



Mouth of Penobscot River 14th Aug. 1779

I have just time my Dear to inform you that our Army evacuated the Heights of Magabigwaduce this morn^g at Day Break upon the appearance of a Fleet of seven Sail, five of which are ships & some of them appear large. They are now proceeding up the Bay & our Fleet is waiting to meet them; our Army is on board the Transports & proceeding up the River in Case of a Superior Force, to be out of Danger & so, my Betsey, you see that we were oblig'd to give up the ground that cost us so much Labour & so many brave men & officers; rather than risk the loss of our whole Army, in case the enemy should be superior by Sea, by not having a retreat in their our Power. Where we shall make a stand next is uncertain till we know the Event of the meeting of the two Fleets, which will be in a few hours of the wind breezes. Adieu my love

P Wadsworth

Mrs Wadsworth

We offerd the Enemy Battle again yesterday afternoon but they declin'd it; & our shiping had just made sail to go in & destroy the Enemys Ships, when the Fleet have in sight; at a very unlucky moment.¹

[¹ Written vertically along the left side of the letter]

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 Date: Aug. 14, 1779
 Description: Letter from Peleg Wadsworth (1748-1829) to his wife, Betsey about the movement of troops on the Peneobscot River.