort Montgomery, if Mr Washington is not by that time too near to Risk it. I shall be able to assemble near 3000 Men for this Expedition, as it will not be of long duration. if I succeed, I think it will not be in their power to Refortify that Fort, which is the great defence of the Highlands, this Year. should I fail, I flatter myself I shall not meet with any other disgrace than that of being obliged to relinquish the Object; and I shall have the satisfaction to think that I have at least attempted something in favor of Genl Burgoyne's Army the first instant I have had it in my power to detach a Man for that purpose.

I have long meditated this Move but hitherto have never been equal to undertake it. as it is, indeed it looks a little desperate, but the times may possibly require such an exertion. I cannot form a hope of remaining in the Highlands, but if I succeed in destroying the Cannon &c. at Forts Montgomery, Clinton, Constitution, Verplansk and Independance, the difficulty of transporting any thing of Bulk in that Country, will make the loss almost irreparable to the Enemy. a Stronger Motive urges me to attempt this enterprise, the diversion it may occasion in favor of Your Excellency & General Burgoyne; with whose situation, however, I am unacquainted, not having heard from him since his Notes received the 5th Instant, which I had the honour of enclosing to Your Excellency in my Letter of the 6th---

Your Excellency is too well acquainted with the many & great difficulties I must contend with in this affair, and with the small force I dare, (Notwithstanding the Reinforcement) draw from these posts, to form any sanguine expectations of my Success. I dare not even now, assert positively that it will be undertaken. but should the smallest ground for hope appear, I will try it. a few days will decide me.

Sir William Howe.

I have the honour to be &c.

On the 29th - I received an Answer from Genl Burgoyne to my Letter of the 10th - as follows.

I have lost the old Cypher, but being sure from the tenor of Your Letter You meant it to be so read, I have made it out; An Attack, or even the Menace of an Attack upon Fort Montgomery must be of great use, as it will draw away great part of their force, and I will follow

then close. Do it, My dear friend, directly.---

On the 3^d at Night. --- As the tides did not suit before, I began my Move with 3000 Men, having been able to make that small Addition to my little Army, by the arrival of the Reinforcement of 1700 Recruits.

On the 5th - At the instant we were preparing to land at Verplancks point, I received the following Letter from Lieut Genl Burgoyne, dated the

28th of September

The bearer Captain Campbell, an Officer of great Merit and full Confidence, is charged with an exact Duplicate of my Message to Your Excellency dispatched Yesterday by another Officer. I request a most speedy Answer by Triplicates. Believe me, with every possible principle of feeling, of Respect and Attachment,

My dear General

J.B.

G.B. is supposed to have received an account the 27th that his boats on the lakes were destroyed.

And at the same time the following Message was delivered to me by Captain Campbell Vis.

That he was desired by Genl Burgoyne to tell me That the Generals Whole Army did not exceed Five Thousand Men, That the consequences of the Battle of the 19th were the loss of between Five and Six Hundred Men. That the Enemy were within a Mile & a half of him. That he knew not their Numbers for certain, but believed them to be Twelve or Fourteen Thousand, That there was besides a Considerable Body in his Rear, That he wished to receive my Orders Whether he should Attack or Retreat to the lakes, That he had but provisions to the 20th of this Month, and that he would not have given up his Communications with Ticonderoga had he not expected a Cooperating Army at Albany, that he wished to know my positive Answer as soon as possible, Whether I could open a Communication with Albany, When I should be there, and when there keep my Communication with New York. That if he did not hear from me by the 12th he should retire early on the 8th - Captain Campbell was dispatched with the following Message, in Answer to the foregoing One.

Not having received any Instructions from the Commander in Chief relative to the Northern Army, and ignorant even of his intentions concerning the Operations of that Army, excepting his Wishes that it should get to Albany, Sir Henry Clinton cannot presume to give any Orders to General Burgoyne. General Burgoyne could not suppose that Sir Henry had an Idea of penetrating to Albany with the small force he mentioned in his last Letter. What he offered in that Letter he has now undertaken, cannot by any means promise himself Success, but hopes it will at any rate be serviceable to Genl Burgoyne, as Genl Burgoyne says

in his Letter answering the Offer that even the Means of an Attack will be of use. The Troops were at that time landed on the West Side, and in the Evening the Ports in the Highlands were stormed.

7th - Prepared to destroy the Chain, & sent a Messenger to Gen^l Burgoyne to say what had happened. The Commodore and I likewise sent a Summons to Fort Constitution, and the Flag was fired upon.

On the 8th - Major General Tryon was detached to Fort Constitution, which he found Evacuated. sent a Messenger to General Burgoyne with the following Note dated

Fort Montgomery Oct^r 8th.

Mons y voiei, and nothing now between us but Gates; I sincerely hope this little Success of ours may facilitate your Operations. In answer to Your Letter of the 28th Sept^r by Capt. Campbell, I shall only say, I cannot presume to Order, or even advise for reasons obvious.

I heartily wish You success.-----

Sent another Messenger a few hours afterwards with a token, and Orders to lay in the Mountains in sight of Fort Constitution, and when Witness of our Success to Report it to Gen^l Burgoyne.

Sir James Wallace went to Reconnoitre the Chevaux de Frise, and explore beyond it.

9th - Major General Tryon was detached to destroy the Barracks of the Enemy, and a large Quantity of Stores and Provisions at Continental Village which was effected. Captain Scott arrived from General Burgoyne, with the following Letter, dated September 27th 1777.

Sir

Captain Scott of 24th Regiment is entrusted by me with the fullest Dispatches & Communications necessary to be known by Your Excellency. He is an Officer of great Merit and entitled to the fullest Confidence. I request you to return me your Orders by Triplicates reckoning that our old Cypher still subsists.

I am with truest Respect & Attachment

Sir Your most Obed^t hble Serv^t

J. Burgoyne ---

And at the same Time the following Message was delivered to me by Captain Scott Viz.

That he was desired by General Burgoyne to tell me that the Army under him was 5000 Men, Consisting of the following Corps - 2000 British - 500 Provincials - 2500 Germans. That the Rebel Army was about 12000, besides a Body of 4000, hovering about, That the Continental Troops alone were equal to General Burgoyne's Army. That both Armies were Encamped a few Miles above Still Water, & the Distance not exceeding

a Mile & an half, and in many Places not more than half a Mile, the Ground of both Armies very strong. That General Burgoyne can remain in his present Position till the 12th & untill the 16th if the Communication would be open by that Time between the Armies of Genl Clinton & Genl Burgoyne; if not, it will be necessary he should make good his Retreat to Canada, before the Ice sets in. Genl Burgoyne begs Sir Henry Clinton will give him an answer, conveying the plainest & most positive Meaning, how he should not for the good of the Service, whether he should proceed to Albany, or make good his Retreat to Canada, he cannot stay longer than the 12th should he be obliged to retire to Canada, nor longer than the 16th should he proceed to Albany. He was obliged to give up the Communication between him and the lakes, on his quitting the Heights of Saratoga. Was he to get to Albany he does not think he could be supplied with Provisions for the Winter, the Country there and on the Mohawk River being much drained, unless the Communication was opened between Albany and New York. In the Action of the 19th the British Troops gained great Honour, tho' no material Advantage was gained from it. Night coming on prevented it. The Enemy fought with a good deal of Obstinacy. Our Loss about 550 mostly British, Killed, Wounded & Prisoners of the Enemy about 1200.

Genl Burgoyne begs Sir Henry Clinton will send Duplicates either in writing or verbally as soon as possible Genl Burgoyne thinks he could force his Way to Albany but unless assured that the Communication between that Place and New York could be kept open he could not subsist his Army during the Winter.

10th Sent another Messenger to Gen. Burgoyne with the following Note

Fort Montgomery 10th October

My Dear Genl

I have received Yours of 27th & 28th of Sept. You know my Zeal But I must refer you to my Letter of the 11th of that Month. c'est la ou je me tien. There is not a Rebel Cannon left in the Highlands, and Sir James Wallace & his Squadron rules far beyond it. I cannot presume to Order or even Advise.

faithfully

H. C. -----

The Commodore & I dispatched Captains Campbell and and Scott to Genl Burgoyne to inform him that if on hearing of our Success, he had determined to push for Albany, we would do every thing in our Power to communicate with him. Went to New York to make new Arrangements Genl Robertson being taken ill, leaving Orders for the Troops to dismantle Fort Montgomery & Strengthen Fort Clinton.

11th Settled every Thing at New York and gave Orders for Six Months Provisions for 5000 Men to be shipped in small Vessels, and be ready to push for Albany & embarked the Hessian Grenadiers. Two Battalions of Anspack & the 45th Regiment with Orders to proceed to Verplanks Point.

13th - Gave Orders for 1700 Men to Embark under Major General Vaughan. Sir James Wallace reporting that the Passage of the Chevaux de Frise was practicable and the River above as far as Esopus clear.

14th The Transports not having got up Yesterday, the Troops could not embark before this Day.

