

# CALENDAR OF THE MILITARY PAPERS OF PETER GANSEVOORT, [SENIOR]

July 4, 1754 through December 31, 1780

## NEW YORK STATE ARCHIVES SERIES AO131

3. On July 5, 1754 **Hendrick Peterson, William Darious, Nickus Jacob, Paulus Peterson, Johannes Jacob, Henry Rett** of the Canajoharie Indians promised to sell to **Teady Magin** and **Goldsborrow Banyar** for 180 Spanish Dollars all those lands bordered on the south by the patent granted to — **[George] Klock** and **William Nellis** and extending outward for seven miles between the banks of the Caroga and Canada Creeks. The promissory note was witnessed by **George Klock** and **John Christopher Hartwick**. On June 26, 1763 **Hendrick Rott, Oren a vi yoh** and **Nicholas Brant**<sup>(1)</sup> acknowledged receiving 200 Spanish Dollars from **Sarah Magin**; the transaction was witnessed by **Harm** and **Magdalena Gansevoort**.

4. Albany, New York March 8, 1767. Receipt from **Gerard DePeyster** to **Harme Gansevoort** for 330 to be delivered by DePeyster to **Philip Schuyler** in payment for a debt owed by Harme Gansevoort. **Philip Schuyler** acknowledges receipt of the payment on March 16, 1767.

4. Albany, New York July 3, 1767. A receipt signed by **W. V. Wemple** on the behalf of **A. C. [Abraham Cuyler]** in payment for military equipage purchased by **Peter Gansevoort**.

5. Albany, New York June 8, 1771. A declaration by **Abraham C. Cuyler, Mayor of the City Albany, New York** concerning the sale of Indian Slaves by the Pawnee Indians. Cuyler declares all such transactions to be legal and binding.

6. Schenectady, New York on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of 1771. Affidavit of **Abraham Fonda** sworn before **Alderman and Justice of the Peace Andrew Gautier, Esquire** stating that Fonda, **[—] Van Eps**, and **Jacobus Van Antwerp** on July 9<sup>th</sup>, 1750 purchased a nine year old Ottawa Indian boy named **Nassamo** from the Pawnee Indians for £30. Fonda states they have since sold the said Nassamo to **Harme Gansevoort** of Albany, New York. He also states he has often seen the boy since and that boy is now known as **Jan** or **John** and that he last seen the boy at the Bridewell in New York City.

7. New York City, New York August 15, 1773. A pass given to **Barent I. Ten Eyck** as the bearer of official papers to Quebec with a request for all possible assistance to be given to him and signed by **Frank Hutchinson** by order of **Frederick Haldimand Esquire, Major General & Commander of Chief of all His Majesty's Forces in America &c.**

8. [Chotta, Tennessee ca. May 1775]. A speech given by a Southern Indian Sachem stating he is

sending a belt to both **General** [Frederick] **Haldimand** at New York and to **Sir William Johnson** [sic] requesting Sir William to keep his Indians at home. This chief also states he is ready to send **Attakullakulla** and five Indian deputies to the **Six Nations** [with whom they are apparently at war], by way of Sir William Johnson's home. The Chief also requests that **Kanajawana** release **Chapman's girl**.<sup>(2)</sup>

9. Broad Street, New York City, New York Tuesday April 25, 1775. **Guy Johnson** to an unknown correspondent stating his, Guy's, ship has ran aground in the Hudson River. He states that there was a riot involving **King Sears** and his party in which **Major** [Henry?] **Hamilton** of the Royal Irish received an ugly knock. Guy requests that Colonel [John] **Butler** be informed that **Mister** [ ] **Low** has given up on matters in Tryon County. He states the riot in New York City was occasioned by **Isaac Sears, the meanest people of the city**, children, and the **Negroes**; and that upon hearing of the [Boston Massacre], they seized 500 stands of arms and attempted to stop a troop transport. Johnson states that he and about 84 other gentlemen celebrated Saint George's Day on the 24th of April and that a mob of about 400 to 500 hecklers were convened outside their quarters. He states he has received many compliments on his keeping the resolves of Tryon County steady. Johnson reports that he received a packet on the 24th containing a dispatch from the Secretary of State's Office approving his actions and issuing him new instructions. Guy reports he has also received a dispatch from **Mister** [ ] **Phyte** and **Lord** [**William Legge, 2<sup>nd</sup>**] **Darthmore** concerning the Indian Department. Guy states that **Rivington's House** was attacked by a mob on Wednesday the 26th of April and that . . . *16 or 1700 Regulars marched & destroyed the Magazines at Concord, and on their way back were attacked by the N. Englanders who at last mounted to 25000 & obliged the Regulars to retire and that Lord Percy, General* [Frederick] *Haldimand, & Major* [ ] *Small were among the killed, but we since find the Regulars are got back safe to Boston. . . .* Guy requests that his letter be shared with **Colonel** [John] **Butler** and **Captain** [ ] **Chew**.

11. Albany, New York June 12, 1775. **Peter Gansevoort** to **The Albany Committee of Safety** requesting that Merchantman **Dirck Ten Broeck** be ordered to provide arms to a company which had just been raised.

12. Albany, New York June 2, 1775. **Peter Gansevoort Junior** to **his uncle** [—] in New York, New York stating that he would be interested in obtaining a commission for himself.

12. Ontario, Canada July 8, 1775. **Guy Johnson**<sup>(3)</sup> to an unknown correspondent stating that he had attended a meeting of rebellion conducted between a **Mister** [—] **Belletaire** and an itinerant New England leather dresser. He states he was informed today that **the Mayor of Albany** who had been lodging at **Mister** [—] **Thompson's** above the German Flatts, was questioned as to his feelings concerning the rebellion by *one Herkemman and 15 others*. Johnson complains of a missionary who has forfeited the Honour which he had pledged to Johnson and continues to be quite active with the Indians. He also states he plans to visit the various tribes in the area throughout the season.

15. [ ] July 22, 1775. [Doctor] **B.[enjamin] Church** [Junior] to **Major** [—] **Kane** stating that he returned from Philadelphia about a month ago and had tried to send Kane word three times without success, the last post being taken. Dr. Church speaks of the fortification of Bunker Hill by the Boston's rebels and complains of the cowardice of Colonel [Samuel] **Gerish** and **Colonel** [—]. He states the British suffered the loss of 165 men killed and 120 wounded at Bunker Hill while the Rebels themselves brag of the killing and wounding of 1400. He notes the citizens of Connecticut and New Jersey are raving with a desire for liberty and that the citizens of Philadelphia are even more zealous. Benjamin states he saw **General** [Charles] **Lee** reviewing 1000 riflemen and 40 horsemen in Philadelphia and that Lee's force included *Quakers*. He notes the *Rebel Army* is becoming formidable. Church states he mingles freely with the members of the Continental Congress and that they are *united and determined with a person & assured of Success*. Church notes the Boston Militia approaches the strength 10,000 men. Church warns that if Spain should declare war on Britain, the colonies will remain neutral. Church notes he plans to go on to Cyphers by the way of Newport and that he can thereby be reached through **Thomas Richards**; though he states this must be done through the method of making him, Church, sound as a stranger who is being recommended to Richards as a gentleman of honor and to insure that he signs any such correspondence with a factious name. Church informs Kane his, Benjamin Church's; life would be endangered if he were to be discovered.

18. Albany, New York August 19, 1775. **Colonel Goose Van Schaick** to **Major Peter Gansevoort** ordering Gansevoort to take the four companies which are at Patrons Mill immediately to Half Moon and from there to dispatch a letter to **General** [Philip] **Schuyler** at Ticonderago informing him of the number of men under his command and when he anticipates arriving at Skeensborough. He is also expected to escort the baggage and equipage from Fort Edward to Fort George.

18. Saratoga, New York August 19, 1775. **General Philip Schuyler**<sup>(4)</sup> to **Peter Gansevoort** stating he has heard Gansevoort is marching from Albany to Skeensborough. Schuyler states Gansevoort's baggage will be sent by way of Fort George.

19. [—] [—] [circa August 1775]. [—] [—], **James Turner** and **James Imson** return to the King's Service and beg for forgiveness.

20. Albany, New York August 31, 1775. **Colonel Goosen Van Schaick** to **Major Peter Gansevoort** of the Second New York Regiment stating that **Mister Bredword William** has been recommended by the Delegates of the Provincial Congress as a Regimental Surgeon's Mate.

21. Albany, New York September 8, 1775. **John Ten Broeck** to **Major Peter Gansevoort** by way of the Second New York Regiment's Quarter Master **Henry Van Woert** stating he, as well **John A. Lansingh**, would appreciate it if Peter would write.

22. Montreal, Quebec, Canada November 23, 1775. **John Visscher** and **Jno. Graham** stating they have purchased from **John Tayler** fifty-one pairs of buckskin breeches for which **Major** [Peter] **Gansevoort** has given a certificate to **General** [Richard] **Montgomery**.

22. [ ] [ ] [circa November and December, 1775]. A record of the account of **Major Peter Gansevoort** with **John Mittleberger**; and also Peter Gansevoort's account with **Garret Hyer**. Included in Peter's account are a regimental uniform, his being dressed, and shaved.

23. Fort Chambley, [ ] December 7, 1775. **Lieutenant Cornelius Van Slyck** and **Lieutenant Andrew Finck** Junior stating that **Captains** [Cornelius] **Van Dyck** and [Christopher P.?] **Yates** have retired from the post with the permission of the general and that the men of the regiment are restless and need relief. The lieutenants relate a fear the men manning the post will desert it. Van Slyck and Fink, however, believe a few of the officers may be willing to remain at the fort.

24. Montreal, Quebec, Canada November 23, 1775. **Peter Gansevoort** to Albany Merchant **John G. Van Schaick** with news that **General Montgomery** is storming the City of Quebec and has sent for **General Guy** Carleton's surrender and been denied. Gansevoort also extends his greetings to **Miss Annatie Van Schaick**.

25. In Congress January 4, 1776. A memorandum written by **Secretary Chas. Thomson** stating the seniority of the officers of the same rank in the Continental Line shall established by the order in which their names are recorded in the Journals of Congress.

25. In Congress January 4, 1776. A memorandum written by **Secretary Chas. Thomson** stating the seniority of the officers of the same rank in the Continental Line shall established by the order in which they were commissioned prior to the convening of the Continental Congress, if so applicable.

26. In Congress March 8th, 1776. A memorandum written by **Secretary Chas. Thomson** stating that **Henry B. Livingston** has been elected as lieutenant colonel of the Second New York Regiment and shall hold seniority over **Lieutenant Colonel Frederick Weissenfelt** and **Lieutenant Colonel Pierre Van Cortlandt** who were also appointed on the same day.

26. Mount Pleasant, [ ] February 21, 1776. Poem written by [**Margaret McPherson** in mourning the death of her older brother **Major John McPherson** who was killed in the storming of Quebec on January 1, 1776].<sup>(6)</sup>

28. In Provincial Congress New York February 18, 1776. Orders from **Congressional President Nathaniel Woodhull**<sup>(6)</sup> to the **Albany Committee of Safety** ordering them to raise five companies of men to serve in the four New York Regiments. Each man is to furnish himself with a good gun and bayonet, a tomahawk, a knapsack or haversack, and two bills. Those men who

are enlisted without the aforesaid equipage are to be supplied at the public expense and the cost is to then be deducted from the said soldier's pay over the period of his service.

29. Head Quarters before Quebec February 22, 1776. **Peter Gansevoort** to his brother **Leonard Gansevoort** by way of **Colonel [—] Dugan** stating he has often written **his father, brother Leonard, Colonel Goosen Van Schaick, his brother Ten Broeck Gansevoort, Jno. G Van Schaick,** and **H. V. Veghten** since the 20th of November, 1775. Peter also states he sent a letter to the Continental Congress by way of a **Mister [—] Antill** concerning events at Quebec. Peter refers Leonard to a [—] Dugan for news on their activities. Gansevoort also sends his brother 23 dollars which he took from one **Dannels** in order to prevent him from squandering it and requests that Leonard give the funds to **Misses [—] Dannels** and obtain a receipt for it.

30. Head Quarters Ticonderago, New York February 26, 1776. **Deputy Adjutant General J. Trumbull** to **Lieutenant Colonel Peter Gansevoort**, informing him that **Mister [—] Sheperd** the storekeeper at Fort George is to be replaced by **Mister [—] Egberts**. Egberts is said to be carrying a letter of introduction from **Major General Philip Schuyler**

30. Albany, New York April 4, 1776. **Major General Philip Schuyler** to the **Committee of the City and County of Albany** concerning the news of hostile intentions on the part of the Indian Nations. Several affidavits and a letter from **Colonel [Peter] Bellinger** and the **Tryon County Committee of Safety** are also enclosed. Schuyler requests that **General [Petrus] Ten Broeck** come to Albany and that special precautions be to prevent a surprise.

31. Fort George, New York May 13, 1776. **Major General Philip Schuyler** to the **Sub-Committee of the City and County of Albany** stating that some ships of war had appeared at Quebec on the 4th of May and that the Rebel Siege of the city was lifted. Schuyler states the rebels have lost 200 men who were too sick to move and a few scattered parties. The Rebels are also said to have lost some of their cannon and most of their provisions.

31. Albany, New York May 25th, 1776. A receipt signed by **Lieutenant Michael Ryan** and given to **Lieutenant Colonel Peter Gansevoort** for 30£ 8 shillings to be used by **Captain [—] Edmunston's** Company of **Colonel Goosen Van Schaick's** Regiment.

32. Fort George, New York June 3, 1776. **Major General Philip Schuyler** to **Lieutenant Colonel Peter Gansevoort** at Fort George instructing him to send on any troops destined for Canada; and to load thirty men on each batteau. Peter is also instructed to send any small cannon he might have to **Colonel [Cornelius D.] Wynkoop** for his use on the Lake Champlain boats. Schuyler also instructs that the supply batteaus are to have eight oars and are to carry twelve barrels of provisions each. The General orders each batteamen to carry enough victuals for twelve days. Any expresses received from **General George Washington** or the **Continental Congress** are to be forwarded to the major general immediately by the way of Skeensborough.

32. Ticonderago, New York June 4, 1776. **Major Eleazer Curtis** to **Lieutenant Colonel Peter Gansevoort** stating he has sent **Mister** [—] **Gardner** of **Captain** [Daniel] **Mills'** Company to teach the drummers and fifes how to play. He also relates that he has decided not to send **Mister** [—] **Marrow**, the other drummer as he would not meet the expectations of the lieutenant colonel.

33. Ticonderago, New York June 4, 1776. **Philip Cortlandt**<sup>(7)</sup> to **Peter Gansevoort** informing Peter that chain is being sent to Fort George; however, no shells are available. Philip also requests that his baggage be forwarded to him at Ticonderago.

33. Fort George, New York June 8, 1776. Receipt signed by **Stephen McCrea** and given to **Peter Gansevoort** for £15, the cost of a sulky purchased by Peter.

34. Isle a Mott, [—] [—] September 9, [1776]. **Stephen McCrea** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating **Doctor** [—] **Brown** complains about the quality of a horse that Brown had purchased from McCrea. McCrea desires his letter be forwarded on to **Peter's cousin, Leonard**.

34. The Sloop Enterprise at Isle a Mott, [—] [—] September 14, [1776]. **Stephen McCrea** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that **Doctor** [W. V.] **Wemple** had received a letter from **Colonel** [Cornelius] **Van Dyck** stating that he, Van Dyck, had told **Doctor** [—] **Brown** he knew the said horse to be at least ten or eleven years old.

35. Albany, New York June 9, 1776. **Colonel Goosen Van Schaick** to **Peter Gansevoort** informing Peter he has spoken with **General Philip Schuyler** about the linen requested. He also notes that **Captain** [Joseph] **McCracken** and **Doctor** [—] **Bud** have left today. Goosen notes that **Mister** [—] **Van Woert** will be leaving soon. His letter is said to contain a list of the names of the Tories who are confined in the jail at the fort by order of the committee.

35. Fort George, New York June 9, 1776. **General Philip Schuyler** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating he has urgent business in Albany and that Gansevoort is to assume the command. Schuyler issues instruction that any clothing destined for Canada be sent forward immediately upon its arrival and before the shipment of the 700 barrels of pork, beef, and flour destined to the Northern Troops. He also orders that no new boats be built after Thursday next, and that on Friday the boats, already built, are to leave for **Cheshire's** near Fort Ann. **Mister** [Christopher?] **Yates the Wagon Master** is to provide the carpenters with any carriages they might need. At Cheshire's the carpenters are to cut lumber for a sawmill which is to be constructed from instructions which Schuyler will transmit later. Philip also orders that any letters received from Canada are to be forwarded to him immediately, enough though he may be in Tryon County when they arrive. All of the working cattle at Fort George are to also be sent to Cheshire's. Lastly, Schuyler orders that two of the carpenters from [—] **Hilton's Company** and two of the wheelwright's from [—] **Van Der Bogert's Company** remain at Fort George.

35. Saratoga, New York June 10, 1776. **Major General Philip Schuyler's** general orders issued by the hand of **Aide-de-Camp Henry B. Livingston**<sup>(8)</sup> stating the general has received word that **General** [John] **Sullivan** has clothed the prisoners of **Majors** [—] **Sherburne** and [—] **Butterfield's** commands and that they have been released. The General orders that any of the above men still remaining at either Fort George or Ticonderago be sent on to Saint John's by request of General Sullivan.

37. [ ], [New York] [circa June, 1776]. **Lieutenant Philip Conine** to **Lieutenant Colonel Peter Gansevoort** stating he is glad to hear from **Captain** [Thomas] **Hicks** he, Conine, is being transferred to another company as he sees his present company as quite unmilitary. Philip requests Gansevoort to speak with **Colonel Cornelius D. Wynkoop** concerning the company he is leaving. Conine also states he has heard he is being transferred to St. Johns, but will resign from the service before serving there.

37. Albany, New York June 12, 1776. **Major General Philip Schuyler** to **Lieutenant Colonel Peter Gansevoort** stating **Sir John Johnson** and his party are believed to be close to starvation and it is feared they may make an attempt on one of the posts for victuals. He also orders Gansevoort to open any expresses addressed to him and to send on this order to **Lieutenant Colonel Cornelius D. Wynkoop** and **Assistant Quarter Master General Captain** [—] **Douw**. Peter is also ordered to send down three casks of nails, one each of 22d, 20d, and 10d.

38. Head Quarters Albany, New York June 12, 1776. **General Richard Varick, Secretary** orders that all batteaus, with the exception of twenty on the south end of Lake George be immediately sent to the north end of the lake where **Assistant Quarter Master General Captain Douw** will have them immediately carried to Ticonderago. He also orders that all of the boats at the saw mills be brought to Ticonderago for use either in bringing troops from Skeensborough to Ticonderago or going to St. Johns.

38. Albany, New York June 12, 1776. [—] [—] to **Lieutenant Colonel Peter Gansevoort** stating he is disheartened by the news of the many desertions he has received from the hand of **Mister** [—] **Lansing**. He thus orders Gansevoort to make weekly returns and to send any deserters captured directly to **General Sullivan** in irons unless they belong to either Gansevoort's or **Colonel Cornelius D. Wynkoop's** Regiments. Orders are also given to mount the six pound cannon.

40. Ticonderago, New York June 19, 1776. **Lieutenant Colonel Cornelius D. Wynkoop** to **Lieutenant Colonel Peter Gansevoort** stating that Indians have been detected about the post. Cornelius requests reinforcements be sent as only 100 men are present.

40. Albany, New York June 20, 1776. **John Lansing Junior**<sup>(9)</sup> to **Lieutenant Colonel Peter Gansevoort** stating he has made it safely with the sulky and has found **General** [Schuyler] sick in bed from the *Ague*. Lansing states the general sees no danger of an attack, but orders five

carriages to be sent from Ticonderago to Lake George by **Lieutenant Colonel Cornelius D. Wynkoop**. Gansevoort is to mount the six pound guns and to bring any musket balls which are in storage, into the fort. Several barrels of water also are ordered to be kept inside the fort in case of a siege. Lansing states Gansevoort's garrison is to be relieved soon by drafts. One ton of gun powder is also said to be en route to LakeGeorge and of which half is to be sent on to Ticonderago.<sup>(10)</sup>

42. Headquarters Albany, New York June 21, 1776. **Secretary Richard Varick** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that he has been ordered by **General Schuyler** to send Peter £2,400 in New York Currency which is in turn to be forwarded to **Lieutenant Colonel Cornelius D. Wynkoop** or to officer commanding at Ticonderago. He also states he is sending a quantity of powder of which Gansevoort is to keep one thousand pounds and then to forward the remainder to Ticonderago. Schuyler issues orders for no batteaus to be landed on the west side of the Lake George in hopes of preventing an attack on the supplies.

43. Ticonderago, New York June 21, 1776. **Lieutenant Colonel Cornelius D. Wynkoop** to **Colonel Peter Gansevoort** asking that Gansevoort send him reinforcements as all of his men have been ordered to St. Johns to aid in the Rebel Army's retreat. Cornelius also requests that his letter be forwarded to the General [—] immediately upon its arrival.

44. Albany, New York June 21, 1776. **Philip Van Rensselaer** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that **Captain [ ] Vosburg** is en route to Fort George with 3150 pounds of gun powder of which Gansevoort is to keep 1000 pounds and then forward the remainder to Ticonderago where another 1000 pounds is to be kept, the remainder is then to be sent forward to Canada as quickly as possible.

45. Albany, New York June 22, 1776. **John Lansing Junior** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that **General Schuyler** desires that two barrels of peas and two barrels of rum be forwarded to **Assistant Deputy Quarter Master Harmanus Schuyler Esquire** for the use of the carpenters at Skeensborough. The supplies are to be sent by the way of Ticonderago.

44. Cheshers, Wood Creek, [New York] June 22, 1776. **Assistant Deputy Quarter Master Christopher P. Yates**<sup>(11)</sup> to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that **General Schuyler** has ordered him to supply their post. Yates sends a request, by the hand of **Mister [—]] Bradshaw**, for two barrels of rum, six barrels of Indian corn, and 50 fathoms of rope. Yates states that he will request the needed provisions from Fort Edward.

45. Cheshers, Wood Creek, [New York] June 22, 1776. **Assistant Deputy Quarter Master Christopher Yates** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that he is sending a deserter from the New Jersey Regiment back under the guard of two his carpenters (a master and a smith). Yates states the deserter sold his arms to a **Stephen Leonard** four miles below Chesers and that the deserter stated that there were four or five other deserters near Skeensborough; Christopher entertains



hopes of capturing them all. Yates states he has received the supplies he requested from Fort George and that **Mister [—] Lamb**, the commissary at Fort Edward has sent him three barrels of lamb. Yates also requests that the irons he needs for the saw mill be made by the blacksmiths at Fort George.

46. Albany, New York June 22, 1776. **Secretary Richard Varick** to **Peter Gansevoort** requesting that Gansevoort assign the receipt he had earlier requested to **Captain [—] Vosburg** versus **General Schuyler**.

46. Ticonderago, New York June 22, 1776. **Jno. H. Wendell** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that Benedict Arnold has arrived from Saint Johns with news that **Hospital Doctor [ ] Stringer** has moved the sick from Saint Johns to Crown Point. Peter is ordered to send this express on to **Lieutenant Colonel Cornelius D. Wynkoop**.

46. Albany, New York June 22, 1776. **Secretary Richard Varick** to **Lieutenant Colonel Peter Gansevoort** ordering Peter to send on this express, relaying the orders of **Major General Schuyler**, (by night or day) to Lieutenant Colonel Cornelius D. Wynkoop.

47. Ticonderago, New York June 25, 1776. **John H. Wendell** by order of **Lieutenant Colonel Cornelius D. Wynkoop** to **Lieutenant Colonel Peter Gansevoort** relaying a request from **General Sullivan** at Isle aux Noix<sup>(12)</sup> for **Major General Schuyler** to forward as many batteaus as possible to Crown Point. Wynkoop states that he has already sent twenty-two batteaus, with three men each, to Crown Point under the command of **Captain [John H.?] Wendell**. The boats at Crown Point are to then ordered to proceed to Isle aux Noix. Wynkoop also notes that 14 rebels have been scalped at Point aux Fare by the Indians and Canadians.

48. Albany, New York June 25, 1776. **John Lansing Junior** to **Peter Gansevoort** ordering that the militia drafted from New York proceed to Fort George. **General Schuyler** orders that one half of the drafts be retained at Fort George and the rest to be marched to Ticonderago. Lansing also states he will send Gansevoort his sulky and asks that his regards be forwarded to **Captain [Andrew] Fink**.

48. Albany, New York June 27, 1776. A letter to **Peter Gansevoort** forwarding a memorandum with the weight of the nails which were delivered to **General Schuyler** from **Mister [ ] Walker's**. The letter also notes that milk cows are being purchased for the use of the sick at Crown Point and that a good supply of *Sedge* is being forwarded to prevent the sick from suffering during their transport by batteau. **Lieutenant Colonel Cornelius D. Wynkoop** is to forward on [the batteaus] as quickly as possible.

49. [Albany, New York] June 27, 1776. **Assistant Secretary John Lansing Junior** to **Peter Gansevoort** reiterating **General Schuyler's** orders of June 25, 1776 and requesting that any milk

cows arriving at Peter's post be forwarded immediately to Crown Point.

49. Ticonderago, New York] June 27, 1776. **Cornelius Wynkoop** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that he is sending a carriage to Peter and offering Gansevoort the use of three more. Cornelius asks that the militia and provisions be forwarded on to Ticonderago quickly. Wynkoop states that he is expecting two vessels to arrive at Ticonderago soon. [This letter has Cornelius D. Wynkoop's personal signature on it].

50. Albany, New York July 1, 1776. **Goosen Van Schaick** to [Peter Gansevoort] stating that **Doctor Jonathon Potts Director of Hospitals** is either with **General Schuyler** or **General [Horatio] Gates** and can be relied upon to supply Fort George with needed medicines. Goosen also forwards to Peter 200 shirts and speaks of a subversive plot in New York City.

50. Fort Edward, New York July 3, 1776. **Benedict Arnold** send his compliments to **Peter Gansevoort** by way the hand of **Jas. Wilkinson** and . . . *begs the favour of his Delivering the bearer the Markee left with him by **Mister [ ] Swift**.*

50. Fort Edward, New York July 7, 1776. **Wilkinson** provides Peter with a receipt for [General] **Arnold's** marque.

51. Saratoga, New York July 3, 1776. **John Lansing Junior** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that **General Schuyler** has ordered all of the mill saws be sent on to Cheshire's. Schuyler also orders a corporal and eight men from **Captain [Andrew] Fink's** Company to be marched under the command of **Lieutenant [ ] Van Veghten** to Saratoga. Lansing states he is leaving Gansevoort's sully in the care of **Mister [ ] Smith** at Fort Edward.

