

New York April 13th 1779.

Sir,

Having received the Orders of Govern^t to Establish a Post on Penobscot River, I am therefore to desire you will make such a Detachment of the Troops under your Command, as you shall judge proper and sufficient to defend themselves against any Attempt the Rebels in those parts may be able to make, directing them to take post on Penobscot River, and sending with them all Necessary Implements for erecting a Fort, together with such Ordnance and Stores as may be proper for its defence, and a sufficient supply of Provisions.

I apprehend Lt Col Yoreham will be a proper Officer for this Command, and I wo^d recommend your sending his own Corps, the Orange Rangers, with such other Troops in addition as will make up 500 Men, which I should suppose would be sufficient; but as you are in a Situation to get better information, than I possibly can at this distance, you will be so good to send such Force as you may judge necessary. And give Captⁿ Harkup the

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(Coll. 112, Box 1/4)

Date: April 13, 1779

Description: Henry Clinton letter on Penobscot River fort

Engineer, to whom I have communicated my Ideas of the matter such further directions and Assistance as you may think requisite.

Should you think it adviseable, either during the time this Establishment is making or, after it has taken place, to proceed on, or, detach an Expedition, to any part between Falmouth and Penobscot river, you are at liberty to do so, provided it can be executed in time, so as not to detain the Transports too long or to endanger the safety of Halifax, which is always to be considered as the principal Object of your Attention.

Should it be possible for you to give any assistance to the people of the Navy employed in cutting Masts in Bay Verte, I am persuaded you will do it.

I have to lament the little probability that occurs at present of employing your abilities in a more active line, but you may be assured I shall be happy to request your Assistance in that way whenever a proper Opportunity offers.

You will be pleased to deliver the

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You will be pleased to deliver the

enclosed Instructions to the Officer whom you shall appoint to command the Detachment to be sent to Penobscot, and give him such further Orders and directions as you shall Judge Necessary.

I have the honor to be
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Your most Obed^t &
most humble Servant
(Signed) H. Clinton

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