15th Gen^l Vaughan sailed, and passed the Chevaux de Frise with some difficulty.

16th Gen. Vaughan got up the River as far as Esopus.

17th - Received Sir W^m Howe's Order of the 9th Octo^r in the following Words.

In belief that you may have gone up the North River, when this with my Letter of Yesterday, reaches you, I am nevertheless to desire you will lose no Time in sending the requested Reinforcements mentioned in my first Letter (amounting in the whole to near 4000 Men) unless you may be on the Eve of accomplishing some very material & effectual Stroke, in which case you will be pleased to proceed upon it, provided you judge it may be accomplished in a few Days after you receive this.

19th Returned to New York.

22nd - Wrote the following Letter to Gen^l Vaughan.

Sir

Since you left us I have received a Letter from the Commander in Chief saying that he is much in need of Troops at this Crisis, and pressing me to send them unless I should be on the Eve of accomplishing some very material and essential Stroke, and judge that it may be executed in a few Days after I receive his Letter. Therefore as in Yours of the 19th you mention the Difficulty of Communicating with Gen^l Burgoyne & consequently can get no certain Intelligence respecting the actual Situation he was in at that Time, nor your Hopes of being able to effect any Thing essential or material to favour it, I must request that you do on receipt of this return to New York with all Speed, as the 7th 26th & 63^d Regiments are particularly named by the Commander in Chief

Major General Vaughan

faithfully Yours &c
H. C.

Gen^l Vaughan having repossessed the Forts, Fort Clinton was totally destroyed & the Troops withdrawn.

Copies of Letters, and Messages, which passed between Sir Wm Howe Lieut General Sir Henry Clinton, and Lieut General Burgoyne, between the 10th of Sept^r and the 22^d of October 1777. -----

I had not heard from General Burgoyne since the 6th of August, from Fort Edward, at which time he seemed to have a good prospect of getting to Albany by the 22^d of that Month.

About the 10th of Sept^r finding by all Accounts that he was still at Saratoga, near 40 Miles from Albany, I thought it possible he might be in want of some little diversion, and I wrote to him the following Letter,

You know my good Will and are not ignorant of my Poverty. If you think 2000 Men can assist You effectually, I will make a push at Montgomery in about ten days. but ever Jealous of my Flanks, if they make a Move in force on either of them, I must return to save this important post. I expect Reinforcement every day. Let me know What You would Wish.

On the 11th I started on an Expedition to Jersey, intending by that Movement to favor the Operations of both Armies, & to observe what effect it might have on that part of the Rebel Army left to guard the Highlands. This Movement was made at a Most Critical time, being on the same day that General Howe attacked the Rebel Army at Brandywine. Whether it was of the least use to his Operations, I do not pretend to say. One good effect however arose from it, the supplying ourselves, and depriving the Enemy of resources they much depended upon; and it might possibly have prevented the Neighbouring Counties from sending their Militia to either Army. Be that as it May, it was well intended, & could not have been more critically made.

On the 16th - I returned.

----- 24th - a Reinforcement consisting of 1700 Recruits for the British, Hessians & Artillery Arrived.-----

On the 27th - wrote the following Letter to the Commander in Chief.

Sir

Major General Robertson will set out for Rhode Island soon, but as I probably may be tempted, having this small Reinforcement, to undertake something offensively, I have requested his Stay, for a few days, as I wish to leave him in a particular Command during my Absence.

Sir Tho^s Wilson I shall likewise detain for a short time, having already obtained Your permission.

Being totally unacquainted with Your present Situation, that of the Rebel Army, Your plan of Operation or how far I can cooperate with it, by any small Detachment I can make from the Army under my Orders, I am with some impatience to receive Your Commands; but being ever

desirous of attempting something that might favor the operations of both Armies, particularly that of General Burgoyne, If I do not receive your Excellency's Commands before the latter end of next Week, I shall probably make an Attempt upon Fort Montgomery, if M^r Washington is not by that time too near to Risk it. I shall be able to assemble near 3000 Men for this Expedition, as it will not be of long duration. If I succeed, I think it will not be in their power to Refortify that Fort, which is the great defense of the Highlands, this Year. Should I fail, I flatter myself I shall not meet with any other disgrace than that of being obliged to relinquish the Object; and I shall have the satisfaction to think, that I have at least attempted something in favour of Gen. Burgoyne's Army, the first instant I have had it in my power to detach a Man for that purpose.

I have long meditated this Move but hitherto have never been able to undertake it: As it is, indeed it looks a little desperate, but the times may possibly require such an exertion. I cannot form a hope of remaining in the Highlands, but if I succeed in destroying the Cannon &c. at Forts Montgomery, Clinton, Constitution, Verplanck's and Independence, the difficulty of transporting any thing of Bulk in that Country, will make the loss almost irreparable to the Enemy. a stronger Motive urges me to attempt this Enterprise: the Diversion it may occasion in favour of Your Excellency & Gen^l Burgoyne, with whose Situation I am however unacquainted, not having heard from him since his Notes received the 8th Ins^t, which I had the honor of enclosing to Your Excellency in my Letter of the 6th---

Your Excellency is too well acquainted with the many & great difficulties I must contend with in this Affair, and with the small force I dare (Notwithstanding the Reinforcement) draw from these posts, to form any sanguine expectations of my Success. I dare not even now assert positively that it will be undertaken, but should the smallest ground for hope appear, I will try it. a few days will decide me.

On the 29th - I received an Answer to my Letter of the 10th - from Gen^l Burgoyne, as follows,

"I have lost the old Cypher, but being sure from the tenor of your Letter you meant it to be so read, I have made it out. An attack, or even the Menace of an Attack upon Fort Montgomery, must be of great use, as it will draw away great part of this force, and I will follow them close; do it, My dear Friend, directly.

On the 3^d of October at Night, As the tides did not suit before, I began my move with 3000 Men, having been able to make that small addition to my little Army by the arrival of the Reinforcement of the 1700 Recruits.

On the 5. - At the instant we were preparing to land at Verplancks Point, I received the following letter from Lieut. General Burgoyne,

"dated the 29th of September.

"The bearer Captain Campbell, an Officer of great Merit & full

Confidence, is charged with an exact Duplicate of my Message to Your Excellency dispatched Yesterday by another Officer. I request a most speedy answer by Triplicates. Believe me, with every possible principle of feeling, of Respect & Attachment, My dear General,
J. B.

And at the same time, the following Message was delivered to me by Captain Campbell, Vis:

That he was desired by Gen. Burgoyne to tell me, that the General's whole Army did not exceed Five Thousand Men, that the consequences of the Battle of the 19., were the loss of between Five & Six Hundred Men, that the Enemy were within One Mile & a half of him, that he knew not their Numbers for certain, but believed them to be Twelve or Fourteen Thousand, that there was besides that, a Considerable Body in his Rear, that he wished to receive my Orders, whether he should Attack, or Retreat to the lakes, that he had but provisions to the 20th of this Month, & that he would not have given up his Communications with Ticonderoga, had he not expected a Cooperating Army at Albany, that he wished to know my positive Answer, as soon as possible, whether I could open a Communication with Albany, when I should be there, and when there keep my Communication with New York, that if he did not hear from me by the 12th, he should Retire.

Early on the 6th - Cap^t - Campbell was dispatched with the following Message, in Answer,

Not having received any Instructions from the Commander in Chief relative to the Northern Army, and ignorant even of his intentions concerning the Operations of that Army, excepting his Wishes that they should get to Albany, Sir Henry Clinton cannot presume to give any Orders to Gen^l Burgoyne. Gen^l Burgoyne could not suppose that Sir Henry had an Idea of penetrating to Albany with the small Force he mentioned in his last Letter. What he offered in that Letter, he has now undertaken; cannot by any means promise himself Success, but hopes it will at any rate be Serviceable to Gen^l Burgoyne, as Gen^l Burgoyne says in his Letter answering the offer, that even the Menace of an Attack will be of use.

The Troops were at that time landed on the West Side, and in the Evening the Forts in the Highlands were Stormed.

7th - prepared to destroy the Chain, and Sent a Messenger to Gen^l Burgoyne, to say what had happened. The Commodore and I sent a Summons to Fort Constitution and the flag was fired upon.

On the 8th - Major Gen^l Tryon was detached to Fort Constitution, which he found Evacuated. Sent a Messenger to General Burgoyne, with the following Note, dated,

Fort Montgomery Oct^r 8th --

Vous y voiei, and nothing now between us but Gates; I sincerely hope this little success of ours may facilitate your Operations. In answer to Your Letter of the 28th September by Cap^t Campbell, I shall

only say, I cannot presume to order, or even advise, for reasons obvious. I heartily wish you Success. -----

Sent another Messenger, a few hours afterwards, with a token, & orders to lay in the Mountains in sight of Fort Constitution, & when witness of our Success, to Report it to Genl Burgoyne.

Sir James Wallace went to Reconnoitre the Chevaux de Frize, and explore beyond it.

