

Legacy of Historical Gleanings

Mr. Robert Ray to Philip Van Rentsdaer. u g;r . " New York, 14 Febr 1776.

" this minute I Rec11 your Esteemed favr of the 28 Jan? and 7th Febr the Inclosed for Mr. Yates I have DD'1 the other two for Ch8 Dickenson and John Livingston shall endeavr to D.Dr tomorrow as they are both out of town : I shall as you desire endeav' to buy Livingston's Rum for you : as soon as he Comes to town : I have not heard the price mentioned of that article in 2 or 3 weeks : then it was at ' , . and if he will take that or less shall purchase for you : my Still house as well as all others have been locked up this 2 months : and I do not know if there be a hhd to Sell in town : however ihall Enquire tomorrow : this being 10 O'clock at night. If I find any I shall be loth to purchase unless they will take the Risque of Delivering it at Albany, for we are in daily expectation of having our City knocked down and burned by the Men of Warr : most all the Effects are moved out of town : and at least half the familys are gone and others agoing so that we are a Complete Garrisontown : we have 2500 Soldiers here from Connecticut and Jerseys : Just now hear 1500 more troops from Connecticut are at Kingsbridge and many Company's from the Countys marching hither : it is Said by Saturday night we shall have 8000 troops : I wish my family was at your place : tomorrow morninz Gen1 Lee breaks Ground to Intrench from north to East River, so that you may Judge of our unhappy Situation, observe you have Secured a house for me and would lay up some wood for me : for which I am extreemly oblige to you. I believe the Sloops that Come here first in the Spring will meet with good freight to move goods and familys up the River, observe Cousin Betsey Sanders is dead the Lord I hope will prepare us all for the like Change, observe you take the brandy to yourself at 8*. pr Gall: which is agreable. I shall pay Mr. -Diekerson the Money if he Chuses to take it here.

" I shall write you again Soon, observe you expected to have £2000 — hard Money for me Soon which will be Very agreable : you may draw on me for Money if you have occasion, observe what you say in regard to Cousn Sarah Babbington which is Very well: make no Doubt you will endeavr to get them some work so as they may get a living among you. My family are all in reasonable health : and give their Sincere love to you all: and Couz: John Sanders and his family : please to tell him we Condole with him in the loss of his Daughter. I heg you will push John Roff Close to get that order paid.

" I am Respectfully Sir Yr Most Humblc Servt. "Robt. Ray"

Bonney, Catharina V.R. *A Legacy of Historical Gleanings* (Albany, NY: J. Munsell,1875). Available as an e-book download from Google Books (<http://books.google.com/>).