51. Fort Edward, New York July 3, 1776. **Aide-de-Camp James Van Rensselaer** to [Peter Gansevoort] stating that **Assistant Quarter Master General Colonel [ ] Buel**, the bearer of this letter is to prepare accommodations at Fort George for the sick being sent there from Crown Point. Gansevoort is also to send a company of militia to Cheshire's which are *obnoxious* to the *small* [pox].

52. Cheshire's, Wood Creek, [New York] July 4, 1776. **Assistant Secretary John Lansing Junior** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that the iron work intended for the mills at Cheshire's has been mistakenly taken to Fort George and asks that if this true, the iron be forwarded to **Assistant Deputy Quarter Master Yates** by the order of the General.

52. Head Quarters, Crown Point, New York July 7, 1776. **Aide-de-Camp James Van Rensselaer** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that the two Indians which bear this letter are on their way to Albany. He orders Peter to furnish each of them with a shirt, a pair of shoes, and any provisions they might require to reach Albany.

52. Ticonderago, New York July 5, 1776. **Assistant Secretary John Lansing Junior** to **Peter Gansevoort** ordering a **Captain of the Batteauxmen** to come and go constantly from Ticonderago to [ ]. The milk cows which were ordered to be sent [to Crown Point] are to be detained at Fort George. [The State Historian's Offices reports this manuscript was unreadable].

53. Crown Point, New York July 6, 1776. **John Lansing Junior** to **Peter Gansevoort** relaying an order to immediately send to **Assistant Deputy Quarter Master Harmanus Schuyler** at Skeensborough, by way of Ticonderago, ten barrels of pitch, two hogsheads of oakum, two casks of the largest of nails, and one chest of carpenters tools. Gansevoort is to also forward these orders to **Cornelius Wynkoop**. Lansing sends along an express letter for to the **Commissioner of Indian Affairs** at Albany.

53. Fort George, New York July 11, 1776. **P. Schuyler** to **Peter Gansevoort** ordering all of the pickaxes that can be spared; all of the grindstones, but two; all of the pitch and oakum, but one barrel of pitch and one barrel of oakum; and fifteen casks of nails of all sizes be forwarded immediately to **General [Horatio] Gates** at Ticonderago. Schuyler also orders that all entrenching tools, axes, and naval stores arriving at Fort George from Albany be sent immediately to Ticonderago. Schuyler also encloses an order for four casks of the largest nails and a grindstone to be forwarded immediately to **Assistant Deputy Quarter Master Harmanus Schuyler, Esquire** at Skeensborough and where they are to be placed under the care of **Cornelius Wynkoop**.

54. Wood Creek, [New York] July 12, 1776. **Christopher Yates** to **Peter Gansevoort** informing Peter that the bearer, one of his teamsters, is to ask for the ironwork intended for the mill. Yates send along some saws to be worked. Christopher directs the teamster to look in upon **Mister [ ] Hilton**, the mill's master workman, for directions on how the saws should be done up. Christopher requests that the six new saws for the *Duch Mill* be forwarded. Yates requests that the team be returned immediately along with a cask of double nails and some corn for the oxen. Yates notes the saws are marked with a *Jesal as they must be Cut out*.

54. New York, [New York] July 13, 1776. **Secretary John McKesson** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that there are several companies of **Colonel Cornelius Wynkoop's** Regiment at Fort George and that he desires the names of the officers and their warrant dates so that their commissions can be forwarded. The secretary's letter is favored by **Captain [John] Quackenboss**.

55. Albany, New York July 14, 1776. **Peter Gansevoort** is ordered to send the companies of **Captain [Joseph] McCracken** and **Captain Hicks** to Albany immediately. Gansevoort is to then request a reinforcement from **General Gates**.

55. Ticonderago July 19, 1776. **Deputy Adjutant General John Trumbull<sup>(13)</sup>** to **Peter Gansevoort** ordering the colonel to make a return of the garrison each Saturday along with a

return of the amount of ammunition, stores & provisions present. Trumbull sends along a copy of the report forms to be used.

56. Albany, New York July 20, 1776. **Richard Varick** to [Peter Gansevoort], **Barent Ten Eyck**, and **Ensign [ ] Dean** of **Captain Robert Cochran's** Company inclosing a letter from **General Schuyler** to **General Gates** which is to be handled by express. The letter states **Misses [ ] Schuyler** requests the **General's Negro Cato** be sent down to her so that he might secure her small furniture. Misses Schuyler states she is leaving their large furniture in their home for the usage of the good people now in it. Schuyler also wishes that his wearing apparel be forwarded to him.

56. Head Quarters, Ticonderago, New York July 24, 1776. **Deputy Adjutant General John Trumbull** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that he is sending Peter the villainous **Doctor [ ] Barker** who had privately inoculated the Rebel Army with small pox. **Mister [ ] Cobb**, the late commissary of Ticonderago, is also being sent along with his wife and two children who had all had the small pox at Ticonderago and are going to Fort George. Both Cobb and Barker are to be taken into Gansevoort's custody and then transferred to Albany. Trumbull asks that all weekly returns be signed by the post commandant.

57. Head Quarters, Ticonderago, New York July 24, 1776. **Deputy Adjutant General John Trumbull** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that he is sending Gansevoort, **John Davie** who was captured on his way to the enemy at St. John's. Davie is said to have principal evidence against his **Conductor, [ ] Brown**. Trumbull orders Peter to hold Brown and Davie separate from one another.

58. Albany, New York July 25, 1776. **Richard Varick** to **Peter Gansevoort** ordering that any entrenching tools in Peter's possession are to be sent to **General Gates**. Varick also states he is sending nails, spikes, and a set of blacksmith's tools to **Colonel Wynkoop** at Skeensborough.

58. Albany, New York July 25, 1776. **Richard Varick** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that he is sending Peter some spikes, nails, axes, pick axes, and spades which are to be forwarded on to **General Gates**. He also states **General Schuyler** desires that any nails of the size 24 penny or greater be sent to Ticonderago. Varick orders the express to be forwarded by day or night.

59. Wood Creek, [New York] July 27, 1776. **Christopher Yates** to **Peter Gansevoort** requesting provisions of all types, including rum and eight to ten barrels of Indian corn. Christopher states he is also in want of the six duck saws and the English saw he had left at Fort George. Yates states he has six men attending the mill.

59. Ticonderago, New York July 29, 1776. **Benedict Arnold** to **Peter Gansevoort** requesting that any naval stores and blocks at Fort George be forwarded immediately to Ticonderago.

59. Albany, New York July 29, 1776. **Thomas Walker** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that the bearer, **Mons. [ ] Berger**, has **Baron Wodke's** bond for £300. The Baron being deathly ill, Berger wishes to travel to the lake [Lake George] and retrieve some of the Baron's effects in partial assurance of his bond. In a July 31, 1776 postscript, Walker requests to know the weight of the thirty casks of large batteau nails **Colonel Wynkoop** has forwarded to him from Ticonderago. Walker states the nails were brought from his, **Walker's Store**, at Montreal by **Jno. Shepherd**.

60. Ticonderago, New York July 31, 1776. **John Trumbull** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that the bearer, **Mister [ ] Hubby**, **General Woedlke's late Major of Brigade**, has come to take an inventory of the late Baron's estate along with his last will and testament so that **Colonel [ ] DeHaas** at Ticonderago can administer the estate. Trumbull orders that furloughs no longer be issued to the sick and that any officers granting such furloughs be court martialed. Gansevoort is to assist **Ensign [ ] Hollanbeck** in getting the chain in the ensign's charge to Albany. **General Schuyler** requests **Doctor Potts** send him any vinegar that can be spared.

61. Fort George August 1, 1776. The proceedings of a court of inquiry to settle a dispute between **the Sergeant Major of Colonel Goosen Van Schaick's Regiment**, and Fort George's baker, **William Ragel**. The court consisted of **President Captain David Van Ness**, **Captain [ ] Admonston**, **Lieutenant [ ] Moltan**, **Ensign [ ] Palmer**, and **Ensign [ ] Holt**. The witnesses in this case included the Sergeant Major, William Ragel, **Edward Pattison**, **Simon Hall**, **Oliver Hartwell**, and **George Tonkins**. The case involved a missing barrel of flour. The accusations against the sergeant major were found groundless.

62. Albany, New York August 2, 1776. **Richard Varick** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that **General Schuyler** desires Peter to forward all of the junk and oakum at Fort George, with the exception of one barrel to **General Gates** at Ticonderago. Varick also orders that all of the anchors, cables, rigging, cordage, military stores, axes, and entrenching tools, and naval stores at Fort George are be immediately forwarded to Ticonderago.

62. Fort George, New York August 2, 1776 (half after eight). The proceedings of a court of inquiry to settle a dispute between **Captain [ ] Davis** of the First New York Regiment and **John Coal** of **Captain Henry Van Woert's** Company. The court consisted of **President Captain David Van Ness**, **Lieutenant [ ] Mottan**, **Lieutenant [ ] Van Antwerp**, **Ensign [ ] Holt**, and **Ensign [ ] Palmer**. The witnesses in this case included **John Coal**, **Henry Van Woert**, and **Doctor [ ] Budd**. This dispute was found groundless and was brought before the court after Coal had gone to Colonel Gansevoort seeking redress.

63. Fort George, New York August 2, 1776. **Doctor Jonathan Potts**, <sup>(14)</sup> **Deputy General of Hospitals** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that **Lieutenant Colonel [ ] Buel's** Regiment who has been charged with building the hospital at Fort George has been ordered on to Ticonderago.

63. Head Quarters, [Ticonderago], New York August 2, 1776. **John Trumbull** to **Peter Gansevoort** ordering that any men of the Corps of Artillery discharged from the hospital at Fort George are to be marched immediately to Ticonderago under the command of **Sergeant [ ] Foster** of **Captain [ ] Bowman's** Company by order of the general.

64. [ ], [New York] August 3, 1776. **Second Colonel Edward Antill<sup>(15)</sup>** of **Colonel Moses Hazen's** Regiment [the Second Canadian Regiment] to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that this letter will be handed to Gansevoort by **Captain [ ] Olivier** [Olivie] of **Colonel Moses Hazen's** Regiment who is, as well as his detachment, under orders to march to Albany. Antill requests that Gansevoort provide the detachment with any needed provisions. Antill requests that the regiment's senior captain, Olivie, be sent to the Landing Place with a batteau and ten men to meet him, Antill.

64. Albany, New York August 4, 1776.<sup>(16)</sup> **Richard Varick** to **Colonel Peter Gansevoort: Sir: You will forward the Enclosed by Express to General Gates By order of the General.**

65. Albany, New York August 4, 1776. **Richard Varick** to **Colonel Peter Gansevoort**, or the officer in command at *Fort Orange*, stating that **General Schuyler** has ordered Varick to send to the Fort George area for employment the tar burners **Samuel Boome**, **Peter Cluet**, and **William Bromley**. Gansevoort is to provide them with aid in gathering and splitting pine knots. Varick orders that all of the tar produced be sent to Ticonderago immediately. Varick complains that the men are paid *16/ Provisions & one quart of rum per man per Day*.

65. Head Quarters, Ticonderago, New York August 2, 1776. **John Trumbull** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that he is returning to Peter the weekly regimental returns for correction. In a postscript Trumbull states the errors were the fault of the adjutants and credits **Gansevoort's brother** for pointing these out.

66. Albany, New York August 7, 1776. **Deputy Commissary General Walter Livingston<sup>(17)</sup>** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that he received a message from Fort George on the 5th of August stating that they had only 27 barrels of flour in reserve and that **General Gates** had written for more. Walter states he hears from **Mister [ ] Bleecker** there is one ton of flour at Fort Edward and orders wagons and carts be impressed to haul it to Fort George.

67. Fort George, New York August 12, 1776. **Peter Gansevoort** to **Major General Horatio Gates** at Ticonderago stating that he has been informed by **Lieutenant [ ] Low** of **Captain [ ] Evan's** Company of **Colonel [John?] Visscher's** Regiment that the regiments of **Colonels Goosen Van Schaick**, **Cornelius D. Wynkoop**, and [ ] **Fisher** ought to be discharged for imposing upon the public. Gansevoort complains that his personal honor as the Lieutenant Colonel of Van Schaick's Regiment is injured as **General Schuyler** has appointed him the commanding officer of the post. Gansevoort requests that his conduct be examined by a Court of Inquiry. Gansevoort also complains of being slighted by the following line from Gates in a letter

dated July 17th, and which was received by him on the 4th of August reading: *There is great Complaint among the officers here that their Letters are both going and coming are frequently interrupted and broke upon. I beg, Sr, if anything of this kind has happened at your post an immediate stop may be put to it.* Peter strongly asserts he knows nothing of this practice and has not engaged in it.

69. Cheshers, on Wood Creek, [New York] August 16, 1776. **Christopher Yates** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that his cattle are suffering greatly for want of grain and a lack of pasture; and are being fed dry hay daily. He states his oxen must drag all of the logs to the mill and that the mill saws about twenty logs a day; thus he believes the oxen need approximately one barrel of corn per day.

69. Albany, New York August 19, 1776. **Colonel Goosen Van Schaick** to [Peter Gansevoort] stating that he is sending to him **William Cunde**, **George Bagraft**, and **Jacob Smith** of **Captain Van Ness'** Company; and, **Volckert McIntosh** of **Captain [Elias?] Van Rensselaer's** Company under guard. *Captain Van Ness Is to Stop for Lieut. Gloudy DeLametter 40/ from Each of these Deserters of his Company.* DeLametter is said to have taken great pains to apprehend the deserters, with the exception of Cunde who had presented himself to the **Chairman of the Claverack Committee**. One of **Captain [ ] Night's** Company is also noted to be remaining absent without leave, as well as **Ensign [ ] Kittle**. Goosen states he expects an attack by **Lord General [William] Howe** soon. **Misses [ ] Van Schaick** also sends her regards to Peter.

70. Crotons Ferry, [New York] August 19, [1776]. **Colonel Donald Campbell** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that he has been informed by a **Mister [ ] Venor** (*who came to Crotons to see the Ships of War*) that **the Prussian General** [Baron Woedlke] is dead and that the General's servant has appeared in Albany claiming the Prussian's horses are his own. Campbell asks Peter to garnish £36 from the General's servant before allowing him to proceed from Fort George to Albany. Donald requests his funds be forwarded to **Misses Rose Graham** at New York. Peter Gansevoort signs a receipt on the 22nd of July, 1776 for thirty five pounds, sixteen shillings, and nine pence he had received from Colonel Campbell against the Estate of **Brigadier General Baron De Wooldtkey**.

71. Fort George, New York August 21, 1776. **Thomas Haight** to **Lieutenant Colonel Peter Gansevoort** requesting that he be allowed the liberty of walking twenty yards from his tent to relieve himself. Thomas also begs for a speedy trial.

71. Fort George, New York August 25, 1776. **Captain Robert Edmonston** to **Peter Gansevoort** requesting a speedy trial. Edmonston, who remains in confinement, requests that he be sent to Ticonderago if a trial cannot be held at Fort George immediately.

72. Head Quarters, Albany, New York August 25, 1776. **Aide-de-Camp Henry B. Livingston** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that the General desires a weekly return of that part of **Colonel**

**Goosen Van Schaick's** Regiment which is now present at Fort George, as well as a weekly return of troops from other groups.

72. Albany, New York August 27, 1776. **Jacob Cuyler** to **Peter Gansevoort** inclosing a letter and a firkin of butter for **Brigadier General** [Arthur] **Saint Claire**. Jacob states he is leaving tomorrow for New York to observe the battle, but he states he will not be carrying a fire-lock and will thus be unable to join in the fight. Cuyler notes there is a high hill near New York which will allow a fine prospect of the battlefield.

73. Summer Hill, [New York] August 28, 1776. **John McCrea** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that he has been informed by his brother, **Stephen McCrea**, that there is a dispute concerning a horse Stephen sold at Fort George. John sends his letter in the hands of **Kenoth Frazier**.

73. Buton Hole Point on board the Sloop Enterprise August 29, 1776. **Doctor Stephen McCrea** to **Peter Gansevoort** relating he has had a pleasant passage across Lake George and has met with **General Gates** who has commissioned as Surgeon of the Fleet. McCrea also notes he has not heard from **Doctor Potts**. McCrea states that after his arrival he met with **Benedict Arnold** who treated him with the utmost respect. Stephen requests Peter will forward an enclosed note to **Miss C. Van Schaick**.

74. Albany, New York August 29, 1776. **Philip Schuyler** to **Peter Gansevoort** ordering the roads between Fort George and Fort Edward repaired. He also requests scouts be kept out constantly.

74. Head Quarters Ticonderago, New York September 3, 1776. **Deputy Adjutant General John Trumbull** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that the General received his letter of the 31st (of August) on the 2nd instant and orders him to send the officers awaiting Court Martial to Ticonderago immediately. He also states the General sees no need to reinforce Fort George at this time.

75. Albany, New York September 3, 1776. **Richard Varick** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that General [Schuyler] requests his blue covered chest from his house at Fort George to be brought to him in Albany. He also orders Peter to give all necessary assistance to a **Mister [ ] Todd** from Pennsylvania who is going to the army at Ticonderago.

75. Albany, New York September 3, 1776. **John Tayler**<sup>(18)</sup> to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that he has heard Peter was ill and intending to go to Albany, but has heard that Peter is now is well. He writes: *I have a Great Mind not to Write on[e] word of News. You are so Lazy a dog To Write that I feal Youll hardly Take Trouble to Read. I shall, however, Send You a small sample of Intelligence. If you don't like it Send it Back again.* Tayler goes on to speak of a brawl between a **Colonel In Crown With Red facings** and a Certain **Capt. [ ] Johnston** in which no sword was



brandished or pistol flashed. He also speaks of a fight between **Captains** [ ] **Graham** and [ ] **Romain** in which Romain received a black eye and then *Sneak'd*. Tayler relates news of a skirmish on Wednesday last between the Rebels and the British on Long Island in which **Lord** [William Alexander] **Stirling** and **General** [John] **Sullivan** were captured. He states Sullivan has attended a cartel in New York where he discussed the idea of exchanging themselves for some British Brigadier Generals. John states that the British had made a furious attack on Fort Greene, but had been repulsed with large losses. Taylor reports that **General** [James] **Grant** *Who was to march thro America (by his declaration In the house of Common with five Thousand Men who likewise Pronounced the American Cowards) is Certainly dead*, and that the rebels have made an orderly retreat from Long Island. John also sends along the latest newspaper by **Mister** [ ] **Blair** and thanks Gansevoort for permitting **Mister** [ ] **McElhenney** to remain at Fort George.

77. Fort George, New York September 9, 1776. **Thomas Haight** to **Peter Gansevoort** concerning his confinement for abusing a soldier.

79. Cheshers, on Wood Creek, [New York] September 10, 1776. **Christopher Yates** to **Peter Gansevoort** requesting some rum for his artificers. Christopher also states that he has been taken with the *Bloody flux or Camp Distemper* and that he has been up 14 to 15 times a night with it. He requests his letter be shown to **Doctor Wemple**.

79. Ticonderago, New York September 11, 1776. **Aide-de-Camp Walter Stewart** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that his letter is being carried by **Lieutenant** [ ] [ ]. Walter requests the thirty-two pound gun at Fort George be forwarded to Ticonderago along with any surplus artillery stores and iron bar.

80. Ticonderago, New York September 12, 1776. **Storekeeper General Benjamin Egberts**<sup>(19)</sup> to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that he has heard that **the Commissary of Artillery from Mount Independence** is coming to Ticonderago. Egbert states he understands that **Generals Gates Schuyler** have received complaints about [ ] **Shepherd's** irregular provision of supplies. Benjamin requests he be appointed in the place of Shepherd should the latter be replaced. He also encloses a letter from **P. Van Rensselaer** to [ ] [ ] concerning his being transferred to Fort George. Egberts also sends his compliments to a **Brother Jacob & all our friends at fort George**.

81. Albany, New York September 16, 1776. **Goosen Van Schaick** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that **General Howe** is on the march and that another battle is expected soon. Goosen also reports that three members of Congress are to entreat with Howe at Emboj to learn of what powers General Howe has in negotiating with the American States. Van Schaick sends news that **General Schuyler** sent his resignation to Congress on September 15 . Goosen states he has heard from **Colonel Robert Van Rensselaer** that **Ensign** [ ] **Kittle** is no good and has allowed one of the deserters from **Captain Van Ness'** Company to escape with a mare and some money. He also states that Kittle is to be captured and immediately and turned out of the army. Van Schaick notes he has recommended **young Leonard Gansevoort** as paymaster for his regiment. Goosen orders the pay of **Captain Robert Edmonston** to be withheld until after his trial. **Miss**

**Caty Van Schaick and the colonel's wife** send their greetings to Peter.

82. Niagara, Canada September 18, 1776. A speech delivered by the Hurons, Ottawas, Chippewas, Pottowatomies, Missagaes, Senecas, Cayugas, Onondagas, Oneidas, Tuscaroras, Mohawks, Delawares, Annantieots, and Squaghkies through one of the Mohawks to **Commandant Lieutenant Colonel John Caldwell, English Deputy Agent Colonel John Butler, Lieutenant [ ] Matthews, Burnett Burnitt, [ ] Kinvesley, and Ensign [Walter] Butler** relating their intent, with exception of the Mohawks, Oneidas, and Tuscaroras, to remain loyal to the crown. The Indians state a desire for the British to leave Boston. They also state that any hurt that should occur to the *Mohawks as the head of the Five Nations* will be considered a hurt to all of their nations and that they will fight the enemies of the Mohawks. The Indians signing this speech include: **De wat ont, wan dan dy jong, Stawaing shong, A tongwaraing, and Lasaufrage of the Huron Nation; Recontkeejeck, Warin ak non, Sa gutch n wa onn, Nesh kee bug isu of the Chippawa Nation; Cha min ta we, Orange, Otowakie, mishimemduk, and Shawanaijick of the Ottawa Nation; Parmamakitam, Peenash, Milai eat shi, none go ta of the Pottowatomie Nation; Shagognatskecham for the Oneida Nation; Shagogh of the Tuskorora Nation; Siowa, A don goat, Sa we too, Cientakere ah, and Ra sata tie of the Seneca Nation; Aaron kanonraron of the Mohawk Nation; gwas bepson of the Delaware Nation; Maghgirawas of the Annantieot Nation; tyagoraghtake and Ojakegh te of the Cayuga Nation; and, Deyaweronte, No tsigh Al, and kaghkaghketge of the Onondaga Nation.**

84. Fort Edward, New York September 26, 1776. **Lieutenant Colonel Cornelius Van Dyck** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that he has received an express from **General Schuyler** ordering him to send down an officer and twenty or thirty men who are acquainted with rafting boards. Schuyler issues orders for the men to receive an additional four shillings per day while thus employed. Cornelius also requests Gansevoort to have **Mister [ ] Ellison** send down his bed cord with the officer. The lieutenant colonel desires his compliments be given to **Doctor Potts**.<sup>(20)</sup>

85. Fort George September 28, 1776. **Doctor Jon'n Potts** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that by request of their mutual friend **Captain [ ] Marselis** he is requesting leniency for **Corporal [ ] [ ]**.

86. Albany, New York September 30, 1776. **Richard Varick** to **Peter Gansevoort** requesting the lieutenant colonel post some advertisements.

86. Albany, New York October 1, 1776. **Philip Schuyler** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that an enemy attack is probable and requesting that Peter keep out a constant scout to the northward. Schuyler states he has asked **General Gates** to reinforce Gansevoort's post.

86. Head Quarters Ticonderago, New York October 4, 1776. **Aide-de-Camp Isaac Peirce**<sup>(21)</sup> to **Peter Gansevoort** with the General's orders for **John Hairbert** of **Captain [Tyrannus?] Collin's** Company of **Colonel Cornelius Van Dyck's** Regiment be sent to Ticonderago immediately.

87. Fort George, New York October 15, 1776. **Assistant Deputy Quarter Master General Cornelius Wendell**<sup>(22)</sup> to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that an express brought from Ticonderago contains news of Rebel Fleet's retreating. Wendell states he expects a battle. Wendell states that **Captain** [Barent J.?] **Ten Eyck**, **Captain** [Jacob] **Wright** and some others whom had gone out hunting on the 13th, had yet to return. *I do Imagine there is writing going on betwixt **Hora & de Meester** of the Cranke concerning the Commanding Officers and several others I don't know. The Mirth Good Humor is not a going on that Used to do in the Mars I have left Yesterday: I now Mars with **P. V. Rensselaer Brod & hendrick** which I hope will prove agreeable to you, At Least I wish it may . . .*

87. Saratoga, New York October 18, 1776. **Philip Schuyler** to **Peter Gansevoort** ordering him to slaughter all of the fat cattle at Fort George with the exception of a ten day supply for the garrison at Fort George and for the meat to be sent to Ticonderago. Philip orders that no flour be left at Fort Edward, and that Fort George is to have no more than a three to four day supply of flour on hand. Gansevoort is instructed to send out constant scouts to the westward and to visit his sentinels often.

88. Fort George, New York October 18, 1776. A General Court Martial where of the members were **President Captain Moses Martin**, **Lieutenant** [ ] **Hill**, **Lieutenant** [ ] **Armstrong**, **Lieutenant** [ ] **Brown**, and **Ensign** [ ] **Derma**. In this trial, **Joseph Thompson** was tried for swearing at **Colonel** [ ] **Ten Eyck**, and abusing **Lieutenant**[ ] **Armstrong**. Joseph is said to have stated that he had once been one of **King George's** Men and that he would join them again. The witnesses were Joseph Thompson and **Sergeant Stephen DeVauche**. Thompson was found guilty and sentenced to receive 25 lashes with a Cat-of-Nine-Tails for abusing the officers and to be fined one shilling for swearing according to the Third Article of War.

88. Saratoga, New York October 20, 1776. **Assistant Secretary John A. Lansing Junior** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that a committee of the state consisting of **Mister** [James] **Duane**, [Abraham] **Yates** [Junior], and [Jacob] **Cuyler** had arrived at Saratoga. John states the committee has requested Gansevoort to be present and Peter is thus ordered to proceed there by order of **the General** [Philip Schuyler].

