

Johnstown June 7th 1776

Honourable Sir

This Morning early arrived an Express from the German flatts, with a Letter Recd there of an affectionate Settler at Fort Stanwix for our Cause and a Lieut. of my Battalion named John Rufe which mentions, that yesterday a Credible Indian of the new Oneida Castle coming there to inform him of an Invasion of Indians, and that we cannot be secure one minute of a sudden Surprise & Attack, we should therefore take this as a warning to be cautious for our Defence. This and other alarming Intelligences urge me, to represent to you the needless Condition and State of my Regiment, for the utmost want of powder, lead & flints, but especially of the first mentd article. If any Invasion or attack of our Frontiers, being great or Small in Number should happen We must certainly expect nothing but a Slaughter of us and our families without Defence, as we have neither Troops sufficient nor Ammunition for the Militia present.

The Settlers at Fort Stanwix added in the above mentd Letter, that if we'll send immediately Succors for Security and Defence of that place, they would surely remove and leave the place without Delay — and such a Might will also discourage the G Flatts Settlement and their Neighbourhood that the greatest part, if not all, will follow such method of Securing themselves and their families.

I must assure you my Opinion is, that if we are not provided immediately with Troops sufficient, besides the two companies raised in our County, which are as unprovided Yet unfit for Service, and with a good Quantity of powder, some lead and flints, the Upper Districts will be generally left, and openly exposed to the Ravage of the Enemies, which Event must be dishonorable & fatal.

I entreat you therefore, that you please to supply us in particular without Delay with ammunition, and give us Direction for the same, also with the Rest of our want, as you will find yourself necessary and dispatching.

I Remain with humble Respects
Honorable Sir your Obedt humble Servt
Peter Bellinger Colo 4th Batt

To His Excellency Major General Schuyler
at Albany

On Reverse Side

Favoured by
Miss Addams

Johnstown June 7, 1776
From Colo Bellinger

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