

C. S. C.

[W. Harrison to Jenifer?]

George Town, Kent County

28<sup>th</sup> Nov. 1776.Hon<sup>ble</sup> Sir.

I had the pleasure before I left our American Camp, which was on the 19<sup>th</sup> Inst. to receive a line from you, a favor which I am extreamely sorry I cou'd not before this acknowledge. At the time I received it I cou'd not procure the necessary materials for writing to you. Ink and paper being then not to be had, on any condition, and since that time I have been endeavouring to get to Annapolis where I expected to have had the satisfaction of conversing with you on the situation of our Army &c; but I have been unexpectedly disappointed on that head, as I have not been able to lay my hands on Capt<sup>n</sup> Veazy's papers which concern the public; they made my business to Maryland, they wou'd have made my principal business to Annapolis, cou'd I have received them in time from Veazy's father who, thro' mistake has got them. I wrote for them immediately on coming down and Colonel Veazy wrote me in return that I should have them as soon as he receiv'd them from Apoquimini, where they were with his son's baggage, however, as the time for which I have leave of absence is nearly out I must hasten back, tho' with the prospect of returning immediately, when I hope I shall get the papers and wait on the Council with them.

The occurrences which we experienced before the 9<sup>th</sup> Instant from the date of my last to you, I make no doubt you have been well inform'd of, the principal one I need only mention to you, which was the battle at the White Plains. In this affair, as in too many more of a similar nature, our Generals show'd not equal judgment to that of the Enemy. We were badly disposed to receive the attack of the Enemy's small arms, and unfortunately much exposed to their Artillery, which flank'd us so heavily as to render the post tenable but a short time. The matter was ended by a confused and precipitate retreat on our part with the loss of 90 men killed and wounded including in the number 4 officers, Capt<sup>ns</sup> Scott & Bracco killed, Lieut. Walters and Goldsmith wounded, of the above number 46 of our Regiment. I forgot to say that Colonel Smallwood was wounded slightly.

Since the engagement of the White Plains you hear we have been unfortunate enough to loose Fort Washington, a capital stroke against us in my opinion as we shall soon find it very difficult to keep up a communication between the Northern and Southern Provinces. had we been able to hold the fort, during the winter we certainly should have been able to