

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
VERMONT
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

FOR THE YEARS
1923, 1924 AND 1925



THE P. H. GOBIE PRESS, INC.
BELLOWS FALLS, VT.
1926

told the Officer that he believed that he did not know him that his name was something else Not willing that Davis should know his right name Davis was sent to St. Johns the Officer went directly to Quebec, Davis was kept there til Col. St. Leger went to the Gen^l Then Davis was sent to Mascha and 4 men to come over with him to take his Father into Canada About the 18th of Sept^{ber} they returned to Peacham Davis found them provision two or three days till he got ready to go with them He and his son both went to the Block House on Mascha from there to the Lower Block House 20 miles from there to St. Charles from there to Chambly from there to St. Johns where he delivered all my letters & papers which had their desired effect Col^o St. Leger left the Davises in his own house till he went directly to the Isle Aux Noix to Gen^l Reidesel The next day he returned The papers were sent directly to Quebec to the Gen^l

While the Col^o was gone Capt Prichard gave Davis a most shocking lecture—saying that he believed that we were all a pack of rogues together and that Gen^l Bayley had knowledge of these matters and as he did not take us up he was sure that we were all confederate together Davis said there was so much truth in it that he could hardly withstand it But he told how I was taken up and how there was a guard kept round my house that he cleared the matter up so that Prichard told him that he should send some present to me by him the next day But when Col^o St. Leger understood this matter he said that Prichard was a damned mistrustful fellow and would make friends with everybody So that he made confusion was fit only [for a] fool and that he never mistrusted my veracity. Therefore he would not permit him to see Prichard again I lost my present

The col^o gave Davis clothing and other articles as much as came to 9 pounds Sterling and said that was but a trifle to what he should receive when he came in again

I shall enclose a copy of the letter that Col^o St. Leger sent to me When I parted with Davis before I went down

I gave him particular orders to enquire how far the Union between Briton and Vermont went on which he said he did. The Col^o said he did not dare to write those matters to me for if they were taken that it would hang both of us. Therefore gave him the following particular account You are to inform Col. Johnson that the State of Vermont is a King's Province, and that the King's laws are now in the Province and all the reason that they were not put into force was that they were not able as yet to support and defend them. That they must have about 7.000 men Vermont gave encouragement that they could do considerable toward vidualling them You are also to inform that we have 4.000 and 300 men now on the Isle Aux Noix and 700 of the Great Yagers were to join in a few days also there was one company of British belonging to the 34th Regt 70 in number at the Point au Fer or White House and that they had particular orders from the King that they should fortify all the way as they went till thy had got to the old Canada line which was as he said near Fort Edward Davis was sent by the way of Isle Aux Noix where he waited on Gen. Reidesel went through the island They have built a large Redoubt with intrenchments round them so as to let the water from the lake all round them. One large new store The island seems almost cut up into intrenchments a large quantity of Pickets and timber was prepared at the White House, he was a shore there They told him that the men were to move forward to fortify there next Genl Reid treated him with a great deal of civility Gave him every thing that he requested for his return and sent a boat to land him at Belamaqueen Bay where he left and arrived in 3 days at home which was on the 4th or 5th of October instant

Col St. Leger gave him also in charge to inform me that they had lost all their clothing but they had taken 2 ships from the French which would make up all They had provisions in plenty Davis is to return to Canada as soon as I can be ready to send him off as I am hiring the bearer to wait

for this, and he is in the greatest haste I expect that I have omitted some things that I should have written and many blunders that you must overlook, but if you can read it I shall be glad I have no time to copy it Pray keep this for me If you think this intelligence worth sending to—— to wait to Presop [?] soon as may be and send such of this as you shall think proper I think that it may be well recd I think that every word may be looked on as truth I should like it as a favor that you would send me a line as soon as you have an opportunity

The secrecy of this will much oblige

These from your Much Obliged friend and very Humble servant

THOS JOHNSON

[Note at the bottom in a different hand]

Brot by Sheppards bay Oct 27th

[Page 1.]

[Letter by Johnson written to a friend probably in Southern N. H.

Dec. 1782.]

