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SOME EXTRACTS FROM THE PAPERS OF GENERAL
PERSIFOR FRAZER.

General Frazer, the first in his direct male line who was born in this country, was the son of John Frazer the first immigrant who at the age of 24, came to Philadelphia with his bride Mary Smith in 1735, from Glasslough in Ireland. John's father Persifor was a Scot, who had settled in Glasslough, County Monaghan, in the latter part of the XVIIIth or the beginning of the XVIIIth century, having come from the neighbourhood of Inverness in Scotland: but whether he were the missing Alexander of Lovat or a soldier in the army of King William, or both or neither is not positively known.

The first Persifor born in America had an eventful life between 1736 and 1792, which conformed well, both in his occupations and in his order of assuming them, with the sketch of the life of man, given by the greatest of all poets in "As you like it," so far as relates to those of his seven stages about which we have any authentic history. The first stage as infant, we may assume to be as Shakspeare describes, but of the second or schoolboy stage we have no information. As the lover, soldier, and Justice we have ample records of him, while his death at the age of fifty-six

years mercifully spared him the stage of the lean and slippered pantaloon, and the last pitiable stage "sans everything." The following is a brief outline of his career.

He was born August 9/10. 1735. In his 16th year (1751) he was probably acting as clerk in his father's office; in his 29th year, his father died, July 5. (1764.) In his 30th year he signed the non-importation resolutions of the merchants of Philadelphia (1765) and in this year his mother died Sept. 7. He was married to Mary Worrall Taylor Oct. 2. 1766.

He was chosen on the committee of Chester Co. to carry out the resolutions of Congress Dec. 20. 1774. In this year also he was elected a delegate to the Provincial Council, and appointed one of a committee of seven to draft a petition to the General Assembly for the manumission of slaves —Jan. 25, 1775.

He received from Congress his commission as Captain of Co. A 4th Pennsylvania Battalion Jan. 5. 1776. After raising his company it rendezvoused at Chester in March. He left Camp with Dr Kennedy for Long Island May 16, arrived in New York May 18, and crossed over to Long Island Sunday morning May 19.

From May 19 to June 29 he was serving in or commanding detachments which scoured the island to arrest Tories; and preparing for the expected attack by the British. With his command he started by boat for Albany June 29, and arrived there July 2. He set out for Lake George July 4. marching sixty of the seventy miles on foot, and arrived on July 7. At first his command camped about 3 miles from Ticonderoga, but very shortly after removed to a point just under the walls of the fort. During his service at Ticonderoga occurred the skirmish at Three Rivers; reconnoitering expeditions in August, during which Brig. Gen. Gordon was killed; and the repulse of a reconnoissance in boats. Major Hausegger was appointed Colonel of a German regiment, and Capt. Frazer was appointed Major by Gen. Gates

in Hausegger's place in September. The engagement at Crown Point took place Saturday Oct. 12. and on Oct. 13. the 6th Pennsylvania Battalion left Crown Point and arrived at Ticonderoga. Monday Oct. 28. fourteen flat boats of armed men of the enemy came in sight but soon retreated. The Americans retreated from Crown Point, Saturday Nov. 2. On Dec. 4. Col. Frazer was sent by Gen. Wayne to Philadelphia with despatches for Congress, which he duly delivered.

From his arrival in Philadelphia, in the middle of December 1776, till April 15. 1777, and probably later, he was engaged in recruiting duty. May 6, he was in command at Chester, Pa.

On June 7, he arrived at Mount Pleasant (near Bound Brook N. J.), June 22, with Wayne's division, of 500 Riflemen, the enemy was pursued from hill to hill and finally driven completely back near New Brunswick. July 5 he was at Morristown N. J.; July 18 at the Clove, Orange County N. Y.; July 29, at Howell's Ferry; August 13. at the Cross Roads, Bucks Co. Penna. (now called Hartsville); Aug. 21 & 22 Graeme Park, Horsham township, Montgomery Co.; September 4, in camp near Wilmington. Between this date and the next paper in his collection, the battle of Brandywine had been fought and lost, and Gen. Frazer had been captured (Tuesday Sept. 16.) by the British troops while on scouting duty in As(h)ton township Chester (now Delaware County) Penna.

