(12)

Cantonment, Plattsburgh N. York,
half past twelve on Sunday morning, Jany 1, 1815.

Holmes,

The revolving wheels of Time having rolled us on to
year, I thus early bid you and your family an
[illegible] May it be fraught with health, peace
and a full fruition of all earthly enjoyments.
[illegible] a short note penned to you on Christmas day, I
[illegible] a sketch of our Cantonment, which is annexed. Ow-
[illegible] some official duties I have not been able more early to
[illegible] and owing to the hurry I know it to be very incorrect in
[illegible]ars. The Cantonment is perfectly correct so far as it
[illegible] omitted many buildings in the rear. The forms
[illegible] correct but Fort Moreau is not rightly located;
[illegible] the west, so as to command the open
between the barracks. The forts are surrounded by deep
and pickets within the ditch. The bastions at the angles,
powerful command of the Ditch which is protected
[illegible] and like obstructions. To carry the works by escalade
[illegible] ladders of twenty feet in length; and should the
[illegible] it they must suffer an irrepairable loss.
[illegible] improvements might have been made to the
[illegible], but all in all, it will answer good purposes.
[illegible] Houses, the General Hospital, and Artificers' Shops
[illegible] have been within the chain of pickets; being suf-
[illegible] ground for those purposes unappropriated. A large
[illegible] of wood is ordered to be supplied, lest the enemy,
[illegible] us, should freeze, rather than starve us to
[illegible]der. With a few more Troops, which are soon
[illegible] so as to man our chain of Pickets — we may
[illegible] John Bull. It is said Genl. Macomb will
[illegible] absent, as suggested in my other scrawl, lest of
[illegible] he expects.

This exhibits an imperfect idea of the River
ev'ry and Platts Point were blown out, lying in
the Court house, Jail, and some of the nicest
be hind which the enemy threw up batteries in
the village we can soon form them, as most every
from our Forts. I have even the range of the River
the weather above. It was judiciously posted
Channel between that Head and Cumberland
long Gins. This arrangement compelled us to
which leave equal effect to our cannonade
South of our line — Macdonough was desirous
the Land and if they were disposed to fight
This position Cumberland Head, and Cumberland
young afterwards clearing Country the Army
[illegible] tacdonough was [illegible] to the
[illegible] and [illegible] to take a
[illegible] cut off the right of our line; which
[illegible] to the enemy's place [illegible]
[illegible] to the enemy's place [illegible]

Savanac River
Guard House
Chain of different buildings
Chain of Pickets
Sullers Shop
Fort Tompkins
Fort Gains

NYSL
4510