

cellency or army, it must arise, not from your Excellency's orders, which have been so often disregarded, but from some wonderful conversion, some sudden change of the tempers and dispositions of your soldiers, since they were driven from the Jerseys; but the conduct of some of them, even while your "strictest orders," must have been yet ringing in their ears, hath completed our conviction, and dispelled every remainder of doubt, when an unhappy woman, of unblemished character, notwithstanding her cries, her prayers, and resistance, was compelled by one of those monsters, whom your Excellency hath the honour to command, to become the unhappy instrument to gratify his impetuous lust, in the presence of numbers of his fellow barbarians, while Heaven looked down on the detested scene, and only restrained its vengeance that by delaying the stroke it might fall with redoubled weight!

Happy foretaste of that security and protection which your Excellency tells us is extended to all the inhabitants!

A memorable instance of the regularity and good discipline, for the preservation of which your Excellency hath given the "strictest orders"! Henceforth let us give to the wind all our fears and apprehensions, for surely they are groundless! Your Excellency hath said it,—the above event confirms the truth of your assertion!

But perhaps this unfortunate woman was not one of his "Majesty's well disposed subjects," and, upon a review of your Excellency's declaration, we observe it is only their property and persons you have made criminal to plunder or molest. A distinction, we are very apprehensive, which of itself would render your order nugatory, and prevent every good effect of it, if in reality it was designed to have any. Since it will be of no service to us whether we approved or disapproved the opposition adopted in America, whenever your soldiers shall have an inclination to our houses for shelter, our flocks and herds for food, or our wives, daughters, or sisters, for the gratification of their lust, they will have no more to do than to determine that we, this or that one of us, as the case may be, are not in the number of "his Majesty's well disposed subjects," and immediately all that we have becomes their rightful prey, and that with your Excellency's full approbation. And we are not yet to learn how impossible it will be for an impartial investigation of the political merit or demerit of individuals to take place, when the party himself, spurred on with passion and appetite, is at once accuser, witness, judge, and executioner.

[The remainder in our next.]

LANCASTER, in PENNSYLVANIA.

Fresh and important intelligence, just arrived from the northern army. Published by order of a number of the members of Congress now in Town.

Kingston, Tuesday 9 o'clock A. M. 23d of September.

Last night arrived here an express with the following important intelligence from the Secretary of the committee of Albany, by letters of which the following are copies, viz.

Camp 4 miles above Stillwater, Sept. 20, 1777.

DEAR SIR,

GENERAL Gates being extremely hurried, has desired me to answer your letter of this day. The committee have his hearty thanks for their attention paid to the wounded. The waggons they have sent on will meet them at Stillwater, to which place they have been sent in boats. The General is sensible that the committee will afford the Director General, Mr. Potts, every assistance in their power, whose care and attention to those unfortunate brave men deserves the highest credit.

Being yesterday morning informed by our reconnoitring parties that the enemy had struck their camp, and were advancing towards our left, the General detached Col. Morgan's light corps to examine their direction, and harass their advance. This party, at half past 12, fell in with a picket of the enemy, which they immediately drove, and after a brisk fire were beat back by a strong reinforcement. This skirmish drew a regiment from our camp, and the main body of the enemy, to support the action, which after a short cessation renewed with redoubled ardour, and continued incessant till the close of the day, when our men retired to camp, and the enemy a small distance in rear of the field. The succour which we occasionally detached amount to nine regiments. I have not yet obtained a return, but have reason to believe our killed does not exceed 80, and that the missing and wounded do not amount to 200. The concurrent testimony of prisoners and deserters, of various characters, assures us that General Burgoyne, who commanded in person, was wounded in the left shoulder; that the 62d regiment was cut to pieces; and that the enemy suffered extremely in every quarter where they were engaged. As General Burgoyne's situation will shortly constrain him to a decisive action, reinforcements should be immediately pushed forward to our assistance, as our numbers are far from being equal to an assurance of victory, and every bosom must anticipate the consequence of a defeat. The enemy have quietly licked their fores this day.