Dear Sir:

I wold inform you that soon after I left home that all the injornes [engines] of hell ware Set to work the Stateley Pines were Swept as Low as the mean Srubaock

They Report that they have Taken a Large Packet that I had Given to Davis to Send into Canada which is Criminal. The Sender of the injoins Say that in lines Pass I Did inform them that I was Carring on a Tretchious Plan Between the Contary [country] and the Einemi [enemy] & that by Their instrumentality they had obtained Leave From Genral Washington to Carri on Said Plan ackting under and by and with them But for Sinaster Vews had Left them ackted as I Saw fit not aquanting aney Person with my Conduct and to Prove this Er Chamberlin Said that I told him that I had shone to James Woodward all that I had Rote

or Sent—Woddward was Sent For Taken into the Council He said that he had not seen thoes Ritings; then I was Ser-tain a great Hog and Raskal—Sum of the News Papers in that Packet I had from Woodward his Name was on them there-fore His Carracter was Scandalised with mine which Put him out Vary much so that I Can have No more help or advice from Him on less the President will Rite to him—

But to Prove the whole—my Letter that was going to Canada was Shone to the Publick—which I think was most Scandilous For it Not injurd me but Exposed the Public as that Letter was in answer to a Request Sent from Canada to me Desiring me to give an account of a Large Number of men Hear and on the River; I indeavored to git of as easey as I Cold without Exposing myself or others—No Doubt you have Seen that Before now as I understand that M^r Dow hath Carred that with a Large Number of Papers and Evidences [Page 2]

I had the Coppy of the Same with me when I was att your House but as it was not Posabel for you to Paruse the whole of my Papers att that time that was Neglected—They say that altho I had been so bad yet they send Er Chamberlin to Aquaint me of my Danger—They Said that I had behaved so bad that I wold not Dare to Come into the Place again Alltho this was the Case they said that they wold try to help me all that they Cold by taking Evidence in my Favour They Seemed as tho they wanted to kill Davis For Serving me so—No Doubt they wold bee glad to kill him so that he cold Not give Evidence against them—

Davis and his son was sent For and Kept under Ex-amination Day after Day—The Expressces were going Night and Day Calling Councils together & Evidences all For me they Say—By this time you may think that the Lofty Pines ware on a Level with the Scub oack—Charles Johnson Excepted—about this time mr Dow went of with the Taplins when the Davises ware sent over to Havirhil [Haverhill] with the order that the young man Should go to [?Casecba] to See

one of his uncles the old man was to Stay in Havirihil—he was So lame that he could not go—he had neither Vittels Drink nor Lodging Provided for him—He had to go from house to house and give one Shilling Pr meal For their Vittels old man Finding his Situation to be bad—bought him a horse the 20 Day of December att Night he and his son Set off for home—The Same Night I Returned home—The Next Day their was Runing Riding and Sending—The Council Called in a gain—Every Person that had Seen me was Sent for or inquired of to know what I said. The Chef that I Said to a ney body was that if we Loved our Nabours as our Selves that their wold not bee half the trobel that their is—

[Page 3]

So that Seamingly they spent the 21 Day Varry uneasey— This Evening I heard that the Davises ware gon home—The Roads ware watched For Fore Miles this Night my house was wached so that I was well garded—The 22 Day in the morning I sent a man up to See if the Davises ware Ran away or to See whear they ware—He was Close Foled [followed] when he got to Rigate he Found one of Davises Sons going Rite home he told him I wanted to See his Brother—in a Few Minutes Came up a gard Demanding His business; a cusing him that he had Fetched up Letters For me to send into Cannada And that he had given them to young Davis—The gard Rode on—others that folowed him ware waching the Rode above & below—my man went no Farther but Returned that Evining—My hopes ware almost gon—The 23 Day the gard Returned without a Prisoner—I had Evry body upon me and all most Evry body a gainst me Crying Roag and Foll [fool]—I Denied Nothing that I was a cused of: The Bayleys had told all Secrets to the Publick—Maney Rite Down Lies ware told in their Councils as I am informed so as to make it apear that I had ackted two Parts—I Solomly DeClare that their is Not one of them the accusations that I have heard of that I am guilty of aney more than I bee of murdering of you—I got a hint that Davis wanted to Do

me a good Turn—The 24 Day in the morning I met a man in the Rode he Said that it was not Posobel For me to See Abel Davis: but if I wanted to send to him that he wold Deliver aneything to him that Day—and if not he wold be gon—he Said that he Cold Not wate as there was so So maney Divels about—I got him to Pass over the River til I made Ready—I took an oppertunity to Deliver to him—I have heard Noth- ing Since of that whether the Bayleys have got a Coppey or not I cannot tell