Sunday Sept. 28. he signed his parole in Germantown; Oct. 7. he was closely confined in the State House; Oct. 9. he sent a letter by his wife to Washington, which had an important consequence in causing the latter to re-open negotiations with Gen. Howe, which ultimately were successful in renewing the cartel for the exchange of prisoners, and in effecting the release of Gen. Charles Lee on whose account exchanges had been abruptly stopped for nearly a year, i.e. since Gen. Howe upon Lee's capture at Basking Ridge Dec. 13, 1776, had refused to exchange him on the

ground he was a deserter; and at the end of December, he was removed to the New "Goal." (S. E. corner of 6th & Walnut Street).

About Jan. 20. 1778, he was allowed to occupy lodgings in the city; on Feb. 28. he was sent with others to the Golden Swan inn, which was guarded like a jail. St. Patrick's day, March 17, he escaped and made his way to the headquarters of Washington, to whom he recounted the circumstances of his escape, and was immediately returned to duty as Lieutenant Colonel, frequently in command, of the 5th Pennsylvania Regiment, owing to the numerous absences of Col. Johnston who was in bad health. June 28. 1778 ("a day ever to be remember'd by Americans") he did honorable service at the battle of Monmouth, commanding his regiment and, according to family tradition, during part of the action, the brigade. June 30, with his command he was at Englishtown Monmouth Co. N. J.; July 23 at Greenwich Conn.; July 26, the army was encamped at White Plains and remained there until October 2. 1778, the approximate date of the presentation of his resignation from the army, which was accepted Oct. 9. by the Commander in Chief.

July 15. 1779 Congress appointed him Cloathier General, which office he respectfully declined. August, September, October some historians have reported him with Sullivan's expedition? October 15. General Joseph Reed, President of the Supreme Executive Council of the State, tendered him the office of Adjutant General of Pennsylvania, which he also declined.

April 1, 1780, he was appointed by the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania, Commissioner of Purchases for Chester County, which he held for a short time and then resigned.

1781, March 22, he was appointed Treasurer of Chester Co. Oct. 15, he was elected from Chester County to the General Assembly of Pennsylvania.

May 25, 1782, the Supreme Executive Council of the

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, appointed him a Brigadier General of the State.

Oct. 12 he was reelected from Chester Co. to the General Assembly.

April 23. 1785. Set out with Col John Bayard and Col. George Smith, by order of the Assembly, as a commission to investigate the dissensions in the Wyoming region, caused by the conflicting claims of Connecticut and Pennsylvania to the territory.

March 1. 1786 David Rittenhouse, Treasurer of the State of Pennsylvania appointed him an inspector of the paper then being manufactured for the Commonwealth's use by "Mr Wilcocks;" June 16, the Supreme Council of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania appointed him one of the Justices of the County Court of Common Pleas (for seven years). April 8 he was appointed Register of Wills and Recorder and held these offices till his death on Tuesday April 24. 1792.

In preparing his papers for the press, I noticed occasional sentences in letters written by Gen. Frazer to his wife, and his sister, which implied a lack of friendly feeling on the part of himself and his neighbors toward the New England people and troops. This struck me as peculiar in a man of such a broad and just nature, and I was puzzled to explain it. But the evidence that the people, of Chester County at least, disliked and mistrusted the "Yankees" is undeniable.

The first allusion to this feeling occurs in a letter to his wife written from Long Island May 23, 1776, very soon after he took the field. He says . . . "If the New England troops do not fight better than their appearance indicates, they will make a poor hand of it" . . . In a later letter to her from Ticonderoga July 15, 1776, he writes . . . "Col Wayne arrived with three companies the day before we came to this place, and it is agreed on all hands that we shall not go further. The New England Troops are chiefly at Crown Point, they have for this many days past been sending their sick to Fort George, where a

Hospital is provided to receive them, and all the sick of this army. The whole of the troops fit for duty in this quarter does not amount to more than 26 or 2700 men, though there are not less than 16 Regts and upwards. The Penna. and N. J. Troops are the greatest part of the army now fit for action". . . . Further on he adds . . . "There is not that dependence in the New England men that I expected. They make a most wretched appearance from home, as they are not able to endure hardship equal to the other American Troops. About three-fourths of them are now unfit for service, by what I can learn" . . .

