

Sir

I had the Honor to write to your Excellency the 21st Ultimo to which refer

Yesterday I had the Honor to receive Your Excellency's Commands of the 9th instant, which shall be punctually Complied with, and flatter myself, I shall be able to leave this place in three days, on Board the Allegiance Sloop of War, for Halifax

As I have no Field Officer here with the 74th Regiment, the Command of this Garrison will devolve upon Captain Harkup Engineer, as the Senior Officer, and the Command of the Regiment on Captain Archibald Campbell Junior, and as this Post is a place of some Consequence, being nearest advanced to the Enemy, I request the Honor of having Your Excellency Orders, what Field Officer and Corps shall be sent here to relieve the 74th Regiment, and the Number Your Excellency wish may be sent. I shall only observe that this Fort will be Six Weeks hence, in exceeding good posture of defence, when the three Principal Bastions will be finished with basomats in each of them,

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Contributed to Maine Memory Network by the Maine Historical Society
(Local Code: Coll. 112 , Box 1/11)

Date: June 22, 1781

Description: Letter from John Campbell to Henry Clinton describing disposition of British soldiers and the escape of Peleg Wadsworth.

and a good Ditch round the whole Fort.

In the great hurry we were in here the first year Brigadier General MacLean Ordered Huts to be Built for the Men within the Forts, those Huts being very bad I ordered the Regiment to Encamp near the Fort, leaving always a strong guard in the Fort, and a Piquet at night, and before the end of September next, there will be Eight Rooms for Officers, and good Barracks for Three Hundred and Fifty Men, which I humbly think is a sufficient Garrison for this place.

The Officers are anxious to know whether or not they will be allowed Bath, Baggage and Forage Money for this year.

I am informed by a Letter from New York, that Captain Donald Campbell of the Light Infantry Company of the 74th Regiment Dyed in Virginia, if this is true, I beg leave to recommend to your Excellency Captain Lieut Dugald Campbell, who is a good Officer, for the Company, Lieut John Stuart to be Captain Lieut Ensign John Campbell to be Lieut and John Russel to be Ensign
Lieut Robert Mac Farlan of the Grenadiers 74th Regiment having Obtained leave from your

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Excellency last year to go to Britain, the Captain
of the Company applied to me for another Offi-
cer, I have therefore given Leave to Lieut. Colin
Campbell to go to join the Grenadier Comp^y
which I flatter myself will be agreeable to
your Excellency.

I am sorry to inform your Excellency that
on the 19th instant, the Rebel Brigadier General
Wadsworth who was confined here in a Barrack
Room, with one Burton once a Major of Militia,
made their escape, by cutting a Hole in the ceil-
ing of the Room, altho two Sentries were constant-
ly Posted at the Door of the Room and a Window
but in the Door for the Sentries to look through
to observe their Motions.

I have the Honor to be with the greatest Respect

Sir

Your Excellency

most Obedient

Humble Servant

John Campbell

Fort George Penobscot.

22th June 1781.

His Excellency Sir Henry Clinton K.B.

Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Forces

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