[Page 4]

December 28 1782

I think not best to Send you a Coppy of that att this time as I Expect to bee Down Soon myself—This Evning I heard how the gard suckspected—the next morning Early they went to Mr. Davises told him that they wear Come to Carry him Down again he asked by what Athority they told him From Genral Bayley or to that Purpos—he Damn^d them and their Athority and Swore he wold Not go out of his house ALive by Such Athority For he had been a bused by that A Thority Long A Nuf—he told So much that he Con- vinned Sum of them so that thought best to Leave him— But they Said that I had Sent Sum Letters by his Son to go to Canada which they must Serch the house For which they Did from top to toe—Abel Davis kept out of their way So that they Returned much Shagreavd—The Letter wachers & the Council was Called in this Night But I have not got their Result—I was told by a Person that they impertuned much on the 21 Day to Come and tell me that I was in the most Emediate Danger and that I was Dis trackted if I Did not take Care of my Self—The 25 Day one of them went to one that they Supposed to bee my Friend—told him how dis- tressed they ware For me and the great Danger that I was in—and to make he believe that they ware in earnest They told him that they had Found out that Porter and Crocker had Rote to Canada against me to Send by Davis So that I might take Care of my Self Varry Soon—I expect thoes

Warnings will bee dated beter than a month sooner that they ware given Their whole ame Seemed to bee to Drive me out of the Place That wold Prove all true that they had Said—then the Friendship that Capt Bayley made with Joseph while in the woods might Secure him and Distroy me and mine it hath given the Peopel a Turn when they See me Come Home and about my own busness and Not Returning thoes gentealmen thanks For their Services—But thoes men Say that my not beeing a Frind Proves that I am a great Hoge and that I have been Sending into Cannada—I Denie that is said a bout me heare—They ment it unto me For Evil but I hope that the Lord ment it unto me For good

Dear Sir I must begg your Pashance [patience] a little Longer as Ginral Bayley hath got all the Evidence in his Power against me and where the whole Did not Sute him I am informed he took Part—Carring the a Pearance of Friendship and Showing the Evidences that he hath Taken in my Favour against Davis how he hath been trying to help me— if it ware Posibel he wold Deciv the Elect

My whole trust and Confidence in you att this time if my Person or Character is worth Notis or this a Frac is worth the Notis of Such Persons—I cold wish & Begg that their might bee a cort of inquiry or Sumthing Like that on me or on Ginral Bayley Capt. Bayley Jacob Bayley Juner and me or be twixt us—So that I might bee called Down to answer For my bad Conduct—I think that way I can get justice Dun me if this Can bee thought worth Notis—I cold wish that Such men as your Self and Ginral Sulifon [Sullivan] and Esqu^r Dudley might Bee the men So that thoes Privat a Farcs might Come be Fore them

Theas From your obligd and
Most obedient and Varry Humbel Servent

THO^s JOHNSON

My Regards to the
Revrent Mr. Peabody

[Copy of a letter from Thomas Johnson to General Barry St. Leger without date, but probably written some time in 1782.]

Honored Sir

I do myself the honor to return you my sincere thanks for your goodness to me while I was a prisoner to you and under your care and protection

No person could expect to receive greater favors from his most intimate friend and acquaintance that I received from you. And what adds much to your generosity was that most singular instance of your goodness in backing my Bills & becoming my surety when I was coming directly out of the Province, and nothing but my word for the money. I did then and do still hold it as one of the greatest favors, and no less in point of honor done to me.

I conclude that my Bills were answered by my having no return from you to the contrary. Should it be otherwise, nothing shall be wanting on my part to make you ample satisfaction

I do myself the honor, to subscribe myself, with Respect, your much obliged Friend and Very Humble Servant.