89. Johnstown, New York October 20, 1776. **Colonel John Nicholson** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that he has sent **Christian Osterman** and **Jonathan French** out to reconnoiter the woods between Johnstown and Fort George and to bring back any intelligence on the British's approach. Nicholson states he has also requested them to bring any news of the army at Ticonderago. Nicholson complains he is surrounded by *Tories*. The Colonel and the officers of his regiment send their compliments to Gansevoort and **Bishop Ten Eyck**.

89. [ ], [New York] [circa October, 1776]. Correspondence between [The Provincial Congress] and an unknown correspondent stating that **General Schuyler** desires the aid of the Militia and that the Brigadier General has ordered the Militia to march to Fort Edward. The letter states that their neighborhoods and woods are over ran with disaffected persons and slaves who may be

supplying the British with intelligence. A letter addressed to General Schuyler states there are no more than 100 [Rebel] men in the Manor of Livingston and many of those have already been drafted. The disaffected are said to outnumber the rebels by three to one. The correspondent states that the disaffected of the county are plundering the rebels and their homes and that they do not know if the Militia of Tryon County has yet been called out. The correspondent requests aid from the *House* and requests word as to whether or not they should have some of their vessels in the Hudson made ready to sink in order to prevent the British sailing up the River and plundering the city. Finally, the correspondent states they will send off a guard tomorrow to conduct fifty prisoners to Fish Kill Landing.

91. Saratoga, New York October 22, 1776. **Philip Schuyler** to **Peter Gansevoort** forwarding three sets of instructions for the enlistment of men during the war. Schuyler states the officers selected for recruiting will be responsible only for the raising of troops. The officers of **Colonel Goosen Van Schaick's** Regiment are to assist these recruiting officers as needed.

91. Head Quarters, Ticonderago, New York October 22, 1776. **Colonel John Trumbull** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that he is sending Peter one **Thomas Barton** who is suspected of being inimical to the Rebel Army and of giving information to the enemy. Trumbull complains that he has insufficient evidence to convict Barton and feels it is unsafe to let him roam free. The Colonel states the prisoner is to be sent under guard to **General Schuyler** at Albany.

92. Saratoga, New York October 22, 1776. **John Lansing Junior** to **Peter Gansevoort** informing Peter that Mister [Richard] **Stockton** [of New Jersey] and **Mister** [George] **Clymer** [of Pennsylvania]<sup>(23)</sup> make up a Committee of Congress which is being sent to Ticonderago by way of Skeensborough. Lansing states the Congressional representatives will be sending their horses to Fort George for fodder.

93. Ticonderago, New York October 23, 1776. **Jonathan Potts** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that the bearer **Captain** [ ] **Calderwood** is traveling to Philadelphia by way of Albany. Potts relates a fear of an immediate enemy attack. Jonathan states that last night (the 22nd) one man was killed and two others were taken by the Indians from between the Saw Mill and the Dams. Potts also sends a request for **Doctor** [ ] **Stringer** to send him some sauce.

93. Saratoga, New York October 24, 1776. **Philip Schuyler** to **Peter Gansevoort** informing the lieutenant colonel that he is sending over a body of militiamen to reinforce Fort George. Philip orders the Militia to be employed while there in erecting a picket fort to enclose the hospital. **Captain** [John H.] **Wendell** is to provide carriages for the aforesaid purpose.

93. Albany, New York October 18, 1776. A Court of Inquiry where of the members were **President Lieutenant Henry** , **Lieutenant** [ ] **Moultan**, **Lieutenant** [ ] **Van Ness**, **Lieutenant** [ ] **Van Antwerp**. The trial was called to hear the complaint of **Ensign** [John?] **Denny**, who states he left his fusee with **Hartshorn Garrison** for repair and that upon returning from Ticonderago

his gun was missing. Hartshorn Garrison states that he took custody of the gun only to repair it and that his shop is very insecure; a fact which he has often complained of to the **Quarter Master General. Benony Smith** states he also works in the gun shop and states that they never take charge of any fire-locks and that the weapons are always left with them at the risk of the owner. Smith states he has also complained to the Quarter Master General about the security of their shop. The court finds no further action is necessary.

94. Albany, New York October 28, 1776. **Balters Kimmel** of the Manor of Rensselaerwyck upon being examined states that yesterday he attended **Domini [ ] Swerfeget's** Church Services and that on his way home he stopped in at the home of **Henry Sipperly** where he found both **Abraham Coons** and **John Juy**. [edit spelling] Coons and Jay are said to have been asked by Sipperly if he would join the King's Men. Kimmel states he was told that **Captain Henry Shaw's Company** consisted entirely of Loyalists. Balters states there were said to be about 1200 men at Claverack waiting to join the British Regulars, Indians, and *Tories* at Stillwater. Kimmel relates that **Michael Rykert** at first had no desire to join them, but was persuaded to do so by Domini [ ] Swerfeget. Balters goes on to say that they plan to have Shaw's Company wait on the east side of the river and upon the [British] regulars attack on the Rebels they intend to cross the river and take revenge upon the Whigs: particularly **Frederick Bergen**. Frederick Bergen being examined states he was informed by **the wife of Hercules Lynd** that a party of 38 Indians and two white men were seen in the woods near Parsten Vly by her son who was asked where his father was; and when told by **Lynd's son** he didn't know where his father was, the men said they would find him and join him, but would not harm anyone until after the Regulars attacked.

94. Albany, New York October 28, 1776. **Jacob Cuyler** and **Robert Yates**<sup>(24)</sup> to **Lieutenant Colonels Peter Gansevoort** and **Cornelius D. Wynkoop** concerning the Oath to be taken by both commissioned and noncommissioned members of the Continental Army. The oath reads: *I Swear to be true to the United States of America and To Serve them honestly and faithfully against all their Enemies or opposers whatsoever and To Observe and Obey the orders of the Continental Congress and the orders of the Generals and officers Set over me by Them.*

95. Fort George, New York October 28, 1776. **Major General Schuyler** to **Peter Gansevoort** ordering Peter to erect a picket fort around the Fort George Hospital. Schuyler also specifies that in the case of alarm, the Militia is to occupy the hospital and defend it. The General orders that the guards for the hospital are to be taken from **Colonel [Francis?] Nichol's** Regiment and are to include one captain, one subaltern, one sergeant, one corporal, and sixty privates.

96. Albany, New York November 6, 1776. **Philip Schuyler** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that he has ordered a regiment from Ticonderago to reinforce Fort George. Upon the arrival of the said regiment, two of the four companies of **Colonel Cornelius Van Dyck's** Regiment are to march to Fort Edward and the other two are to proceed to Saratoga.

96. Fort George, New York November 6, 1776. Report of a General Court Martial wherein **Benjamin Walker** of **Captain [ ] Van Rensselaer's** Company of **Colonel [Goosen] Van**

**Schaick's** Regiment was found guilty of pointing a loaded musket at **John Parks** of Captain [edit] Van Rensselaer's Company and threatening to shoot him. Walker was sentenced to 25 lashes well laid on to his bare back. The members of the court were **President Captain Moses Martin, Lieutenant Henry Diefendorf, Lieutenant [ ] Hogan, Lieutenant [ ] Van Ness, and Lieutenant [ ] Armstrong.** The witnesses were **Thomas Huskins** of Captain [ ] Van Rensselaer's Company and **Ezekiel Cosler.** Cosler states Walker was provoked by the men of the regiment telling Walker that Parks had made you use of his wife.

96. Ticonderago, New York November 8, 1776. **Deputy Adjutant Jonathan Trumbull** to **Peter Gansevoort** noting that **General Gates** is surprised by the delays in supplying his troops. Gates therefore orders all provisions destined to him in the field to be forwarded immediately. The General promises to supply all possible assistance in transporting the said supplies. A Packet for **General Schuyler** is also included and is ordered to be sent along by express.

97. Ticonderago, New York November 9, 1776. **Captain Thomas Dorsey** of the First Pennsylvania Regiment to **Lieutenant John Denny** now recruiting at Fort George stating that he has received word that Denny has recruited **Private James Stewart** of his company into the New York Line and that he, Dorsey will not allow it. Dorsey accuses Denny of enlisting a man who had not been regularly discharged and that **Colonel [ ] DeHaar** states Stewart and his arms will, unless **General Schuyler's** orders differently, return with DeHaar's Regiment to Pennsylvania.

98. Fort Yates, New York November 9, 1776. **Christopher Yates** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that he is afraid that unless the men at his mill get their rum, they will refuse to work.

98. Saratoga, New York November 14, 1776. **Secretary John Lansing Junior** to **Colonel Peter Gansevoort** stating that a regiment had been lately ordered by **General Schuyler** to go from Ticonderago to Fort George and from thence to Tryon County; however, the Necessity of sending it to Tryon County is now superseded. Upon the arrival of the regiment at Fort George, three of its companies are to march to the Saratoga Barracks and the remaining five companies are to remain at Fort George as part of the garrison. Lansing orders that the remainder of **Lieutenant Colonel Van Dyck's** Regiment be marched to Fort Edward.

99. Headquarters Fort George, New York November 18, 1776. General orders for **Lieutenant Colonel [ ] Ten Eyck's** Regiment, with that part of **Lieutenant Colonel Van Dyck's** Regiment now at Fort George, to proceed immediately to Fort Edward. **Lieutenant Colonel Peter Gansevoort** is to march that part of **Colonel Van Schaick's** Regiment now at Fort George to Saratoga and as soon wagons are available carry their baggage to Fort Edward. From Fort Edward, Van Schaick's men's baggage is to be transported to Saratoga. **Colonel [Enoch] Poor's** Regiment is to follow Colonel Van Schaick's Regiment to Saratoga. No officer, noncommissioned officer, or soldier is to take a cart or wagon without the express permission of **the Wagon Master.** **Colonel [John] Stark's** and the **Late General [ ] Reid's** Regiments are to remain at Fort George. The hospital is to be moved to Albany as soon as transportation can be

arranged for its transport. These general orders were issued by **John Lansing Junior** under the instructions of **General Schuyler**.

100. Ticonderago, New York November 20, 1776. **Richard Varick** to **Peter Gansevoort** enclosing a letter of request for [Surgeon] **General Stringer** to provide a return of the dead, deserted, and discharged from the hospital of the Battalions of the **Late [Arthur] Saint Clair** (now [ ] **Wood's**), ["Mad" Anthony] **Wayne**, [ ] **Irvine**, [Elias] **Dayton**, [ ] **Burrel**, and [ ] **Whitcomb**.

100. Albany, New York November 30, 1776. To **the Honorable Peter R. Livingston Esquire President of the convention of the State of New York** from the battalions in the field requesting that they be supplied with colors, fifes, and drums.

101. Albany, New York December 3, 1776. **Peter Gansevoort** to **Robert Yates Esquire** recommending that **Lieutenants Henry Colbrath** and [ ] **McClannen** of **Colonel [ ] Nicholson's** Regiment be appointed ensigns and Recruiting Officers in **Colonel Goosen Van Schaick's** Regiment as they seem to have a great deal of influence with the men in their current regiment. Peter also notes that he is experiencing problems retaining the officers in his regiment.

102. Head Quarters Ticonderago, New York December 10, 1776. General Orders issued by **Secretary John Lansing Junior** by order of **Major General Schuyler** allowing the Recruiting Officers of New York to recruit men from any of the corps of the current army providing that the men recruited have not previously enlisted for the length of the war. The officers are to make weekly returns containing the names of the new recruits, their former corps, the date their former enlistment will or has expired, and the date of their new enlistment. Schuyler states that after the respective garrisons are properly relieved, the New Levies are to be granted one months furlough.

103. Fish Kill, New York December 10, 1776. **Lieutenant Colonel Marinus Willett** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that he has received Peter's letter of the 11th instant and that **Lieutenant Henry Pawling** and **Ensign Samuel English** have re-enlisted in another corps. Willett also notes that **Lieutenants James Blake, William Mead, and Prentice Bowen** have not yet been contacted as to their plans and that **Jonathan Persee** has yet to answer his inquiries. Marinus states he has distributed the following amounts of currency to the recruiting officers based on their prospects of success: **Captain [Elias] Van Benschoten** \$400; **Captain [Thomas] DeWitt** \$400; **Captain [Cornelius T.] Jensen** \$320; **Captain [ ] Swartout** \$280; **Captain James Gregg** \$320; **Captain Henry Tiebout** \$400; **Lieutenant [Thomas] Oustrander** \$200; **Lieutenant [Benjamin] Bogardus** \$240; **Lieutenant [Gilbert B.] Livingston** \$320; and **Lieutenant [James] Duboise** \$160. He also notes that **Captain [John] Housten** has received £200 from **the Treasurer**.

104. Albany, New York January 26, 1777 [sic: January 26, 1778]. Peter Gansevoort to

**Governor George** Clinton transmitting returns for Fort Schuyler and his regiment. Gansevoort requests heavy artillery for Fort Schuyler noting that if the British should again attack the fortress they will do so with *heavier Artillery than they had last year* [sic]. Peter also sends a return of clothing needed by his regiment noting that *Troops not paid and half naked can be but little expected from.*

105. Fish Kill, New York February 7, 1777. **Lieutenant Colonel Marinus Willett** to **Peter Gansevoort** enclosing return of the state of their regiment. Willett states he is lacking one lieutenant and that he has not yet been able to speak with **Lieutenant [ ] Black** of **Captain James Gregg's** Company. He also requests pouches, belts, blue and scarlet cloth, white linen, buttons, and belts for holding bayonets. Marinus also relates that he has received Gansevoort's letter of the 2nd instant. Willett states he has delivered **General Schuyler's** orders for the appointment of a lieutenant to the Committee of Arrangement, but that the vacancy created by **Lieutenant [ ] Johnson** has been filled. Marinus also notes that **Lieutenant [Gilbert B.?] Livingston** of the regiment is currently at Rhyneck, New York and has offered to procure the items they are wanting.

106. [ ] [ ], New York [circa March, 1777]. From **the Provincial Congress of the State of New York** noting that in response to the request of **Lieutenant Colonel Marinus Willett** of **Colonel Peter Gansevoort's** Regiment dated Fish Kill, New York March 7, 1777, they have ordered the Treasure of the State to advance to Willett £800 which is to be carried to him by the hand the **Captain [Cornelius T.] Jansen**. The Congress orders the money to be used for the payment of bounties in recruiting troops. [From the Journals of the Provincial Convention].

107. Fishkill, New York March 8, 1777. **Colonel Pierre Van Cortlandt** to **Colonel Peter Gansevoort** complaining that **Colonel Henry B. Livingston** claims to out rank both Van Cortlandt and Gansevoort. Pierre states he has written to the Committee of Appointments in protest. Van Cortlandt states he has orders to march to *ppks kill* [Peekskill] next Thursday; and that Willett is to march to Fort Constitution on Wednesday. Van Cortlandt states that Livingston has already arrived at Peekskill and that **Colonel Lewis Dubois** has reached Fort Montgomery. Pierre also expects Gansevoort to be ordered to Westchester County. Pierre relays word that **General Howe** is expected to decamp from New Jersey and move his campaign up into the Hudson River Valley.

108. Extracts of letters from **General Schuyler** to **Colonel Samuel Elmore** [of the Connecticut Line].

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From his letter of March 6, 1777: *No officers or men of the regiment are to have any [left blank] on them at any time; any officers so found are to be arrested immediately, and any common or noncommissioned soldier thus found is to be confined and the matter referred to the General. If an officer has Occasion for anything Immediately for his own Use Mister [ ] Hayden will*



*Purchase it and Deliver it at First Cash.*

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From his letter of March 19, 1777 to **Colonel Samuel Elmore Commanding Fort Schuyler: Captain [ ] Marquizee** has in his charge from the General [an order] *to remoddle Fort Schuyler and Make some additional Fortifications at that place.* From General Schuyler's orders to **Colonel Elias Dayton:** Col. Elmore recommends that Col. Gansevoort be Friendly to the Indians as it is of Consequence and helpful to the cause.

109. Albany, New York March 17, 1777. **Peter Gansevoort to Abraham Ten Broeck Esquire President of the Provincial Congress** stating that he has received the general's request for a regimental return as well as a request for one from **General Schuyler** directly, but as the officers of his corps are dispersed he is in the necessity of writing to them and awaiting the replies of **Lieutenant Colonel Willett** and his officers for the information required.

109. Albany, New York [circa March 17, 1777]. **Peter Gansevoort to Abraham Ten Broeck Esquire President of the Provincial Congress** requesting the whole of his regiment be bound together and asks that he might relay his request to **General George Washington** for instructions. Peter also notes he is under an order to march to Fort Schuyler with that part of his regiment which is currently present and that he will provide the requested regimental returns as soon as feasible.

110. Albany, New York [circa March 17, 1777]. **Peter Gansevoort to Lieutenant Colonel Marinus Willett** stating that General Orders have been issued for the regiment to combine and thus no new furloughs are to be allowed. Gansevoort also orders a fence to be constructed from *Swamp-Casp, the place House where Stefanus, the Frenchman's House formerly stood, to the River and another from the Cripple bush at the lower end of Bradthacks Field to the River. . .* Peter also orders a vegetable garden to be planted. Peter notes he has been told by **The Marquis de Lafayette, Colonel [ ] Gorman** the engineer is to be sent southward soon and thus all necessary instructions must be had from the colonel on finishing the fortification of Fort Schuyler. Peter requests a return of anything wanting in the fort so he can order it to be forwarded immediately.

111. Albany, New York March 31, 1777. [Peter Gansevoort] to **Chairman of the Committee of Arrangement Robert Yates** asking that **William Colbrath** be allowed a lieutenancy as he is a very capable officer and has formerly held that rank in **Colonel [ ] Nicholson's** Regiment. Gansevoort also notes that he has orders to march his regiment to Fort Schuyler.

112. Albany, New York March 31, 1777. **Peter Gansevoort to Abraham Ten Broeck Esquire** stating that he has been unable to gather all of the information needed to make a return of his regiment.

112. Fort Schuyler, New York May 5, 1777. **Peter Gansevoort** to **John G. Van Schaick** stating that he arrived at Fort Schuyler on the 3rd of May and has found the place very agreeable.

113. Fort Schuyler, New York May 5, 1777. **Peter Gansevoort's** garrison orders of May 7, 1777 in which he relays **General Horatio Gates** orders for a total prohibition on trading with the Indians by the army and local inhabitants. Peter orders the garrison to parade in the evening to hear these orders and issues instructions for the orders to be posted on the fort's gate, Head Quarters, and **Mister** [John] **Roof's** House.

114. Fort Schuyler, New York May 22, 1777. **Peter Gansevoort** to **Mister** [Thomas] **Spencer** at Oneida stating that he had just received his letter of and had furnished two gallons of rum to the bearer. He asks Spencer to immediately send out four Indians to Oswego for intelligence.

114. [Fort Schuyler, New York circa May 22, 1777] **Peter Gansevoort** to **General Gates** noting that on his departure from Fort Schuyler, **Colonel Elmore** passed on to him only 100 Spanish dollars, and that the hard money, which had been sent to the fort by **General Schuyler** is nearly gone. Peter requests some additional paper funds (to be used locally) and hard money (for use with the Indians). Gansevoort notes he needs to have two fast horses for use in cases of emergency. Peter also complains they have been without rum for seven days. Gansevoort notes he has all of the available troops working on the fortress, but the post complains that the fortress needs to be totally remodeled and thus troops will be necessary to complete the works by fall. Peter also complains of the slowness of the batteauxmen and asks they not be allowed to remain in Schenectady above 48 hours, noting that it will take ten batteaux to haul the necessary boards from the mill above Caughnawaga and the lime needed to Fort Schuyler.

115. Albany, New York May 30, 1777. **Robert Yates, Secretary to the Commissioners of Indian Affairs**<sup>(25)</sup> to **Horatio Gates Esquire the Commander in Chief of the Northern Department** stating that the Commissioners have seen fit to provide the Indians most favorable to the Rebel Cause some presents and therefore requests that an order be out in the name of **James Deane, the Indian's Interpreter** for the storekeeper or Commissary of Fort Schuyler to provide him with 100 pounds of gunpowder and any other such things he may desire for that purpose.

116. Fort Schuyler, New York June 1, 1777. **Peter Gansevoort** to **John G. Van Schaick** noting they had received a report that **Colonel John Butler** was at Oswego with 500 Indians and an intention of attacking Fort Schuyler. He however relates that **Mister Spencer** at Oneida states the rumor is false. He also sends his regards to **Misses Van Schaick**.<sup>(26)</sup>

117. Fort Schuyler, New York June 3, 1777. **Walter Stewart**<sup>(27)</sup> to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that he had received Peter's his compliments from **Gansevoort's brother**. Walter states he wishes he could campaign this summer with Gansevoort, but is being ordered to the south. Stewart directs his mail to be forwarded through **Philadelphia Merchants Conyngham & Nesbit**.

117. New York Council of Safety June 6, 1777. **Secretary Robert Benson** to **John Lansing Junior Secretary** to **Major General Philip Schuyler** conveying an extract from the Minutes of the Council of Safety requesting that all officers commanding forts or garrisons allow any of the Militia eligible to vote the right to travel to the nearest place of election and cast their ballots. The officers are, however, advised to attend to the safety of their posts.

118. Albany, New York June 9, 1777. **Philip Schuyler** to Peter Gansevoort requesting information on the state of the works at Fort Schuyler. He notes he has received complaints of too many carriages being used in the remodeling and asks for a clarification of their need. Peter is instructed to make monthly returns of the men in his garrison and of the artificers present. Philip orders Peter to maintain friendly relations with the Indians and orders notes that no person outside of the Indian Department, including **Captain [ ] Marquisie**, be allowed to speak with the Indians. All oral communications with the Indians are to be transcribed and sent immediately to General Schuyler. The General orders all bedding to be kept clean and well aired and orders that no guard be allowed bedding on duty. Schuyler orders all soldiers to present themselves to the parade with clean clothing, their hair powdered, their weapons cleaned, and their accouterments completely in order. The General extends his compliments to **Mister [John] Hanson** at the fort.

119. Albany, New York June 10, 1777. **Philip Schuyler** to **Peter Gansevoort** informing the latter that **Major [ ] Vermonet** and another Frenchman are on their way to Canada with some Indians by the way of Fort Schuyler and ordering Gansevoort to consult with **James Deane** as to the best way for them to travel in the utmost secrecy.

120. Head Quarters Albany, New York March 10, 1777. **John Lansing Junior** to [Peter Gansevoort] advising him that the bearer, **Thomas Mair**, complains that prior to Peter's arrival at Fort Schuyler, his house and farm were seized and that you [Peter Gansevoort] are unwilling to return them without permission from **General Schuyler**; Peter is therefore instructed to do Mair justice as he sees fit.

120. Albany, New York June 10, 1777. **John Lansing Junior** by order of **General Schuyler** to **Colonel** Gansevoort noting that **Colonel Elmore** has yet to do justice to **Thomas Mair** and that since March of 1777, Mair's fences have been destroyed and . . . *As it is highly improper that the property of any of the subjects of the States should on any pretence be appropriated by the military . . .* Peter is to do justice to Mair's complaints and return his property Thomas' claim is just. Peter is informed that **Colonel [ ] Craig** has procured a horse for him which has since gone lame. Craig is procuring another in its place and will send it soon. Lansing sends his regards to **Mister Hanson**.

121. **Third New York Regimental Surgeon Hunloke Woodruff's** Rations Return for January 1, 1777 through June 10, 1777.

121. [Fort Schuyler, New York] June 15, 1777. **Peter Gansevoort** to **Major General Philip**

**Schuyler** stating that the work on Fort Schuyler proceeds slowly. He notes there are over 2,000 pickets lying about the fort awaiting erection andantes . . . -- *nothing of any important as yet been done towards the strengthening the Fortifications which at present has little more than the Name of a Fortification.*

122. Fort Schuyler, New York June 15, 1777. **Peter Gansevoort** to **Major General Philip Schuyler** stating that he had received Schuyler's letter of the 9th per the hands of **Major [ ] Hubble**. Peter notes that before he arrived a Frenchman named **Stephen Degrau**, who had married an Oneida Squaw, had erected the foundation for a small house which though small, might have been smaller. Peter complains that the engineer at Fort Schuyler needs an additional eight wagons to conduct the work; and notes he is sending a return of the regiment. Gansevoort states he has ordered the Fort Commissary to provide the carpenters with one and a half rations each. Peter states the Master Carpenter at the post has shown him the contract(s) made with **Colonel [ ] Lewis** providing the rations he has ordered given. Gansevoort states he desires two fast horses to be saddled and bridled at all times in the case of an emergency. Peter notes he never received from **Colonel Samuel Elmore** or from **Colonel Dayton** any orders to feed the Indians. Gansevoort states he has directed the Commissary to write to **Mister [ ] Avery**. Peter recommends as a pilot for the scouts going out towards Oswego, **John Mathews**. Gansevoort notes there is a supply of lime as near as Little Falls and that he has had to requests batteaus from as far away as **Fox's** at Canajohary to carry it. Peter complains of many being sick within the fort and blames it partially on a lack of proper cooking utensils. Peter notes his letter to **General Gates** has yet to be answered.

125. Head Quarters Camp near Middle Brook [New Jersey] June 21, 1777. **Israel Putnam**<sup>(28)</sup> to [Peter Gansevoort] noting that his expectations of **Lord Howe's** plans were confirmed on the night of the 13th, when Howe made a speedy movement and taken post between Brunswick and Somerset. Putman states he thinks Howe wishes to draw out the rebel Army or attack it on the right. The Rebels failing to move and a strong gathering of the Militias of Pennsylvania and New Jersey, are said by Israel to have induced Howe to return to his former position between Brunswick and Emboy on the 19th. Putnam notes that Howe has assembled a large number of wagons at the Jerseys suggesting the British may intend a movement by land, and that Howe has also gathered a large number of batteaus at Brunswick suggesting the target is the Delaware and the Rebel Army, as Philadelphia was not immediately attacked. Putnam states Howe had left behind a string of half-finished redoubts between Somerset and Brunswick and states that Howe had during his stay at Somerset several depredations were visited upon the inhabitants. Among the depredations said tone committed is the hanging of two or three women who are said to have refused to disclose the locations of their husbands. Putnam states that Howe's movements demonstrate his weakness and notes the Jersey Militia had performed admirably. Israel openly speculates that Howe's next target may be the North River [a.k.a. Hudson River], but states that the troops from Peeks Kill are ordered to halt or return lest Howe make a sudden move.