In the next letter to her from the same place July 25. 1776 . . . "We have heard that a large number of New England Troops are to be sent here to reinforce us. There are now at this place 12 Regiments of Troops, chiefly New Englanders, besides our Battalions, and the whole amount to 3100 effective, 2600 sick, & 1300 said to be on Command somewhere, but to the General and every one but themselves unknown. Our Battalions amount to 1600 fit for duty. The miserable appearance, and what is worse the miserable behaviour of the Yankees, is sufficient to make one sick of the service. They are by no means fit to endure hardships. Among them there is the strangest mixture of Negroes, Indians, and Whites, with old men and mere children, which together with a nasty lousy appearance make a most shocking spectacle. No man was ever more disappointed than I have been in respect to them" . . . The explanation of this last sentence, which indicates that the writer had previously formed a high estimate of their prowess, will be found in his next letter as well as in one from his sister to him. Further on in this same letter he continues: "The Pennsylvania Troops have not much Connection with the New England Troops, and am sorry we cannot be on more friendly terms. They are encamped close to the Fort, and on a point just opposite on the other side of the Lake" . . .

In a letter dated Triconderoga August 6th 1776 to his

wife he says: . . . “Five hundred Troops from New England arrived at this place yesterday, and 1500 more are expected in a few days. I have not yet seen them but unless they are better than the greatest part of those that have been here before them, they had better stay at home. No man was ever more disappointed in his expectations respecting New Englanders in general than I have been. They are a set of low, dirty, griping, cowardly, lying rascals. There are some few exceptions and very few. They may do well enough at home, but every fresh man that comes here is so much loss to the army as they will get sick with the small-pox or some other lazy disorder, and those that are seasoned must take care of them and by that means weaken the army. Many of their regiments for many months past have not had above 100 fit for duty, and at some particular times 20 and sometimes none. This has been common among them. At the best their regiments are not half full. A Colonel came in the other day with only 60 men in his regiment and some of them had the small-pox. The General immediately sent them home again. *You may inform all your acquaintance not to be afraid that they will ever Conquer the other Provinces (which you know was much talked of), 10 000 Pennsylvanians would I think be sufficient for ten times that number out of their own Country.* All the Southern Troops live in great harmony. The others we have little or no connection with. They are separated from us by the Lake” . . .

Here then is the secret of the antipathy. Evidently everywhere out of New England, and in Pennsylvania as well as in the South, there was a wide spread apprehension that in case of victory to the American arms the Yankees would substitute their own tyranny for that of the mother country over the other Provinces. This is distinctly expressed in a letter to be later quoted.

From the same correspondence Aug. 10. 1776, . . . “A body of 5000 New England Troops are to reinforce us, near half that number are already arrived. I have not seen

any of them as they are stationed on the other side of the Lake and as the whole of our Officers and men are constantly employed from Daylight till Dark on Duty or at Work have not yet had time to visit them tho' some of them have been here 8 or 9 days."

Aug. 21. 1776 he says . . . "Our army here has been lately reinforced by a Brigade of militia from Connecticut amounting to about 1500 men, who are encamped on our side of the Lake between us and the Fort. They appear better than others from that country that I have seen, but it is expected in a few days the small-pox and other disorders incident to camp, will break out among them which are always fatal to their countrymen" . . .

In a letter from his wife, dated August 27, 1776, she says . . . "The people seem middling well reconciled to independency, but very much fear the heavy taxes that are to come upon us, *but above all they fear the New Englanders should the Americans gain the day*" . . . In her husband's letter to her, Ticonderoga Sept. 21. 1776, . . . "Two or three Yankee Colonels have died lately, more of them are sick. Indeed, the most of them look like spectres, miserable creatures they are, the more I am acquainted with them the worse I like them, I hoped it would be otherwise" . . .

