

Pokeepsie 20th June 1779

Dear Brother;

I have received your Letter of the 15th Inst. with its Inclosures and conferred with Genl. Washington respecting the Party which I intended to have marched from Lackawack by Popachton to Onaquago - this Detachment was to have consisted of the new Levies on the Frontiers of Ulster and Orange with such an additional Number of the Militia as would in the whole have made up 500 Men and was to have been used not only as a Diversion in your Favor but to strengthen the different Settlements on the Delaware where I was informed their was a Collection of Tories and Indians who had erected some small Works of Defence at Shohawkin and Coulectie and might have continued to be troublesome to the Frontier Settlements notwithstanding your Operations. The General considering the present situation of the Enemy and the Necessity there may be of calling a large Proportion of the Militia to his Aid will not consent to my personally conducting this Enterprize. It will nevertheless be carried into Execution under the Command of Liutt. Collo. Albert Pawling and the necessary Preparations are making for this Purpose. Tho' as we have certain Information that the Works which the Enemy had erected at Shohawken are destroyed and that they are retiring farther back to the Westward a less Number of

Men will be employed for this service than was at first intended. Colo. Pawling has of the Levies under his Command 223 fit for Duty - it is at present designed that at least a Part of these when they join you on the Susquehanah shall continue with you and it may be therefor necessary to provide and bring with you Camp Equipage extraordinary for two compleat Companies as they will otherwise be deficient. They are to take with them some intrenching tools in order that if they arrive in the Neighbourhood of Onaquago before you, they may be enabled to throw up some temporary Works for their Defence but as this party will be weak, you'll see the absolute Necessity, of my having the most authentic and early Intelligence of your Movement from Lake Otsego, that you may be able to form your junction at Anaquago with Precision as to Point of Time.

I conceive the greatest Danger you have to encounter in your Expedition will be on your Route down the River to Chemung, where you are to meet Genl. Sullivan. I need not therefore suggest the great Occasion there is, particularly in this Part of your March, for the utmost Caution to prevent the Enemy from coming on you by Surprize.

As I wish to render your strength as condiderably as possible I have again repeated my Orders to Genl. Ten Broeck to have the Levies from his Brigade compleated as quick as possible and you will give such Orders to Colo. Renselaer with respect to the Disposition of those that

may come in after you have marched, as shall best tend to support the different Posts in your Rear and to cover the Country. Pray let me hear from you by every Opportunity and believe me to be

Yours affectionately

Geo. Clinton

The Honble.  
Brigadier General James Clinton  
Albany or Conajoharie

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