127. Fort Schuyler, New York June 27, 1777. **Peter Gansevoort** to **Major General Philip Schuyler** stating that head received the General's letter of the 25th concerning **Thomas Mair's** House. Peter states he had received a letter from **Colonel [Samuel] Elmore** concerning Mair's

House and stating that Mair is said to be an enemy to the Rebels and has been engaged against the rebels since **Colonel** [Elias] **Dayton** first arrived at Fort Schuyler. Peter notes that Mair was ordered to leave by Dayton and that policy was continued by Colonel [Samuel] Elmore. Gansevoort notes that even the Indians requested Mair's removal from the site as he frequently offended them and told them that **John Butler** was coming. Gansevoort reports that Mair's barn has tar flooring and has been dismantled, the barracks being erected on the spot; Mair's house standing on the glacis. Peter reports that **Captain James Gregg**<sup>(29)</sup> was shot through the back by two Indians, tomahawked, and scalped about one and a half mile Fort Schuyler at ten in the morning on the 26th while out against orders. **Corporal** [Samuel] **Mattison** of Gregg's Company is also noted to have been killed and scalped in the attack on Gregg. Peter complains that he has had to detain some of the batteaus for use in carrying boards up from the mills.

129. Albany, New York June 30, 1777. **Major General Philip Schuyler** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that he has intelligence that **Sir John Johnson** intends to attack Fort Schuyler and thus orders that constant scouts be kept outboards Oswego and all other quarters. Schuyler states he has ordered **General Nicholas Herkimer** and the Militia to reinforce the Fort Schuyler if attacked. The General also reports the British have reached Crown Point. Gansevoort is to immediately order **Hugh Fothergill** of **Captain** [Aaron] **Austin's** Company to go to Albany and appear before General Schuyler.

129. Fort Schuyler, New York July 1, 1777. To **the Officers of the Third New York Regiment's** agreement for the conduct of field exercises. This is a very long and extensive document.

133. **Peter Gansevoort's brother's** office in Albany, New York July 3, 1777. **James C. Van Rensselaer** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that he has just received an express from Ticonderago reporting the British have reached Three Mile Point and are there erecting a fortification and laying a boom across the lake. Van Rensselaer states he is leaving immediately for Boston and sends his greetings to **Colonel** [ ] **Van Veghten**.

134. Fort Schuyler, New York July 3, 1777. **Peter Gansevoort** to **Major General Philip Schuyler** stating that he has received the general's letter of the June 30th. Schuyler is also informed of a need for supplies in a return made by **Captain** [John (Joseph)] **Savage**. Gansevoort reports he met with the chiefs of the Six Nations on the 2nd and states the Chiefs complain that liquor is being sold to the Indians for one silver dollar per quart or two paper dollars per quart by **Major** [Jelles?] **Fonda at Canajohary** greatly depreciating the value of the paper money. As a result, Peter states the Indians will no longer accept paper money and have sent word of their decision to the other Indian Castles.

135. Fort Schuyler, New York July 3, 1777. **Peter Gansevoort's** speech to **the Six Nations** in which he states **Colonel** [Samuel] **Elmore's** tour at Fort Schuyler had expired 28 days ago and that he, Peter, has been ordered to relieve him. Peter states the remainder of his regiment will arrive at the fort in eight to nine days. Gansevoort states he was born in the City of Albany. He

promises to inform the Six Nations of any news he receives from **General Washington**. He apologizes to the Indians for the lies they hear daily from the Loyalists daily and states that General Schuyler has not gone to New York City, but rather to Philadelphia and the Continental Congress. Peter requests that if they, the Indian representatives, should have an opportunity to be in Albany they call upon **his father**.

136. Fort Schuyler, New York July 4, 1777. **Peter Gansevoort to Major General Philip Schuyler** stating that he is providing to **Captain [ ] Marquizee** all possible assistance in finishing the fortress, felling trees into Wood Creek, and in . . . *clearing the road from Fort Dayton which is so embarrassed in many parts as to be impassible. . .* Peter notes hostile Indians are constantly about the works and that 150 men will be required to immediately block up the Wood Creek and another 150 men will be needed to protect the workers about the fort. Peter reports that on July 3, 1777 **Ensign John Spoor** and 16 privates were out cutting sod for the fort and were attacked by about forty of **Butler's Emisaries**. Gansevoort states that one private was brought into the fort dead and another two were wounded; one mortally and the other slightly. Peter complains that Spoor and six of his privates are reported missing despite the actions of two parties which pursued the enemy. Gansevoort also complains that he has only but six weeks provisions on hand and that **Captain [Joseph] Savage** requests supplies for the artillery.

138. Fort Schuyler, New York July 4, 1777. **Peter Gansevoort to John G. Van Schaick** of Albany reporting that yesterday forty of **Butler's Emisaries** had attacked **Ensign John Spoor** and 16 privates who were out cutting sod about three quarters of a mile from the fort; etc.

138. Fort Schuyler, New York [circa July 5, 1777]. **Francis Jackson to Peter Gansevoort** requesting he be transferred to the artillery and his former rank be restored.

139. Albany, New York July 7, 1777. **John Hanson<sup>(30)</sup> to Peter Gansevoort** reporting that the rebels had abandoned Fort Ticonderago and moved themselves and their stores to Skeensborough. John encloses a letter from the New Jersey Headquarters to the Convention of New York at Esopus. Hanson relates that **General Schuyler** had received a letter from **General Washington** on the 2nd instant stating that he had evacuated New Jersey and was now at Staten Island. Hanson states **Major [Robert] Cochran** has been ordered to proceed immediately to Fort Schuyler. Hanson also encloses the latest newspaper which reports that **Jacob Cuyler** has been appointed Deputy Commissary General of Purchases with the rank of Colonel. John states **General Schuyler** will remain on furlough for a few days longer and then will be coming up to Fort Schuyler with **Colonel [Richard] Varick**; he also sends his regards to **Lieutenant Colonel Willett**.

141. Fort Edward, New York July 8, 1777. **Major General Philip Schuyler to Peter Gansevoort** stating that he has received Gansevoort's letter of the 4th instant. Philip also notes he has ordered **General Nicholas Herkimer** to provide Peter with 200 militiamen and has also ordered Herkimer to clear the road from Fort Dayton to Fort Schuyler.

141. Fort Edward, New York July 10, 1777. **Major General Philip Schuyler** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that he has received Gansevoort's letter of the 6th instant and that **General Herkimer** is sending him a reinforcement. Schuyler states that if Gansevoort receives word he is to be attacked, he is to apply to **Major [ ] Badlam** who commands the Continental Troops he had sent up under the command of **Colonel Goosen Van Schaick** as a reinforcement. Philip states a supply of powder is on its way to Fort Schuyler. Schuyler issues orders for **Captain Marquisie** to remove himself to Fort Edward and for **Major [ ] Hubbel** to take command of the remodeling work.

142. Albany, New York July 12, 1777. **Doctor Jonathan Potts** to Peter Gansevoort reporting the baggage of the Rebels at Fort George has been lost. Potts also notes that **General Howe** is at Fort Washington with 100 vessels. Jonathan states the Rebels are gathering at Fort Edward and vow not to be driven off by **General [John] Burgoyne**.

143. Albany, New York July 15, 1777. **Colonel Jacob Cuyler** to Peter Gansevoort stating that he has sent twenty-one head of cattle to Fort Schuyler, one of which is to go to the Indians. Cuyler states he has given instructions to **Mister Hanson** or the person acting in his place on how to proceed in the Department of Commissary General of Purchases. Cuyler desires that a large quantity of hay be put up at Fort Schuyler so that the cattle can be confined in the event of an attack. Jacob inquires also to the health of **his cousin, Colonel [ ] Van Veghten** and states he thinks Van Veghten will be of use in the event of an attack though . . . *it may out of his Department*. Jacob states their friend **Sarahmus John** is eager to reach his post. He instructs Gansevoort to *Shake Oata's hand of friendship for me*. Cuyler also relate she has issued an order for cattle to be purchased from Tryon County for the use of the garrison at Fort Edward.

144. Albany, New York July 19, 1777. **Aide-de-Camp John R. Livingston** with General Orders for **Colonel Goosen Van Schaick** to report immediately to Albany and there take command of the city and of the troops in Tryon County.

145. **Colonel Elias Dayton** to [Peter Gansevoort?] relaying extracts of orders he had received from **Major General Schuyler** while in command of Fort Schuyler:

1. Extract from a letter of July 18th: If you should gain news of an approach of the British by the way of Lake Ontario you will fall timber into Wood Creek in such a way as to cause them the most inconvenience.

2. Extract from a letter of August 2nd: The fatigue parties are to be allowed only one gill of rum per day unless special circumstances exist. The carpenters are to be paid a quarter dollar per day and the artificers one-eighth of a dollar per day.

3. Extract from a letter written from the German Flatts on August 8th: Dayton is ordered to not

fall any timbers into Wood Creek unless he is sure the British are coming by the way of Lake Ontario, the General states Dayton may assume the need to block the waterway if hears that the British are gathering at or near Oswego. Any roads which will allow cannon to be transported are also to be blocked if so indicated. Any intelligence of the British's approach is to be reported to **General Schuyler**, the Tryon County Committee of Safety, and to the officer commanding at Johnstown immediately.

4. Extract from a letter of August 18th: **Colonel Dayton** is to save the horns of all cattle killed at Fort Schuyler.

5. Extract from a letter of August 20th: The colonel is to keep out constant scouts towards Oswego and Oswegatchie. A parcel of money is sent to the commanding officer for use in the case of contingencies. **Thomas Spencer**, a blacksmith at Cayuga, is said to be loved by the Indians and promises he will forward any intelligence gained on British intentions.

6. Extract from a letter of September 7th: The General orders the Wood Creek to be filled with timbers. Scouting parties are to consist of white men and Indians, and are never to be composed of white men only. The hard money left by **General Schuyler** is to be used only for purposes in which no other means will suffice.

7. **Colonel Dayton** recommends that **Colonel [Samuel] Elmore** not allow the Indians too much rum as they tend to get drunk. Dayton states the Indians should not be allowed to run in and out of the fort; and advises Elmore to be very careful of the *Toreys and dram sellers* as they do great mischief amongst the Indians.

8. **Thomas Mair** is said to have received ten pounds for his house, the barn with the hay in it, and a stack of oats.

147. Albany, New York July 2, 1777. **Colonel Goosen Van Schaick** to **Peter Gansevoort** enclosing a general order which puts the troops of Tryon County under his command. Van Schaick also orders Gansevoort to communicate all happenings through him. Goosen reiterates the **General's** orders to close up Wood Creek should the British appear to be coming by way of Lake Ontario. Goosen sends his letter in the hands of **John Hanson**.

148. Albany, New York July 21, 1777. **Pay Master Jeremiah Van Rensselaer** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that he is at a lost as to how to proceed with paying the regiment without the Muster Master's returns. Jeremiah states clothing is in short supply due to the great losses at Ticonderago.

148. Kingston, New York July 25, 1777. **President Pierre Van Cortlandt**<sup>(31)</sup> to **The Albany County Committee of Safety** and by the latter it is forwarded by order of **Robert Benson**



**Junior** to **The Tryon County Committee of Safety** stating that he, Pierre, had spoken with the Council and that they in turn had consulted with **General Washington** concerning the Tryon County Committee's desire for greater protection. Van Cortlandt reports that Washington has ordered **General [John] Glover's** Brigade to Albany and there Glover is to consult with **General Schuyler** for further instructions. Pierre notes all of New York is alarmed.

150. Fort Schuyler, New York July 28, 1777. **Peter Gansevoort** to **The Council of Safety** reporting that about three o'clock on the afternoon of the 27th the garrison was alarmed by the firing of four guns. The troops upon turning out found three girls who had been picking raspberries about 500 yards from the fort, shot. Two of the girls had been tomahawked and scalped; one of which was dead and the other dying about a half an hour after she was brought home. The third girl, who sustained two musket balls through her shoulder was able to escape. This crime was said to have been committed by four Indians. Gansevoort states he has received word from **an Oneida Chief**, who been had sent to Canada by the order of **Major General Schuyler**, that **Colonel John Butler** was at Oswego with 500 Indians and that **Sir John Johnson** was just on the other side of Oswego with 1,000 troops which consisted of Regulars, Canadians, and Loyalists. Peter states the Chief states Sir John has ordered Butler to take 130 Indians from Oswego and cutoff the communication with Fort Schuyler; Sir John is said to be planning an attack on Fort Schuyler in eight days. [**Ensign William Colbreath's** Journal reports that on July 27th -- Three girls belonging to the inhabitants being about two hundred yards from our out-sentinels were fired on by a party of Indians, two of whom were killed and scalped, the other wounded in two places, neither of them dangerous].

151. Albany, New York July 28, 1777. **Jeremiah Van Rensselaer** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that . . . *By the Return of Lieut. [Moses] Yeoman's the Council of Safety after frequent applications to their officers have transmitted the Word that I shall be served with Returns as Soon possible.* Jeremiah states that if **General Schuyler** should happen to order **Colonel [Richard] Varick** or any of his deputies to Fort Schuyler he will accompany them though he states. . . *I might be in Want of the Most Essential papers, from our State Mister Gansevoort has inclosed to the papers.* Van Rensselaer states he has transmitted to **Lieutenant Colonel Willett** the designed for Gansevoort's usage.

151. Oneida, New York July 28, 1777. **Thomas Spencer**<sup>(32)</sup> to [Peter Gansevoort] stating that an Indian named **Cannaweyando** had told a friend he had left Oswego two days earlier and that they [Butler's Indians] were making for Fort Schuyler with all possible speed to stop the blockading of Wood Creek. The Indian stated they planned on arriving at Oswego in two days and that batteaus were gathered from Oswego to the falls. Spencer states the troops are to cross Lake Oneida in the night. Cannaweyando is said to be from *Old Oneida* and is also said to have been one of **Joseph Brant's** Party from *Oquage*. The Oneida states one Indian was to remain at Oswego with some strings of wampum to treat with [the Indians?], the rendezvoused to be held at the Three Rivers. Thomas asks that Gansevoort: *Please to Pay the Messenger. a Party of 80 Indians is to come by way of Rehoehage who will come a crost Fish creek at the fishing Place at the Indian field.*

152. Canajohary District, Tryon County, New York July 29th, 1777. **General Nicolas Herkimer** <sup>(33)</sup> to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that the time that his Militiamen were to be at Fort Schuyler has expired and asks that they be allowed to return home as the Committee promised. Nicholas states they were to serve only 16 days and that the time for harvesting their hay has come. Herkimer asks that his men be discharged on the upcoming Thursday. The General states that 160 Continentals are now on their march to the fortress and that he has acquired the twenty head of cattle needed at Fort Schuyler. Nicholas also notes **Colonel [ ] Watson** has arrived at Fort Dayton and is ready to march for Fort Schuyler at Gansevoort's request.

153. The Albany Committee's Chambers [Albany, New York] July 29, 1777. **Chairman John Barclay** of **The Albany County Committee** to **The Tryon County Committee** stating that he had received the inclosed letter from a person who said it was for the Albany Committee. Barclay refers to the depredations committed in New Jersey and the scalping and butchering of two women who were strongly attached to the British Cause [the McCreas] and were out to welcome them. The Albany Committee reports that **General Schuyler**, his Continentals, and the Militia under his command were in good spirits.

153. August 2, 1777. **Chairman [ ] Van Eps** and **Isaac Marselus** of **The Albany County Committee** stating that: *Sr: these may inform you that meet with Mjr [John] Bliven at ye House of Mr. Gosse V. Alstine & he Delivered us this Letter which we opened & now send the same to you by him. Cheerily Van Eps Chairman & Isaac Marselus. To The Chairman and Members of the Committee of Tryon County.*

155. Oneida, New York July 29, 1777. **Thomas Spencer** to **Colonel Peter Gansevoort** stating that at a meeting of the [Oneida] Chiefs it was said that there were but four days remaining before the King's Troops would fall on Fort Schuyler. The Chiefs are said to be desirous of Colonel Gansevoort to *not make a Ticonderago of it* and express hope **General Schuyler** will send up a strong reinforcement. Thomas suspects the road is stopped to inhabitants and states this may be his last warning as the British are already past the place where they were to hold a treaty. He requests the Militia rise up and come to Fort Schuyler. Spencer states he will leave Oneida tomorrow for the treaty, but he expects they will be treated with indifference when they announce their intentions for peace. Thomas states that between 80 and 100 Indians are below Fort Schuyler blocking the road. Spencer also states he has heard the British are bringing cannon up the Fish Creek. The Chiefs send Gansevoort a belt of eight rows in testimony of their honesty. Thomas believes a strong blow by the rebels will insure the friendship of the Six Nations and free the frontier of British.

156. [Albany, New York] July 31, 1777. **Miss Catherine Van Schaick** <sup>(34)</sup> to **Colonel Peter Gansevoort** stating she has received his letter of the 26th and is glad to hear Peter is in good health. Catherine states a courier from Fort Schuyler had stated 3,000 British Regulars, Canadians, and Indians from Oswego were expected to attack Peter's post. Catharine advises Peter to avoid trusting the Indians and fears that Peter will find it necessary to surrender his post. Miss Van Schaick informs Peter her family is traveling to Esopus and that her **brother, Gerrit**, is to proceed them and seek a place for them. Catherine states Gerrit says the people of Esopus

have express a great fear of the Indians should the British take Albany and that she finds great in hearing the Rebel Army is at Stillwater. Catharine's sister also sends her greetings to Peter. [On page 158, it is noted] "The carrier of this letter was killed in the Battle of Oriskany and the letter was later recovered in **Lieutenant Colonel Willett's** Raid on the Indian Camps near Fort Stanwix on August 6, 1777."

158. Albany, New York August 1, 1777. **Richard Varick** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that **Mister** [John] Hanson had been appointed to muster the troops of Fort Schuyler by the General's orders. Varick states he wished to visit the fort but was forbidden from doing so by the General. He also sends his regards to **Lieutenant Colonel Willett**.

159. [Fort Schuyler, New York August 10, 1777]. **Lieutenant Colonel Willett**<sup>(35)</sup> to the **Officers and Soldiers of the Third New York Regiment** stating that he has secretly left Fort Schuyler by order of **Colonel Gansevoort**. He instructs his fellow soldiers to take courage as they face the British. [Date corrected to reflect that stated in the Narrative of the Actions of Marinus Willett. The Siege Diary, though compiled sometime after the Siege states that Willett and Stockwell left the fort on the 8<sup>th</sup> of August and if so Willett could not have answered St. Ledger's Summons of August 9, 1777].

160. [Fort Schuyler, New York August 9, 1777]. **Peter Gansevoort** to **Barry Saint Leger** refusing to surrender Fort Schuyler.<sup>(36)</sup>

161. This page is missing from the galley proofs, but the hand proof present and reads as follows:

*Your Letter of this morning's Date I have Received In Answer to which I say, that it is my determined resolution with the Forces under my Command to defend this Fort & Garrison to the last extremity in behalf of the United American States who have placed me here to Defend it against all their Enemies. I have the Honor to be, Sir, Your most ob't Hum<sup>le</sup>*

*P Gansevoort Colo  
Commanding F<sup>t</sup> Schuyler*

*Copy of an Answer  
to Gen<sup>l</sup> S<sup>t</sup> Leger  
summons on 9<sup>th</sup> day of August [1777]*

162. Albany, New York August 10, 1777. **Major General Philip Schuyler** to **Peter Gansevoort** reporting the reinforcements en route to Fort Schuyler from Albany had left the city on the 9th. Schuyler reports **General Burgoyne** is at Fort Edward and the Rebel Army is at Stillwater and that strong reinforcements are rapidly arriving from the east. Philip notes **General** [William] **Howe** had landed at New Castle, Delaware, but was soon obliged to re-embark. Schuyler states Intelligence suggests General Howe intentions are to land again on the Jersey

shore opposite of Philadelphia in order to bombard the city. Philips notes that the **Mister** [Stephen] **Watts** who was wounded in the battle with **General Herkimer**, had died the day after the engagement [August 7, 1777]. [The will of John Watts, Senior, of Jermyn Street, London, England in his Last Will Testament dated July 3, 1789, leaves to his seven living children, including Stephen Watts, £300-0-0, as well as one-seventh his remaining Earthly estate . The was probated September 12, 1789 in London, England. This we have proof positive that Stephen survived the wounds he sustained in the Battle of Oriskany. Source: [Volume 83, pages 52-53 & Volume xxxvi, pages 116-177, of the New York Genealogical & Biographical Society].

162. In the Council of Safety, Bennington, [Vermont] August 16, 1777. **Vice President Jonas Fay** to *The General Officers nearest this place Commanding Regiments of Militia in the several United States*. **Selectmen Robert Hawkins** and **Ebenezer Hutchenson** certify this to be a true copy of an original letter which was forwarded by **Esquire [ ] Douglass** of Jerico to Kings District and from thence to Albany per the order of **Committee Members Elijah Bostwick** and **John Gray**. Jonas' letter states the **Brigadier General [John] Stark** of New Hampshire and the militia and rangers of **Colonel [ ] Symond's** Regiment of Militia have engaged the enemy near Bennington. Fay states the rebels have captured four British brass field pieces, some ordnance stores; and four to five hundred British soldiers. Jonas states the British initially retreated but have since been reinforced and are now making a second stand. Fay forwards General Stark request for the whole of the militia, with all available ammunition, to ordered to join him immediately.

164. Bennington, Vermont August 18, 1777. Extract of a letter from **Senior Surgeon Francis Hagan** to **Doctor Potts** concerning the actions of October 16th, 1777. Francis states that on the 16th of the Rebel Army discovered 1500 British soldiers posted six miles of this place [Bennington?], upon which **General Stark** ordered out the militia and took the following British Prisoners: one colonel; one major; five captains; twelve lieutenants; four ensigns; two cornets; one judge advocate; one baron; two Canadian officers; three surgeons; 37 rank and file; 398 Hanoverians and Waldecks; 38 Canadians; 151 Loyalists; 80 wounded. Hagan states that 200 British troops were killed. Francis states the Rebels claim their losses as 30 dead and 50 wounded; the rebel force having amounted to 2000 troops of which only half were engaged in the battle.

165. Van Schaick's Island, New York August 19th, 1777. **Philip Schuyler** to **Esquire Rynier Mynderse Chairman of the Schenectady Committee** for the **Honorable Major General [Benedict] Arnold** at Fort Dayton relating the British losses in the battle near Bennington, Vermont were one lieutenant colonel; one major; five captains; twelve lieutenants; two ensigns; two cornets; one judge advocate; one baron; two Canadian officers; three surgeons; 37 rank and file; 398 Hanoverians and Waldecks; 38 Canadians; 151 Loyalists; 80 wounded; and 200 British troops killed. Schuyler states the rebel losses are between 20 and 30 dead with about 50 wounded.

166. German Flatts, New York August 22, 1777. **Benedict Arnold** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that since his writing to Gansevoort on the 19th stating that he would be arriving at Fort Schuyler

in a few days he has received an express advising no immediate fears for the loss of Fort Schuyler. Arnold reports he is delayed by poor roads and the militia's failure to turn out as expected. Arnold also forwards news of **General Stark's** victory at Bennington. Benedict states the remnants of **Lord Howe's** Army is aboard ship and that **Burgoyne's** Army is thought to be retreating towards Ticonderago. The General states the Rebel Army is reported to be near fifteen thousand strong.

167. [Fort Schuyler, New York] August 22, [1777].<sup>(37)</sup> **Peter Gansevoort** to [The Council of Safety] stating that about eleven o'clock in the morning he began a heavy cannonade on the British works from Fort Schuyler which is being returned by their artillery. Gansevoort states that about three o'clock in the P. M., seven deserters from British Camp came into the fort and reported that **Saint [Barry] Leger** was retreating. Peter states he then sent sixty men into the British Camp and found the intelligence to be accurate. Peter states that about seven P. M. **Hans Jost Schuyler**<sup>(38)</sup> arrived at Fort Schuyler with news that **General Arnold** was on his march to Fort Schuyler with upwards of 2,000 men.<sup>(39)</sup>

168. Albany, New York August 25, 1777. **George Clinton** to **Pierre Van Cortlandt, Esquire, President of the Council of Safety** stating that after writing this morning he has received the enclosed copies of letters from **General Arnold** and **Colonel Gansevoort** with an account of affairs in the west. Clinton hopes that **General Burgoyne** will soon follow **Saint Leger's** example and retreat. George states he believes that if the Militia could be convinced to turnout with greater a clarity the rebels could gain a great victory. George notes that Burgoyne has occupied a site with the Batten Kill to his front and the Hudson River to his right; three regiments being left to cover the rear. Clinton states it appears that Burgoyne is concerned mainly with his own safety versus a conquest. This letter is said to have been obtained by Gansevoort from the Journals of the Council of Safety.

169. [Fort Schuyler, New York circa August 23, 1777]. **Peter Gansevoort's laconic address to my fellow Officers and Soldiers after our success at Fort Stanwix.**<sup>(40)</sup>

169. [Fort Schuyler, New York circa August, 1777]. Loot taken from **Barry Saint Leger's** Camp upon his flight from the Siege of Fort Schuyler.

a. An extract from the Memorandum Book of **Lieutenant Henry Bird**.

b. Nine Mile Point, New York August 2, 1777. **General Barry Saint Leger's** orders to **Lieutenant Henry Bird**<sup>(41)</sup> of the Eighth Regiment commanding a detachment at the entrance of Wood Creek.

c. [page 171]. [A.L.S.] [ ], New York August 2, 1777. **Lieutenant Henry Bird** to **General Barry Saint Leger** states he sends this express by the hand of **Mister [ ] Wilson**. Henry

complains that today he could only get two Indians to advance with him, they were **Henriques a Mohawk** of the Six Nations whom had been known to him for some time. Bird states an Indian calling himself **Commodore Bradley** was the chief cause of the Indians refusal to advance.

d. [page 171]. [A.L.S.] Quebec, Canada June 23, 1777. **Paymaster of the Artillery Alexander Schane** to **Esquire Jacob Jordan** of Montreal requesting him to give unto **Lieutenant James Glanie of the Royal Artillery** *to the extent of fifty pounds Sterling at the rate of four & eight pence [to] the dollar.*

e. [page 171]. Quebec, Canada June 23, 1777. **Paymaster of the Artillery Alexander Schane** to **Esquire Jacob Jordan** of Montreal requesting him to give unto **Lieutenant James Glanie of the Royal Artillery** the money as it was not done by **Mister [ ] Chandler** prior to Glaine's leaving with **Barry Saint Leger**.

f. [page 171]. [Near Fort Schuyler, New York] August 6, 1777. **Barry St. Leger** to **Peter Gansevoort**.

