

May it please your Excellency

"Your prompt attention to my communication of this day being the 21st inst., is most respectfully appreciated by me, after which it becomes a duty which I owe to myself, to my companions in confinement and to the standing we have in Society, to repel any charge of an obvious departure from that passive deportment which under existing circumstances had been expected. So far as relates to myself and to those in my confidence, no agency directly or indirectly hinted at has taken place and I most solemnly assure your excellency the imputation or suspicion has not a little hurt my feelings.

With respect to that part of your letter relative to severities practised on many persons who have given their parole by persons in the British employ we are completely ignorant of. I am well assured you consider it a painful exercise of duty in adopting measures of severity against inoffensive colonists, but when that necessity is no longer apparent I presume a forbearance of these measures will be the result of your excellency's further investigations"

I have the honor to be your Excellency's

very obedient servant,

(Signed) WILLIAM DICKSON

To His Excellency,

Major General Dearborn.

To this letter no answer was returned, but we were immediately escorted under guard across the river to the American Fort remaining there three days under unaccustomed privations, from thence to Batavia, Canandaigua, Geneva and Utica, remaining at these respective places for some time making a procrastinated route of about three hundred and fifty miles in fifty seven days.

We forbear complaint as we might have communicated with you before this, but trusted to Sir George Prevost's knowledge of our individual cases and from his proclamation of the 14th June at Kingston, looked before this for the interference of our government.

Many of us have moved in spheres of life at home which the present renders most irksome, the position of our wives and children in the present state of the country added to our solicitude and the pecuniary entanglements arising from obvious causes is painful in recurring to the past and anticipating the future uncertain time and place of detention.

We therefore beg you to take such prompt measures as your knowledge and diplomatic discussions may tend to relieve us from this state.

Many of us as by the annexed list you will observe are civil-