Col. Frazer's sister Anne writing to him at Ticonderoga about this time says . . . "I am very sorry that the Yankees merit no better character than you give them, and Mr. Jones harbors no better opinion of them than you do. I would not for the world that it was known among our Tories here. There would be no living among them" . . .

It is well known that New England's influence in the Congress was greater than that of any other group of the Colonies. While sympathising with her declarations of the tyranny and oppression of the mother country, and determined, should all other means fail, to appeal to arms, the middle and southern colonies were not firmly persuaded

that the critical point had been reached, when the domination of the New England contingent in Congress forced the hand of their colleagues and precipitated the war. It was doubtless due to this cause that the signatures of these colleagues to the Declaration of Independence were so slow in being affixed.

But whatever be the reason it was unhappily true that the sections of this country in its infancy, like the sections of all other countries, regarded each other with a suspicion and almost hatred only less intense than the foreigner. If, as seems probable, this prejudice was due to ignorance of each other, it is a consolation to think that the railroads and telegraph and telephones which have so enormously facilitated the intercourse between the remotest parts of the country may minimise if not entirely destroy it in the future.

The following letters have been selected from General Frazer's papers :

JANUARY 26th 1776

SIR

You are to Continue to Enlist men for the Purpose of filling your Company as soon as possible in the Fourth Battalion under my Command—in doing of which you are to be governed by the Rules and Resolves of Congress.

You are at Liberty to Offer the men by way of Bounty One pair of new Shoes, a pair of new stockings a new Hat, the value of ten Shillings in other Clothing, in place of a hunting Shirt, a new Blanket—or if they find one of their own Two Dollars for it, with liberty to take it away at the end of the Campaign—Five Dollars pr month and one Dollar pr week Subsistence Money until they join the Batallion,

Fifty Shillings pr month if Ordered for Canada ; Such of your men as can procure good muskets or Rifles will find their advantage in bringing them along

By a late Resolve of Congress no Soldier is to be arrested unless he is justly Indebted to one Person more than 35 Dollars—nor shall his Effects be liable to attachment at the suit or for the benefit of all his Creditors, unless their debts in the whole on being ascertained by their *Oaths* amounts to more than 150 Dollars

You are to Render yourself at Chester on Friday the 9th of February next with all such men as you then have or can Enlist

I wish you Success and am Dr Sr
Your most Obt Huml Sert

ANTY WAYNE

To

CAPT FRAZER

If you shou'd meet with any Opposition in Recruiting you'l apply to the Committee of the County where Such Opposition has been given who will afferd you Assistance

MY DR POLLY

This evening or tomorrow I go to Philada on Friday I expect to be at Home on Sunday my Company will march, Colonel Johnston says I must stay here wth him till the last of the men march, Please to send one of the Boys wth a Horse for me on Friday. I have nothing new. my best Love to you all

Am yr. Affect. Husband
PERSIFOR FRAZER

Chester Apr. 8th, 1776
FOR MRS FRAZER

MY DR POLLY

Orders have come down this day from Genl. Washinton for our Regiment to March as soon as they can be Cloathed and Equip'd. I am just setting off for Philada with Colonel Johnston shall be at Home Sunday or Monday do get everything ready as soon as possible, the latter end of next Week will be the extent of my stay.

I am Yr. Affecte Husband
PERSR FRAZER

To MRS. MARY FRAZER, THORNBURY.

LONG ISLAND May 23d 1776

MY DR POLLY

I left Philada this day Week in Compy. with Doer Kennedy and arrived Safe at New York on Saturday Evening on Sunday came over to this place and found everything and every Person as well as I could desire. We are situated opposite to New York abt 3/4 of a Mile from it, in the pleasantest place I ever yet beheld both for improvement and prospect. it is expected We shall continue here as an Armanent is dayly look for from England or Halifax. We have not yet got Arms for the Companys now here but expect shortly we shall be fully supply'd, there are not less than 10 different Fortifications now

very forward on this and the New York side wch it is thought will be sufficient for the defense of the Capital and disappoint our Enemies in their Schemes of making any great progress in this Country, the Force now in this Neighborhood amount to abt 10 or 12 Thousand Men and it is expected the other troops raisd in our Government will be order'd here. The news from Quebec is bad but not so much so as the first accts mention. We have lost but abt 200 of our Sick 14 pieces of Artillery and some Baggage, our Troops are now in good condition ab. 45 Miles above Quebec where they propose to make a stand.—

