

Our last accounts from Albany mention my Lord Loudouns being within three mile of a french army, with Eleven thousand men, and they are said to be thirteen thousand strong, so that an Action is Expected, what foundation there is for these accounts, and how they come attested I dont learn, whence I conclude that what is said of the french numbers at least, may be only conjecture, but be that as it may, I do not wish to hear of an Action, in which we can gain nothing, but may Loose a great deal; all designs of acting offencifly seem to be laid asside for this year, and I do not know that we shall have as many men next summer as we had this, unless the New England governments are better pleased, than I imagine they have had any reason of late to be.

The Loss of Oswego I esteem a very fatal blow to the Brittish Interest on this continent, and must be owing to the alterations made in the Plan of operations settled at New York, which with great submission to better Judgments, I think could not be changed but for the worse. I find the N York scheme is to lay the blame of that affair upon Gen<sup>l</sup> Shirley, but how Just their censures are the following facts will shew.

Gen <sup>l</sup> Webb arrived at N York . . . .	June 7 <sup>th</sup>
Gen <sup>l</sup> Abercrombie arrived	D <sup>o</sup> 15.
both arrived at Albany	D <sup>o</sup> 25.

On the 26<sup>th</sup> of June Gen<sup>l</sup> Shirley acquainted Gen<sup>l</sup> Abercrombie of the state of Oswego and advised the sending two Batalions there.

Bradstreet returnd to Albany on the 12<sup>th</sup> of July having thrown into Oswego six months Provisions for five thousand men, and a great quantity of Amunition and naval stores, and defeated a party of French and Indians on his way back. And on the same 12<sup>th</sup> of July Informed Gen<sup>l</sup> Abercrombie that he had intelligence from his Prisoners, that a french army was in motion and designd to attack Oswego; whereupon the 44 Regiment was orderd to hold itself in readiness to march to Oswego.

Lord Loudoun arrived at New York,	July 23 <sup>d</sup> —
D <sup>o</sup> arrived at Albany	D <sup>o</sup> 29—

On the 12<sup>th</sup> of Aug<sup>st</sup> the 44 Regiment moved towards Burnets field, with a number of Battoc men who had remaind Idle at Schenectaday from the 11<sup>th</sup> of July. and on the 19<sup>th</sup> of Aug<sup>st</sup> Gen<sup>l</sup> Webb then at Burnets field, recieved the news of Oswego being taken, upon which he marched to the Oneida carrying place and orderd the wood creek to be filld with trees, which was accordingly very effectually stopd.

I have mentiond these facts that you might be satisfied of the truth with respect to that important Loss.