9.th. Major Genl Tryon was detached to destroy the Barracks of the Enemy, and a large Quantity of Stores & provisions, at Continental Village, which was effected.

Captain Scott arrived from Genl Burgoyne with the following Letter,

dated Sept^r 27th 1777. -----

"Sir

Captain Scott of the 24.th Reg^t., is intrusted by me with the fullest dispatches & Communications necessary to be known by Your Excellency. He is an Officer of great merit & entitled to the fullest confidence. I request You to Return me your orders by Triplicates, by different Routes, reckoning that our old Cypher still subsists.

I am with truest Respect & Attachment
Sir Your Most Obed^t Mble Serv^t
J: Burgoyne.

And at the same time the following Messagewas delivered to me by Cap^t Scott, Viz.

That he was desired by Genl Burgoyne to tell me, that the Army under him was 5000 Men, consisting of the following Corps - 2000 British - 500 provincials, 2500 Germans; That the Rebel Army was about 18000, besides a body of 4000, hovering about; That the Continental Troops alone were equal to General Burgoyne's Army. that both Armies were Encamped a few Miles above Still Water, & the distance not exceeding a Mile & a half, and in many places not more than half a Mile. The ground of both Armies very Strong. That Genl Burgoyne can remain in his present position till the 12th, and until the 16th, if the Communication would be open by that time between the Armies of Genl Clinton & Genl Burgoyne; if not, it will be necessary he should make good his Retreat to Canada before the Ice sets in. Genl Burgoyne begs Sir Henry Clinton will give him an answer, conveying the plainest & most positive meaning, how he should Act for the good of the Service, Whether he should proceed to Albany, or make good his Retreat to Canada.

he cannot stay longer than the 12th, should he be obliged to Retire to Canada, nor longer than the 16th, should he proceed to Albany. he was obliged to give up the Communication between him & the Lakes, on his quitting the heights of Saratoga. Was he to get to Albany, he does not think he could be supplied with provisions for the Winter, the Country there, & on the Mohawk River being much drained, unless the

Communication was opened between Albany & New York. In the Action of the 19th, the British Troops gained great honour, tho no material advantage was reaped from it, Night coming on prevented it. The Enemy fought with a good deal of Obstinacy. Our loss about 550, mostly British. Killed, Wounded & prisoners of the Enemy about 1200.

Gen^l Burgoyne begs Sir Henry Clinton will send Duplicates either in Writing, or Verbally, as soon as possible.- General Burgoyne thinks he could force his way to Albany, but unless assured that the Communication between that place & New York could be kept open, he could not Subsist his Army during the Winter.---

10th - Sent another Messenger to Gen^l Burgoyne with the following Note,

Fort Montgomery 10th October.

My dear General

I have received Yours of 27th September. You know my Zeal. but I must refer You to my Letter of the 11th of that Month. C'est la ou je me tien. there is not a Rebel Cannon left in the Highlands, and Sir James Wallace & his Squadron rules fra beyond it. I cannot presume to order, or even advise.

faithfully.

H. C.

The Commodore & I, dispatched Captains Campbell & Scott to Gen^l Burgoyne, to inform him, that, if on hearing of our Success he had determined to push for Albany, we would do every thing in our power to Communicate with him.

Went to New York to make new Arrangements, Gen^l Robertson being taken ill, leaving Orders for the Troops to dismantle Fort Montgomery & strengthen Fort Clinton.

11th - Settled every thing at New York, and gave orders for Six Months provisions for 5000 Men to be shipp'd in small Vessels, and to be ready to push for Albany. Embarked the Hessian Grenadiers, Two Battalions of Anspach & the 45th Reg^t, with orders to proceed to Verplach's Point.

12. --- Returned to the Army.

13th - gave Orders for 1700 Men to Embark under Major Gen^l Vaughan. Sir James Wallace reporting that the passage of the Chevaux de Frize was practicable, and the River above as far as Esopus clear.

14th - The Transports not having got up Yesterday, the Troops could not Embark till this day.

15th - Gen^l Vaughan sailed, & passed the Chevaux de Frize with some difficulty.---

16th - Gen^l Vaughan got up the River as far as Esopus.

17th - Received Sir William Howe's order of the 9th October, in the following words,

"In belief that You may have gone up the North River when this, with my Letter of Yesterday, reaches You, I am nevertheless to desire You will lose no time in sending the Requested Reinforcements mentioned in my first Letter (amounting in the whole to near 4000 Men,) unless You may be on the Eve of Accomplishing some very material & essential Stroke, in which case you will be pleased to proceed upon it, provided You shall judge it may be executed in a few days after You receive this.

19th - Returned to New York.

22^d - Wrote the following Letter to General Vaughan.

22^d October 1777.

Dear Sir

Since You left us, I have received a Letter from the Commander in Chief, saying, that he is much in need of Troops at this Crisis, and pressing me to send them, without I should be on the Eve of Accomplishing some very material & essential Stroke, and judge that it may be executed in a few days after I receive his Letter, therefore, as in your Letter of the 19th You mention the difficulty of communicating with General Burgoyne, & consequently can get no certain intelligence respecting the actual Situation he was in at that time, nor your hopes of being able to effect any thing essential, or material to favour it, I must Request that You do, on receipt of this, return to New York with all speed, as the 7th 26th & 63^d Regiments, & Grenadiers, are particularly named by the Commander in Chief.

Faithfully Yours
H. C.

22^d - General Vaughan having repassed the Ports, Fort Clinton was totally destroyed, and the Troops withdrawn.

Gen^l Vaughan had orders to feel for Gen. Burgoyne & assist his Operations, Communicating with us by letter as frequently as possible.

A true information of Fort Montgomery.

A True Information of Fort Montgomery Five hundred men fit for duty in the fort Twenty Pieces of Cannon Commanding the North River Six of them thirty-two pounders & the rest nine & twelves. South side of Poppoliakil a Battery 200 Men fit for duty. Seven Pieces of Cannon. A Ship at Negro Creek Two Swivels & two four Pounders, a Ship at the Point of Dunder Barrick Ten Pieces of Cannon all one Side, Two Rogallies above the Fort one Carries two guns & the other Three A Sloop under antonyes Nose 6 Pieces of Cannon unrigd, Sheenamoek Clove 125 men Two Small Boxes of Powder & two D9 of led.

Germain to Burgoyne

Whitehall, 15th Sept^r 1777

Sir,

The arrival of Captain Gardiner made me happy in the receipt of your Favor of July 11th 1777, dated Head-Quarters, Skenesboro' House; containing the agreeable news of the Rebels' being dislodged from Ticonderoga and Mount Independence, together with variety of other interesting Intelligence.

The Benefits which might result from the spirit and activity of that part of the northern Army which was destined to co-operate with Sir W^m Howe, were so many, so important & so obvious, that His Majesty's wisdom in appointing you to the command, was immediately seen, and universally applauded. - And I must take the liberty of acquainting you, that had your progress been less rapid, or if it had been possible for your conduct in any instance to have been different from what it has been, you would have disappointed the well grounded expectations of the public.

You will not expect that I should follow you through the whole of your Journal of the principal proceedings of the Army, nor even that I should trouble you with my Remarks upon the Transactions of any particular day ---- You will be better pleased if I hasten to the main business of my Letter, which is to express the high opinion that His Majesty entertains of the services which you have rendered Him, during the short time that you have been invested with command:---- Nor will you, who appear to take delight in doing justice to the merits of those who have the happiness of serving under you, be less pleased to be assured that the Behaviour of Major Generals Reidesel, Phillips, Brigadier General Fraser, and of the other Officers & Soldiers, both British and Foreign, has been honored with His Majesty's highest approbation.

As you make no mention of the means which you have adopted for securing the possession of your Conquests, I conclude that you have pursued the idea of garrisoning Ticonderoga from Canada. - I learnt your intentions upon that head from a Copy of your letter to Sir William Howe, of July 2nd, and the measure appeared to me so wise, and so perfectly coincident with the general plan of Operations, that I shall be sorry if any occurrence has obliged you to alter your design.

His Majesty's honor & interests are so much concerned in the success of this Expedition, that I am persuaded you will not for a single moment lose sight of the grand point in view. --- I own I have not the least apprehension that your progress will be either slackened or retarded; - The Zeal which you have for His Majesty's Service will most assuredly prevent the first; and the proof which you and your Troops have given of Resolution and perseverance, make me confident in believing that no obstacles can be opposed which will not be easily surmounted.

I am, Sir, Your most obedient humble Servant.----

Gec: Germain

1st Oct^r. 1777.

P. S. --- I kept this letter open in hopes of the pleasure of hearing from you again, before the desparture of your Aid de Camp: and I can now acknowledge the receipt of your Dispatch of July 30th.

Your safe arrival at Hudson's River was an event of so great moment, that the News thereof could not fail of being extremely acceptable; especially as it appears that the Army under your command had not suffered any considerable diminution either from the harrasing and continued Attacks of the Rebels, or from the labor and fatigue with which your March had been distinguished.