To Brigadier Gen^l St. Leger

[Letter to William Marsh in Canada by Johnson, undated]

Dear Sir

The great pleasure and satisfaction that I had in your company and friendship while we lived together give me the greatest satisfaction while I am writing you

Nothing could give me greater pleasure than to have it in my power to make you full satisfaction for the many favors that I received from you while I had the pleasure of being indulged with your company. I have never heard whether you received any part of your dues from me by M^r Holt As I have never had any direct opportunity to send to you I have been waiting for one But being out of patience I send this forward without any direct opportunity just to let you know

that I have not forgot the friendship I received from you when I stood in the greatest need thereof. My kind regards to M^r Holt and to Mrs Holt. My regards to Mr & Mrs Jones and all other acquaintances

Dear Sir you may believe me that you have my sincere wishes for your welfare. Therefore I subscribe myself your much obliged Friend and very Humble Servant

To William Marsh Esquire

[Letter to Mr Thomas Busby.]

Dear Sir

The Generous temper and the most benevolent disposition that you showed to me as well as to other Prisoners while I had the pleasure of living under your roof—I cannot forbear mentioning the favors my Brother [brother-in-law, Jacob Page] received from you after I left you It is with pleasure I spend these few minutes in writing these lines to you just to return my acknowledgements to you for the friendship I received while with you, which is justly due to you and your family

You may believe me that I sincerely wish that it was in my power to make you other returns but as I know of *no* safe way of conveyance at this time you must spare me. It would give me pleasure to have it in my power to make you or any of your friends friendly satisfaction As I wish your welfare, it would give me pleasure to hear of it My Best Regards to your Wife and Family

To M^r Busby

[To Levi Willard of Montreal from Thomas Johnson]

Dear Sir

The favours that I received from you while I was in that City are still in my mind and what prints them more lasting on my mind is the situation that I was in and the need that I stood in of Friendship at that time and what doubles my regards and friendship to you is that I was not the only object

of your generosity. Numbers received the same favours by you of which my Brother [brother-in-law Page] that I left behind me, was a partaker

You may believe me that the only reason for so much time's passing without my writing to you hath been for the want of a direct opportunity as I live more than one hundred miles out of the way the Flags are gone before I can hear of them so that I send now without knowing how this will go to you

It would give me real pleasure and satisfaction to answer a Bill or Draft that you should draw on me to answer what you might reasonably and justly expect. Your Letters that I was entrusted with I took particular care of—one in a special manner. I had an opportunity in a few days after I returned to send by an acquaintance of my to the old Dr. P. which he delivered with his own hand. You have my sincere wishes that your disappointment may be made up to you. You may believe me that you have my sincere thanks for all favours, and hearty wishes for your prosperity. Therefore I subscribe myself your much obliged Friend and very Humble Servant

To M^r Levi Willard

Dear Sir

Your favour to me when at the Three Rivers is still on my mind, and I return you my kind thanks for them—I saw Capt Prichard after I left you and he told me that he would pay you the Two Half [livres? illegible] that you was so very kind to lend me. If you have not received them you may rely on it that you shall receive them with the Interest of the same by the first safe opportunity after I can get acquainted how the matter stands. The distance between us is much greater than the Friendship as it plainly appeared on your side by your favors to me you may depend on my making it

appear on my side the first opportunity after I know how the matter stands

These from your Obliged Friend and Humble Servant
To John M^cBain Three Rivers.

[To Rev Veyssears, Three Rivers]

Dear and Most Reverend Sir I reflect with greatest pleasure on the few days that I had the indulgence of spending with you The harmony, the friendship the generous treatment that I received while in your Family induces me to spend these few moments in returning you my most sincere thanks for your civility to me I never have heard whether M^r Holt paid you but as he received the money from me I take it for granted that you received it from him. Should it be otherwise you shall be amply satisfied by the first opportunity after my knowledge of it.

