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Rome (Oneida Co. State of N. York) March 17th 1814

Dear Sir,

I wrote you from Sackets Harbor some time since. Since that time we have been ordered westward & arrived at this place yesterday - Tomorrow we proceed on towards the Niagara frontier - we have in our detachment six companies of the 3d Regt Artl - one of the 2d Regt Artl - & one of Light Artillery averaging about eighty men to a company all in fine health & under the command of Lt Col Mitchell - a Battalion of the 11th Regt Infy & Lt Col Bedel marched here yesterday on the same destination. Col Pinkey with the 21st Regt Infy marches hence today & the 9th Regt Infy are expected here today & will follow one day after us. Genl Brown left here yesterday & will command us. Col Scott (probably ere this a Brig Genl) is on his way from Albany to same place. Batavia, a Town about forty miles interior from Fort Niagara is the point to which we are all ordered at present. To what point on the frontier we shall from thence be ordered I know not. You can guess as well as any other Yankee.

Our march averages about twenty miles per day which our men perform with ease. This health always improves on a march if good quarters are obtained at night. This we shall be able to obtain through the whole march as there

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are villages ~~scattered~~ (scattered) all along from ten to twenty five miles distant from each other where six or seven hundred men can easily be quartered. This is the reason for having the several regiments follow each other a days march distant

The letter I wrote you at Sackets Harbor I sent to Portsmouth by Capt. Vose - it contained 50 dolls. & some papers belonging in your neighborhood. The letter I presume will go safe - but will not probably arrive much sooner than this -

I am in haste & cannot write more at present - I should be happy to receive a letter from you - Please to direct it to me at Batavia & I will make arrangements to get it -

Give my respects to all friends - Mr Sayward's & Mr Goodwin's families in particular - Your own family will always retain my most grateful remembrance

I am Sir, with the highest respect your most obedient servant & affectionate friend

Russell Bissell

Hon. John Holmes

1811

Boston Mass
1st March 1814

Recd March 7

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Hon.ble John Holmes

Counsellor at Law

Alfred (York Co. Dis. Maine