

1781.

over the prejudice of serving with those who were once enemies. Colonel Butler wants a dozen breeding sows for the farmers. Michael Showers, of the rangers, has been allowed to settle; he wishes to have his family brought from Mashies (Machiche). They could come with some rangers left sick at Montreal. A smith is wanted. No news has yet been received of the success of the recruiting parties. Gives his opinion as to promotions. Page 264

Abstract of pay bill for the rangers follows. 267

July 2,
Niagara.

Butler to Mathews. Reporting the ninth company of the rangers has been completed; asks that commissions be sent for the officers. Has heard from Bradt respecting the progress of recruiting; a large number of royalists are daily going to join Ethan Allen. Gives reasons why he believes the tenth company will soon be completed; will try to get recruits to provide for men discharged who wish to farm. He believes that the result of the court-martial will show that there were no grounds for the villainous charges against him respecting the pay of the men, and that there were no discontents among them. Should Lieut. Peter Ball be acquitted on a technical plea, of the charge against him when he refused to come to the support of Captain McDonnell at Fort Herkimer, the corps will not do duty with him till it is properly cleared up. Tools, &c., have been received for the farmers. 268

July 16,
Niagara.

Same to Powell. Respecting disputes as to the enlistment of recruits. 272

July 21,
Quebec.

Mathews to Butler. The muster roll of the 9th Company of rangers has been received and commissions transmitted accordingly. The care to be taken in enlisting men for the rangers, as rebel prisoners engage and then desert, carrying back news to the enemy. His Excellency is pleased to learn of the progress of the farms; it is a pity the scheme had not been tried sooner. Neither the victuals of last fall nor the spring fleet are yet arrived, and nearly all the hay and grain in the country round Quebec have been destroyed by caterpillars. 273

July 25,
Niagara.

Walter Butler to Mathews. Stating the pleasure he would have were he ordered on service. Complains of the want of means of redress in civil matters; asks what should be done respecting a house built by Colonel Butler, which he is likely to lose. Calls attention to irregularities in receipts for provisions to rangers and loyalists. Caldwell has gone with 56 men and 100 Indians towards the frontier, and there are about 50 more out. Colonel Butler proposes to draw £5,000 for arms, clothing, &c. 275

August 2,
Niagara.

Same to the same. Calling attention to the change in the title of Colonel Butler's command; also to statements of Colonel Johnson, that the amount of his account against Government arose from charges contracted in Colonel Butler's time. 278

August 10
Niagara.

Same to the same. Stating that whilst Lieut. Paulding is a good man and does his duty faithfully, he is not competent to be captain of a company. 279

August 26,
Niagara.

Butler to the same. Requesting that the Paymaster General be directed to pay £5,000 for arms, &c., and that Captain Butler be allowed to come down for two or three weeks to settle regimental accounts. 281

September 6,
Quebec.

Mathews to Butler. Acknowledging receipts of his letters in May, and that the articles wanted by the farmers had been sent. His Excellency is pleased at the report of the progress made by the farmers, and hopes that every exertion may be made to encourage the undertaking. 282