

Philadelphia Dec: 14th 1770 ~~24~~¹⁴

Sir

In my last I mentioned a memorial from the People who withdrew from the Windsor Assembly, on further inquiry I find myself mistaken in the form of the paper, it being a letter from a Mr. Marsh who stile himself Chairman of a Convention, a copy of this letter I take the liberty to enclose, the paper referred to, in the letter, (called the "outlines of a plan for settling all matters in controversy with N. Hampshire") is in print. I therefore imagine you are possessed of it. What the views of these People are I know not, but I am much inclined to think the western part of the State will be kept in a perpetual broil till a final settlement of the Jurisdiction. There are three ways of determining this matter, that Country must be under the Jurisdiction of New-York, or New-Hampshire, or it must be a separate State. The People are so exceedingly averse to the first that they never will voluntarily submit to it, and Humanity forbids that they should be compelled to Unite with a people for whom they have an unextinguishable aversion, arising from the injuries they have suffered, by the most cruel acts of Injustice. Should the last take place, I am very apprehensive that many Towns on the Eastern side of the River will be fond of joining them, by which means New-Hampshire will be embroiled in a very disagreeable

contention or subscribed to a very small compass, and that limited Territory subject to the discharge of an immense debt, incurred for the defence & protection of the whole. When these matters are fully considered, I think every one who has the Happiness of Mankind, & Peace, & Welfare of New-Hampshire at Heart will be convinced of the propriety of her claiming the jurisdiction, it would be a piece of presumption in me Sir, to point out to you, the Advantages resulting to New-Hampshire from such an extension of her Territory. They undoubtedly are many & great. The particular situation of affairs in that Country I should suppose calls for the immediate attention of the Legislature, and if it should be determined to claim, (which my own feeling will not suffer me to doubt) it will certainly be thought necessary to make immediate provision for the support of the claim, in order thereto I beg leave to suggest the propriety of speedily employing some able Lawyer to collect material, and make himself master of the subject. New-York are very solicitous for a settlement, that State has sent a Delegate extraordinary to Congress for that purpose, and I have reason to think Congress will be hard pressed to do something in the matter.

I therefore wish to know the minds of my constituents as soon as possible. Whether they will send another Delegate who may be well acquainted with the business, or will instruct their Delegates now in Congress, must be left to their decision, I must confess I most heartily wish

that the former method may be adopted. — I cannot suppose ²⁵
the expence will be an objection when the Magnitude of object
is considered, which is nothing less than doubling the Territory
of a Sovereign Independent State.

I have the Honour to be with Sentiments
of perfect Esteem & Respect

In your most ob^d & very
Hum^{ble} Serv^t

W. Whipple

Hon^{ble} Meshech Weare Esq

Letter from Gen. Whipple
of Dec'r 14. 1778.

Dear Sir
I have the honor to receive your letter of the 11th inst. in relation to the proposed exchange of prisoners. I am not surprised that the same should be proposed, as it is a measure which has been often taken in former wars. I am not however, in favor of it, as it is contrary to the principles of the Revolution, and is a concession which we should not make to the Enemy. I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
Wm. Whipple

Wm. Whipple
The Honble. Genl. Mifflin
Head Quarters
The Army
Camp near Red Bank
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