

Sir

Head Quarters Providence May 26th 1778
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Notwithstanding my repeated solicitations to the New England States for the Troops to be furnished for this Post there are now on the ground less than five hundred; there is not a hundred from Massachusetts or from New Hampshire and not a Man from Connecticut. The Enemy receiving Intelligence of our Situation, landed at Warren about seven hundred Men yesterday Morning, proceeded to Rehoboth, burnt the Flat bottom Boats, they also burnt several Houses in Warren and plundered the whole. They then retired by way of Bristol, where they burnt near thirty Houses, took about twenty Inhabitants which they carried off, and got on Board their Ships and Flat bottom Boats before a sufficient Number of the Country could be collected to make a successful opposition. In their Passage they destroyed a small Magazine of Powder, a Number of Carriages and a small Quantity of Provision. They had collected a Number of Cattle which they were obliged to leave to escape from the Force which had collected and was almost up with them when they retreated. About two hundred of our Men under the brave Colonel Barton had got up with and engaged them for some time, but the Number on our side was not Men sufficient to do them much Injury. The gallant Colonel was unfortunately wounded in the action I hope it may not prove mortal. I must again intreat that the Quota of Troops from your State ~~be forwarded~~ be forwarded as soon as possible as the Enemy have it in their Power to destroy every Town upon this extensive Shore in the same Manner, whenever they think proper. I have no Force to make an opposition till the Country can be collected, this will give them time to do every Mischief they think proper and retreat before they ^{can} receive ^{much} Injury. The Inhabitants of this State think themselves much neglected by the other States and I fear have but too much Reason. Sir I have the Honor to be
Hon^{ble} Respects &c &c
your most obed^t Serv^t J^d Sullivan

Gen^l Sullivan
26 May 1770

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