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***COPY OF ST. LEGER'S PROCLAMATION HANDED BY HIS ADJUTANT GENERAL***

***AND COL. JOHN BUTLER TO GANSEVOORT.***

*6th August, 1777.*

*By Barry St. Leger Esqr.*

*Commander in Chief of a chosen Body of Troops from the Grand Army, as well as an extensive Corps of Indians Allies, from all the Nations, &c. &c.*

*The Force entrusted to my command are designed to act in concert and upon a common principal, with the numerous Armies and Fleet which already display in every Quarter of America the power, the justice and when properly sought, the Mercy of the King.*

*The cause to which the British Arms are thus exerted, applies to the most affecting Interests of the human heart: and the military servants of the Crown, at first called forth for the sole purpose of restoring the rights of the Constitution, combine with love of their Country, and duty to their Sovereign, the other extensive incitements which spring from a due sense of the general privileges of mankind. To the eyes and ears of the temperate part of the public and to the breasts*

*of suffering Thousands in the provinces, be the melancholy appeal, whether the present unnatural Rebellion has not been made a foundation for the completest system of Tyranny that ever God in his displeasure suffered for a time to be exercised over a forward and stubborn generation.*

*Arbitrary imprisonment, confiscation of property, persecution and fortune, unprecedented in the Inquisitions of the Romish Church, are among the palpable enormities that verify the affirmative. These are inflicted by assemblies and committees that verify the Affirmative. . . .*

g. [page 172]. *SAINTE LEGER'S ORDERS FOR [the] LINE OF MARCH AND PLAN*

*OF BATTLE.*

h. [page 173]. Extract from Annual Register of A. D. 1777. London Ed. Vol. XXII –

page 160-164. I. [page 173]. Extract from Annual Register D. 1777. (London Ed.).

176. Head Quarters Behmis' Heights, New York September 26, 1777. Orders from **Aide-de-Camp Isaac Peirce** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that: . . . *This Letter will be delivered You, by the Wife of Honyas, a principal Warrior of the Oneida Nation -- It is the desire of General Gates, you deliver to her Three Gallons of Rum, for a Winter's Supply for her Family.* General Gates also issues an order allowing Peter to occasionally provide small amounts of provisions to the faithful Indians.

176. Albany, New York September 30, 1777. **Lieutenant Colonel Marinus Willett** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that he arrived in Albany last night and sends his letter by the hand of **Colonel Varick**. Marinus expresses a desire to see the army before going to see **Misses [ ] Willett**. Marinus states he heard from Major [ ] [ ] on the 28th of September and states he was fine.

177. Fort Schuyler, New York October 1, 1777. [Peter Gansevoort to General Gates] inclosing a return of the garrison, and the artillery and supplies needed to complete the fortification of Fort Schuyler. Peter states he has requested **Major Hubble** to alter the design of the *Bumb Proof Barracks* as the lumber used will not withstand a three inch ball. Gansevoort also requests that an engineer be sent to Fort Schuyler so that the works might be finished as soon as possible. Peter states he believes three months of salt provisions should be kept in the fort at all times and never used unless besieged by the British.

177. Fishkill, New York October 6, 1777. **Lieutenant Colonel Marinus Willett** to **Peter Gansevoort** noting he has already been gone from Fort Schuyler for eleven days and that he has

yet to see **Misses Willett**. Marinus notes the British are now at Peeks Kill and that he intends to join the Rebel Army there. Marinus notes they have heard nothing of importance from **General Washington**. Interestingly he requests Peter to tell *Doctor Woodruff* *he must not lay too much in bed, for fear of growing too bulkey*.

178. Fort Schuyler, New York October 12, 1777.<sup>(42)</sup> **Captains Aaron Aorson, Thomas DeWitt, Cornelius T. Jansen, Leonard Bleeker; Lieutenants Henry Defendorf, John Ball, Philip Conine, John Welch, Nanning Vanderheyden, George Sytez (Regimental Adjutant), Prentice Bowen, Gerrit Starts, Thomas Warner, Benjamin Boagardus, Thomas Ostrander; Quarter Master Thomas Williams Junior; Ensigns William Colbrath, Christopher Hutton, Josiah Bagley, Samuel Lewis, and Ament Eldert; Pay Master Jeremiah Van Rensselaer; Surgeon Hunloke Woodruff; and Surgeons Mate John Elliot to Peter Gansevoort** expressing their gratitude for raising the Third New York Regiment to honor in action. They rejoice at the news of his promotion, but reject the idea of his leaving their regiment. This letter was endorsed by Gansevoort on October 12th, 1777.

179. [Fort Schuyler, New York October 12, 1777]. **Peter Gansevoort's** to the officers of the Third New York Regiment expressing his thanks for their kinds words on his promotion and stating that they are the chief authors of his success. He also extends his warmest wishes to the men of his Corps.

180. Head Quarters near Philadelphia, Pennsylvania November 16, 1777. **Marinus Willett to Colonel Peter Gansevoort, Commandant of Fort Schuyler** stating that he, Marinus, would like to stay a few days longer and see the Grand Army in action now that his business with **Major** [William?] **Go forth** is concluded. Marinus states he believes the British are currently besieging Fort Milfin,<sup>(43)</sup> but it is thought to still be in the hands of the rebels. Willett states that he is contemplating a trip to Boston unless he should be immediately needed at Fort Schuyler.

181. Head Quarters Albany, New York November 21, 1777. **Aide-de-Camp Robert Troup**<sup>(44)</sup> to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that **Sergeant Timothy Fone** of **Captain** [Jeremiah?] **Burrows'** Company of **Colonel** [Seth] **Warner's** Regiment has lodged a complaint against **Seth Stow** of **Captain** [John (Joseph)] **Savage's** Company of Artillery and a court martial has thus been ordered. Troup states the general wishes for Peter to immediately send Stow Albany. Robert states a report prevails of an attack on **General** [ ] **Vaughn's** Corps by the Continentals and Rebel Militia during their march to reinforce **General Howe**. Troup states they believe Vaughn's losses to be 2000 men (killed, wounded, and taken). Robert states the British are said to have made a second attack on the forts near Cheveause De Frize on the 5th of November with 3500 men, but were repelled after a great loss of life.

182. Head Quarters Albany, New York November 28, 1777. **Colonel Jacob Cuyler to Peter Gansevoort** stating that he has received Peter's letter written from Fort Dayton and that it reached him on the 24th. Cuyler states forty head of cattle are on their way to the garrison of Fort Schuyler. Jacob complains he has been devoid of funds for two months and has been



supplying the 4,000 troops of his command with his credit only. Jacob states he has no more than a few barrels of salted provisions at his disposal and that as soon as slays are able to travel he will send 100 barrels to Fort Schuyler; he also notes he has ordered **Mister [ ] Post** to forward all that he has.

183. Fort Schuyler, New York December 12, 1777. **Peter Gansevoort** to [ ] [ ] stating that he had, in his letter of the 1st instant, given the receiver an account of the state of the provisions at Fort Schuyler. Peter states he asked a man who had recently arrived at the post from the Little Falls, if any supplies were headed towards Fort and was answered in the negative. Peter expresses a fear his supply will be exhausted by the 19th. Gansevoort complains his post has been in short supply since May 6th of 1777, and that during the August siege he was forced to kill all of the milk cows, hogs, pigs, etc. which had belonged to the former inhabitants of the fort and which were confined within the *Fort['s] Ditch* during the siege. Peter states he is forwarding his letter by the hand of **Quarter Master Captain Thomas Williams**. Gansevoort also relates he has just received a letter from **Lieutenant [Isaac] Nichols** from Ticonderago informing him that **Captain [ ] Harmen** has gone to Albany.

184. Fort Schuyler, New York December 12, 1777. **Peter Gansevoort** to **General Philip Schuyler** stating that the bearer, **Captain Elias Van Benschoten** is the eldest captain of his regiment and desires to retire from the service and return to his family in Dutchess County. Peter highly commends the captain for his services to the rebel cause and states that Elias has expressed noble causes for his actions. Gansevoort states Van Benschoten has also agreed to return to the service in the case of an emergency or greater need.

185. Albany, New York December 16, 1777. **Jeremiah Van Rensselaer** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that he had received the inclosed letter from **the General** yesterday. Jeremiah states the general is concerned that a British deserter was allowed to enlist in Gansevoort's Regiment. Van Rensselaer states the arms requested for the regiment are ready and are to be sent by the earliest slays. Jeremiah also sends a stick of sealing wax to Peter from his own stock. Van Rensselaer asks that **Sergeant [ ] McLaughlin** be allowed to come down with the colonel if possible; otherwise McLaughlin is to be sent to Canojohary to secure the hides there and have them sent them down river on the returning slays. In respects to the letter of a **Mister [ ] Henry**, Jeremiah promises to see to its requests as soon as possible. Van Rensselaer relates a French Ship has arrived at Portsmouth with 40 brass field pieces, which are complete and mounted; nine-nine inch mortars, 5000 carbines and fuzies; as well as some large balls, shells, powder, and brimstone. Jeremiah states he is awaiting news of a battle in the south.

186. [Fort Schuyler, New York circa January 26, 1778]. **Peter Gansevoort** to **Henry Laurens** on the need for heavy artillery at Fort Schuyler. Peter relates a fear of another attack on Fort Schuyler which will require greater defenses. Peter states he made a return to **Major General Gates** of the Artillery &c necessary to ward off another siege. Gansevoort allows relates the road to the fortress will deteriorate severely with the spring thaw. Gansevoort extends his gratitude for his promotion to Colonel Commandant of Fort Schuyler.

186. Albany, New York January 26, 1778. **Peter Gansevoort** to **Major General** [Horatio] **Gates** begging leave to request from Congress some heavy artillery for Fort Schuyler. He warns that the fort will be lost if again besieged without greater defenses.

187. Albany, New York January 26, 1778. **Peter Gansevoort** to **William Duer** and [Gouverneur?] **Morris** stating that he has requested from **Major General Gates** some heavy artillery for Fort Schuyler. Peter repeats the themes of his letters to Gates and **Laurens** of the same dates. Gansevoort inquires as to whether he will receive any additional compensation as fort commandant over that of a regimental commandant. Peter complains his current pay does not allow for the purchase of table liquor. Gansevoort also inquires if he must continue to submit to his former superiors which he now out ranks and states if he must it will make his new commission nugatory and will require an additional act of the Congress to change.

188. Fort Schuyler, New York February 21, 1778. **Major Robert Cochran** to **Peter Gansevoort** (favored by **Captain** [Abram] **Swarthout**) stating that he has allowed Captain Swarthout and **Lieutenant** [Levi] **Stockwell** a furlough to care for their families until the last of March. Cochran states that **Captain Leonard Bleeker** delivered **Lieutenant Colonel Willett's** return to Albany on the 10th. Cochran also requests furlough. Cochran requests Gansevoort to obtain as much cloth as possible to make his son, who is at **Esquire** [ ] **Roorback's**, a desperately needed coat.

189. Fort Schuyler, New York February 21, 1778. **Lieutenant Colonel Marinus Willett, Captain Aaron Aorson, Captain Thomas DeWitt, Captain T. Jansen, Captain Cornelius T. Jansen, Captain Leonard Bleeker, Captain Henry Tiebout, Adjutant George Systez, Lieutenant Nanning Vander Heyden, Lieutenant Philip Conine, Lieutenant William Tapp, Lieutenant Gerrit Starts, Lieutenant Thomas Warner, Lieutenant Benjamin Bogardus, Lieutenant Moses Yeomen, Lieutenant William Colbrath, Ensign Christ. Hutton, Ensign Peter Magen, Ensign Josiah Bagely, Ensign Samuel Lewis, Ensign George L. Deniston, Ensign Matthew Potan, Surgeon Hunloke Woodruff, and Surgeon's Mate John Elliot** collectively ask they be relieved from Fort Schuyler and transferred to a post where their services will be more appropriately employed.

190. Johnstown, New York March 5, 1778. The **Marquis de Lafayette** to **Colonel Peter Gansevoort** expressing a great need to capture **Colonel** [Christopher] **Carleton** and ordering Peter to take all possible to actions to effect it. Lafayette states he has enlisted the aid of **Colonel** [ ] **Livingston** who knows Carleton well. The Marquis authorizes Peter to dispatch as many scouts as necessary to find the colonel and authorizes Peter to employ any measure which might be deemed helpful in capturing the said Carleton. Lafayette offers a reward of fifty guineas (hard money), in addition to any monies found on Carleton, to any party of soldiers or Indians who should bring in Carleton in alive. The Marquis states he believes the reward may stimulate the Indians to act.

190. Fort Schuyler, New York March 6, 1778. **Peter Gansevoort's** to **the officers of the Third**

**New York Regiment** stating that he has received their letter of the 26th instant and stating that there is nothing in his power he would not do for the honor and service of his corps. Peter states Fort Schuyler is of great importance to the Rebel Cause, the defense of the Western Frontiers depending upon it. Peter notes the **Senecas** and the **Cayugas** are refusing to attend a treaty and threaten them with retribution for their losses in the last campaign. Gansevoort feels it . . . *would be altogether repugnant to military orders for my Regiment in the Time of War & more particularly at the opening of a campaign to solicit an exchange of the Station which it is assigned.* Gansevoort expresses his admiration of the desire of his officers to learn the ways of the Grand Army.

192. Poughkeepsie, New York March 8, 1778. **George Clinton to General George Washington** stating that he had written to the General on the 5th instant expressing frustration with his inability to supply the Grand Army with provisions. Clinton states he has since been able to gather together about 400 barrels of pork from Westchester County and had issued **General [ ] Parsons** ample authority to impress as many wagons and teams in New York as necessary to convey the provisions to the troops. Clinton also encloses a copy of letters he had sent to the State of Connecticut and to the Congress.

193. Caughnawaga, New York March 11, 1778. **General Philip Schuyler** by order of **the Commissioners of Indian Affairs to Peter Gansevoort** ordering the colonel to supply those members of the Six Nations who have aligned themselves with the Rebels provisions whenever they should be at Fort Schuyler either on public service or when en route to treat with the Commissioners of Indian Affairs.

193. Albany, New York March 12, 1778. **Peter Gansevoort to Captain Leonard Bleeker** ordering Bleeker to proceed to York Town, Pennsylvania and present to the **Board of War** the necessity of providing the men of the garrison of Fort Schuyler with clothing. He also orders Leonard to wait upon their reply.

193. Albany, New York March 12, 1778. **Peter Gansevoort to Major General Gates, President of the Board of War** stating that he is forwarding a return of the clothing needed for the use of the Third New York Regiment by way of **Captain Leonard Bleeker**. Peter states that only half of the men in his regiment currently have shirts. Gansevoort states the local Indians are of late very friendly and he thus anticipates being able to finish Fort Schuyler without difficulties.

194. Fort Schuyler, New York April 2, 1778. **H[unloke] Woodruff to Peter Gansevoort** stating that he has written to **Doctor [ ] Johnson** for a supply of medicine and hospital stores. Woodruff requests that a careful soldier or a sergeant be appointed to take watch over them and to prevent the batteauxmen from pilfering any. Hunloke states they have had some fine weather, but it is still rainy; he also notes all of the snow about the fort is gone.

194. Fort Schuyler, New York April 3, 1778. **Quartermaster T[homas] William's** to **Peter Gansevoort** enclosing return of the rations due to the privates and noncommissioned officers at Fort Schuyler for the months of April, May, June, July, and August [of 1777]. William's returns are certified by **Mister Hanson**, Fort Schuyler's Commissary Thomas notes he is also sending a return of the rations credited to and received by the officers of the fort for the same months as above. The Quartermaster also notes that **Lieutenant Colonel Willett** tells him that the four servants of Gansevoort's Mess have not drawn any provisions and desires that Thomas insert them in the abstracts; Thomas states Willett's suggestion has been put in to effect.

195. Albany, New York April 4, 1778. [Peter Gansevoort to Major General Horatio Gates, President of the Board of War] stating that the returns he is forwarding demonstrates a need for an additional 1000 men to fully man Fort Schuyler's internal works, but he notes that an additional 400 men in addition to those already present would be able to hold out against an enemy three times their number. Peter complains he has but one half of a full artillery company and requests that the company be completed under the command of a good and active officer. Gansevoort states that Fort Dayton and Johnstown have been left without a garrison as **Colonel [ ] Livingston's** Regiment has been ordered down river, and he notes that some of the troops intended for Fort Schuyler will be needed at Fort Dayton and Johnstown to protect the inhabitants of Tryon County.

196. Fort Schuyler, New York April 15, 1778. **Lieutenant Colonel Marinus Willett** to [Peter Gansevoort] transmitting a return of sundry articles needed at Fort Schuyler. Marinus states he is fencing in the grasslands and gardens as instructed. Willett also states he has allowed the various officers to fence off their own small gardens. Marinus states the officers have subscribed to a weekly post which runs between Fort Schuyler and Albany and asks that the Post Master be the only one to detain their postage (but even then never for more than twenty-four hours). Willett rejoices at the news of clothing being destined for the garrison.

197. Fort Schuyler, New York April 15, 1778. **Surgeon Hunloke Woodruff** (as favored by **Mister [ ] Williams** to **Peter Gansevoort** enclosing a return of the number of rations charged against the mess each month, with the names of those in each mess. Hunloke notes he and **Doctor [ ] Elliot** have drawn out their accounts with the mess.

197. [Albany, New York] April 19, 1778. [Peter Gansevoort to [Horatio Gates?]] stating that he had early last fall sent a return to **General Gates** and had occasionally written to Gates, **Governor Clinton** and **the Congress** concerning the need for some heavy artillery at Fort Schuyler which have gone answered. Peter states he has learned from **Colonel [ ] Lewis** that the Board of War has ordered eight heavy cannon to Fort Schuyler, but that **Major [Simon?] Stevens** is refusing to send them without further orders. Gansevoort notes that if the British had with them during their siege some twelve and/or eighteen pound cannon, Fort Schuyler would have been lost. Peter also relates that **Colonel [ ] Gouvion**, the French engineer now present at Fort Schuyler, has been ordered to return to the Southern Army by the **Marquis de Lafayette** and leaves him in need of another engineer.

198. Fort Schuyler, New York April 15, 1778. **Lieutenant Colonel Marinus Willett** to **Peter Gansevoort** on the receipt of some shirts, shoes, and other clothing for the garrison, but noting that they will not be enough to supply everyman with two. Marinus believes every man should also have a knapsack and a canteen, should the corps be required to march. Willett also requests seeds for the gardens at Fort Schuyler. Marinus also reports that **Mister [ ] Colbrath** and **Sergeant [ ] Bogardus** are being sent out to recruit men for **Captain Thomas DeWitt's** Company. Willett states the officers of the garrison complain of a need for paper.

199. Poughkeepsie, New York April 30, 1778. **Governor Clinton** to **Colonel Peter Gansevoort** forwarding an order from **the Committee of Congress** which rearranges the makeup of New York Regiments which are not currently with the Grand Army. Clinton forwards the new regimental model with his orders. Peter is instructed to determine which officers will be deranged and to then return their names to the Committee.

200. [Poughkeepsie, New York April 30, 1778]. *PLAN OF REORGANIZATION.*

*Establishment of the Infantry of the American Army. That each Battalion shall consist of nine Companies of which one shall be of Light Infantry to be kept compleat by Drafts from the Battalion and organized during the Campaign into Corps of light Troops. Number Rank Each of the field officers to 1 Colonel command a Company and 1 . . . Lieut. Colo. Lieut. of the Colos. Company to 1 . . . Major have the rank of Captain. 6 . . . Captains 1 . . . Capt. Lieut. of Colo. Comp'y 8 . . . Lieutenants 9 . . . Ensigns . . . Paymaster . . . Adjutant Those Officers to be taken from the . . . Qr. Master Line. the paymaster chosen by 1 . . . Surgeon the Corps, the others offic'rs on Re-. . . Mate com. of field Officers from among the Subalterns. 29 Com. Officers.*

*Whenever a Regt.. shall become vacant by a Promotion, the Resignation or the Death of a Colo., the Lieut. Colo. to take the command, but no promotion to be made in the Regiment so that in time there will be but Two field Officers to a Regt.*

201. Poughkeepsie, New York May 4, 1778. **Captain Abraham Swartwout** to **Peter Gansevoort** (in Albany, New York) stating that he has received the Colonel's letter of the 30th of April and that he is sending a return of the names of those recruited and offered a bounty by **Sergeant Bogardus**. Swartwout requests that the paymaster not pay the bounties until he, Abraham, can be present. Swartwout also reports that **Thomas Taylor**, **Samuel Geke**,<sup>(45)</sup> **Moses Dent**, and **Jeremiah Weldon** have received their bounties. Abraham requests Sergeant Bogardus to return back as soon as possible to assist in further recruiting.

201. [Albany, New York circa early April, 1778]. [Peter Gansevoort] to **Governor George Clinton** reporting he had yesterday received the Governor's instructions on re-organizing the regiment, and complaining of the loss of some very fine officers. Peter states he is willing to forgo his pay and rations if allowed to retain those deranged. Gansevoort again pleads for an

answer to his requests to **General Gates**, the Governor, and the Congress for heavier artillery at Fort Schuyler. Peter also notes a great need for more clothing at the fort.

202. [Albany, New York circa early April, 1778]. [Peter Gansevoort to General Gates] stating that he still retains hope of getting an answer from General Gates, the Congress, or **Governor Clinton** on the continued need for larger artillery at Fort Schuyler. Gansevoort states he has sent to **Major** [Ebenezer] **Stevens** a return of the artillery supplies needed at Fort Schuyler and has only received a partial supply in response. Peter colonel absolves himself of any consequence to Fort Schuyler should his requests go unheeded.

203. Poughkeepsie, New York May 17, 1778. **Governor George Clinton** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that he has received the Governor's letter of the 9th instant. Clinton states he has not yet received any permission from the Congress to forward any large guns to Fort Schuyler. Clinton states that aside from the lack of Congress' permission, there are no large guns to be had. The Governor notes the heavy artillery of Ticonderago was lost. George does express hope though through a line from **General** [Thomas] **Conway** stating that the big guns of Ticonderago can possible retrieved. George states that the State Store under the direction of **Mister** [ ] **Henry** is the only hope of obtaining clothing for the Third New York Regiment. Clinton states that on March 9th there were said to be 2428 shirts and 93pairs of stockings in the State's Store and notes that he has ordered one-fourth of those present to be forwarded to Fort Schuyler; and the remainder to then be divided amongst the Third New Regiment and the other four New York regiments according to their needs as expressed in returns.

204. Poughkeepsie, New York May 17, 1778. **Robert Benson**<sup>(46)</sup> to **Peter** Gansevoort stating that after **Governor Clinton** had written his letter to Gansevoort today, an officer of the Third New York Regiment had arrived with return of the clothing needed by the troops. The Governor states that in the future a return of clothing needed, as well one noting the amount on hand will be needed in order to do justice to all of the troops.

205. Fort Schuyler, New York May 30, 1778. Copy of a letter written by **Colonel Peter Gansevoort** to **Captain Elias Van Benschoten**, **Captain Abram Swartout**, **Lieutenant Levi Stockwell**, **Lieutenant Henry Defendorf**, **Lieutenant Moses Yeomans**, **Lieutenant Thomas Ostrander**, **Lieutenant Isaac Bogart**, **Lieutenant Thomas Warner**, **Lieutenant John Ball**, **Lieutenant Nanning Van Der Heyden**, **Adjutant George Sytez**, and **Quarter Master Thomas Williams** stating that they have been left out of the new arrangement of the Third New York Regiment as ordered by **Governor Clinton** and the Congress. Peter assures the officers deranged their dismissal has occurred through no fault of their own. Gansevoort extends to the dismissed officers the united thanks of their Country for their *Exemplary brave spirited and Soldier like Behaviour* during their stay at Fort Schuyler.

205. Fort Schuyler, New York June 1, 1778. **Colonel Peter Gansevoort** to **Governor George Clinton** stating that he, **Lieutenant Colonel Marinus Willett**, and **Major Robert Cochran** had met in council and made the adjustments made necessary by Congress' rearrangement of their

regiment. Gansevoort, Willett, and Cochran note that **Lieutenants Thomas Warner, Levi Stockwell, and Moses Yeomans** would be of good use in commanding any vessels to be used in the defense of the Hudson River. Peter, Marinus, and Robert collectively recommend that Lieutenant Levi Stockwell's merit be represented to the Governor by Lieutenant Colonel Willett a captaincy in the Ranger Service. **Lieutenant Isaac Bogart** and **Quarter Master Thomas Williams** are recommenced for service in either the Quarter Master's or Forage Master's Department. **Lieutenant Henry Defendorf, Lieutenant John Ball, and Ensign [Mathew] Potan** [a.k.a. Mathew Potam] are noted to have long wished for retirement from the service. **Lieutenants Thomas Ostrander** and **Lieutenant Nanning Van Der Heyden** are noted to have little to offer the service by their retention, but the regimental commanders states they are willing to remain in the Continental Line. **Captain Abraham Swartout** is said to be qualified for any office which might be found for him to fill. Peter states he is at a loss as to what to do with the other officers left out by the new arrangement.

207. Albany, New York June 3, 1778. **Leonard Gansevoort** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that he has heard of Peter's safe arrival at Fort Schuyler from **Ensign Potan** and noting that all of their family is well and sending their best wishes. Leonard notes the Senecas had delivered up their prisoner[s] to the Commissioners on the 2nd of June and were quite encomiums of their being lenient to them. Leonard also states the British are evacuating Philadelphia and loading their artillery and baggage on board their vessels. Leonard notes there are also signs of a British evacuation from New York City, but he relates a belief that **Sir Henry Clinton** will not withdraw from America without at least one engagement with the Rebels. Peter's brother also notes that **General [Charles] Lee** has been exchanged and now commands 9,000 Continentals in New Jersey; and that **George Washington** remains at Valley Forge with 7, 000 Continentals and 4,000 Militia. Leonard states that Washington has ordered all of the New York's Militia to the Highlands until he can be certain of Clinton's intentions. Leonard states 5,000 Militiamen have been gathered in New England for the defense of West Point. Leonard reports that a naval engagement between the French and British off the coast of France I which the British were defeated.

208. Schenectady, New York June 3, 1778. **Lieutenant Colonel Marinus Willett** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that he arrived in the Schenectady at two o'clock [P.M.] and has the found the Militia to be out to quell a British and Indian attack. Marinus notes **Captain Abraham Swartwout** is in Schenectady on his way to Fort Schuyler with a few recruits and to finish his business there. Willett states **Ensign [Samuel?] Lewis** is to point out to the colonel a person recruited for the artillery by Swartwout who is of a suspicious personage. Willett also sends along a post for **Doctor Woodruff**.