Our Men with out flattery exceed all the other Troops both in appearance and Subordination they are respected by all the inhabitants and hope we shall continue to deserve the character We have acquired. Jem Young deserted the other day if you can hear anything of him send word to Capt. Anderson at Chester to have him taken up and immediately confin'd and every Person that has harbour him ought to be dealt with with the greatest severity. The Blue Cloath at Darby if is good and looks well wou'd advise you not to dispose of it and it is likely I shall want a Suit of it for my own use, I have got one pr cotton Stockings the other cotton thread I left with the Stocking Weaver who's Name is deshong and lives on the South side of Market Street within a Door or two of furthest House next the Commons I did not pay him for Weaving the pair I have got—if you should hear of any safe hand please to send them.

I have been Honour'd with the Acquaintance of General Green who Commands on this Island in whose Company I have been frequently He is an Accomplish'd fine Gentleman and respected by all ranks, should be happy in being continu'd under his Command.

If the New England Troops do not fight better than their appearance indicate they will make a poor hand of it. I have not more worth notice to inform you off. Give my best respects to Nancy Sally Thomson, Betsy Taylor Isaac, Jemmy, Tommy Cheney, Tommy Taylor West town, Capt. Anderson and all other enquiring friends. My most ardent Wishes attend my Dr Children and wish you my Dr Polly Life Health and Prudence and am Yr. Affectionate Husband.

PERSR FRAZER

Should you write direct to me of the 4th Pennsylvia Regiment command by Col Wayne at Long Island. This goes inclos'd to Mrs Kennedy by a person going to Lancaster

LONG ISLAND June 7th, 1776.

MY DR POLLY

. . . I continue in my Usual health indeed the whole five Companies encamp'd here are remarkably healthy not above one or two any way disorder'd We have not yet got Arms but are in daily expectation of

those that were taken lately near Boston, when I expect We shall be compleatly Arm'd, whether we shall go to Quebec or stay is not certain, but think it most probable this Island will be our station as General Green seems very fond of our joining his Brigade; the Fortifications in this neighbourhood are very numerous one or two New Ones lately constructed, those that were first began are nearly compleat, and the whole make a very formidable appearance, the last news from Quebec is favourable about 1500 of our Men under General Arnold have defeated a large Body of Regulars Canadians and Indians near Montreal some Accts say they have killed and taken the whole party consisting of 700. Two small parties of ours had been defeated by them before Genl. Arnold attac'k them.

There are a very vast numbers of Tories in this Island and Neighbourhood there was information given the other day to General Putnam that a number of the most noted of them in this Government were to meet near thirty miles from this place on Tuesday last and Governor Tryon with them. Colonel Johnston and myself were sent off in disguise to reconnoitre the Neighbourhood where they were to have met.—

On Monday night last. A number of Rifle men and the New England Troops amountg. to upwards of 250 set off in the night in order to bring those in We should discover. We proceeded to Jamaica and Hampstead two noted Tory Vilages the one abt 12 the other about 25 Miles from hence. We had not time to make all the discoveries We would wish before the Troops who had march'd very Quick came up with Us. The Tories took the Alarm through the Country where the Troops pass'd and Expresses were dispatch'd to their Leaders. Two of their principals were taken; Tryon had not come on Shore nor can I think he intended it, but from the Conversation We had believe there was to have been a Meeting of some of them. We personated Tories so well that no one of them had any suspicion of our assum'd character, but all the men women and Children we met with were of the most villainous principles of any I ever yet heard. had the Honour the other day to be in Company with General Putnam and several other officers and went with him in his Barge from New York to visit the Fortifications on Governors Island and Paulus Hook, both of them opposite New York, he is a smart, active indefatigable Old Gentleman and appears very sensible in his profession.—

