

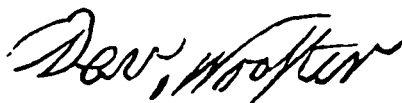
which are enough to make the heart of a man of sentiment and sensibility bleed for his country. Yet let us make the best of our situation. I am confident that a few days will put a very different face upon our affairs.

We certainly shall have in a very few days a large reinforcement of men, Artillery Stores, and I hope every thing necessary for our future operations.

I have ordered Capt. Palmer to send off all the Vessels from Point au Tremble up the River, except the Maria which I shall immediately man and arm in such a manner as I hope she will be able to defend herself, and perhaps do us some service below. I shall be much obliged to you if you advise and direct such parties as may be sent to Point au Tremble in such a manner as you think conducive to the public safety, and all Officers of parties will obey your instructions.

I am, Sir, in haste, with the greatest esteem and regard your sincere friend and

Very hble. Servt.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "D. Wooster". The script is cursive and fluid, with a large, sweeping initial "D" and a long, trailing flourish at the end.

My Compts. to Mrs. McNeil's family.

P.S.—Sir I understand by Capt. Palmer and by Capt. Church that the Vessels have been neglected from a dispute among some of the Officers about who commands, I have now told them to take their orders from you. I beg, Sir, if your health will permit, that you would send for the Officers and direct each to his proper business, that the Vessel may immediately be got ready and sent off, and they are hereby ordered strictly to obey your instructions and they will answer the contrary as disobedience of my orders.

D. WOOSTER, B. Genl.

Capn. Hector McNeil, Point au Tremble.