208. Schenectady, New York 3 o'clock P.M., June 3, 1778. **Colonel Richard Varick** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that after their [sic] departure they had rowed and drove down as far as **Mister [ ] Warmert's** [Warmouth's] on the Mohawk River [Stone Arabia] by about ten o'clock. Varick notes they were able to bag a buck in the rapids just below the Little Falls; the deer is said to have withstood two musket shots in the river and one on the bank before falling on his second spring. Varick states that on the proceeding Saturday a battle was fought between

**Captain [ ] Patrick's** Company of **Colonel Ichabod Alden's** Regiment and **Barent Frey** and **Captain [Joseph] Brant** of the British Service; Richard states this battle resulted in the deaths of Patrick, his lieutenant, a corporal, and 19 privates; the command of the Rebels devolving to a sergeant. Colonel Varick states the sergeant commanding was also wounded along with four privates. Richard reports that Captain Patrick and his lieutenant . . . *where cut open from the Crown of the Head to the Private parts & most inhumanly butchered* and that the Rebel Militia is out in pursuit. Richard notes the British have burnt *Cobel's Kill* and plundered Durlough, but are being pursued by the Militia. Varick states that **General Washington** had told **General Gates** the British were embarking for New York and that two divisions of the Grand Army were on their march for the Hudson River. Varick states Washington assumes from intelligence he had received from a **Mister [ ] Glen** the British intend to take the Highlands & resume the war in New York. Richard states that **Billy Gilliland, officer Van Dyke, & many others are at length come from New York to Fish Kills**. Varick also states he and his deputies have been ordered to join the Army. Richard states that one of the soldiers enlisted by **Captain Swartwout** had come off with **Brigade Major [Daniel] Hammell** to **General James Clinton's** from New York and is of a suspicious character. Varick states Major Hammell was said to have gone off to the British on the day the Fort Montgomery was lost, but that he, Hammell, claims to have been captured despite the extraordinary liberties he was allowed while being held in New York City. Varick orders Gansevoort to take measures to isolate the person of suspicion from the artillery stores and from anything else of consequence. Richard states the soldier in question claims to have been twice captured by the British.<sup>(47)</sup>

210. Fort Albany, New York June 5, 1778. **Lieutenant Colonel Marinus Willett** to **Peter Gansevoort** suggesting that as Colonel Varick had informed Peter of his suspicions of the actions of a man recruited for the artillery and mentioned in his, Marinus', letter from Schenectady; a written examination of the person in question followed by a written cross examination might lead to some discovery(s). Willett states he plans to depart for Poughkeepsie soon.

211. Schenectady, New York June 6, 1778. **Henry Glen** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that **Sergeant [ ] Hearing** with a parcel of recruits is detained due to an alarm up river. Glen states the boats will be allowed to go off as soon as **Mister [ ] Duncan** of Duaneburgh thinks they will pass safely. Henry notes the British have burnt of Mayfield and some houses nearby at Sacandago. Glen states the British Force which burnt Mayfield consisted of between 60 and 70 men, per an escaped prisoner. Henry notes however that **Major [Jelles?] Fonda** estimates the British force to be several hundred, but states that did not take any women or children. Glen notes that Fonda stated the Militia had entirely left Johnstown and gathered together in the Conajoga Church crying for assistance. Henry also notes a portion of the Tryon County Militia is garrisoning Cherry Valley. Glen states **Colonel [Abraham] Van Alstyne** and **Major Henry Van Rensselaer** had left Schenectady this morning with 214 militiamen to relieve Tryon County. Glen reports a rumor prevails of two divisions of the Grand Army being at New Windsor on the Highlands. Finally, Glen reports the killing of **Mathias Warmout** near Cherry Valley.

211. Albany, New York June 15, 1778. **John Hanson** to [Peter Gansevoort] stating that he has



not heard from Peter for some time. John sends Peter the latest newspaper and requests it be forwarded on to **Mister [ ] Ament**. Hanson relates that they hourly expect to hear the British have evacuated Philadelphia. John states that **General [Enoch] Poor's** and **General Patterson's** Brigades are on the Highlands. Hanson relates that **General [Charles] Lee** is said in New Jersey with 5,000 troops. Hanson states he has heard that: *The Head Tories of Philadelphia are on Board of 14 Ships---- which Gen'l Sr. Henry Clinton has allow'd them*. Clinton is said to have demanded £60,000 to spare the Philadelphia inhabitants from the torch. **Sir William Howe** actually Sailed for England on the Day of May last Past on which occasion the City of Philadelphia was illuminated ---- War is Certainly declared by England against France.

212. Albany, New York Wednesday Morning June 10, 1778. **Colonel Richard Varick to Peter Gansevoort** forwarding news of the actions in New York City. Varick states the brigades of **Generals Poor** and **Patterson** have arrived in the Highlands. Richard states the British have evacuated Philadelphia, but their destination remains unknown though it is thought they may be destined for New York. Varick states a part of the Grand Army is also en route to South Carolina in attempt to secure the port there. Varick states **General Gate's** Army is gathering quickly and is thought to be near 10,000 strong. Varick states he has been ordered to Headquarters and will thus be leaving on Friday. Richard sends his regards to **Mister [ ] Rensselaer** and **Major Cochran**.

213. Albany, New York June 15, 1778. **Deputy Commissary General of Purchases Jacob Cuyler to Peter Gansevoort** stating that he intends to send his first drove of cattle to Fort Schuyler by the middle of next month. Cuyler states he also hopes to forward some flour and other provisions and asks Gansevoort to send a guard to the German Flatts to escort them.

213. Valley Forge Camp, Pennsylvania June 13, 1778. **Marquis de Lafayette to Colonel Peter Gansevoort** stating that *A part of the Indians are going away and the others stay with me whose wives and children I Recommend to your attentive care; as their husbands are fighting for us . . . I Recommend also to you the family of **Nicolas** and two other Frenchmen who have been very useful to **Mister [ ] de Gouvion**.*<sup>(48)</sup>

215. Albany, New York June 15, 1778. **John Stark to Peter Gansevoort** stating that he has received Peter's letter of the 11th instant and that the letter will be forwarded as soon as possible. Stark also states he has no new information to divulge.

215. Fort Schuyler, New York June 17, 1778. The Report of the Court Martial of **John Henry** of **Captain [Robert] Walker's** Company of **Colonel John Lamb's** Regiment of Artillery for attempting desertion. The members of the court were **President Captain James Gray**, **Captain Lieutenant Savage** of the Artillery; **Lieutenant Thomas McClellan**; **Ensign [John] Spoor**; and **Ensign [Josiah?] Bagley**. Witness **Sergeant John Kertill** states he was summoned to speak with **Colonel Gansevoort** on the 10th of June and was told **Samuel Geake** was suspected of being a spy by **Colonel Varick**; and that **Major Hamill** had also been detained on suspicion of being a Loyalist. Kertill states that Gansevoort requested him to assist in an investigating of the charges.

Sergeant Kertill states he requested Gansevoort's permission to have **Sergeant Frances Jackson** assist him and received the colonel's approval. Kertill states he then went to Geake and told him they thought he might be of the same mind, upon which Geake related he had been held in **Livingston's** Sugar House and had been sent for by **Lord Rodnam** and received from him received a sum of money and orders to go with Major Hamill and **Sergeant [ ] Hamilton**. Kertill further states that Geake told him he was instructed by Lord [Francis] Rawdon [son of John Rawdon of County Down, Ireland, Earl of Moira] to enlist in the artillery and enlist the aid of many Irishmen as possible. Geake is said to have told Kertill that when enough men were raised to form a brigade of Irishman, Hamill would be made a colonel over them. Kertill also states Geake was to gain as much intelligence possible on the state of the garrison of Fort Schuyler, and on the ammunition supply, provisions, number of troops, etc. Geake then is said to have said he was to enlist the aid of as many Rebels as possible and spike the cannon before proceeding with his recruits to Philadelphia where he would immediately receive a lieutenancy. Geake is then said to have told Kertill he intended to leave on the next provision day along with Heny and **Thomas Taylor**. Sergeant Kertill also states that after the Tattoo was beaten on the 17th of June; he, Geake, Heny, and Jackson met in a small room behind the barracks and signed an oath to one another reading: *We the undernamed promise to be true to each other and never to divulge to any person whatever unless with each others consent in Deserting the American Army until we join the British Forces at Philadelphia, as Witness our Hands this 17th Day of June 1778.* [Signed] *Frances Jackson, John Kertill, Sam'l Geak, John Heny, his Mark*. The aforesaid document is noted to be displayed before the court. Geake is then said to have asked Sergeant Jackson for a Bible to swear their oaths upon and that instead of returning with a Bible, Jackson returned with the guard. John Heny was then asked by Sergeant Jackson to reveal who first asked him to desert to which Heny replied Samuel Geake. Sergeant Kertill then asked Geake if he knew of a plot for thirty men planning to leave on the next provision day to which Geake denied any knowledge. Sergeant Jackson being sworn stated that he was told by Geake that he had left New York with Major Hamill and that Hamill swore Geake to secrecy and told him he, Geake, would receive a commission in Lord Rodnam's Brigade in which Hamill was to be a colonel; upon a their arrival at Philadelphia. Sergeant Jackson states that upon be asked for a Bible to swear an oath upon; he instead brought back the guard and arrested Geake and Heny. Sergeant Kertill then asked Heny who first enticed him to desert and Heny answered it was Geake. Sergeant Kertill asked Geake if intended to go off with 30 men on the next provision day, to which Geake answered that only he, **Corporal [ ] Stevens** and **Thomas Taylor** intended to go off. Heny upon being examined by the court states he did not intend on deserting from the regiment, but admits to having been intoxicated at the time of his signing the oath. Heny was thus found guilty of the charge and was sentenced to 500 lashes on his bare back and being drummed out of the fort with a rope about his neck. On the 18th of June, 1778 Corporal Stevens who had been confined on suspicion of intending to desert appeared before the same court and was found not guilty. Thomas Taylor then appeared before the same court and was found not guilty.

217. [Fort Schuyler, New York circa June 17, 1778]. **Samuel Geake** testified in the Court Martial upon the request of **John Heny** that **Lord Rodnam** desired him to travel from New York towards Philadelphia by way of the Jerseys and en route to speak to every Irishman he might encounter and ask them to join him, Rodnam, at Philadelphia. Rodnam is also said to have told Geake that a man had been sent to Greenwich with the purpose of meeting Geake. Samuel states that upon his release he went to Greenwich and there met **Major Hamill** and upon

addressing the major by name, he was denied recognition by the major. Geake states that upon crossing the river in a boat with four *Green Coats* and landing at Wehawken Ferry, Major Hamill acknowledge he had received the same instructions as Geake, but that he, Hamill, had no intentions to follow through on them. Geake states he advised the major to go directly to the governor, but that *Major Hamill, "said they had better let the matter rest and say nothing about it," after which they went together to Poughkeepsie where Major Hamill put Geake to board at Hendrickson's.*

217. Fort Schuyler, New York June 27 [sic], 1778. **Samuel Geake** testifies that he saw **Major Hamill** in New York [City] handing out clothing to the prisoners there. Geake states he was later set at large after having been engaged in the sail-making business to *Earn his Bread*. Samuel states that upon his release from prison he was approached by **Lord Rodnam** and requested towards Philadelphia and engage into the British Service as many Irishman as he could and for which he would be made a lieutenant. in Rodnam's Brigade. Geake states he was according given a letter to convey to a German Officer at Greenwich ordering him to convey Geake across the river. Samuel states that before he left the New York side he met Major Hamill and called the major by name, but was rebuked. Geake states that upon landing on the Jersey Shore Major Hamill acknowledged his identity and confirmed that he received from Rodnam the same instructions as Geake and that he, Hamill, had been promised a lieutenant colonelcy in Rodnam's Corps. Geake goes on to say that Hamill intended to ignore the instructions he had been given, but rebuked the suggestion of going to the governor with their plight. Samuel also states that Hamill instructed him to say *they were confined on Board one of the Vessels and was to be taken on Shore to be Examined concerning the Escape of some prisoners & being Guarded by A Hessian Serjt. and two privates and Made a halt at the Corner of New Street at a publick house kept by A wooman who understands no German, Neither did the Hessians Serjt. understand English, but he requested by the Serjt. to go in with a dollar which he the sd. Hamill presented him with to buy some Liquor but he the said Serjt. understanding no English or the woman no German he desired the two Hessians to go in and Interpret for the Serjt. which they did and Gave the Examinent and Major Hamill an opportunity to Escape, which they affected and hid themselves untill Night among the Ruins of the Burnt houses, and as Soon as it was dark they proceeded along Shore& found a canoe at Grenwich which they Crossed Over to the Jersey Shore.* His affidavit is co-signed by **Colonel Peter Gansevoort**.

218. [Fort Schuyler, New York undated, but related to the court martial of John Henry]. **Peter Gansevoort** to **Governor George Clinton** in which Peter states he had received a letter a few days earlier from **Colonels Varick** and **Willett** stating that one **Geake** was in league with **Major Hamill** in a conspiracy against the United States and that he, Peter, would forward the particulars of the case as soon as the court martial proceedings against Geake were completed.

218. Fort Schuyler, New York June 23, 1778. **Peter Gansevoort** to **Jacob Cuyler** stating that he has received the Jacob's letter of the 15th and that he and Major Cochran had inventoried their provisions, and those of the Indian Department, and found them to be sufficient for only two months. Peter complains the families of the Indians serving under **General George Washington** consuming a great deal of provisions. Gansevoort requests a quantity of cattle and salt, as he has

only two barrels of salt beef left at Fort Schuyler. Peter states that **Lieutenant Gerrit Staats** and a sergeant from the Third New York are out to Oswegatchie in attempt to take prisoners.

219. Schenectady, New York June 27, 1778. **William Gardiner** to **Colonel Peter Gansevoort** stating that he received the Colonel's letter on the 27th with some certificates. Gardiner states his return has been delayed by the death of his wife on the 18th [of June] after a long and sore fever. William states he will return as soon as he can find someone to care for his children.

219. Oneida, New York Friday A.M. [circa June 27], 1778. **James Deane**<sup>(49)</sup> to **Colonel Peter Gansevoort** with news that three Oneida Indians had returned from the Lake, and reported seeing two birch canoes near the east end of the [Oneida] lake that appeared to be full of men. Deane also states the Indians reported seeing two canoes going to Oswego on the afternoon of the proceeding day. James states the Oneidas have sent out an additional two scouts on different routes. Deane asks that if **Skanondo** and his party should be yet at Fort Schuyler, they be sent back immediately.

220. Albany, New York June 29, 1778. **Colonel Jacob Cuyler** to **Colonel Peter Gansevoort** stating that he has received Peter's letter of the 23rd and is happy to hear that Gansevoort is sending a party to accept a drove of fat cattle at Fort Dayton. Jacob states the said drove of cattle should be ready to leave Albany for Fort Dayton by July 2nd, and should reach the German Flatts by the 7th. Cuyler states the British are on the march from Philadelphia to the Jerseys and states the British were at *Mount holly* on the 20th with **General Lee** on their right flank and another general officer on their left; **George Washington** was stated to be fifteen miles in their rear and in pursuit.

221. Albany, New York June 29, 1778. [General John Stark] to **Peter** Gansevoort stating that a man from the Third New York Regiment had been taken in the company of some Loyalists at Schoharie. Stark states reports have been received from the Jersey State of an attack on **General Henry Clinton's** front by **General** [William] **Maxwell** and that 600 Hessian Troops were captured with 150 more coming in later. **General** [Charles] **Lee** is reported to be in front of **Clinton's** Corps with three brigades. **General George Washington** was noted to be about eleven miles in the rear of Clinton.

221. Schenectady, New York June 31, 1778 [sic the 30th]. **Henry Glen** to **Colonel Peter Gansevoort** stating that he has heard from **Colonel Cuyler** that a drove of oxen is destined for the relief of Fort Schuyler and that Glen expects a strong guard from Gansevoort to meet them at Fort Dayton. Glen also notes that tar, nails, and some iron are being sent for the use of **Mister** [ ] **Tucker**. Henry also states a convoy of batteaus is destined for Fort Schuyler and believes the convoy to be somewhere between Fort Schuyler and Fort Dayton at present. Glen expresses a need for a guard which is separate from that of the batteau's guard due to the large distance between the river and the road at some points. Glen states he has specifically forbidden **Captain** [ ] **Peters** of the Batteau Service from departing Fort Dayton until Gansevoort's troops should arrive to escort the batteaus. Glen also reports that **John Pearson** of **Captain Henry Tiebout's**

Company of the Third New York Regiment had been captured behind Schoharie with some Loyalists and sent to **General Stark**. Glen states Pearson was granted a furlough on the 21st of March by Lieutenant Colonel Willett, but was to be back in 20 days.

222. Schenectady, New York July 1, 1778. **Sarah Culbertson** to **Colonel Peter Gansevoort** concerning a debt owed to her by **Denis McCarty** of the Third New York Regiment. Sarah states that when **John Gorrell** died in the hospital, McCarty took John's money upon which he was ordered to repay the funds by the Doctor. Culbertson states McCarty borrowed from her seven pounds and promised to repay her in four to five days; and has since refused to reimburse her. Sarah also states the Post, one [ ] **Cassidy**, is trustworthy and will carry the money to her. Sarah also notes that she finds trust in Colonel Gansevoort per the words of **her husband** at the hour of his death.

223. New Windsor, [New York] July 7, 1778. **Lieutenant Colonel Marinus Willett** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that he has just arrived at New Windsor from Head Quarters and has the honor of seeing *the Great General Washington* command in the Battle of Monmouth. Willett relates he is now en route to Fish Kill where he has left his baggage. Marinus also states he intends to place his name upon the rolls of the Adjutant General of **Washington's** Army when it arrives at Kings Ferry on the North River so that he might learn the science of *camp duty*.

224. Albany, New York July 7, 1778. **John Stark** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that he had received the colonel's letter of the 2nd instant. Stark relates a report of heavy firing at Rhode Island, but states an inability to confirm it. Stark also reports the interception of a letter addressed to **Joseph Brant** suggesting an impending attack on Fort Schuyler in the near future.

224. Albany, New York July 9, 1778. **Leonard Gansevoort** to **his brother, Peter Gansevoort** stating that **General Stark** has ordered **Colonel Ichabod Alden's** Regiment to reinforce Fort Schuyler. Leonard also informs Peter he has written to **General Washington** for another body of troops to reinforce the west and stating that he believes the new troops will arrive in 20 days. Peter's brother also relates that *a body of Troops that are marched to Niagara & Detroit from Pittsburgh and the Ohio will doubtless cause a division in the Army that are coming agt. Fort Schuyler*. Leonard reports that: *The Enemy have lost since they left Philadelphia including the Action at Monmouth Court house in New Jersey 3076 Men by Gen Washington own letter to Genl. Gates ---- no inconsiderable Army*. Gansevoort also states reports are being received in Halifax that the British Army is expected to be there which may give the Americans some respite in the South. Leonard states 22 ships of the French Navy are said to be en route to *Chesepeak Bay* in hopes of gaining a reprisal for the ships they had lost to the British.

225. [Fort Schuyler, New York July 10, 1778]. **Peter Gansevoort Junior** to General [John Stark] reporting that **Lieutenant** [Thomas] **McClellan**<sup>(50)</sup> had returned today from Oswego after destroying all of the buildings on Monday last. Peter notes that previous to the destruction of the buildings, *McClellan Removed the wife of an inhabitant of that part to an out building with her children, Bedding Clothes, provision Sufficient & Necessary furniture, also destroyed a Small*

*Quantity of Publick Provision, Ammunition & other Stores, and Brought with them a Lad of about 14 years old, the son of who Informs us that a Body of troops at Bucks Island somewhat above Oswegatchie, transporting provisions to Niagara, and that all the Onondagas & Senecas are gone to the Susquehana, which . . . Corresponds, because not one was to be found at the fishing place usually their Resort at this time of year.* Peter also states an Oneida Indian scout is out to learn the enemy's attentions in the west by infiltrating the their camps, is due to report back by the middle of next week.

226. Albany, New York July 10, 1778. [General John Stark] to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that he has received Peter's of the 6th and is sending him a reinforcement under the command of [Lieutenant] **Colonel [William] Stacy**. The General also encloses an account of a skirmish between the Rebels and the rear of the British Army and states that Peter will be able to get the particulars of it from Colonel Stacy.

226. Albany, New York July 10, 1778. **Colonel Jacob Cuyler** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that **Colonel [Ichabod] Alden's** Regiment had left Albany last night. Cuyler states he will send forty head of fat cattle for Fort Schuyler out next Monday morning, which should reach Fort Dayton by Saturday and remain there until Peter sends for them. Colonel Cuyler states the cattle will be cared for at Fort Dayton by Mister **John Post**.

227. Caughnawaga, New York<sup>(51)</sup> July 12, 1778. **Lieutenant Colonel William Stacy** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that **General Stark's** upon receiving Peter's letter, ordered him to march to Fort Schuyler with about 200 men. Stacy relates that **Paymaster Rensselaer** has informed him of the possibility of there being no room in the barracks for many of the troops as he has only seven tents with him. Stacy asks that a guide be sent to them as they are unacquainted with the roads. William also notes: *Luke Cassity Delivered one Jno. Pearson, a Prisoner, Belonging to your Ret. to my Guard, In Order to Bring to the garrison but has Unfortunately Escaped but notes that he Pearson had since escaped.*

228. German Flatts, New York July 19, 1778. **Colonel Peter Bellinger** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that yesterday he had received news of the destruction of Andrews Town about eight miles to the south. Bellinger states four men had been killed and the rest taken prisoner along with those at Springfield; no women or children being harmed. Bellinger complains he has repeatedly asked for assistance from Albany without result. Bellinger states the Indians are constantly destroying in the back settlements and notes that without a proper reinforcement he will be forced to abandon the German Flatts.

228. Albany, New York July 19, 1778. **General Philip Schuyler** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that he has received the Colonel's letter of the 10th. The General relates he has no idea of the enemy's intentions at Buck Island and sends news of the French Fleet's arrival in the Chesapeake Bay and their intentions to be piloted up as far as Sandy Hook. Schuyler states Rebel pilots are on their march through the Jerseys to guide the fleet into New York Harbor. Philip states the Congress is sending a large body of troops to the westward. Schuyler states the **Good Peter**

**Scanando** and two other Indians had last week made a request for provisions from Fort Schuyler; and he notes it should be allowed to reduce the likelihood of another siege on the fortress. The General also sends his regards to **Misters Hansen** and **Deane**.

229. Albany, New York July 19, 1778. Cal[eb] **Stark, Major of Brigade** to **Brigadier General John Stark**<sup>(52)</sup> to **Peter Gansevoort** with the news that **Colonel Alden's** Regiment has been ordered to return to Cherry Valley if no immediate danger to Fort Schuyler can be found. Caleb also sends word that the French have arrived on the American Coast with 12 ships of sail, 6 frigates, and four sea bucks; and notes that since their arrival they had sunk a British ship of 26 guns. Stark states the French Fleet is bound for Sandy Hook.

230. Albany, New York July 23, 1778. **Jeremiah Van Rensselaer** to **Peter Gansevoort** relaying the news of the French Fleet's arrival at Watring Place, nine miles below New York. Jeremiah states he finds this news highly unlikely. Jeremiah states that **Doctor [ ] Treat** tells him that the French Admiral has offered the services of 5,000 men to General Washington in order to rid the City of New York of British. Van Rensselaer states the French Admiral had also sent to Sandy Hook 100 head of beef. Jeremiah confides a hope to be in New York [City] within eight weeks and relates a desire to join the Fourth New York Regiment in the field.

231. Albany, New York July 23, 1778. **Leonard Gansevoort** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that he has yet to receive the letter sent to him by Peter in the hands of **Luke** [sic]. Leonard states there is no new news on the intentions of the British though it appears they may intend to garrison New York. Leonard states the French Fleet has definitely reached the American Coast and states he is awaiting to learn if Great Britain is willing to engage in a sea battle between the combined fleets of France and the United States more three thousand miles from home.

231. Albany, New York July 23, 1778. **John Stark** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that he has received Gansevoort's letter of the 16th instant. Stark relates news of the French landing a number of their men on Staten Island. John also states the British troop transports are leaving New York by the way of *the Sound*. The General states **General Washington** has promised him a reinforcement in a few days.

231. Schenectady, New York July 24, 1778. **Henry Glen** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that *As the Situation of the communication between this and Fort Schuyler is so alarming of the Savages &c. that I cannot with propriety order the Captains of the Battoemen to go on to Fort Schuyler unless a guard from F. Dayton to F. Schuyler . . .* Glen reports that **Captain Peters** is en route to Fort Schuyler with nine batteaus which collectively carry 11 barrels of rum, 5 barrels of salt, some flour, clothing for **Captain Savage's** Company, and some stores for **Captain [ ] Tucker**. Henry states the boats should reach the German Flatts next Thursday with instructions to leave the supplies and return immediately to Schenectady for another loading unless they are met by an escort from Gansevoort's Regiment.

232. Albany, New York July 23, 1778. **Jeremiah Van Rensselaer** to **Peter Gansevoort** reporting the *French Congress fleet* has blocked the British Fleet into New York Harbor. A gentleman from on board one of the French Ships is said to have reported that 27 British supply ships had been captured and sailed to Philadelphia; amongst these ships were eight provision vessels from Ireland. Jeremiah states that yesterday a report was received of **General Gates** being ordered to Long Island to act in conjunction with the French Forces which have landed on the south side of Long Island. Jeremiah states if this correct two brigades of the army's main body will march from General Washington's Headquarters at White Plains and cross over at Stamford. Jeremiah expresses a belief the rebels will possess New York by September 1st. Van Rensselaer states that 640 rebels freed from New York are said to have had nothing to eat for 74 days but rice; the British being desperately short of bread. Jeremiah states that on the 22nd, the Fourth Pennsylvania Regiment with a detachment from **Morgan's** Rifle Corps had arrived at Albany on their march westward.

233. Boston, Massachusetts July 28, 1778. [George Meason] to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that a good supply of clothing will soon arrive at Fish Kill. Meason requests a return of the clothing needed by the troops at Fort Schuyler for this year and next as each man should be able to obtain a complete uniform from the supply recently received from France. Meason notes he will soon return to Fish Kill, New York.