I trust that you will, during your progress, continue to advise me of every circumstance which is likely either immediately, or in its' consequences, to affect the future operations of the Campaign;- and I expect from your Justice that you should believe me when I assure you that I shall be truly happy in every occasion which you shall afford me of laying an account of your meritorious Services before His Majesty, & of conveying to you the Royal approbation of your Conduct.

G. G.

Burgoyne to Sir Henry Clinton

Oct. 5, 1777

Conversation with Capt. Campbell sent by Genl Burgoyne to me, he says, he was desired by the Genl to tell me, that the General's whole Army did not exceed five thousand Men, that the consequences of the Battle on the 19th were the loss of between five and Six hundred Men, that the Enemy were within one mile and a half of him, that he knew not their numbers for certain, but believed them to be twelve or fourteen thousand, that there was besides that a considerable body in his rear, that he wished to receive my orders whether he should Attack or retreat to the Lakes, that he had but provisions to the 20th of this Month and that he would not have given up his Communications with Ticonderoga had he not expected a Cooperating Army at Albany, that he wished to know my positive answer as soon as possible whether I could open a Communication with Albany, when I should be there, & when there keep my Communication with N Y That if he did not hear from me by the 12th instant he should retire, 10 -

Clinton to Burgoyne

(Proposed answers to verbal message from Burgoyne delivered by Capt. Campbell, Oct. 5.)

Proposed Answers to the above Queries,

1 No Answer

2 None ---

3 None ---

4 None ---

5 None

6 Not having received any instructions from the Commander in Chief relative to him, ignorant of his intentions respecting the Operations of that Army, except the General's wish that they should get possession of Albany, It is impossible for me to give any orders.

7 None

8 None

9 With respect to my Opening a Communication with Albany, that never entered into my Ideas with^t my stressing myself in the Highlands could effect it respecting the important charge I am trusted with, I have looked upon every move of mine from here as dangerous, that I had received a hint from the Commander in Chief saying that should it be in my power by any Offensive move to facilitate General Burgoyne's getting to Albany, he (illegible) say of what utility that would be, wishing so far as I was able to fulfill that object, I wrote to Genl Burgoyne on the 11th of Sept^r acquainting him with my poverty, & that if he should wish two thousand Men which was all I could spare could facilitate his Operations, I would in about Ten days make an Attempt upon Fort Montgomery, if he would let me know his wishes, that in answer to that letter which I read by the same messenger as above he tells me that an Attack or even the Menace of one on Montgomery would be of use, that it would draw from the Army opposed to him, and that he would follow them Close, that three or four days after I read that letter, I made a movement to Attempt the Object that I am far from saying it will succeed; but that my best endeavours shall not be wanting, that I will not detain his Messenger who seems anxious to be going but will send his letter and the information I received so to the Commander in Chief, that My Messenger who returned with his answer told me he had much confidential conversation with him, that the General had told him he had not then above thirty days provisions, that it seemed to be the General's opinion that he could force Gates at any time and get to Albany, that he could no longer keep his Communications with Ticonderoga, that he wished me to make an Attack to favour him, and that it seemed to be his intentions to come down to join the Southern Army, all this information I sent two days Afterward to the Commander in Chief and likewise the Messenger who brought it to explain how soon General Sir Henry Clinton Can Get to Albany, when there, if he can keep the Communication open with New York and whether he (illegible) General Burgoyne attacks the Rebels or retire Cross the Lakes

Not having received any Instructions from the Commander in Chief relative to the Northern Army, & ignorant even of his intentions concerning

the operations of that Army excepting his wishes that they should get to Albany, Sir H. C. cannot presume to give any Orders to Gen^l Burgoyne. General Burgoyne could not suppose that Sir Henry had an Idea of penetrating to Albany with the small force he mentioned in his last letter. What he offered in that letter, he has now undertaken; cannot by any means promise success, but hopes it will at any rate be serviceable to Gen^l Burgoyne as Gen^l Burgoyne says in his letter answering the offer, that even the menace of an attack would be of use.

Clinton to Burgoyne

Oct. 8, 1777

Fort Montgomery Oct. 8th

Bons y voila and nothing now between us but Gates, I sincerely hope this little success of ours may facilitate your operations. In answer to your letter of the 28. Sep. by C. C----- I shall only say, Sir I cannot presume to order or even advise for reasons obvious. I heartily wish you success, & that &c.

Respectfully

Clinton to Burgoyne

Fort Montgomery 10 Oct

Dear Gen^l

I have received yours of 27. & 28 of Sept^r you know my Zeal but I must refer you to my letter of the 11th of that month. c'est la ou je me tien. there is not a rebel cannon left in the highlands, and S^t J. Wallace and his squadron rules far beyond it. I cannot presume to order or even advise,

Respectfully

H. C.

sent by an Indian Trader who had been once or twice on the same Errand, & at that time a Serj^t in Provincials

Minutes of a Council of War Gt. Brit. Army under Burgoyne

Minutes of a Council of War, held upon the Heights of Saratoga---
October 12th 1777. -----

Present

Lieut. General Burgoyne..)	(Major Gen ^l Philips.
Major Gen ^l Reidesel.)	(Brig ^d Gen ^l Hamilton.

The Lieut^t General states to the Council the present Situation of Affairs.

The Enemy in force according to the best intelligence he can obtain, to the amount of upwards of fourteen thousand Men, & a considerable quantity of Artillery are on this side the Fish Kill & threaten an Attack, On the other side the Hudson's River, between this Army & Fort Edward, is another Army of the Enemy, the numbers unknown but one Corps which there has been an opportunity of observing, is reported to be about 1500 Men, they have likewise Cannon on the other side the Hudson's River, & they have a Bridge below Saratoga Church, by which the two Armies can communicate. the Battaux of the Army have been destroyed, and no means appear of making a Bridge over the Hudson's River, were it even practicable from the position of the Enemy.

The only means of Retreat therefore, are by the Ford at Fort Edward, or taking the Mountains in order to pass the Hudson's River higher up by Rafts, or by another Ford, which is reported to be practicable with difficulty, or by keeping the Mountains to pass the head of Hudson's River & Continue to the Westward of Lake George all the way to Ticonderoga. it is true this last passage was never made but by Indians or very small bodies of Men.

In order to pass Cannon, or any Wheel Carriages from hence to Fort Edward some Bridges must be repaired under fire From the Enemy on the other side the River, & the principal Bridge will be a Work of fourteen or fifteen hours, there is no good position for the Army to take to sustain that Work, and if there were, the time stated as necessary would give the Enemy on the other side the Hudson's River an opportunity to take post on the strong ground above Fort Edward or to dispute the Ford while Gen^l Gates's Army followed in the Rear.

The intelligence from the lower part of Hudson's River is founded upon the concurrent Reports of Prisoners & Deserters, who say it was The News in the Enemy's Camp that Fort Montgomery was taken, & one Man, a friend to Government, who arrived Yesterday & Mention some particulars of the manner in which it was taken.

The provisions of the Army may hold out to the 20th there is neither Rum nor spruce beer.

Having committed this state of facts to the consideration of

the Council; The General requests their Sentiments upon the following propositions.

- 1st - To wait in the present position an Attack from the Enemy, or the Chance of favourable Events
- 2^d - To Attack the Enemy.
- 3^d - To Retreat repairing the Bridges as the Army Moves, for the Artillery in order to force the passage of the Ford.
- 4th - To Retreat by Night leaving the Artillery and the Baggage, & should it be found impracticable to force the passage with Musquetry, to attempt the upper Fords, or the passage round Lake George.
- 5th - In case the Enemy be extending to their left leave their Rear open, to March rapidly for Albany.

Upon the first proposition, Resolved, that the Situation would grow worse by delay, that the provision now in Store is not more than sufficient for the Retreat should impediments intervene, or a Circuit of Country become necessary, and as the Enemy did not Attack when the ground was unfortified it is not probable they will do it now as they have a better game to play.

The Second unadvisable & Desperate there being no possibility of Reconnoitring the Enemy's position, and his great Superiority of Numbers known.

The third impracticable.

The 5th - Thought mostly of consideration by the Lieut. General, Major Genl Philips & Brig General Hamilton, but the position of the Enemy Yet gives no Open for it.

Resolved that the fourth proposition is the only resource, and that to effect it, the utmost Secrecy & Silence is to be observed, and the Troops are to be put in motion from the Right in the still part of the Night without any Change in the Disposition.

N. B. - It depended upon the delivery of Six days provision in due time, and upon the return of Scouts, who had been sent forward to examine by what Route the Army could probably move the first four miles undiscovered, Whether the plan should take place on that Day, or on the Morrow.

The Scouts on their Return Reported, that the Enemy's position on our Right was such, and they had so many small parties out, that it would be impossible to Move without our March being immediately discovered.---

Minutes of Councils of War, held upon the heights of Saratoga.

Minutes of A Council of War consisting of all the General Officers and
and Captains Commanding Corps, upon the heights of Saratoga ---

October 13th 1777.