I am very sorry to hear there is likely to be such division in our Province I am clearly of Opinion the Convention scheme is very impolitic and unnecessary at this time, could wish the leaders of the contending parties wou'd take more pains to unite and conform to each others sentiments for the General good, I am very well satisfied I am from among them at this time as contentions of any kind are very disagreeable to me. . . . I was yesterday about 12 miles from this viewing the shipping

near the sea, I counted 6 large ships and 6 smaller ones most of the larger are ships of war and some of the smaller Tenders, none have yet arriv'd from England as We can hear. . . Major Hausegger Dr Kennedy and myself Lodge at a private House near the Camp, a very genteel commodious, pleasant place as ever I saw, and the people extremely agreeable, the other Officer Mess together at a House at the Camp Great Harmony has hitherto subsisted among the whole Officers and men indeed nothing is disagreeable only the troubles subsisting in the Continent and absence from my dear little Family. . .

Your Affectionate Husband.

PERSIFOR FRAZER

Jnn 23d 1776.

MY DR PERCY

I have Injoyd a poor Steate of helth Cence our unhappy Partting your little ones is well Freidrich has been Sick Twoddel affair is left til your return I have received but little monney my Neighbors is Exceeding Good and redy to Searve mee you desire to know how your Neighborhood turn out to the best of my knowledge they are 15 men Stronge the Convention Scheme has turnd Every thinge up side down I am preparing Cloath for a Surtout Coat Jacket and Breeches wosetid for Stockings please to let me know the Culler Mammy Nancy Sally Betsey Isaac Jemmy Polly Peirce the are in Good helth Sends there best respects to you little Sally Sends her Love to Daddy little Persifor is the Hansomest Child you have I have nothing more worthy of your notice Give my respects to all enquiring Friends I am my Dr Percy wishing every blessing Heaven can Shower on you your affectionate wife

MARY WORRALL FRAZER.

you had 6 Shirts 7 white and 3 Black Stocks 8 pair of Silk Cotton linning and wossted Stockings

To Capt Percifor Frazer

	of the 4th Pensylvn
P. favr	Regiment Command
Doctr Kennedy	by Col. Wayne at Long Island

MY DR POLLY

Doctr Kennedy arriv'd here last night by whom I receiv'd your letter wch I do assure you gave me the greatest pleasure to hear of your, the Childrens and friends' Welfare. We are to embark for Albany on Saturday next without arms, unless a remonstrance which the Officers of our Regimt to General Washington may alter his Orders. We complain to him of the impropriety of the measure as there is no

probability of our getting arms there and of consequence We cannot pretend to go further than that place. We expect an Answer this day We have been promis'd a number of arms wch arriv'd here a few days ago from Boston and our disappointmt causes great Uneasiness among Us. We have heard that Genl Thompson has had an engagement with some Troops in Canada and by his advancing too precipitately he and abt 40 others were made prisoners, Colo Wayne we hear was in the engagement and behav'd remarkably well with the Troops of our Regimt that were with him, there has been a very great overhall among the Tories in this Government, their scheme has been found out to be an infernal One, the Mayor of York and some other principal men who are now in Goal were ringleaders they had by the influence of Cash Brib'd three of General Washington's guards and had enlisted many men into their infernal scheme which in a few days will bring down just retribution on their devoted heads ; shall write you more fully of this affair in my next, shall expect you will not neglect to write every safe opportunity. You may make the Cloath you talk off the Colour of Doct Kennedy's surtout if you can conveniently, this goes by Eliza Young who has taken a notion to return she tells me she will certainly deliver this immediately on her going to our neighborhood, would be glad you wou'd enquire about her son Jem whether he has been in our neighborhood. I have nothing more to add only that I continue in good health and spirits, if our people shou'd be put to the tryal of their Courage make no doubt but that they will not disgrace the Couse they are engaged in. If I had a safe hand wou'd send you some money but that does not offer yet. My sincere Compliments attend all friends, relations and by best Wishes and Love to you and my Dr little Ones I am my Dr Polly

Yr affectionate Husband
PERSIFOR FRAZER.

LONG ISLAND

Thursday morning, June 27th 1776.

