

Sunbury 13 October 1779

Sir

I had the honor of your favor of the 10, by Colonel White, and thank you for your attention to the prisoners. It is the wish - I might add the right - of all the prisoners to be exchanged, or to have their limits extended. They all think, with me, that the Enemy, by withdrawing their protection and support, independent of Mr. Girth's threats, gave up the matter of confinement; and I believe a court of honor would absolve the obligation of the parole on account of Mr. Girth's conduct. But this is not thought of.

I have enquired of the prisoners, respecting the subject of your last letter; and they are unanimously of opinion that they make not the best breach of a parole of honor by going where they please (except to operating armies) in the department, and this opinion they found on what has already been communicated to you, and on the certainty of being at least insulted, by Mr. Girth's conduct, presently after the evacuation of Sunbury by your Guard, an event which will take place very shortly I fear, from the return of its Garrison; and the general report of your raising

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Date: October 13, 1779

Description: George Walton on the state of the war prisoners to General Lincoln, Georgia



am insisted upon by every argument: but I  
fear the persons you may offer for me now  
will not be so valuable. Major Lucas  
will deliver you the paroles I have men-  
tioned; among them you will find one of a  
lieut. Colonel, another of a Captain & a third  
of a lieutenant, of Militia; surely these  
will make up my rank. I am told also  
that you have one Colonel Thomas a prisoner,  
and I believe he is valuable in the eyes of  
the Enemy — Indeed I fancy the others, altho  
not valuable, have the influence of friends  
in Savannah.

If you do really intend to retreat, and I should  
lose the opportunity of going, with Mrs. Walton &  
her servants, under the protection of your  
army, it will be extremely mortifying, and  
may injure me materially. With diffi-  
culty it must be prevented — I should be happy  
could you think it prudent to inform me of  
your intentions, either by a confidential officer  
or letter. I shall be at Belfast until I hear  
from you. Could you order me a draft horse,  
it will much serve me.

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it will much serve me.

I think you will do well to carry away the  
British officers at Sunbury. Some littleness  
they may insinuate, may tend to obscure  
[Cartil], and their venom may extend to injure  
the Inhabitants who may be recipitated to  
stay.

Will you pardon me for all this?  
You see the situation of my mind, from  
the complexion of this [Scrawl].

I am, Sir, with much esteem,  
Your very Hble. Serv.

Geo. Walton.

His Excellency  
Major-General Lincoln.

P.S. I had forgot Colonel Kirkland — but I  
scarce think he ought to be exchanged.

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