The Lieut General having explained the situation of Affairs as on the preceding Council held by the Genl Officers only, with the additional intelligence that the Enemy was Intrenched at the Fords at Fort Edward, & likewise occupied the strong position upon the pine plains between Fort Edward & Fort George, expressed his readiness to undertake at their head any Enterprize of difficulty or harass that should appear to them within the Compass of their strength or Spirit; He added that he had reason to believe a Capitulation had been in the Contemplation of some, perhaps of all who knew the real situation of things, that upon a circumstance of such consequence to National & personal Honour, he thought it a duty to his Country & to himself, to extend his Councils beyond the usual limits, that the Assembly present might justly be esteemed a full representation of the Army, and that he should think himself unjustifiable in taking any step in so serious a matter without such a concurrence of Sentiment as should make a Treaty the Act of the Army as well as that of the General.

The first Question therefore he desired them to decide was, Whether an Army of 3500 fighting Men and well provided with Artillery were justifiable upon the principles of national Dignity & Military honour in Capitulating in any possible Situation. Resolved, Nem. Con. in the affirmative.

Question the Second.

Is the present Situation of that nature?

Resolved, Nem. Con. that the present situation justifies a Capitulation upon Honourable Terms.

The Lieut. General then drew up the Message Marked 2 in the papers relative to the Negotiation, and laid it before the Council, it was unanimously approved & upon that foundation the Treaty opened.

October 14th

Major Kingston having delivered the Message Marked N^o 2. returned with the Terms of Major Genl Gates Mark'd N^o 3. and the Council of War being assembled again the Lieut General laid it before them, when it was resolved unanimously to reject the 8th Article, and not to admit of it in any extremity whatever.

The Lieut General then laid before the Council the Answers to Major Genl Gates's terms, as marked in the same paper to gether with his own preliminary proposals marked N^o 4 which was unanimously Approved of.

October 16th ---

The Council being assembled again Major Genl Gates's Answers to Lieut General Burgoyne's proposals were laid before them, whereupon it was resolved that they were satisfactory, and a sufficient Foundation for proceeding to a definitive Treaty.

Gates' preliminary proposals, with Burgoyne's answers. October 14, 1777.

1st

General Burgoyne's Army being exceedingly reduced by repeated Defeats, by Desertion, Sickness &c. their provisions exhausted, their Military Stores, Tents and Baggage taken, or destroyed, their Retreat cut off and their Camp invested they can only be allowed to Surrender Prisoners of War.

Lieut^t General Burgoyne's Army however Reduced, will never admit that their Retreat is cut off while they have Arms in their hands.

2^d

The Officers and Soldiers may keep the Baggage belonging to them. The Generals of the United States never permit Individuals to be pillaged.

3^d

The Troops under His Excellency Gen^l Burgoyne will be Conducted by the most Convenient Route to New England marching by easy Marches and sufficiently provided for by the Way.

This Article is Answered by General Burgoyne's first proposal which is here annexed.

4th

The Officers will be admitted on Parole, may wear their Side Arms, and will be treated with the liberality Customary in Europe so long as they by proper behaviour continue to deserve it, but those who are apprehended having broke their Parole (as some British Officers have done) must expect to be close Confined.

There being no Officer in this Army under or capable of being under the description of breaking Parole this Article needs no Answer.

5th

All publick Stores, Artillery, Arms, Ammunition, Carriages, Horses &c.&c. must be delivered to Commissaries appointed to receive them.

All publick Stores may be delivered, Arms excepted.

6th

These Terms being agreed to and signed The Troops under His Excellency General Burgoyne's Command may be drawn

This Article inadmissable in any extremity, sooner than this Army will consent to ground their Arms

up in their Encampment where they will be ordered to ground their Arms and may thereupon be Marched to the River side to be passed over in their way towards Bennington.

7th

A Cessation of Arms to continue till Sun sett to receive General Burgoyne's Answer

(Signed) Horatio Gates.

October 14th 1777.

in their Encampment, they will rush on the Enemy determined to take no Quarter.

Burgoyne's messages to Gates concerning Articles of Convention.

The Eight First Preliminary Articles of Lieut. General Burgoyne's Proposals and the Second, third & Fourth of those of Major General Gates of Yesterday being agreed to, the foundation of the proposed Treaty is out of dispute but the several Subordinate Articles and Regulations necessarily springing from these Preliminaries and requiring explanation and precision between the Parties before a definitive Treaty can be safely executed a longer time than that mentioned by Genl Gates in his answer to the 9th Article becomes indispensably necessary. Lieut. General Burgoyne is willing to appoint Two Officers immediately to meet two others from Major Gen. Gates to propound, discuss and settle those subordinate Articles in order that the Treaty in due form may be executed as soon as possible.

signed. Jn. Burgoyne.

Camp at Saratoga
Octo^r 15th - 1777. ---

Major Kingston has authority to settle the place for the meeting of the Officers proposed.

Settled by Major Kingston, on the ground where M^r Schuyler's house stood.

In the course of the Night Lieut Genl Burgoyne received intelligence that a considerable Force has been detached from the Army under the Command of Major General Gates during the course of the Negotiations of the Treaty depending between them, Lieut. General Burgoyne conceives this, if true, to be not only a violation of the Cessation of Arms, but subversive of the principles upon which the Treaty Originated, Viz, a great Superiority of Numbers in General Gates's Army. Lieut General Burgoyne therefore requires that two Officers on his part be permitted to see that the strength of the Forces now opposed to him is such as will convince him that no detachments have been made, and that the same principle of Superiority on which the Treaty First began still exists.

October 16th 1777. ---

Burgoyne's Preliminary Proposals with Gates' Answers, October 15, 1777.

The Annexed answers being given to Major Genl Gates's proposals, it remains for Lieut. Genl Burgoyne & the Army under his Command to state the following preliminary Articles on their part.

1st

The Troops to March out of their Camp with Honours of War and the Artillery of the Entrenchments to the Verge of the River where the Old Fort stood, where their Arms and the Artillery must be left.

1st

The Troops to march out of their Camp with the Honours of War and the Artillery of the Intrinchments, which will be left as hereafter may be regulated.

2^d

Agreed to for the Port of Boston.

2^d

A Free passage to be granted to this Army to Great Britain upon condition of not serving again in North America during the present Contest, & a proper Port assigned for the Entry of Transports to receive the Troops whenever Genl Howe shall so order.

3^d

Agreed.

3^d

Should any Cartel take place by which this Army or any part of it may be exchanged, the foregoing Article to be void as far as such exchange shall be made.

4th

Agreed.

4th

All Officers to retain their Carriages, But Horses, & other Cattle, and no Baggage to be molested or searched, the Lieut General giving his honour that there are no publick Stores secreted therein. Major G^l Gates will of course take the necessary measures for the Security of this Article.

5th

Agreed to as far as Circumstances will admit.

5th

Upon the March the Officers are not to be separated from their Men, and in

Quarters the Officers shall be lodged, according to Rank, & are not to be hindered from Assembling their Men for Roll Calling, & other necessary purposes of Regularity.

6th

Agreed to in the fullest Extent.

6th

There are various Corps in this Army composed of Sailors, Matteau Men, Artificers, Drivers, Independant Companies & followers of the Army, & it is expected that those persons of whatever Country shall be included in the fullest sense & utmost extent of the above Articles & Comprehended in every respect as British Subjects.

7th

Agreed.

7th

All Canadians and Persons belonging to the Establishment in Canada to be permitted to return there.

8th

Agreed.

8th

Passports to be immediately granted for three Officers not exceeding the Rank of Captain, who shall be appointed by Genl Burgoyne to carry Dispatches to Sir William Howe, Sir Guy Carleton, & to Great Britain by the Way of New York, and the publick faith to be engaged that these dispatches are not to be opened.

9th

This Capitulation to be finished by two o'Clock this day, and the Troops march from their Encampments at Five, and be in readiness to move towards Boston tomorrow Morning.

9th

The foregoing Articles are to be considered only as Preliminaries For framing a Treaty in the course of which others may arise to be considered by both parties for which purpose it is proposed that Two Officers of each Army shall meet and report their deliberations to their respective Generals.

10th

Comply'd with:
(Signed) Horatio Gates.
Saratoga 15th Octo^r. 1777. ---

Lieut^t General Burgoyne will send his Depy. Adj^t General to receive M. General Gates's Answer tomorrow Morning at 10 o'Clock.

List of Papers relative to the Negotiation of the Convention.

Nº

1. - General Burgoyne's 1st Message, with General Gates's Answer
Octo^r 13th -----
2. - Gen^l Burgoyne's 2^d ditto, by Major Kingston Oct^r 14th
3. - Gen^l Gates's proposals brought back by Major Kingston, with
Gen^l Burgoyne's Answer.
4. - Gen^l Burgoyne's Message declaring the Cessation of Arms at
an end.
5. - Gen^l Burgoyne's preliminary proposals sent at the same time
wth the above Message, with General Gates's Answers.
6. - Gen^l Burgoyne's message requiring a longer time than assigned
by Gen^l Gates in his Answer to Gen^l Burgoyne's 3^d preliminary
7. - Gen^l Burgoyne's message in consequence of Intelligence received,
during thenight of the 15th -----
8. - Definitive Treaty.