MY DEAR POLLY

The Vessells are now ready and our Troops will embark this evening for Albany, it is not likely We shall go further than Crown Point or Ticonderoga, it is expected this place will be attack'd in a few days, as Vessells are still coming to the mouth of this Bay, It is said General Howe is now there, am very sorry We are obliged to go at this time when Action is so near at hand, but shall submit to what is allotted without repining, if there is not a propability of our Troops being soon arm'd the chief of our Officers will resign as it is very discouraging to be so long rais'd to no effect Our Canadian Army are entirely at the above Forts, as General Burgoyne and a large Army have

arriv'd in Canada, they have had a Brush with our people abt 250 of whom are kill'd wounded and taken prisoners, General Thomson and 2 or three other officers are among the latter, the greatest part of our Army are Sick the amt 3000, they made their retreat good leavg. Scarce anything behind them, it is not expected Burgoyne can advance as we have the entire Command of the Lakes by our Arm'd Vessells and it will be a very considerable time before they can build Boats for their Army and Provisions . . . May every blessing attend you and my Dr children shou'd any accident befall me inculcate into them the Principles of Virtue which will of course make them happy here and hereafter, I am my Dear Polly

Your ever affectiont Husband
PERSIFOR FRAZER.

NEW YORK

June 29th, 1776

LAKE GEORGE AT FORT GEORGE July 9, 1776

MY DEAREST POLLYE

My last to you gave an account of our being order'd to March to Albany, We left New York on Saturday Evening the 29th, last month, We had a very agreable passage up the North River to Albany wch is reckond 180 Miles except the Misfortune of loosing a corporal in my Company, who laid himself down to sleep on some casks upon Deck and tumbled overboard, he was a fine young fellow in every respect, liv'd near Colonel Waynes, and his name Joshua Davis. We arriv'd at Albany Tuesday morning early, the place by no means answer'd the idea I had form'd of it, the buildings in general old fashion'd and very irregular the inhabitants as uncouth as their dwellings. We were there furnish'd with Arms (the greatest part ordinary) and some other necessaries and set off for this place on thursday morning by land and arriv'd on Sunday about noon the distance near 70 miles. I travell'd in a wagon about 10 miles at first setting out, and march'd the whole of the remainder without any complaint except a blister or two on each foot, but thank God am now in as good health and spirits as ever in my Life, indeed I have found my spirits increase as difficulties arise and Pray God it may continue, there is not any news worth relating, the Sick Troops are to be remov'd from Ticonderoga to this place the Hospital is now fitting up for their reception the Grand Hospital under the direction of Doctor Potts is to be here. We are all now preparing to get our Baggage on Board to embark tomorrow for Ticonderoga distant about 40 miles we are to go in Batteaus within 3 miles of that place, the Situation of this place is very agreable, the Lake close to our Camp, it abound with great plenty of excellent Fish, the ruins of Fort William Henry is within 200 yards of the place I now write from. Our Troops are in

high Spirits considering the warm weather and long march, We have all liv'd very happily and hope in three days to see our worthy Colonel and the rest of our Battallion who have gained great reputation for their steady, manly behaviour in the last Action. I am in great hopes we shall not Disgrace them I have beg'd Dr. Potts to forward this to his Brother Joseph who I hope will imediately send it to you, any Letter you may want to send or any thing else may be forwarded to the Doctor Potts at this place. I hear this day from Colonel Wayne, he is well and all the Officers except one who's name I cannot learn who has been wounded but is likely to recover. And now my dear Wife I beg and pray of you should any thing happen to me (as we are all liable to accidents of various kinds and Life without the proper enjoyments of it is not worth having) that you would use the utmost of your power to bring up the Children that God has blessed Us with, in the paths of Virtue, nothing I am sure can give you greater pleasure on reflection and nothing can be of greater advantage to them. Please God I am spared I shall see you the ensuing Winter. I hope no action of mine will bring disgrace on my Children, it is my determination to do my Duty how it may turn out on the day of trial is not for me to say but find as yet no great concern. . .

your affectionate and ever loving Husband

PERSIFOR FRAZER

(To be Continued).