The news of taking Ticonderoga is corroborated by several prisoners, and as an attack was designed on that post, I am inclined to believe it.

I am, dear Sir, &c.

JAMES WILKINSON.

ALBANY, Sept. 21, 1777, 7 o'clock A. M.

DEAR SIR,

I WAS last night favoured with a letter from the Adjutant General, of which that on the other side is a copy. Just now Dr. Potts arrived, who informs that our loss differs very little from what is mentioned in that letter, and that the loss of the enemy in killed and wounded, &c. exceeds 1000.

That General Burgoyne is wounded is verily believed at our camp, from not only the testimony of prisoners and deserters, but from one of our rifle men, who informs, that seeing three officers coming on, and that the middle one seemed to have the command, he watched him, and after some time had a fair opportunity; that immediately after the fire he saw him clasp his hands, and was carried off by two officers.

Potts farther informs, that it is believed at our camp we are in possession of Ticonderoga, and that such spirits never prevailed in an army as does in ours. Wounded soldiers, when dressed, up with their pieces, and at it again.

We had some brave officers killed, such as Colonels Coburn and Adams, and some others. Major Fisch of Cortlandt's has a slight wound, and some other brave officers have been wounded.

Where General Lincoln is seems to be kept a secret, but it is universally believed he is at Fort Edward, and now on his march downwards. I intend this shall go with Major Troup, who will doubtless give you a better information than this.

I was just now told that a man had arrived from our camp, who confirms the account of Ticonderoga's being in our possession, and that three cannon were fired in our camp, as a demonstration of joy. How true this is, I know not. Have not seen the man, as I was busy writing this when I received the information.

Your's sincerely,

MAT. VISSCHER.

ALBANY, Sept. 22, 1777, 7 o'clock A. M.

DEAR SIR,

I ENCLOSE you a copy of a letter which we have this moment received by express from Col. Hay, and most sincerely congratulate you on the important intelligence it contains.

It is supposed that the enemy's army will endeavour to retake Ticonderoga. Thirty seven British prisoners arrived last night. Burgoyne's being wounded gains credit every moment. It may very probably be that General Lincoln will give them a drubbing before he reaches the lake. I am your's sincerely,

Mr. YATES.

MAT. VISSCHER.

SIR,

Camp above Stillwater, Sept. 22, 1777.

THE General intreats you will use every endeavour possible to forward immediately a number of waggons, as we have this moment an account of the enemy's retreating. This matter must be pushed in the strongest manner possible, as much of our success must depend upon our troops being light.

I most sincerely congratulate you on the success of our arms at Ticonderoga, and am most respectfully, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

JOHN BARCLAY, Esq.

UDNEY HAY.

DEAR SIR,

ALBANY, Sept. 21, 1777.

SINCE writing mine of this day's date, I have seen Capt. Jacob J. Lansingh, assistant deputy muster master, just arrived from camp, who informs, that just when he was coming away an express arrived from General Lincoln to General Gates, informing that our troops were in possession of Ticonderoga, and had taken 293 British prisoners, 100 of ours retaken, 200 batteaus, 18 gun boats, 1 armed schooner, and that upon its arriving at our camp 13 pieces of cannon were fired.

I congratulate you upon the occasion, and remain

Your's sincerely,

MATT. VISSCHER.

KINGSTON, Tuesday noon.

BY another express just arrived we have the following farther particulars, by which it appears, that though Ticonderoga was not in our hands at the time we supposed, it probably is by this time, or will be very soon, though we have reason to think that Burgoyne's desperate situation will stimulate him to the utmost exertions.

DEAR SIR,

Monday morning, 6 o'clock.

BY a number of scouts who have this morning come in from reconnoitring, I am convinced the enemy mean very speedily to renew the attack. Albany, not Ticonderoga, is undoubtedly General Burgoyne's object; therefore provide for the worst, and suffer not the least delay in marching the militia to this camp. Enclosed I send you a copy of the good news received yesterday, from Col. Brown. I am, Sir, your most obedient humble servt.

HORATIO GATES.