Burgoyne to Clinton

October 20 1777

My dear General

After two very sharp actions, infinite fatigue, disappointment of intelligence from you, & a thousand other untoward circumstances I was compelled to fall back to Saratoga. I there continued the in a very undesirable position to offer battle till the 13th instant, my further retreat being rendered impracticable by common means. At that day three days provision stores remained at short allowance. I was not without resources still to open a passage had the troops been in temper for hardy enterprise. The Germans flatly confessed a very contrary disposition, even the British had not the true complection the Provincials & Canadians were in a general despondency. In this exigency I summoned the Generals, field officers, & Captains commanding Corps - The unanimous advice was to open a treaty - The first terms proposed by Mr. Gates were rejected with disdain & I firmly believe the army would have insisted with me to a man in a resolution to lay our bones together rather than have acceded to them. Hostilities recommenced; the treaty again came on, & I have succeeded to dictate every term - I inclose a copy when it is compared with our circumstances I trust it will be thought extraordinarily favourable & advantageous. My storming numbers were 3500 of which 1500 were Germans. The Enemy's were upwards of 16000 & I am sorry to say troops that we had felt would fight. Gates drew out his army & I have fortunately as many witnesses of His strength as I have men.

It is a pleasure to me that so many officers are participators in the councils of this Convention because I am sure it deserves praise. It is justice to my army to declare there were no participators in the councils for passing the Hudson's river last month, & putting the fate of the army upon the event of forcing a junction. I take it upon myself - my orders are my justification - I was meant, as it now appears, to command a forlorn hope, and I have had the natural fortune of that situation.

Let these things rest, my dear Friend, for further explanation. You shall hear from me at large by Lord Petersham whom I send to England. Knowing your zeal & activity I am sure the fault is not yours that further & timely cooperation did not take place in my favour.

I have uncertain accounts of your progress. I sent many messengers by different routes to inform you of my state before and at the time of the Convention I doubt your having received any.

I have had some narrow personal escapes having been shot thru my hat & waistcoat, & my horse hit, in the last action - if my reputation suffers among the respectable part of my profession, I shall think those escapes unfortunate, even tho my censure is far on the right side that it can only lie for attempting too much.

Adieu - judge me not till you see the copy of my orders, and then

condemn or applaud with the lights you so eminently possess, and a
friendship with which I know you honor

Dear Sir Your most faithful & obedient servant

J. Burgoyne

S^r H: Clinton &c &c &c

Burgoyne to Clinton

Albany Oct^{ber} 25 1777

My dear Sir

I wrote to you by Captain Vallanoy who carried my dispatch to Gen^l Howe soon after my arrival here, & who I imagined would pass within the posts of your army & thereby be enabled to convey to you my letter in safety.

I now direct Lord Petersham who is on his way to England to communicate to you my dispatches to Government, which are under a flying seal for that purpose, & you will therein see the whole detail of events. I seek no pardon I only want justification; & by a fair exhibition of truths & appeal to the peremptory orders under which I acted, prove to my profession & to the world that my transactions have not been faults, but honourable misfortunes. Had Sir W^m Howe enabled you to make the same movement you lately made one month sooner, or perhaps half that time, I believe our junction would have been affected. When I dispatched Campbell to you I saw the desperate state of things & that nothing but a successful action could enable me to advance or retreat. On the day of the 7th had the Germans fought like the British M^r Arnold (for it was his doing) would have paid dear for coming out of his lines. The disagreeable consideration of the German troops with me has been that they are slack settled enough to undo you, & yet not bad enough to be accused openly. They take care not to be publicly dishonoured, but are of no confidence or use where activity or steady spirit is requisite. After the 7th I expected much worse than what has happened. I do not believe my dear friend, that you will be one to disallow some share of applause to a treaty made under such circumstances that saves an army to the state for another year - The troops exhausted with continual watchfulness & fatigue since the action of 7th; galled at the time with cannonade & grape shot in all parts of their position, the Germans declaredly ready to surrender at the first attack, & a possibility of retreat, & the whole in the jaws of famine. Gates's conduct in showing me his army since, has been only consolatory. It may firmly be called an army of 20,000 as armies are stated upon paper; but taken as you & I should take our own strength for action, the solid, effective, rank & file amounted to nearer seventeen than sixteen thousand, & sorry I am to add they were such as can fight.

Upon the whole I commit myself to your candid judgement as an officer & your pity as a friend. If I have been a sacrifice of the minister to assist great purposes, I am content in having kept back from M^r Washington a force that might have decided the fate of the war, but if the minister lays blame upon me for the exertions I have used upon the principle, the spirit, & the letter of his orders I shall hold myself justified in laying those orders before the world & will stake my fame & my head upon the decision. Such ingratitude would not surprize me - I think it would not sink me.

I request you to let your secretary extract out of my dispatch

such materials as you shall think necessary to publish at New York for the consideration of the publick, & the justification of myself & my army. The hurry & embarrassment of the time lays me also under the necessity of requesting a copy of the whole dispatch may be made together with all other papers relative thereto, & that you will have the kindness to transmit it together with the inclosed letter by the most expeditious means to S^r W^m Howe - I know you will forgive me this liberty. I rely upon your assistance afterwards to secure Lord Petersham a safe & speedy conveyance to England.

I set out tomorrow for Boston to rejoin the troops. I must there wait the decision of S^r W^m Howe. Your reflections will tell you how much my honor & my peace of mind are concerned to state & vindicate my own cause at home - to these superiour motives, my constitution broke down by the agitations & fatigues I have undergone in mind & body by ? some call for care & repose. I really think a residence in the climate of Boston during the winter would finish everything with me, & I shall suppose Sir W^m Howe will immediately send me a frigate, whatever he determines for the troops. Being ignorant where Lord Howe is, I do not write to him, but if within your reach I beg you to communicate to him my most sincere respects & pressing request that after receiving Sir William's approbation, he would expedite that measure.

I wish to hear from you if possible. I preserve your Cypher.

In all time & all exigencies believe me my dear General

Your most faithful & most obedient Servant

J. Burgoyne

His Ex^{ty}

S^r H: Clinton &c &c &c

Burgoyne to Clinton

Joseph Pettys

Oct. 26, 1777

That Ed left Genl Burgoyne the 16th of this month & arrived on board General Vaughan's Transport on the 20th ---

That the Genl was under the Necessity of Capitulating with the Rebels, that his provision was gone, that he was surrounded and could not retreat or come forward, that the Army against him were 25,000 Men, that the British Troops were to go to Boston, and the foreigners and Volunteers to Canada, That the British Troops were to go to England if not exchanged by Genl Howe and Genl Washington, the Genl further said it was the most advantageous Capitulation that ever was made, that all he could ask was granted by Genl Gates, This is all the Genl told him to say to S^t H. Clinton - but he says Genl Burgoyne told him further that he lost his provisions and Cannon on the 7th, that he understands the provisions were behind a Height where the Hessians were posted, that they gave way which was the occasion of the Provision being lost, - On his return to Camp on the 16th at three o'Clock in the Morning, with the report that the Fleet were five Miles above Topus, he saw Genl B. write Notes and detach Six Messengers with orders to go to the Fleet in the river to tell S^t H. C. that if he could be at Saratoga by the 22^d they would hold out till then but if those Messengers did not bring answers that S^t H. C. would be there at that time, he must surrender, that he (Joseph Pettys) was to have followed that Evening with the same Message which was the result of a Council of War, but at two o'Clock in the afternoon after a second Council of War he was not with the above Message, That on the 15th of this month he met a rebel Messenger going to Gates with the News that Topus was taken and that the fleet were 5 Miles above with Nine Thousand Men, that Genl Pigot had joined from Rhode Island and that reinforcements had arrived from England --- That he understood from Genl B. that the Convention was of his own proposing and that the Treaty commenced about the 11th instant he informed him of the reports that prevailed in the Country that great reinforcements had arrived from England,

Sir William Howe to Lord George Germain

New York. July 7th 1777.

(Extract)

"I beg leave to observe upon the Order given to Genl Burgoyne for discontinuing the junior Lieut: Colonels as Brigadiers, that it seems only intended to take place when the two Armies absolutely join, which I do not suppose can happen this Campaign, as I apprehended General Burgoyne will find full employment for his Army against that of the Rebels opposed to him. The disagreeable Task of sending an Order for their discontinuing to serve with the Rank of Brigadiers, when under my Command must then remain with me.

