

York and Retreat to our Lines below Fort Washington, the military Stores &c. had been removing some Days, when on the 15th Sep^r the Enemy effected a Landing on several parts of the Island below, (and it is cutting to say without the least opposition) I have often read and heard of Instances of Cowardice, but hitherto have had but a faint Idea of it, 'till now I never could have thought Human Nature subject to such Baseness—I could wish the Transactions of this Day blotted out of the Annals of America,—nothing appeared but Flight Disgrace and Confusion, let it suffice to say that 60 Light Infantry upon the First Fire put to flight two Brigades of the Connecticut Troops—Wretches, who, however strange it may appear, from the Brigadier General down to the Private Sentinal, were caned and whip'd by the Generals Washington Putnam & Mifflin, but even this Indignity had no Weight they could not be brought to stand one Shot—Gen^l Washington expressly sent and drew our Regiment from its Brigade, to march down towards New York, to cover the Retreat and to defend the Baggage, with direction to take Possession of an Advantageous Eminence near the Enemy upon the Main Road, where we remained under Arms the best part of the Day, till Sergant's Brigade came in with their Baggage, who were the last Troops coming in, upon which the Enemy divided their Main Body into two Columns, one filing off on the North River endeavored to Flank and surround us, the other advancing in good order slowly up the Main Road upon us, we had orders to retreat, in good order which was done, our Corps getting within the Lines a little after Dusk—The next Day about 1000 of them made an Attempt upon our Lines, and were first attacked by the brave Col. Knolton of New England who lost his Life in the Action, and the 3^d Virginia Regiment, who were immediately joined by Three Independant Comp^s under Major Price & some part of the Maryland Flying Camp who drove them back to their Lines, it is supposed with the Loss of 400 Men kill'd and wounded—Our Party had about 100 Kill'd and Wounded, of the former only 15.—Since which we have been viewing each other at a Distance and strongly intrenching till the 9th October, when three of their Men of War, pass'd up the North River above Kings bridge, under a very heavy Cannonade from our Batteries which has effectually cut off our Communication, by Water, with Albany—I must now break off Abruptly being ordered to march up above Kings bridge, the Enemy having Landed 6000 Men from the Sound on Frog's Point. 50 Ships are got up there, landing more Troops, there is nothing left but to Fight them. an engagement is generally expected and soon, have enclosed a Copy