

an Apprehension that I have incurred their Displeasure for having omitted writing when on our March from Maryland for New York, and since our Arrival here, nor shall I in a pointed Manner urge anything in my Defence, but leave them at large to condemn or excuse me, upon a presumption, that should they condemn, they will at least pardon, and judge me perhaps less culpable, when they reflect in the first Instance, on the Exertions necessary to procure Baggage Waggon, Provisions and House Room for 750 Men march'd the whole Distance in a Body, generally from 15 to 20 Miles per Day, as the several Stages made it necessary,—and in the Latter I trust they will give some Indulgence for this Neglect, for since our Arrival at New York it has been the Fate of this Corps to be generally stationed at Advanced Posts, and to act as a covering Party, which must unavoidably expose Troops to extraordinary Duty and Hazard, not to mention the extraordinary Vigilance and Attention in the Commandant of such a party in disposing in the best Manner, and having it regularly supplied,—for here the Commanders of Regiments exclusive of their military Duty, are often obliged to exert themselves in the Departments of Commissary and Quarter Master Gen^l and even Directors of their Regimental Hospitals.

Perhaps it may not be improper to give a short Detail of Occurrences upon our March to Long Island and since that Period—The Enemy from the 21st to the 27th of August were landing their Troops on the Lower part of Long Island, where they pitched a large Encampment, and ours and their advanced Parties were daily skirmishing at Long Shot, in which neither Party suffered much. on the 26th the Maryland and Delaware Troops which composed part of Lord Sterling's Brigade were ordered over, Col Haslet and his L^t Col: Bedford, of the Delaware Battⁿ with L^t Col Ware and myself were detained on the Tryal of L^t Col Zedwitz, and tho' I waited on General Washington and urged the Necessity of attending our Troops, yet he refused to discharge us alledging there was a Necessity for the Tryal's coming on, and that no other Field officers could be then had. after our dismissal from the Court Martial it was too late to get over, but pushing over early next Morning, found our Regiments engaged Lord Sterling having marched them off before Day, to take Possession of the Woods and difficult Passes between our Lines and the Enemy's Encampment—but the Enemy the Overnight had stole a March on our Generals having got through those passes, met and surrounded our Troops on the plain Grounds within two Miles of our Lines. Lord Sterling drew up his Brigade on an advantageous rising Ground, where he was attacked by Two Brigades in Front, headed by the Generals