I am further to observe to your Lordship that the War is now upon a far different Scale with Respect to the increased Powers & Strength of the Enemy than it was last Campaign, their Officers being much better with the addition of several from the French Service, & a very respectable Train of Field Artillery. An Officer of the 71st Regiment lately arrived from Boston declares he saw 50 pieces of brass Cannon landed there a short time before he came from thence, and the Army in Jersey has had for some time past 40 pieces of brass Ordnance. I must therefore urge the completing the British Regiments here with Drafts & good British Recruits, or we shall soon lose our consequence by the current Casualties of a Campaign exclusive of a general Action.

A Corps of Russians of 10,000 effective fighting Men I think would insure the Success of the War to Great Britain in another Campaign: But if they are not to be had, & we should succeed in the Possession of Pennsylvania the Jerseys and this Province, in the course of the Campaign the Draft of Troops for the preservation of them in the next will be great, at the same time that a considerable Force will be requisite for the Reduction of the Northern Province, wherein three Armies should be employed to make it effectual. In our present State 20 regular Battalions are employed for the security of this Place & Rhode Island exclusive of the Provincials, which last amount to about 3,000 Men.

Being at a loss to furnish Accoutrements for the Provincials, I beg leave to propose 4,000 Sets of tanned Leather Belts with light Pouches to be sent from Europe for them.

Sir Henry Clinton arrived the 5th Instant, and as this Post is of the utmost Importance, he will remain in New York with the command of Twenty two Battalions, disposed according to the inclosed Return. The Instructions I have taken the liberty of leaving with Sir Henry Clinton are to be upon the defensive with Power to act otherwise according to concurrent Circumstances without losing Sight of the principal Object in the Security of this place, which I hope may be approved.

My last Advices from Sir Guy Carleton and Genl Burgoyne were received the 28th of June in Letters from them dated the 14th & 16th of May: They do not contain anything more material than that the Artillery Stores designed for the Northern Service, together with a Reinforcement for that Corps and the Victuallers from Cork had not then arrived, Lieut. General Burgoyne was to proceed the 14th of May for Montreal to expedite Measures for his Operations and to exert every Faculty in his power to carry them into speedy Execution."

Sir William Howe to Lord George Germain

New York 15th July 1777 ---

(Extract)

Various Accounts have been lately brought from the Northern part of this Province in regard to the Army from Canada & I have this day had the Satisfaction to receive a Letter from Lieutenant General Burgoyne with a confirmation of his being before Ticonderoga, a Copy of which your Lordship has inclosed. Intelligence otherwise received leaves no room to doubt his being in Possession, but it does not come from authority so Certain as to justify me in a positive Declaration of the Fact,---

Burgoyne to Howe

Ticonderoga July 29 1777 ---

Sir

I wait only some necessaries of the heavy Artillery which have been retarded by Contrary Winds, upon lake Champlain, to open Batteries upon Ticonderoga.

The Army is in the fullest Powers of Health and Spirit. I have a large Body of Savages and Shall be joined by a larger in a few days. Ticonderoga reduced, I shall leave behind me proper Engineers to put it in an impregnable State; and it will be garrisoned from Canada, where all the destined Supplies are Safely arrived My Force therefore will be left Complete for future operations.

The Enemy do not appear to have the least Suspicion of the King's real instructions relative to the Campaign after the Reduction of Ticonderoga.

I shall implicitly follow the Ideas I communicated to your Excellency in my Letters from Plymouth and Quebec.

I have the honour to be Sir ---

J: Burgoyne.

Burgoyne to Col. Shene

Head Quarters near Fort Edward
August 10th 1777

Sir

I request the favor of you to proceed with Lieut: Col: Baum upon an Expedition of which he has the command, and which will march this evening or tomorrow Morning.

The Objects of his orders are to try the affections of the Country, to disconcert the counsils of the Enemy, to mount the Regiment of Reidesel Dragoons, to compleat Lieut: Col: Peter's Corps, and to procure a large supply of horses for the use of the Troops, together with Cattle and Carriages.

The route marked for this expedition is to Arlington and Manchester; and in case it should be found that the Enemy is not in too great force upon the Connecticut River, it is intended to pass the Mountains to Rockingham and descend the River from thence to Brattlebury.

Some hours before the Corps marches for Arlington Col. Peters with all his Men are to set forward for Bennington and afterwards are to join at Arlington.

Receipts are ordered to be given for all the horses and Cattle taken from the Country.

Lieut: Col: Baum is directed to communicate to you the rest of his Instructions, and to consult with you upon all matters of Intelligence, negotiation with the Inhabitants, roads, and other means depending upon a knowledge of the country for carrying his instructions into execution.

I rely upon your zeal, and activity for the fullest assistance, particularly in having it understood in all the country through which you pass that the Corps of Lieut: Col: Baum is the first Detachment of the advanced guard and that the whole army is proceeding to Boston, expecting to be joined upon the route by the army from Rhode Island.

I need not recommend to you to combine the requisites of the service with every principle of humanity in the mode of obtaining them; and it may be proper to inform the Country that the means to prevent their Cattle and horses being taken for the future will be to resist the Enemy when he shall presume to force them, and drive them Voluntarily to my Camp

I have the Honour to be Sir Your very Obedient
Humble Serv^t
J Burgoyne

To Col: Shene

Germain from Howe

Head of Elk River Maryland
30th August 1777 ---

(Extract)

The Duplicate of your Lordships Dispatches N^o 10, 11 & 12 with an original N^o 13 I had the honour to receive on the 16th instant, by the Eagle Packet. ---

As I have not heard from General Burgoyne since my last Advice to your Lordship I cannot presume to say what credit is to be given to the Successes of the Rebels in that Quarter as mentioned in the Inclosed Newspaper. But as their accounts of Successes are in general much exaggerated, I am hopefull, even should these be true, that he will not be prevented from pursuing the advantages he has already gained with so much honour to himself ---

Howe to Germain

Head of Elk River 30th August 1777 ----

His Majesty's gracious approbation of the conduct of Lieut Colonel Bird & the Troops under the Command at Peek's Kill has been received by them with the most dutiful Respect -----

Your Lordship has been pleased to signify that my Alterations in the plan of this Campaign have been approved by the King, but that His Majesty trusts the operations of this Army, intended for the Recovery of the Province of Pensilvania will be finished in time for me to co-operate with the Northern Army. It is with much concern I am to Answer that I cannot flatter myself I shall be able to Act up to the King's Expectations in this particular, as My progress, independent of opposition from the Enemy's Principal Army, must be greatly impeded by the prevailing Disposition of the Inhabitants who, I am sorry to observe seem to be, excepting a few Individuals, Strongly in Enmity against us many having taken up Arms, and by far the greater Number deserted their Dwellings, driving off at the Same time, their Stock of Cattle and Horses ---

Your Lordship takes notice of my acknowledgement, that the Troops I had last Campaign were Suitable to the operations. They were no doubt adequate to Act against the Rebel Force at New York, having then no conquests to guard: But in the present extended Situation of the King's Southern Army, an additional Strength, and such a one as I had the Honour of proposing, I conceive to have been Necessary for bringing the War to a Conclusion this Campaign, which I have not the Smallest Hope of effecting with my present Force: At the Same time Your Lordship may be assured that no means will be wanting on the part of the Generals & other officers and Soldiers of this Army to obtain so desirable an end. ---

Burgoyne to Germain

Albany Oct^r 20th 1777.

No Possibility of Communication with your Lordship having existed since the Beginning of Sept^r at which time my last Dispatches were sent away, I have to report to Your Lordship the Proceedings of the Army under my Command from that Period. A Series of hard Toil, incessant Effort, stubborn Action, till disabled in the Collateral Branches of the Army by the total Desertion of the Indians. The Desertion or the Timidity of the Canadians & Provincials, some Individuals excepted; disappointed in the last Hope of any timely Co-operation from Other Armies; The Regular Troops reduced by Losses from the best parts, to 3500 fighting Men, not 2000 of which were British; only 3 days Provisions upon short Allowance in Store; Invested by an Army of 16000 Men & no apparent means of Retreat remaining, I called into Council all the Generals, Field Officers and Captains commanding Corps, and by their unanimous Concurrence and Advice I was induced to open a Treaty with M. General Gates.

Your Lordship will see by the Papers transmitted herewith the disagreeable Prospect which attended the first Overtures, & when the terms concluded are compared I trust that the Spirit of the Councils I have mentioned, which under such Circumstances dictated, instead of submitting, will not be refused a Share of Credit.

Before I enter upon the Detail of those Events I think it a Duty of Justice, My Lord, to take upon myself the Measure of having passed the Hudson's River in order to force a Passage to Albany. I did not think myself authorized to call any men into Council when the peremptory Tenor of my Orders, and the Season of the Year admitted no Alternative.

Provisions for about 30 Days having been brought forward, the other Necessary Stores prepared, and the Bridge of Boats completed, the Army passed the Hudson's River on the 13th and 14th of Sept^r & encamped on the Heights, & in the Plain of Saratoga, the Enemy being then in the Neighbourhood of Stillwater.

Howe to Germain

Philadelphia 21st Octo^r 1777.

