

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

MANUSCRIPT SOURCES

Original letters to and from George Clinton and other manuscript material regarding his career are to be found in most of the larger manuscript collections in the United States. The greatest collection of George Clinton Papers is in the New York State Library at Albany. Because of the tragic State Library fire of 1911 which destroyed all but 10 volumes and some fragments out of an original total of 52 volumes, this collection is of infinitely less value than it might otherwise have been. Of the papers that have survived many are military and state papers already printed in the *Public Papers of George Clinton* and literally thousands are charred fragments legible only in the center of the page. Some of the papers have been restored. The destruction of so many of the papers in this collection has enhanced the value of the George Bancroft Calendar of Clinton Papers in the New York State Library, which is in the possession of the New York Public Library.

The New York Public Library also has some George Clinton letters scattered through several collections. Its Abraham Yates Jr. papers are invaluable to students of Antifederalism. Its copies of Gilbert Livingston's reports of the Poughkeepsie Convention supplement admirably the reporting of Francis Childs.

Some important George Clinton letters are in the New York Historical Society Library. This Library also has very valuable collections of papers of James Duane, John Jay, John Lamb, John McKesson and Robert G. Livingston, all of which proved useful in this study.

Among the collections of the Library of Congress that have been consulted are the extensive Continental Congress, Washington, Hamilton, Monroe, James Kent, Philip Schuyler and Genêt Papers, as well as a few letters of George Clinton and members of his family.

The Library of Columbia University has the great and very useful collection of DeWitt Clinton Papers.

The State Museum at Newburgh, New York, has a small collection of interesting Clinton letters.

A number of useful Clinton letters will be found in the Library of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

George Clinton papers and letters, or manuscript copies thereof, are also to be consulted in the Buffalo Historical Society, the Huntington Library at San Marino, California, the Massachusetts Historical Society, the William L. Clements Library at Ann Arbor, Michigan, and the Wisconsin Historical Society at Madison.

Clinton stated in 1799 that he had "had all his Papers destroyed at the Conflagration of the Town of Kingston whither they had been sent for safety . . ." ("Answer to Mr. Schofield's Inquiries . . . respecting the Estate belonging to the late Sir Henry Clinton in the State of New York," William L. Clements Library). Clinton probably referred to the burning of Kingston by the British in 1777.

NEWSPAPERS

Very little information bearing directly upon George Clinton's career is to be found in the newspapers published before the end of the Revolution. From 1783 on, however, newspapers, especially in New York State, are essential to any study of Clinton's public career. Of the papers published in New York City most use has probably been made of the *American Citizen*, *Daily Advertiser*, *Evening Post*, *Herald*, *Independent Journal*, *Journal*, *Packet* and *Republican Watch-Tower*. Other useful papers in New York State include the *Albany Gazette*, the *Hudson Weekly Gazette*, and the *Poughkeepsie Country Journal*. Mention should also be made of the *Maryland Journal* and of the *Weekly Register* published at Baltimore, the *Independent Chronicle* published at Boston, the *Gazette of the United States* published both at New York and Philadelphia, and the *National Intelligencer* published at Washington.

OTHER PRINTED SOURCES

References to George Clinton will be found in a great many of the general and local histories and of the other sources covering the period from the outbreak of the Revolution to 1812. In compiling the following list of printed sources most useful for a study of Clinton's career I have omitted, because of limitations of space, such obvious ones as the

Journals of the Continental Congress, the Annals of Congress, civil lists, the journals or proceedings of the several New York provincial and state assemblies, conventions, congresses, and legislature, and, in general, statesmen's works, as well as many other primary and secondary sources, some of which contain more than passing references to George Clinton. It will be noted that many authorities mentioned in the footnotes are not listed here.

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