Mrs Johnson gives her kind Regards to Mrs Dame and returns her sincere thanks for the presents sent by me to her The great curiosity they were here gives an unspeakable satisfaction in the present. My kindest Regards to Mrs Dame To Mrs Sophia—My best Regards to M^r Frasier and Mrs Frazier You may believe me Sir to be with Respect your Friend and very Humble Servant

To Reverend Veyssears

Dear Sir

I am under obligations to return you thanks for the favour you bestowed on me when you parted with me at the Three Rivers It would give me the greatest satisfaction to have an opportunity to send you a return but a [s] I forward this without any direct passage you must excuse me. Should you have an opportunity to draw on me for the same or any sum it would give me real pleasure to make you returns for

your favour to me when I was in great want and in a strange land, and without the least acquaintance in that part of the Country

These from you much obliged Friend with Respects from your very Humble Servant

To Major James Rogers

Dear Sir

Your kind treatment to me after the fortune Of war had cast me a Prisoner into your hands does much honour to your person and character; and what adds much to your honour is that all the Prisoners who have fallen into your hands give you the credit of treating them with the humanity and generosity that your situation would admit of.

When I parted with you at St. Johns your generosity led you to make me an offer to pay M^r M^cBain the Two Half Livres which he had the goodness to lend me If you have paid him please to let me know

I shall take pleasure in embracing the first opportunity to make you all due return for your favour to me Nothing could give me greater pleasure than to have an opportunity of making ample satisfaction to all that obliged me when I was a Prisoner

To Capt Prichard

Dear Sir

Although I am at such a distance from you yet I am not insensible of your goodness to me

I am under obligations to a knowledge the kind treatment that I received from you and from Mrs Sherwood while I was indulged in living in your Family and being under your particular care and direction

It gives me pleasure to spend a few moment in conversing with you is this way although at such a distance from you. I give you my sincere thanks for the favours that I received while with you

My best Regards to Mrs Sherwood, and remain your
much obliged Friend and very Humble Servant

To Capt [Justus] Sherwood

Statement by Colo Charles Johnston

Made Jan. 1, 1783

I being in company with General Baley and Colo Thomas Johnson sometime in the month of June last, heard sd Johnson tell sd Bayley that he had given him information or intelligence of some things from the Enemy in Canada, which might be a service to the publick and this place, & he the sd Bayley had pawned his word and honor that he would not mention it to any person unless the publick safety required that some in authority Should know it and them such as they should agree to communicate the same to: sd Johnson told sd Bayley that the promise not to let any in his own family know anything of the matter Sd Johnson told sd Bayley that he had given him Intelligence sum day times on the foregoing conditions but it spread among a large number of people in this place which sd Bayley did not deny sd Johnson seemed much grieved, and said his life was in danger if the news should get to Canada, which he said certainly it would be very likely to go; sometime in the month of July sd Johnson came to me the Subscriber, and gave me to understand he expected a large Party of the Enemy to destroy this place, and seemed much concerned, and said he was very sorry that the Militia which the State had ordered for the defence of this place were not come in, and likewise advised me to see that the Regiment that I had the command of was in the best Posture of defence that was possible.

To all whom it may concern

Haverhill Jan 1, 1783 Signed Charles Johnston

[Copy from some source by David Johnson]

[Note by David Johnson:—Letter in handwriting of T. J. is not directed to any one, but was intended probably for some friend of Rev. Stephen Peabody, to who another letter on the same sheet was written and addressed. Perhaps this letter was intended for Col. Nathaniel Peabody, brother of Rev. Stephen Peabody.]

Newbury Feb. 10, 1783

Dear and Honored Sir

I cannot forbear of giving you a short account of the conversation I heard from Col^o I A-n [Ira Allen] the 8th day of this Instant. This account would be much more lengthy were it not for the infirmities of my memory. C. A-n [Col. Allen] informs, that as Congress had of late passed some Resolutions relative to the State of V^{ts} procedure with a Number of their Inhabitants being banished and imprisoned &c. He informs me that the Governor and Council had drawn up a Remonstrance against their Resolves, which appeared to be about 4 or 5 sheets of Paper in a fine hand, which he read to me, or the most essential part as he said. This denied the authority of Congress in the strongest terms, referring them, or the people he should read it to, to the former Resolutions of Congress setting their bounds. Also a Letter that he said was General Washington's own hand writing: all which had allowed them to be a State Independent. As he was sent out on purpose to flatter the people and deceive them he seemed to be master of the Plan. He told me that they had got some of them people in Jail—[Timothy] Church in particular,—and I understood in Irons. He said that they had nothing to fear as Congress had paid no attention to their former Resolutions, neither would they dare to put those later ones in force

He said that General Washington would not stain his character in shedding blood, or make any disturbance in that State. And more so as it would be so directly against his own hand writing.