234. Poughkeepsie, New York July 29, 1778. **Deputy Secretary Abraham B. Banker** to **Abraham Ten Broeck** reporting the following appointments in Abraham's brigade: **Peter I. Van Valkenburgh** to ensign in **Robert Van Rensselaer's** Regiment on June 20, 1778; **Captain James MaGee**, **Lieutenant Joseph Fitch**, **Second Lieutenant Abraham Ostrander**, **Ensign Martin C. Van Debergh** and **Ensign Barent C. Van Debergh** appointed officers in **Colonel Killian Van Rensselaer's** Regiment on June 25, 1778; **Major Ebenezer Allen** and **Adjutant John Younglove** in **Colonel Lewis Van Woert's** Regiment on May 20, 1778; and Ten Broeck to Brigadier General. Banker's letter also notes that *His Excellency* set out this morning for Headquarters.

235. German Flatts, New York July 29, 1778. **Henry Starring** to **Peter Gansevoort** concerning the killing of one of his oxen and two hogs by the soldiers of the Third New York Regiment and some batteaumen at the time they were down for lime. The killing of the ox was witnessed by **Frederick Harter**, and the soldiers of **Captain [ ] Peterson's** [a.k.a. Peter's] Batteau Company are said to have admitted they took part in consuming the pork. Starring states the hides of both hogs and the head of one was found by him afterwards. These injustices were said to have been committed near **Thompson's** House.

235. Albany, New York July 29, 1778. **Gerrit W. Van Schaick** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that he had been *slightly reprehended* in his sister's letters for not writing the Colonel. Gerrit states the *French Admiral Count d'Estaing* has orders from his Faithful Majesty to act in conjunction with the Deliverer of his Country **G. W.** [George Washington]. Van Schaick states the French Fleet has during its stay at Sandy Hook taken upwards of 30 British ships and sent them to Philadelphia; 24 of the vessels being from the *Cork Provision Fleet*. Van Schaick also



relates that it was *the Opinion of our Politicians here that the reduction of the City of N. York was to be made by Coup de-Main But we have Intelligence Just Now of the French Fleet having sailed for Rhode Island;* and that three brigades of the Rebel Army are said to be en route to Rhode Island also. Gerrit states the reasoning for the sailing of the French Fleet is said to be: *First: **Admiral How** with Sixty Fours & the whole chain of Cruizers being calld in others say, but six Frigates & that the Cruizers are sent to England but the former receives the most Credit all lying drawn up within the Narrows; the second is that all our Pilots agree that is not water enough; a French 64 gun ship Goes deeper than an English 74, being much sharper.* His letter includes a description of the ships. Gerrit also states that *There are at Rhode Island 3000 Foreigners at Halifax sent from Philadelphia 3 Regiments Foreigners upon account of desertion no more at present, but all our family join in respects to you but **Caty** in Particular I am your **Brother in law, Gerrit W. Van Schaick.*** Van Schaick also notes that 250 Continentals had arrived in Albany on their hasty march for Schohary.

236. Albany, New York August 8, 1778. **Jeremiah Van Rensselaer** to **Peter Gansevoort** relating that he has, per Peter's instructions of the 2nd instant, spoken with **General Stark** concerning the possibility of a reinforcement. Jeremiah also states his letters to the clothing department have yet to be answered. Van Rensselaer reports he is able to find leather for shoes and expects to have enough for the making of 50 or 60 dozen shoes, but not for hats. Jeremiah states the reports of **Lieutenant Colonel Willett's** have turned out to instead concern his [son, Dr. Marinus Willett]. A Postscript written on the following Sunday by Jeremiah notes that on Saturday August 1, a great smoke was noted to be arising from New York [City] by the Rebel Army at White Plains which continued to darken the sky as late as 10'clock on Sunday; the smoke is said to have been occasioned by the loss of up to *70 More houses* and some ships. <sup>(53)</sup>

238. [place of origin is unstated] August 8, 1778. **John Stark** to [Peter Gansevoort] reporting that since his letter of the 7th to the Colonel, the Rebels have gained the upper hand in Rhode Island. Stark reports that the British have made their escape from Rhode Island by the way of Long Island and that 200 British Ships have been captured by the Rebels.

238. Schenectady, New York August 10, 1778. **Henry Glen** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that his batteaus will be leaving for Fort Schuyler on the morning of the 11th, with a load of flour. Glen states the batteaus should reach Fort Dayton by the 15th and will require an escort from Fort Dayton to Fort Schuyler. Glen also states: *The Fish went off for Alb'y the moment the men arrivd with it.*

238. Fort Schuyler, New York August 12, 1778. **Peter Gansevoort** to **Governor George Clinton** conveying a request from the officers of the Third New York Regiment to **General Washington** for a transfer from Fort Schuyler to the Grand Army. Peter states the officers collectively believe they will be endowed with greater military knowledge if allowed to serve with Washington. Gansevoort also relates a belief exists among the officers that a high desertion rate in the regiment is in part due to being kept so long at one post where they have little more to do than the work of common laborers.

239. Albany, New York August 8, 1778. **Peter Gansevoort's brother** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that he has received Peter's letter by an Indian express and is relieved to hear there is no British attack is expected upon Fort Schuyler this year. Peter's brother states he believes that Newport, [Rhode Island] is now in the hands of the Rebel's and expressing a belief that New York [City] will be in the Rebel's hands within three to four weeks.

240. Albany, New York August 13, 1778. **John Stark** to **Peter Gansevoort** reporting he has received Peter's letter of the 8th. John states a heavy cannonading of Rhode Island is now being reported. Stark also informs the Colonel that two men from Fort Schuyler's Artillery Detachment have been captured near Fort Edward and are being held in Albany's City Hall. The General also thanks the colonel for the Salmon which the latter had sent him.

240. Head Quarters, White Plains, New York August 18, 1778. **General George Washington** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that the court martial of **Samuel Geake** was illegal due to their being no provision in the Articles of War or in the Resolves of Congress for a General Court Martial to be convened by any officer other than the Commander in Chief, a commanding officer of a separate department, or the General Officer in the command of a State. Washington also states he sees no benefit in ordering a second trial for Geake. George states Geake's confession may contain useful information and that Geake may be a useful witness in the trial of **Major [Daniel] Hammel**. Washington orders Gansevoort to assure the detention of Geakes and instructs him to withhold from Geake any knowledge of his usefulness against Major Hammel.

241. [Fort Schuyler, New York August 18, 1778]. **Peter Gansevoort** to **George Washington** informing him that since the 26th of March, 1778, three sergeants, two corporals, and 20 privates had deserted from his regiment; as well as one Bombardier, one gunner, and one Matross from the Fort's Artillery detachment. Gansevoort complains that many of these men have been tried and sentenced by court martials, but have yet to receive their just punishments as the commanding General of his department has yet to approve of any sentences. Peter states that last June he received word from **Colonel Varick** of a recruit who was in league with **Major Hammel** and thus ordered the recruit's conduct to be closely inspected. The Colonel states Geake was then caught . . . *in the act of corrupting & enticing the soldiers to desert--- upon being apprehended, he confessed that he came upon such designs, & was sent by Lord [Rawdon] aide Camp to Gen'l Sir Henry Clinton as a spy to endeavour to enlist what Irish he could from the American Army---there was every appearance of his being a spy---he was immediately tryed by a General Court Martial, the sentence was directly sent down for approbation, but no answer has been received---& the Man still lays confined in Irons.* Peter states he has many of his men to say that they would sooner die, than stay here the ensuing winter; My officers as well as myself were Convinced that unless some example was made, we should not be able to check this growing Evil. Gansevoort goes on to state that five men who had deserted on the 10th of August, were captured by the Tuscarora Indians some fifty miles from the fort and returned to the fort on the 13th; and tried by a general court-martial on the 15th. Peter states that since the aforesaid court martial, a party of the Third New York had returned from the German Flatts with the loss of six deserters. Gansevoort states rumors are heard within Fort Schuyler of eighty-seven men in the garrison of who are ready to mutiny on the first appearance of the British before the

fortress. Peter states that in this light he had the five men who were sentenced on the 15th shot before the regiment on the 17th. The Colonel begs the General for his approbation and encloses a copy of the proceedings of the Court Martial.

243. Fort Schuyler, New York August 15, 1778. The Proceedings of the Court Martial held on the 15th August, 1778 and consisting of **President Major Robert Cochran; Judge Advocate Lieutenant William Tapp; Captains Aaron Aorson, Thomas DeWitt, James Gregg, Cornelius T. Jansen, and Henry Tiebout; Captain Lieutenant George Sytez; Lieutenants John Welch, Philip Conine, Gerrit Stats, and William Colbreath; Ensigns Peter Magen and Benjamin Herring.** This Court considered the cases of **Private Nicholas Hansen** of Captain Thomas DeWitt's Company, **Private John Calf** of **Colonel Peter Gansevoort's** Company, **Private Christopher Tice** of Captain Henry Tiebout's Company, Private Nicholas Hartman of Captain Henry Tiebout's Company, and **Henry Whitmosure** of **Major Robert Cochran's Company** and sentenced them to death by firing squad.

243. Fort Schuyler, New York August 15, 1778. **The officers of the Third New York Regiment to Peter Gansevoort** requesting that the sentences issued in the cases of **Private Nicholas Hansen** of **Captain Thomas DeWitt's** Company, **Private John Calf** of **Colonel Peter Gansevoort's** Company, **Private Christopher Tice** of **Captain Henry Tiebout's** Company, **Private Nicholas Hartman** of **Captain Henry Tiebout's** Company, and **Henry Whitmosure** of **Major Robert Cochran's** Company on the 15th of August, 1778 be carried into execution swiftly for the following reasons: First, the crimes committed are frequent within the regiment; secondly, because there has never been an approved sentence of the court not carried out; and thirdly, due to their being a large number of men in the regiment who are disaffected to the American Cause. This letter is signed on August 15, 1778 by **Major Robert Cochran; Captains Aaron Aorson, Thomas DeWitt, Cornelius T. Jansen, James Gregg, and Henry Tiebout; Captain Lieutenant George Sytez; Lieutenants John Welch, Philip Conine, William Tapp, Gerrit Staats, Benjamin Bogardus, Prentice Bowen, and William Colbrath; and, Ensigns Christ. Hutton, Peter Magee, Josiah Bagley, Samuel Lewis, Eldert Amant, and Benjamin Herring.**

244. Albany, New York August 20, 1778. **Jeremiah Van Rensselaer** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that the bearers [Peter] **Buckstaf**, [Stephen] **Barns**, and [Abraham] **Williams** upon having found themselves to be under the lash of Military discipline, thought it better to come down to Albany than abscond entirely; and they now beg him to ask the Colonel for a pardon. Jeremiah states he has sent the request of the Barns, Buckstaff, and Williams on to **General Stark** who states he will write to Peter about their cases. Van Rensselaer states the deserters promise if pardoned to never be found guilty of committing the said crime again. Jeremiah also relays word that on the 10th of August, the British **General [ ] Prescott** inquired for the terms of a surrender and was told his surrender must be unconditional. Jeremiah also states that the **British Admiral [Richard] Howe's** Fleet has appeared off the coast and is actively being pursued by the French Fleet under the command of **Count Destang**. Van Rensselaer encloses a return of the clothing due to the Third New York Regiment and asks that Peter send a return of that still wanting to his brother [Leonard Gansevoort] for he plans on leaving for Fish Kill next week in an attempt to

procure some clothing. Jeremiah also states he has drawn three month's pay for the Third New York Regiment.

245. Albany, New York August 20, 1778. **General John Stark** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that the bearers of this letter **Stephen Barns, Abraham Williams, and Peter Buckstaff** were left behind at the German Flatts through a mistake. Stark states they surrender themselves to **Pay Master Jeremiah Van Rensselaer** out of fear of punishment and that he writes to the Colonel at the request of the Pay Master. Stark recommends a pardon for the aforesaid soldiers.

245. Albany, New York August 21, 1778. **Leonard Gansevoort** to **Peter Gansevoort** complaining that he is laboring under the effects of the *Dysentary*. Leonard states that the **Mister [ ] Stearn** residing in Peter's Library thinks the pain can best be endured by lying in the *Horizontal position*. Peter's brother notes there is no information on the fate of Rhode Island, but believes **General [John] Sullivan** has made a landing there. The Colonel's brother states he believes the British will retreat unless unexpectedly reinforced by **Admiral [John] Byron's** Squadron or another Corps which is yet unexpected. Leonard states that on the 13th of August an express arrived at Headquarters informing them that a British Fleet had appeared off of Rhode Island's Harbor on the proceeding Sunday and was immediately pursued by **Count D'Esteang**; and though no further news is available it is suggested the fleet was a part of **Lord [Admiral Richard] Howe's** Squadron. Gansevoort's brother states General Sullivan is reported to have landed on Rhode Island under the cover of the French Fleet with about 15,000 troops, exclusive of 5,000 French Troops under the personal command of Count D'Esteang. Leonard states that only five regiments of Sullivan's Corps are from the Grand Army; the remainder being volunteers from the Eastern States. Peter's brother states The **Marquis De Lafayette** is with Sullivan, as is **General [John] Hancock** of the Independent Company of Boston. Gansevoort states **John Ten Broeck** and **Doctor [ ] Stringer** are also in Rhode Island, but are thought to be there primarily to sell rum. Leonard also notes that the *Infernals at New York*: **Doctor [ ] Van Dyck, H. Staats, Van Schaacks,** and **[ ] Thurman** have been put down by the **Commissaries of New York** for their refusal to take the oath prescribed by the Legislature. Leonard states **General Schuyler** reports from Headquarters a letter from **Governor [William] Tryon** to a friend on Long Island was captured and in part reads: *"that Great Brittain would accede to the Independence of the States since they were so anxious for it, but he doubts whether it would conduce much to their advantage". Have such Rascals any right to think whose Mind is enveloped in a cloud of impenetrable and stupidity and Servitude, what claim can have to Judge of the Choice of Freemen, what has to do with the Independence of the States, let him not intrude any longer, but repose himself with his Cotemporaries in the Corner of some Gothic Cloister dark as his Heart ---- this is enough good night to your Garrison — you did well to shoot those Deserters everyone says it.*

247. Albany, New York August 22, 1778. **Colonel Jacob Cuyler** to **Colonel Peter Gansevoort** noting a letter from **Mister John Hanson** written from Fort Schuyler on August 19, 1778 has reached him with news that the colonel will no longer be sent to escort the supplies from the *Garrison Flatts* to Fort Schuyler. Cuyler states he is unable to hire any single person to drive cattle [from the German Flatts to Fort Schuyler] without a guard. Jacob states feels it imprudent

to ask anyone to drive cattle without a guard as they are left to face the enemy alone. Cuyler states he must continue to provide Fort Schuyler with fresh provisions only, as he will be unable to procure any more salt provisions until fall. Jacob states he intends to have thirty head of cattle at Fort Dayton on the first of September next and requests that Gansevoort send an escort sufficient to drive them. Cuyler states **Henry Glen** will inform Peter of the estimated time of the batteaus arrival at the German Flatts.

248. [Fort Schuyler, New York [March 26 through August 22, 1778]. An extract from the Journal of **Ensign Christ. Hutton**,<sup>(54)</sup> Adjutant of the Third New York Regiment, noting the following desertions from the Third New York Regiment while at Fort Schuyler, viz: a sergeant from **Captain Thomas DeWitt's** Company on March 26, 1778; two men from **Captain Thomas DeWitt's** Company on April 8th; four men from **Captain Aaron Aorson's** Company and one man from **Captain Abram Swartout's** Company on May 2, 1778, one corporal and one private from **Captain Henry Tiebout's** Company on May 16, 1778; *On the 8th day of June [1778] Col. Gansevoort received a letter from Colo. Varick informing him that Daniel Hamil B. Major to Gen'l J. Clinton who had been taken prisoner at Fort Montgomery was lately apprehended on suspicion of being Sent from N. York by the Enemy a Spy, and that he brought with him one Samuel Geake who was Inlisted in the Regt. by Capt. Swartout, which Letter Inform'd Col. Gansevoort that said Geake was Suspected of being Confederate with Major Hamill, Upon which Information Col. Gansevoort Caused the Conduct of Geake to be narrowly Inspected into and was detected in two of three days After in the Act of Corrupting the Soldiers and Inticing them to Desert, as fully Appeared by his Tryal and Confession;* a sergeant of **Lieutenant Gerrit Starts'** Company who was seen going into the British Fort while out on a scout to Oswegatchie between June 22 and July 1st, 1778; a sergeant from **Captain James Gregg's** Company on June 27, 1778; three men from **Captain [Robert] Walker's** Company of **Colonel John Lamb's** Artillery on July 29, 1778; **Corporal [ ] Stephens** of **Captain James Gregg's** Company while on guard on August 2, 1778, Stephens is said to have also taken one of the sentinels from **Captain Jansen's** Company with him; on the 10th of August . . . *five Men Deserted and Stole a Batteaux on the Onyda Lake – One Man Belonging to Col. Gansevoorts Compy, one of Major Cochran's, one of Capt. De Witts and two of Capt. Tiebout's – on the 12th they were taken on their way to Canaday by a party of Indians, who were fishing at Fort Brewerton who brought them back to the Regt. the 13th;--on the 15th they were try'd by a Gen'l Court Martial for desertion and Stealing a Batteaux from the publick to Which they Siverally plead Guilty, and was Sentenced by the Court to be Shot Dead at the head of the Regt; o their tryal It plainly Appeared their was Conspiracy among them--;* on August 15th, after the court martial of the aforesaid five men, four men from **Captain Aorson's** Company, one man **Captain Bleecker's** Company, one man from **Captain Tiebout's** Company . . . *being on Command with Capt. Bleeker at German Flatts, On the 17th was Executed the Aforesaid five Men who deserted on the 10thInst. — . . . N.B. the aforesaid Geake lived in the Same Hut with Corpl Stephens who was try'd with him on Suspicion of Intending to desert, but was not Convicted-- . . . ;* on August 22nd, 1778 two men from the regiment deserted; and finally, it is noted that from March 26 through August 18th, 1778 three sergeants, two corporals, twenty privates, one bombardier, one gunner, and a mattrass had deserted from the artillery.

250. Albany, New York August 22, 1778. **John Stark** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that. . . I

*Received yours of the 18<sup>th</sup> Inst. with the Inclosures, which I have Sealed, and sent to **General Washington**, I think you were Very Right in your Proceedings, Considering your Circumstances.* Stark states **Colonel Cuyler** has stated he will not be able to send him any more livestock to Fort Schuyler unless an escort is sent to guard them from the German Flatts to Fort Schuyler. Stark also states he hears there is plenty of pasture available at Fort Schuyler, but that notes that pasture is very scarce near Albany.

250. Schenectady, New York August 23, 1778. **Henry Glen** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that he has received Gansevoort's letter of the 18th instant along with a letter for **Mrs. Gansevoort** . . . *On rec't thereof I sent my clerk to know at **Col. Wimp** if she was in town, if so I would have done myself the pleasure of waiting on her with your Letter, but found she was not yet come to town, accordingly I forwarded Mrs. Gansevoort's letter by the same post immediately and directed the man where to find the house. I shall allways be glad to deliver any Letters, you will be pleased to send to my care.* Glen states **Captain [ ] Peters** [a.k.a. Captain Peterson] had left on the 22nd with a load of flour and 10 barrels of salt, one hundred pounds of tobacco and some junk for Fort Schuyler's garrison and requests that Peter send an escort to meet them. Glen warns Peter that he has ordered Captain Peters to unload his boats at Fort Dayton and leave the supplies with the Deputy Commissary at Fort Dayton unless an escort is awaiting him at Fort Dayton. Henry states he expects his boats to arrive on Thursday the 27th, and orders that the boats be sent back immediately despite their need for transporting lime from Fort Dayton to Fort Schuyler. Glen states he hopes to send off three companies of batteaux versus one on the next trip. Glen states he and is expecting two companies of batteaux to arrive Fish Kill at any time; after which he states **Captain [ ] Tucker** may detain one batteau to carry lime from Fort Dayton to Fort Schuyler. Gansevoort is also informed his request for shoes has been laid before **Mister [Jeremiah] Van Rensselaer**.

252. Albany, New York August 27, 1778. **Leonard Gansevoort** to **Peter Gansevoort** redressing Lieutenant Yeoman for reinventing the news. Leonard expresses a pride in the spirit of the officers of the Third New York Regiment after reading the officer's letter requesting a transfer which has been shown to him by **Lieutenant [Thomas] McClallen** of the Third New York. Leonard state he agrees that the Grand Army is a fine school for young officers and has observed . . . **Doctor Goldsmith** *(upon taking a Review of the Grand Army) with what Sagacity your Countrymen encourage the Profession of the Art of War. Like Celebrated Gardiners they boast exotics of every clime, and every one takes Root as soon as imported and instantly experiences the genial warmth of Congressional Favor--The Continent like a large munificent Dunghill receives, nourishes and raises Weeds as well as usefull plants indiscriminately--but cease my pen, nor presume to commit to paper such horrid Blasphemy against the assertors of our rights. By way of Consolation let me however inform you that many of our Leaders would throw the boasted Roman Names in the Shade had they equal Opportunities if we may Judge from the assertions of our Rights.*

253. Albany, New York August 27, 1778. [Jacob Cuyler] to **Peter Gansevoort** noting that the enemy intends to besiege Rhode Island on the 21st of August, but that the rebels were ready with twelve mortars of 13 inches each and 1[2]twenty-four pound guns from about 250 yards out.

Jacob notes the French Fleet has returned to the harbor with 16 British ships; consisting of one 64 gun warship, three frigates, and 12 troop transports with 3,000 men aboard, all of which were believed to be intended as a reinforcement for **General [ ] Prescott**. Cuyler states the news from New York suggests that the British will leave there soon.

253. Poughkeepsie, New York August 29, 1778. **Captain Abraham Swartout** to **Peter Gansevoort** by way of **Jeremiah Van Rensselaer** reminding the Colonel he had promised him, Abraham, eight yards of broad-cloth by the hands of the State Commissary of Clothing to replace a blue cloak which was used to make the ensign which flew over Fort Schuyler. <sup>(55)</sup> Abraham requests an order be sent to him which can then presented to Jeremiah Van Rensselaer or to **Henry Van Veghten**.

254. Head Quarters White Plains, New York August 29, 1778. **General George Washington** to **Peter Gansevoort** noting he has received the colonel's letter of the 18th of August, 1778 and he relates a hope that the executions of the 17th of August are successful in their intent. Washington states he has spoken with **Lieutenant Colonel Marinus Willett** concerning the request of the officers of the Third New York for a transfer from Fort Schuyler, and states he is currently unable to honor the request at this time, but he promises to have the regiment transferred by winter.

255. Danbury, Connecticut August 29, 1778. **Marinus Willett** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that **Lieutenant [Thomas] McClellan** has handed him the Colonel's letter of the 12th instant. Marinus expresses a gratitude for his not being needed at Fort Schuyler in this their hour of need [apparently this relates to the death of one of his, son Dr. Marinus Willett: KDJ]. Willett states he had, on Tuesday, last laid before **General George Washington** the request of the officers of the Third New York Regiment concerning a transfer and states he has been instructed to appear before General Washington early next week.

256. Albany, New York August 30, 1778. [John Stark] to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that: . . . *Yours of the 26th Inst. has Come to hand; am Very Sorry that the Spirit of Desertion so much Prevails in your Garrison — as for the News that you wrote for it has not come to hand but it is daily Expected & it shall be forwarded.*

256. Headquarters Boston, Massachusetts September 1, 1778. [General William Heath to Lieutenant Colonel [Paul?] Revere] stating: *Sir: You will please to make the best disposition Possible at the Castle for a Gallant and vigorous Defense thereof in Case the Enemy Fleet should make their way up the Harbour — you will Immediately Detach an Officer and so many men as you can spare over to Governors Island, with orders to Observe the greatest vigilance.*

256. Fort Schuyler, New York September 8, 1778. [Major Robert Cochran] to **Colonel Peter Gansevoort** noting he last night received a letter which was directed to Mister Gansevoort by **Nicholas Jordan** and supposing it concerned regimental business he opened it. The aforesaid

letter was found to have been from **Henry Glen** stating that some supplies destined for Fort Schuyler had arrived at Fort Dayton today and were awaiting an escort. Cochran states that **Benjamin Acker** of **Captain Thomas DeWitt's** Company was killed and scalped while out from the fort to get a horse in a meadow near **Mister [ ] Brodock's** House. Robert states he immediately sent out **Captain Leonard Bleeker** with a detachment to rescue Acker, but they was too late to save him. Cochran states . . . *a Weapon about 2½ Feet long constructed something [like] this \* \* \* [the drawing is missing] lying near him, the under part being steel in the shape of a lance had been stuck several times in his Body & is supposed to be left behind on purpose as there were several marks on it which is said to denote the number of prisoners & Scalps they had taken.* Robert notes **the Indian Jacob Reed** has returned from Oswego about two hours before his writing of this letter and states that there no one was at Oswego, but that he had seen many fresh tracks in the sand. Robert states Reed states he had seen some of the Tuscarora Nation at Oneida on the 7th instant who related to him that the Onondagas were coming to *some of our people, & they intended to leave a Letter in his pocket informing the Americans that the Oneidas & the whole six Nations were for the King, and he says that at the three Rivers he was informed by the Onondaga Indian (who had lately come from Buck Island) that a scout of five Indians were about this place watching for scalps & prisoners . . .* Robert reminds Peter that the Colonel had made a promise to Reed and his Indians for running this scout and states he is leaving the matter in Gansevoort's hands.

258. Fort Schuyler, New York September 18, 1778. **Major Robert Cochran** to **Colonel Peter Gansevoort** stating that since he last wrote, **the Sachems and warriors of the Oneida and Tuscarora Nations** had arrived at Fort Schuyler along with **Colonel Lewis** to complain of the uneasiness they feel about the scalpings which have been occurring around and about Fort Schuyler, and that they state an unease with any assumption they were involved. Cochran states the Indians note they have from the beginning supported the actions of the rebels, but continue to feel they were used in an ill manor by **Colonels [Elias] Dayton** and **[Samuel] Elmore**, and which has continued under Colonel Gansevoort of Albany. Cochran states the Sachems state Peter was particularly noticed to them by **the Commissioners of Indian Affairs**, but even so the colonel continues to neglect them. Robert notes Colonel Lewis' men complain they seem to be only noticed when the rebels are in dire straits, and that they have a standing agreement with **General Schuyler** and the other Commissioners to remain friendly to the Rebels and to not take up the ax with one another. Robert states that the day after the Sachems speech, he informed the Indians he enjoyed their support and assured them by saying he well knew that all peoples have some bad ones amongst them. Cochran states he provided the Indians with a meal and drink, and related to them a strong desire to have **Mister [James] Deane** at Fort Schuyler.