(Extract)

The inclosed copies of Reports from Lieutenant General Sir Henry Clinton, & Brigadier General Campbell, will give your Lordship a particular information of the most material Transactions that have passed on the Side of New York ---

The very important and brilliant Success Set forth in N^o 5 does infinite Honor ^{to} the Gen^l and his Troops and must be attended with the best consequences to his Majesty's Service ---

The Inclosures N^{os} 5, 6, 7, 8 & 9 have been also transmitted to me by Sir Henry Clinton and am Sorry to observe by them the very Critical Situation of General Burgoyne's Army, he no doubt had Success on the 19th September at the Same time that Action not being decisive would be leaving him a number of Wounded to transport accumulate his difficulties in proceeding to Albany

I have reason to believe he had a Second Action on the 7th Instant in which by the Enemy's Report, they were Successful, but this remains extremely doubtful as they are ever ready to propagate the most direct falsehoods upon every occasion.

Considering the necessity for a Strong Garrison to be left in this place upon the removal of the Army for further operations after the Passage of the River is free I have desired Sir Henry Clinton to Send immediately five Battalions from New York for this Service. There will then remain with him twelve regular & ten Provincial Battalions for defence of New York, and adjacent Posts, in which command I have requested he will continue during the Winter, as I propose to fix my head Quarters at Philadelphia ---

I also desired that the Forts in the High Lands May be demolished, as a proper Communication with New York could not be maintained in the Winter ---

I beg leave to represent to your Lordship that the casualties which have already happened this Campaign, and which may be Still expected to encrease, will require a Supply of 1500 Drafts early in the Spring independant of Recruits raised by the Additional Companies as no essential Service can be expected from the latter in their first Campaign ---

I am also to request that Additional clothing may be sent over for 5,000 Provincials which by including the new levies expected to be raised in this and the neighbouring Provinces, will certainly be wanting

Howe to Germain

Philadelphia 22^d Octo^r. 1777.

My Lord

I am to acknowledge the honour of your Lordship's private Letter of the 4th of August and beg the Acceptance of My assurances that I am fully Sensible of your Lordship's good Intentions towards me.---

Your Lordship is pleased to Mention the Reasons why a Mark of the Royal Favour was not conferred on Lieut. Col. Harcourt. I own I flattered Myself and have every Reason to believe the Officers of this Army in general expected that by the return of the Packet, Lieut. Col. Harcourt would have been honoured with His Majesty's Favour.---

I should not have been so pressing for the Return of the Senior Officers of the Guards, but from the serious Inconveniences of the want of Brigadiers in the Line ---

This Packet has been detained longer than I could have foreseen, from my not having a Safe communication with the Shipping, until the Army reached this place; the variety of occurrences since that Period has prevented my present Dispatches being sooner Sent off --- Your Lordship will permit me to add, I have never neglected sending the earliest advices, that the Service on which I was employed would admit of; yet as my Public Letters must be written with every Degree of Precaution, they have been Sometimes less forward than my Wishes, for their Dispatch ---

The Rebels having reported that Lieutenant General Burgoyne's Army has Surrendered Prisoners of War, will no doubt send such Acc^{ts} to Europe and I mention this Circumstance to your Lordship with my opinion that it is totally false; tho I confess from the Tenor of Gen^l Burgoyne's Letters and Messages to Sir H. Clinton I apprehend the Account the Enemy has published of his Retreat to be true ---

I was Surprised to find the General's Declaration in his Message to Sir H. Clinton by Captain Campbell, that he would not have given up his Communications with Ticonderoga had he not expected a Co-operating Army at Albany. Since in my Letter to Sir Guy Carleton, a copy of which was transmitted to Your Lordship in My Dispatch of 2^d April 1777 N^o 47, and of which His Majesty was pleased to approve, I positively mentioned that no direct assistance could be given by the Southern Army. This Letter I am assured was received by Sir Guy Carleton and carried by him to Montreal before Gen^l Burgoyne's Departure from thence. ---

There being no Prospect of terminating the War to the advantage of Great Britain without Another Campaign and not then, unless ample Succours are Sent from Europe, I am persuaded (leaving Smaller objects out of the Scale and attending only to those of real Magnitude) that I do not exceed when I rate the number requisite to obtain this

desirable and at Ten thousand men exclusive of the Drafts and Recruits for the British Regiments as mentioned in My Dispatch N^o 69 and independent of the Northern Troops. For the armies in New England must be very powerful and the Force to Act against the Southern Provinces to effect cannot be less than Fifteen thousand men besides the Strength necessary for the Defense of this Place and of New York. When your Lordship is pleased to take these opinions into consideration I flatter myself you will find them just ---

I must now beg leave to add a few Words relative to my own Situation in the important Trust I have had the honour to hold and in the discharge of which I can confidently affirm that my sole view has been invariably confined to the advancement of His Majesty's Interests ---

From the little attention My Lord given to My Recommendations since the commencement of My Command, I am led to hope I may be relieved from this very painful Service, wherein I have not the good fortune to enjoy the necessary confidence and Support of my Superiors, but which I conclude will be extended to Sir H. Clinton, my presumptive Successor or to such other Servant as the King may be pleased to appoint --- By the return therefore of the Packet I humbly request I may receive His Majesty's Permission to resign the command.

I am My Lord &c.

(Signed) W^m Howe

Germain to Howe

Whitehall 11th Dec^r 1777.

Sir,

I am to acquaint you that I had the Honor of laying before the King your separate Letter of the 22^d October, wherein you desire His Majesty's Permission to quit your Command.

His Majesty received your Request with Concern. But as the Particulars of Lieutenant General Burgoyne's Situation are still unknown, and your own Campaign is not finished I am not authorized at present to signify His Majesty's Commands upon that Subject. I beg leave however to assure you that there will not be any avoidable delay in coming to a Decision upon it, as well as upon the several parts of your Dispatches and on the Plan of Operations for the future Conduct of the War, and That Decision shall be transmitted to you as soon as possible.

I am &c.

Geo: Germain.

Hon^{ble} Sir William Howe.

Germain to Howe

Whitehall 11th December 1777 ---

Sir

It having been thought improper to detain the Packet, it is determined that She Shall Sail with the first fair wind ---

I am by the circumstance of her Sudden departure, prevented from returning a methodical and circumstantial answer to the Several Letters with which you favoured me from the head of Elk from Head Quarters, German Town of Philadelphia ---

I cannot however permit the Vessel to be Sent off without acknowledging the receipt of the above Dispatches & congratulating you upon the Signal Successes which have attended the Army under your Command since the debarkation at Elk Ferry; and I shall only remark that while you so justly contend, that those Successes are undoubted vouchers of the good conduct of the General officers and of the bravery of the Soldiers you ought not by any means to decline the commendations to which you yourself have evidently an indispensable claim from the judgement, order & Military Skill which you exhibited on the March and in the Several Engagements.

And I have the pleasure of being commanded to inform you that His Majesty is duly Sensible of the large Share of praise to which you are entitled on those Accounts.---

Whether I consider the advantages that were proposed to be derived from the Progress and Successfull operations of the Canada Army or the effect which our Disappointment will have on the minds of the Rebels, I cannot but feel the most poignant concern & Mortification at the Strong & I fear too well grounded reports of the misfortune which has happened to Lieutenant General Burgoyne & his Army. Should these Reports prove true in their full extent, so heavy a misfortune will be deeply felt by His Majesty & the whole Nation; and a Material alteration in the Plan of Carrying on the War must necessarily take place. But untill the effect of your operations this Campaign is fully known, it is impossible for His Majesty to come to any determination, or to Send you any particular Instructions. ---

Your Zeal for His Majesty's Service; will have already excited you to endeavour to obviate the inconveniencies which may result from the failure of that Expedition --- And as your Wisdom must have immediately discovered the Necessity of a particular attention being paid to the Island of New York & Rhode Island, His Majesty trusts that their preservation will be effectually consulted by you. ---

The attack at Red Bank reflects the greatest Credit on the officers and Soldiers. The death of men who behaved so Gallantly is a loss ever to be lamented, & it is to be hoped that the Survivors

have Since had the Satisfaction of seeing their courage and Ardour rewarded with the deserved Success. ---

Sir Henry Clinton's Conduct in the Expedition up the North River, does him the greatest honour. The Plan was most judicious and it was executed with equal ability The officers and Troops merit the greatest commendations, and I have the pleasure to acquaint you that His Majesty highly approves the Spirit and Vigor with which they affected that very difficult and important Service. It is only to be lamented that Sir Henry Clinton was not earlier in a condition to undertake an enterprise, the Success of which must have been of the most Signal advantage to General Burgoyne's operations.

The King has been pleased to express His Approbation of Major General Vaughan's Conduct & it is a Very Sincere happiness to me to be able to assure you, that His Majesty is perfectly Satisfied with the Services which have been rendered him on the Several occasions mentioned in your late Dispatch by the officers & Men British, Foreign, & Provincial.

I am &c

Geo Germain