

S. 6

Albany 20th August 1756.

I received last Night Accounts by which I apprehend that Onwego, with all it's Stores and Ammunition, and the Train placed there is lost; The Garrison made Prisoners, and our naval Power in the Lake destroyed; I must put you on your Guard against every ill Consequence of such an unhappy Event, and as you may now expect the Height of the French Indian Power on your Back, I must caution you to put your Frontiers immediately in the best posture of Defence you are able, as from the Condition and Number of the Troops left to me when I came to my Command, I can scarce hope to do more than to resist the French Power in these Quarters.

Were my Hands strengthened to enable me to act I would not despair of retrieving this Misfortune, and to wrest out of the Hands of the French, this important Post that by a Series of bad Circumstances has fallen too easy a Prey to them.

I must in the strongest manner and from Motives of the most interesting Nature demand your Assistance, and that of your Province, his Majesty having been graciously pleased to send over to America, a Number of Officers for the Service of these Countries his Royal American Regiment of four Battalions, does expect that the Colonies will supply the Levies for this Regiment, the State of the Service does now require that this Regiment should be immediately completed. There is no Aid you could send me in any Shape would be so useful as Recruits to complete this Regiment, as under such good Officers as his Majesty has appointed to it, they would be soon if not directly fit for Service.

The Levy Money is in all Justice and Right expected of the Colonies, but if Obstructions to the Service should arise within your Province on this Head, I must at this time undertake to advance it.

I do therefore again in the strongest manner desire of you and your Province that you will without fail as you shall see for the Consequences use your utmost Endeavours to procure and send me a Number of such Recruits, If I had this Regiment completed directly I should hope to be able to act and remove those dangerous Circumstances, under which his Majesty's Colonies do now labour, in consequence of his Majesty's positive Orders, I must require of you to lay a prohibition on the Exportation of all manner of provisions, as the sending out such at this time will not only supply the French every where

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