259. Camp Fredericksburg, September 22, 1778, 20 miles east of Fishkill, New York.[Colonel Richard Varick to Peter Gansevoort] stating that when he had written in August he had assumed Rhode Island was in the Rebel's possession Varick complains that **General Sullivan** has retreated from Rhode Island after only mildly punishing the British. Richard states that a council of the General Officers was held on the 14th at which it was noted that the forage at White Plains was nearly exhausted and that they had remained there for over two months awaiting an enemy movement which has not occurred. [The photocopy of this document is not complete].



356. Fort Schuyler, New York November 6, 1778. [Colonel Peter Gansevoort to Ichabod Alden] stating that:

*Fort Schuyler 6th Novemr. 1778.*

*Sir: We ware just now informed by an Onyda Indian, that yesterday an Onendago Indian Arrived at their Castle from one of the Branches of the Susquahana called the Tioga Branch, that he was present at a great Meeting of Indians & Tories at that place and their Result was to Attack Chare valley and that Young Butler was to head the Tories I send you this information that you maybe on your guard.*

357. Cherry Valley, New York November 8, 1778. **Ichabod Alden** to **Peter Gansevoort** stating that:

*Cherry Valley, Novr. 8, 1779.*

*Sir:*

*Recd yours of the 6 Instant by Express Informing me of the Intelligence you Obtained by one of the Onyda Indians of a Larg Boddy of the Enemy who Ware Desir'd to attack this place.*

*How vary much Obliged to you for your Information and am, Sir, your very*

*Humble Servt.*

***Ichabod Alden***

*P. S. **General Hand** is now here; arriv'd at this place the Day before yesterday Will return Soon to Albany.*

*I. A.*

*Colo. Petter Gansevoorth*

*Commanding*

at

*Fort Schyler*

372. Fort Plank, New York November 8, 1778. **Pierre Regnier** to **Peter Gansevoort** [one of four pieces] stating that:

*Dear Colonel: At last the Express is arrived and hereafter is the cobby of the letter I received from Fort Schuyler, and upon which I thought proper to Disband the Militia of which I was pretty tired already.*

*Cobby-- Fort Schuyler, Feb. 21st, 1779.*

*Dear Colonel: It is moment received yours of yesterday The last Intelligence I have been able to receive was a by a Letter from **Captain** [Jn<sup>o</sup>] **Copp** of the 19th Instant The Enemy had then taken the Ice on the Lake and their tracks were not Discernable, the Indians are of opinion they have returned. I sent a Scout of four trusty Indians up Oswego Lake, the day before yesterday. They are to be out ten Days provided they make no Discoveries, our working parties go to the wood as usual, &c.,*

**John Graham, Captain Comd'g.**

*I beg you would send the Inclosed to **Gen'l Clinton** as soon as received as there is no other Express going to Albany. I remain, Your ob't Serv't,*

**P. Regnier, Lt. Col. Comd'g.**

*Col. Gansevoort Fort Plank*

*Cognawaga Feb. 24, 1779.*

373. [Fort Plank, New York February 22, 1779]. **Pierre Regnier** to **Peter Gansevoort** [one of four pieces] stating that:

*[Fort Plank, 22 Feb 1779]*

*Sir: Yours of yesterdays was just handed to me By your Express &c.,*

*I have not received further Intelligence from the Enemy from the 18th. I expect every minute an Express from fort Schuyler by which we shall be Informed of the truth as I have sent him the day before yesterday he cannot be longer time out, unless some \*accident should have happened to him under way -- and as soon as he arrive, I will send you the Contents. But I would not advise you to march your Regiment Back before that time as by several Circumstances the Country people about here insist upon the Enemy must not be far off.*

*I have ordered a party of men to go and Escort the ammuniton which you have for me and Expect they will arrive at Major Fonday by to Morrow noon. I am your Most Ob't*

**P. Regnier, Lt. Col. Comd'g**

**Col. Gansevoort**

*Cognawaga.*

374. [Circa February 22, 1779] [Brigadier General James Clinton to Peter Gansevoort] [one of four pieces]. ordering Gansevoort to march his regiment from [Albany] to **Major** [Jelles] **Fundy's** and there halt until further intelligence on enemy intentions can be obtained. If the current word of an enemy approach is found to be false Gansevoort is to return his regiment to Albany; minus the number necessary to guard the ammuniton to **Pierre Regnier** [at Fort Plank] and obtain his receipt for the resupply. If Peter is to hear the enemy is approaching, he is to engage them and call upon Colonel Regnier and the Militia for reinforcement.

393. Albany, New York June 27, 1779. **Jeremiah Van Rensselaer** to **Colonel Peter Gansevoort** at Camp Canajohary Creek, New York stating that he has obtained from **Peter's Father** the tent hooks he requested, but no eyes. Jeremiah states he has attempted to form some type of eye in some of the hooks. Van Rensselaer states they have yet to hear any news from the Battle of Charleston, South Carolina. Jeremiah states they daily expect an account from *persons of Known Carracter an Account of one Will be transmitted to Camp by Capt. [ ] Lush taken by General [Nathaniel] Greene from a Person well Known by him, Who was in the Action on the 11 May and Left it the 13th, being the day before Last Attact. which said person Accounts that on the 11th the Enemy Lost 653 dead in the field. After an Assault of 3 hours; only 2 of our Men & 1 Major Killed, the Express to Congress they suppose to be either Taken or Killed in North Carolina, Circumstances of that Kind has Lately frequently happened there. . . .* Jeremiah states the hooks will be conveyed to Peter by **Captain [ ] McClure**.

400. Palatine, New York July 28, 1779. **Colonel Jacob Klock** to **Colonel Peter Gansevoort**:

*Palatine, July 28th 1779.*

*Sir: Your letter of this day I have this moment received; an extremely happy to find that **Gen'l Clinton** has been so kind as to send such a number of men to our assistance--I have no news at present to impart to you but shall do myself the honor to wait upon you to morrow morning to consult with you about the subject you wrote of.*

*To Colo. Peter Gansevoort*

*Fort Plank.*

401. Palatine, New York July 28, 1779. **Colonel Jacob Klock to Colonel Peter Gansevoort:**

*Palatine, July 28th 1779. at 9 o Clock P.M.*

*Dr. Sir: Just as **Lieut. Bart** was going to return I received a letter from the German Flatts informing that the Expected a large Body of the of the Enemy there to morrow and warmly pressing me to march up the Militia. I shall therefore be over to morrow morning early to Consult with you.*

*To Colo. Peter Gansevoort*

*Fort Plank.*

442. Albany, New York June 6th, 1780. **Brigadier General James Clinton to Peter Gansevoort.** Ordering Gansevoort to proceed to Fort Plank. [See quote in The Bloodied Mohawk].

443. Albany, New York Thursday [June 7th, 1780] 5 P.M. **William Popham to Peter Gansevoort** stating that he has just received Gansevoort's letter as well as one from **Captain [John H.] Wendell**. Popham states that the **General** [] desires him to tell Peter that there are no more than 4,000 cartridges in store and to direct Gansevoort to determine the number of cartridges that are undamaged and obtain a resupply on his arrival at Fort Schuyler. William states that Captain Wendell reports that little damage has been done by the enemy at the [German] Flatts, whose number is very small and thought to be intended to divert attention from the movements of **St. John's** [Sir John Johnson's] party. Peter is also instructed to send an order to Captain Wendell to move the boats on up river and hopefully to be above the [Little] falls by the Gansevoort arrives. Popham states that Governor has returned after having missed the object of his expedition. William also relates that Charlestown, South Carolina was still safe on the 17th of May.

444. Albany, New York June 13, 1780. **Brigadier General James Clinton** to **Colonel Peter Gansevoort** stating that:

*Sir, You'll Please to hurry on Your Regiment to this place, Immediately after Your Arrival at Fort Schuyler – they Being ordered to West Point. I am, Sir, Your Most obedient Servant*

*James Clinton, B. G'l*

*Albany, 13th June 1780.*

*On public Service*

*Gen'l Clinton*

*Col. Peter Gansevoort*

*on the road to*

*Fort Schuyler*

*By Express*

456. Fish Kill, New York August 16th, 1780. **J.[ohn] Lansing, Junior** to **Colonel Peter Gansevoort** stating that he is forwarding a letter from Misses Gansevoort to the Colonel. Lansing complains he continues to suffer from the effects of a fever which greater restricts his ability to travel and he thus plans to remain a few days in Fish Kill. John states Peter's son is fine and wishes him to send *his papa* his compliments. Lansing states the Indians daily infest the frontiers in large numbers, having destroyed 55 houses at *Canajoharie* and last Thursday burnt twelve more at *Schohary* and killed eight men; John notes that the women and children were in the forts.

462. St. Johns, [Canada] September 22, 1780. **Brigadier General H. Weston Powell** to **Colonel Goosen Van Schaick** stating that as he had promised Goosen in his letter of March 15th, 1780. Powell states he is sending by the return flag **Mrs. [Samuel] Campbell, Mrs. [ ] Moore, and their families**; along with **Mister Mathew Cannon** and five other rebels taken on the Mohawk River with the express permission of **General Frederick Haldimand**. A **Mister [ ] Williams** of Detroit who desires to return to his father's near Albany, New York is also allowed to return with the flag. The General also states: <sup>(56)</sup>

. . . His Excellency [Sir Frederick] is sorry that the Breach of Faith on the part of **the Colonists** in the Cartel at the Cedars, has put it out of his Power to enter upon an Exchange of Prisoners, and not withstanding their repeated Attempts to escape many throughout the province are on large upon their Parole; they have all a plentiful allowance of wholesome Provisions, and those whom it is thought necessary to keep in Confinement, are accommodated in the most comfortable manner Circumstances will admit of. They have besides received Money to the amount of the within Accounts, and if this last Indulgence is expected to be continued, it is but reasonable it should be remitted in Coin; to which I am to desire your Attention, as very heavy Bills are everyday presented from our Troops who are Prisoners in the Colonies.

The attention which has been shewn to Mrs. Campbell, and those in her unfortunate Circumstances, as well as the good Treatment of the Prisoners, which it is hoped they will have the Candour to acknowledge, is refer'd for Comparison to those, by whose Orders or Permission, his Majesty's Subjects have experienced Execution; the Horrors of a Dungeon, loaded with Irons, and the Miseries of Want.

The Families specified in the enclosed list have been long in expectation, and many promised permission to join their Husbands, and Relations in this Province. It is, therefore, requested they may be sent to your advanced Post, on the Skenesborough Communication; and a Flag of Truce shall be sent from hence, in the course of three Weeks in order to receive them. I am, Sir, Your most obedient Humble Servant,

H. Weston Powell,

To Colonel Van Schaick. Brig. Gen'l.

541. Lower Schohary Fort, New York July 12th, 1781 **Colonel Peter Vrooman to Peter Gansevoort** stating:

Dear Gen'l: We are greatly alarmed here yesterday two O'Clock P. M. I received an Express from **hendrick Borst**, a Lieut. of my Regt. informing me that he had information that **Col. Willet** had an Engagement with the Enemy at the upper end of Durlack; how it went he had not heard After I Received the Letter yesterday parties of the Enemy have been seen at three Different places near to this post. Crossing the Roads that Leads from this to Albany and Schenectady one place two and another four and at another six, perhaps gone to the Beaver dam Recruiting Last night a man arrived at this post and Calls himself **William Soal** and says that he is Sergeant Quarter master in Coll. Willets Regt. of Levies and marchd with Col. Willet and a detachment from fort Rensselaer to the first Settlement of Durlack and there fell in with the Enemy in the beginning of the Engagement he was unfortunately taken prisoner and Carried back to a Swamp by two of the Enemies Indians where he made his escape: that the firing Lasted was kept up for half an hour how it went he did not know This happened Last Tuesday ten o'Clock in the morning, in the afternoon of the Same day he came to a house in Durlack whare there Some of

*the inhabitants had Colected. Soon after news Came there that a man and woman were killd at the house from there, Immediately after Receiving the news he went with two of the inhabitants and found the man and woman killd and the man scalpd By the treck it appeared to him the Enemy were about between hundred and two hundred Strong It might be that they will fall on Some part of this Settlement and we are Distitute of Troops as I wrote you the 7th of this Instant wherefore a Reinforcement is wanted with all possible Speed Hoping nothing will be wanted on your part to forward the Same I Remain with great Respect, Dear Gen'l, your most Obedient Humble Serv't*

*Peter Vroman.*

*Public Service*

*The honorable*

*B. D. Gen'l Peter Gansevoort*

*per*

*Express Albany*

566. Saratoga, New York December 31, 1780. An Address to **Colonel Peter Gansevoort** by the Officers of his Regiment on his retiring from service in Consequence of the New Arrangement ordered by Congress from the officers of the Third New York Regiment. This address is signed by the following gentleman: Major Jas. Rosenkrans, Captain Cornelius T. Jansen, Captain James Gregg, Captain Aaron Aorson, Captain Leonard Bleeker, Captain George Sytez, Captain Henry Tiebout, Lieutenant Benjamin Bogardus, Lieutenant Josiah Bagley, Christopher Hutton, Pay Master Jeremiah Van Rensselaer, Surgeon's Mate John Elliot, Lieutenant Peter Magen, Lieutenant Prentice Bowen, Lieutenant Samuel Lewis, Ensign Douw F. Fonda, Ensign Gerrit Lansing, Ensign Benjamin Herring, and Surgeon Hunloke Woodruff.

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Incomplete transcript of a letter dated Fishkill, New York February 17, 1779. **Captain Henry Tiebout** to **Colonel Peter Gansevoort** in Albany, New York sending his best regards to the colonel, **Lieutenant Colonel Willett** and his wife, and the officers of the Third New York Regiment.

[ ] [ ], New York February 21, 1779. **John Graham, Captain Commanding** to **Colonel Peter**

**Gansevoort:**

*Dear Colonel: At last the Express is arrive and Hereafter is the cobby of the Letter I received from Fort Schuyler, and upon which I thought proper to Disband the Militia of which I was pretty tired already. **John Graham, Captain Commanding** Coppy -- Dear Colonel: I this moment received yours of yesterday. The last Intelligence I have been able to receive was by a Letter from **Captain Copp** of the 19th Instant The Enemy had then taken the Ice on the Lake and their tracks were not Discernible, the Indians up Oswego Lake, the day before yesterday. They are to be out ten Days provided they make no Discoveries. Our working parties go to the wood as usual, &c., I beg you would send the Inclosed to Gen'l Clinton as received as there is no other Express going to Albany. I remain, Your ob't Serv't, P. Regnier, Lt. Col. Comd'g. Fort Plank Col. Gansevoorth Feb. 24, 1779. Cognawaga*

Fort Plank, New York February 22, 1779. **Colonel Pierre Regnier De Roussi** to [Colonel Peter Gansevoort]: *Sir: Yours of yesterday was just handed to me By your Express &c. I have not received further Intelligence from the Enemy from the 18th. I expect every minute an Express from fort Schuyler by which we shall be Informed of the truth as I have sent him the day before yesterday he cannot be longer time out, unless some accident should have happened to him under way--and as soon as he arrive, I will send you the Contents. But I would not advise you to march your Regiment Back before that time as by several Circumstances the Country people about here insist upon that the Enemy must not be far off. I have ordered a party of men to go and Escort the ammunication which you have for me and Expect they will arrive at **Major Fondhey** by to morrow noon. I am your Most Ob't P. Regnier, Lt. Col. Comd'g Col. Gansevoort (Express) Cognawaga.*

[Albany], New York circa February 22, 1779. **Brigadier General James Clinton** to **Peter Gansevoort** ordering Peter to march his regiment to **Major Fondhey's** immediately and wait there until further intelligence is obtained concerning the enemy's intentions. James states that if the threat is found to be false Gansevoort is to return to Albany after dispatching a guard the ammunication and supplies to **Colonel Regnier** and obtain his receipt for them. Clinton orders Peter to advance and engage the enemy if need be and instructs him to call upon Regnier and the Militia for assistance.

[Johnstown, New York] February 26, 1779. **Captain Samuel Sackett** to **James Clinton** reading:

*Johnstown, 26th Feb'y 1779.*

*Sir: I have now Just got Leisure to Inform you of the most Meterial matters of the misfortune that has befallen us at this Post, About 4 O Clock this morning we where alarmed by the Cry of fire. We Immediately got out of bed but before we Could get out of the room we found the Barracks where all in flames ---- Our Attention then was to secure the stores which was in the Gaol, as we had no hopes of preventing that being Consumed as the Barracks stood adjoining, but the*



*Officers & men Exerting themselves to the Utmost prevented the body of the Gaol Burning with the loss of about half the Roof ---- About Twenty Yards of the Picquets were burnt but hope by tomorrow night to have them Repair'd ---- the Quarters for our men will be very bad untill I can get the Goal Repaired but shall Lose no time. The fire took in the Lower part of the Barracks and it had got so far before it was discovered that it was Impossible to save them. The Loss is very Considerable Viz:*

*3 Horses Continental, 1 Belonging to myself, 1 to the Commissary; 7 Muskets; 8 Bayonets; 9 Pouches; 100 Catridges; 500 Hay; 1 Waggon & Harness; Coats; 1 Vests; 1 Breeches; 11 Shirts; 13 Shoes; 13 Stockings; 6 Hets; 3 Blankets.*

*Since the alarm I had made a Stable of One Room of the Barracks that I might have the horses in the Fort. Several men at the Risque of their lives ventured to get them out but it could not be Effected. Of the Commissaries Stores the following Articles were lost in the hurry & Confusion of moving them Viz.----*

*2 Barrels flour (as the Casks where very bad); 1 Do. Soft Soap; 2 Bushels Salt; 7 Hides Burnt in the Barracks.*

*This is the most particular account I can at present give as I have been so Fatigued & am now so Confused I am not fit to write which hope will Appologize any Deficiency. With all due Respect I am, Sir, Your most Obed't humble Servt.*

*Sam'l Sacket, Capt. Commandg.*

*on Publick Service*

*The Honble General James Clinton*

*Express Albany*

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Claverack, New York July 18, 1779. **Robert Van Rensselaer**<sup>(57)</sup> to **Peter Gansevoort** in Albany stating that he has heard the Colonel is planning to come down to Albany to forward on the remaining troops for the Western Expedition and relating that one **William Fillip**, a person of respectable character about Claverack, is now with Van Rensselaer and states that his son has enlisted in Colonel Weissenfelt's Regiment [the Fourth New York] and has recently returned home from the regiment. Robert states the young Fillip is packing his things to return to the

Fourth New York and asks Peter to speak with Colonel Weissenfelt concerning a pardon for him.

Albany, New York July 22, 1779. **John Ten Broeck** [Gansevoort] to **Peter Gansevoort** addressing Peter as his *Dear Brother* and stating that when he, John, arrived home on Sunday evening he learned of Peter's visit. John states the letter he encloses is from **Colonel [ ] Lewis to Mister [ ] Sickles** of Albany stating that Colonel Lewis had rode in company with a gentleman from Fishkill who informed him that Stony Point was being garrisoned by 71st Regiment and **Lieutenant Colonel [ ] Robertson** and had in their possession eight pieces of cannon, two of which are thirty-two pounders and that **General [Robert] Howe** of the Rebel command had advanced on the east-side of the river to Ver Planck's Point and invested the fortress there and requested entrenching tools from Fish Kill. John states that just prior to Howe's arrival, **Governor [ ] Tryon** had arrived there with some British troops from the Saw Pitts<sup>(58)</sup> and had caused General Howe to retreat. John states **General Washington** has moved downwards and ordered a heavy cannonade from Stony Point onto Ver Planck's Point last Saturday. Peter's brother goes on to state that Misses Gansevoort was fine last night and sends her compliments. to all of their friends.

Fort Dayton, July the 29th 1779. [**Captain Robert McKeen to Peter Gansevoort**] stating that three gunshots were heard up on the Canada Creek and he is thus assuming that the enemy is there and killing cattle for provisions.

1. The footnote hereon reads: The signature of Nicholas Brant is that of **Tehowaghwengaraghkwin**, the father of Joseph Brant. Brant was one of the Canajoharie Clan of the Mohawks; the land purchased is in "Canajohary."
2. Two footnotes her relate the text of two letters to Misses Abraham Lansing from George R. Howell, New York State Archivist. One letter is dated January 6, 1891, and the other February 6, 1891.
3. A footnote on this page contains details on the life and career of Guy Johnson.
4. A footnote on this page contains details on the life and career of Major General Philip Schuyler.
5. A footnote on this page contains details on a letter sent by Major John McPherson to his father, just moments before his death.
6. A footnote on this page contains details on the life and career of Nathaniel Woodhull.
7. A footnote on this page contains details on the life and career of Philip Van Cortlandt.

8. footnote on this page contains details on the life and career of Henry Brockholst Livingston.
9. A footnote on this page contains details on the life, career and death of John Lansing Junior.
10. A footnote on page 41. has details on the life and career of John Lansing Junior.
11. A footnote on page 45 contains details on the life and career of Christopher P. Yates.
12. Isle aux Noix was a small island in the Sorel River.
13. A footnote on this page contains details on the life and career of John Trumbull.
14. Page has a footnote giving details on the life and career of Doctor Potts.
15. A footnote on page 64, gives details on the life and career of Edward Antill.
16. Page 64 of the typescript has a paragraph with the details on Edward Antill's life..
17. A footnote on this page gives details on the life and career of Walter Livingston.
18. This page has a footnote containing details on the life and career of John Tayler.
19. A footnote on this page states Benjamin Egberts belonged to both the Albany County Militia and the Fourth New York Regiment.
20. This page has a footnote containing details on the life and career of Doctor Jonathan Potts.
21. A footnote on this page states Isaac Peirce was a member of the Seventh Regiment of Dutchess County, New York Militia.
22. A footnote on this page states Cornelius Wendell was a member of the First Regiment of Albany County Militia.
23. A footnote on this page gives the details of these gentleman's mission.

24. .

25. A footnote on page 116 provides details on the life and career of Robert Yates.

26. This page has a footnote which contains details on the life and career of Robert Yates.

27. This page has a footnote which contains details on the life and career of Walter Stewart.

28. A footnote on this page contains details on the life and career of Israel Putman.

29. A footnote on this page contains details on the life and career of James Gregg.

30. A footnote on page 140 contains details on the life and career of John Hanson.

31. A footnote on this page contains details on the life and career of Pierre Van Cortlandt.

32. A footnote on this page states Spencer was a friendly *Oneida half-breed Sachem*.

33. This page contains details on the life and career of Brigadier General Nicholas Herkimer.

34. Catherine Van Schaick eventually married Peter Gansevoort.

35. See the Revolutionary War Pension Applications of Lieutenant John Ball, RWPA #W5767 & Jacob Gaudinier, RWPA #S15583, for a more detailed account of the events of August 6th, 1779, which put into question the published historical accounts of the actions of Brigadier General Nicholas Herkimer, Colonel Peter Gansevoort, & Lieutenant Colonel Marinus Willett on that fateful morning [KDJ].

36. A footnote on this page contains details on the military career of Barry Saint Leger.

37. The New York State Historian states this letter came from the Journals of the Council of Safety.

38. A footnote on this page gives additional details on Han Jost Schuyler.

39. This document is stated to have been located in the Journal of the Council of Safety.

40. The State Historian here states the Siege of Fort Stanwix ended on August 22, 1777.
41. A footnote on this page states Lieutenant Henry Bird of the Eighth Regiment was killed in the Battle of Germantown on October 4, 1777.
42. Reference is made to an Act of Congress dated October 4, 1777, promoting Peter Gansevoort to Colonel-Commandant of Fort Schuyler.
43. A footnote on this page states Fort Milfin was located on Mud Island at the junctions of the Delaware River and the Schuylkill. It is said to have been an outpost of the City of Philadelphia. It is noted the rebels escaped to Fort Mercer after losing 250 men in the British Siege. It was attacked twice; first by artillery on October 22, 1777, and was then besieged again by artillery on the 10th of November and was abandoned by the rebels on the night of the night of the 15th of November, 1777. This footnote states Fort Mercer was also stormed on October 22, 1777.
44. A footnote on this page contains details on the life and career of Robert Troup.
45. A footnote here refers the reader to Marinus Willett's letter to Colonel Gansevoort on June 3rd, 1778; Colonel Richard Varick to Gansevoort on June 3rd, 1778; and the Clinton Papers, Volume Four: pages 50-1 and the footnote thereon.
46. A footnote on this page contains details on the life and career of Robert Benson.
47. The person in question is believed to have been Samuel Geake.
48. A footnote on this page contains details on the life and career of **Marie-Joseph-Paul-Roch-Yves-Gilbert-Motier, Marquis de Lafayette**.
49. A footnote on this page details the life and career of the Missionary James Deane.
50. Lieutenant Thomas McClellan's life and career are outlined in a footnote on this page.
51. Stacy seems to be referring to the Caughnawaga which is near modern day Village of Fonda, New York
52. A footnote here relates details on the life and career of Caleb Stark.

53. An excerpt from Gaines' New York Gazette of August 3, 1778 reports that about one o'clock on August 1, 1778, a fire broke out in the **Ship Chandler Mister [ ] Jones'** Shop on **Cruger's** Wharf in New York City and destroyed all the buildings on the east, west, and south sides of the wharf and all the buildings on the south side of Little Dock Street. The newspaper also notes that all but five houses on the west end of the north side of Little Dock Street were consumed. All of the houses to the east of between Mister Isaac Low's house and the *Old-Slip* on the back of Little Dock Street as well as three on the far side of the slip were also destroyed. **Mister [ ] Lowe's** House survived the fire with great damage as well as the next to it on the west. It is stated that the soldiers of **Colonel [ ] Coburn's** Regiment, as well the men of the 35th Regiment are said to have fought the fire. Only two small vessels were lost to the fire.

54. A footnote on this page states Christopher Hutton was the Adjutant of the Third New York Regiment at this time.

55. A footnote written here by the New York State Historian suggests this flag constructed during the Siege of August 1776, was the first use to display the Stars and Stripes in representing the United States.

56. . This page has footnotes with information on the lives of General H. Weston Powell and Misses Samuel Campbell.

57. A footnote on this page contains details on the life and career of Robert Van Rensselaer.

58. A footnote on this page states this place is now known as Portchester, Westchester County, New York.