He said that they had taken up Charles Phelps and Mr. Ela altho' they had done little or nothing in that affair, yet as they were men of a most infamous character it served their turn at this time to take them up and represent to the world that they were Ring leaders of this affair. He said that they had sent M^r Ela to Boston to Jail

Newbury June 23^d 1783

Honored Sir I received yours of the 14th Instant

I am exceeding sorry for your bad state of health. I had taken some pleasure in the thoughts of waiting on you about this time Can but hope I shall have the pleasure of waiting on you in a short time It would give me real pleasure to hear of your better state of health Want much to converse with you Have had some secret hopes of retrieving my character with the public But shall I trouble you with this stuff under your situation—No—Was glad to wait on Mr Carleton on your account, and more so as your recommendation appeared so just

Sir You may believe me you cannot give me greater pleasure than to call on me for anything that shall contribute to your interest, If you find yourself in a situation you may hear some of my broken thoughts by the Rev. M^r Peabody as I have troubled him with a long tharangue

These from your most Obedient and much obliged Friend and very Humble Servant

[Note by David Johnson. It does not appear to whom the foregoing was addressed. Probably some friend of the Rev. Stephen Peabody, to whom a letter written on the same sheet was addressed. I should presume it was addressed to Col^o Nathaniel Peabody, brother of Rev Stephen Peabody.]

[The letter to Rev. Stephen Peabody is not copied here as it is a very long one treating of Johnson's theology and religious beliefs and experiences.—Editor.]

To the Committee of Newbury

Whereas sometime in the month of Oct 1781 I went out with John and Henry Lovewell to hunt, and it was my misfortune to be taken by the Enemy and I engaged with them, with an intent by that means to leave them In the winter I was sent out with a Party and was then in hopes to make my escape but found it impossible, but Capt Prichard proposed to me to come in with letters to Mr Thomas Johnson and remain and assist him, which I consented to, and immediately came in. Mr. Johnson was below, and I thought it best to go down into the Country and live with my friends, and prepared everything for that purpose, but M^r Johnson coming home, I delivered my Papers and told him I intended to go down into the Country and have no hand in the affairs but he told me I must not but must assist him as he was friend to the Country, and no harm should be done me, otherwise the place would be destroyed and by his entreaties I stayed, and acted as I did, which I am sorry for, but ever after he talked to me on the Enemies part, and told me, If General Bayley could but once be [captured?] we should then be at rest. Upon Capt. Prichard's arrival here with a Party I was sent for, who told me I was Sworn against by Shem Kentfield, and was ordered to go and let Mr Johnson know where he was with his party and where to meet him, I went and told M^r Johnson and that I was sworn against, and asked him what I must do he told me he could not tell, but I must go with them as he expected, it would not be very long before he should be obliged to go—If the Committee choses to order me to meet them, and appoint a place and time, I will wait upon them and give them all the satisfaction in my power

Newbury 3d September 1783

LEVI SYLVESTER JUN^r

Col^o Thomas Johnson's Statement

To the Committee of Newbury

Gentlemen: I would beg leave to answer a false scurrilous and malicious Peice that mr Levi Silvester hath lately laid before you, Setting forth that I have been the cause of his present misfortunes &c I would beg your patience a few moments while, I make a short Introduction When first I was taken Prisoner, I found myself in the hands of one that did not care for King or Country, but for his own honour and Interest when I found that to be the case, I soon made myself free with him. He informed me, of their designs in making this a King's Government, and many other things which I had some Suspicion of before. His designs was to show that he had taken a Prisoner of so much much consequence to them, and how I was acquainted with their affairs and how I could assist them. When I was examined I answered their turn mighty well. I was soon introduced in the Company of Tories, where I had an opportunity of finding out their Secret Plans, which I took all possible pains to do. which, if you will give me a day of hearing before your Honours I will lay those matters at large before you with such Evidences to support my conduct as I shall think proper. I found by Experience that they left no Stone unturned to Hire Bribe and Drive (when flattery would not do) men into their Service. I found my Country so ignorant of their designs, so much imposed upon by the Tories which caused me to take up so undesirable and unthankful a situation as you see me now engaged in.

The first thing that I would take notice of in answer to Mr Silvester is, when he says that he was sent out with a Party, and had hopes of leaving them by Deserting. Please to take notice of the wilful lie that he told when he first came home, He said that he had deserted from them, which caused us to send out a scout, which made the people cost and trouble which was needless if he had told the truth Now, if he tells the truth as to his designs to go down into the Coun-

try he has answered his ends to all Intents and Purposes, if he had told the truth and exposed me by showing my Letters he then would have baffled the Enemy and saved himself. The Truth of the matter is this you [he] had no design to leave the Enemy as you told me your chief Business was to take or cause Gen^l Bayley to be taken Prisoner and to remain here a Spy as long as you could with safety, and if you faithfully fulfilled your business you was to have in return an Ensign with a considerable sum of money

The Second Article is also false in which you say I was gone below when you came home, I was at home some days after you came home, and wanted very much to have seen you before I went below, but did not think proper to go after you. The last of January you came, to my House which was soon after I returned from below you had Capt. Nehemiah Lovewell in Company I asked you some questions which you did not give me satisfaction in, nor did you make known your business to me at that time Sometime after you came to me and made known your business which gave me a very short time before you was to set out to meet Prichett at Dog River Before this you had been out into the woods beyond Barnet on purpose to prepare the way so that you might not be mistrusted when you went to see Prichett. You told me that you had [gone] out to see Esq^r Chamberlain and had informed him of you Plan and that you was to have Jacob Chamberlain to go with you to meet Capt Prichett All this you had done before you let me know your Designs which I think was about five or six weeks Had you not time enough to have gone below? As to the conversation you repeat that passed betwixt us at that time is near the Truth with this variation only, that I remember, you said that you had some thoughts of going below to live with your Friends but when you considered the danger your Friends would be in at this place from the Enemy by the means of your going off you should not think of it. I found at that time that I had said so much of my friendship to the

Country to you that it started you which I was rather obliged to paddle of by saying that I intended to make things easy on both sides and save the people

There is some truth in what you say as to my talking on the Enemies side after the first conversation as I had no other way to save myself and neighbors but as I was both to loose you and have you go to the Enemy I informed Gen^l Bayley and John Bayley of your Sincerity to the Enemy, desiring if possible they would find some way to save you They told me afterwards they had sent for you and had examined you strictly they told me that they told you they suspected me of being friendly to the British and that they were afraid I was under some obligations to them which you declared you knew nothing of as they told me.

As to what you say as to taking Gen^l Bayley there is some truth in for after I found what rewards you was to have for doing it I found there was no other way to save him but to appear fond of it Had I appeared otherwise they would not have acquainted me at the time and he would have been gone before I had known of it, and then I must ever have borne the blame of his being taken

You came to me once in the Cow Meadow after some conversation you told me that the people called you a Tory which you seemed to be offended at. I told you you was very wrong that we should bear all that was said a gainst us and show no offence, as we gave the people occasion that was the best way that we could get along but you Damn'd them and God Damn'd them and said that you would send them to Hell for you would bear no such talk from them and repeated it.

As you say you came to me to inform me that Capt Prichett was in with a Party and that I might see him, was early in the morning before I was up I had been very unwell, which gave me the greater shock As company came in we had but little time only & [I] told you where and when I would see him You told me that you was going or had been to Gen^l

Bayleys to see whether he was at home and how things stood there

You had before this [been] very inquisitive of me to know how the Guards were kept and how many they consisted of. As to what you say of my being obliged to go with the Enemy in a few days, I remember nothing of such answers more than that I would be with Pritchett in the afternoon

When I met with Capt Pritchett and Brackenridge and you Capt Brichett had a long conference together when I got some things of importance from him Then we all discoursed together and the following Plans were laid by you three Pritchett and Brackenridge insisted on it that I would give my opinion how they should strike and at what time, I entirely refused and told them I must be excused Capt Brackenridge said that he would go right down into the Oxbow and take him from the Plow Capt Prichett swore by God that he was not going to be caught in the Great Meadow in day time

Pritchett was for attacking in the dead of the night which I most approved of as it would give the more time to secure them that were to be attacked but your opinion was that they should attack just at dark, Your reasons for that were that then the Guards would not be set, and that you [could] take him without any trouble Before this I earnestly requested of Pritchett that he would not take Gen^l Bayley as my life and Interest would be so much exposed by it He said that he was sorry if that was the case, but said that his Orders were positive and that he must make the Push. He gave me his reasons why his Orders were so which were too lengthy for me to repeat at this time

When I had got their whole plan and all that I could get I left them with this request For Gods Sake to avoid shedding of Blood which could do them no good afterwards which he promised me [he] would do only in defence of his own life He also told me that he wanted no person else but Gen^l Bay-

ley which gave me some satisfaction and hopes that there would be no mischief done

I also requested that he would not take Silvester off but he said he must for before night there would be an Express informing what Shem Kentfield has sworn against him and that he had made the greatest haste to get here in Time

When this was finished I rode home as hard as I could and took the best measures I could think of in my distressed situation

In your last clause you say that you will give the Committee all the satisfaction in your power If you stand to that and are willing to tell the Truth you have got a great deal more to say and a large number of names to call over

The above I declare as in the Presence of God to be the Truth as near as my memory serve me

Your Petitioner humbly requesteth that the Committee of Newbury will appoint a day that they will receive my Papers and Evidences and take the whole Matter into Consideration as will much oblige your very Humble Servant
[signed]

THOS JOHNSON

[Statement made by Col. Eben Webster, father of Daniel Webster]

To whom it may Concern

I arrived at Coos Sometime in July 1782 in Order to take the Command of the Soldiers Raised by the State of N. H. to guard the Western frontiers of sd State &c. Sometime after my arrival, General Bayley told me that they kept up a line of Intelligence to Canada; but it must be kept secret and enjoined it on me. After some time in discoursing with Colo Thomas Johnson, he gave me to understand, that he was engaged in the Country's cause, and wished well to it, altho' he was afraid to shew it Openly, and would be glad I would not let it get to the Soldiers ears. A few days after I saw him again, and told him I had thought much on what he told me the other day, and that I was ingaged in the De-

fence of the Country, and should be glad to have the earliest intelligence of anything that concerned that Part of the country: he said if he knew who to trust he Could do Service to that Place: I told him it was hard trusting, and we were strangers to Each other: however we made a Covenant and he agreed to given me all the inteligence in his power, and from that time, altho' General Bayley took great Pains, and doubt-not but he was faithful, yet I had my inteligence from sd Johnson before I had from General Bayley; and I Never Could discover but that the sd Johnson was faithful to give me inteligence, and once gave me Some in General Bayley's house, when the General was in the House and a Number of others, but how need not be Mentioned—Upon the whole, I had it to my Satisfaction, during my stay at Coos, and did esteem him to be what he told me he was—I have given but a short account of what Passed between us but have only endeavored to give my judgment by his conduct to me upon Honor

[signed] EBEN^r WEBSTER

Salisbury May 20th 1784

[The signature only is Webster's.]

From Joseph Fay brother of Dr. Jonas Fay, Secretary of the Council of Safety of Vermont.

N. Y. July 28 1794

Dear Sir

I take the freedom to enclose you 5 of our last news Papers by which you will learn the news of the day after you have perrused them please to forward them to Josias Arnold Esq St Johnsbury who will very willingly share with you the Trifling expence of Postage

Montreal 25th Sept 1807

Received from Colonel Thomas Johnson by the hands of his son M^r John Johnson the sum of Seven Spanish Dollars being in full of money advanced by the late Thomas

Bushby in 1781 and of all demands whatever with

**Thanks for M^r Johnson's politeness and attention in
this voluntary stepping forward to discharge said debt**

**Thomas Busby son of the deceased
& executor of his last Will & Testament**