SEVEN TIMES ELECTED GOVERNOR OF NEW YORK
1777-1795; 1801-1804

BULLETIN
OF THE
NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY
ASTOR, LENOX AND TILDEN FOUNDATIONS

VOLUME 31  JULY, 1927  NUMBER 7

CALENDAR OF MESSAGES AND PROCLAMATIONS OF
GENERAL GEORGE CLINTON
FIRST GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

WITH SOME LEGISLATIVE RESPONSES
August, 1777, to September, 1781

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On July 30, 1777, at Kingston, General George Clinton was inaugurated the first Governor of the State of New York. It is particularly fitting to commemorate an important anniversary in the history of the State by presenting in the July issue of the Bulletin this calendar of a notable volume of manuscripts given to the Library by Mr. George F. Baker, Jr., a member of the Board of Trustees.

HERE are assembled 190 items on 112 leaves, including two printed broadsides; the whole constituting a fundamental official record of the State of New York, during its most critical early years. These records are the official file, made under the direction of Governor Clinton, of drafts or copies of papers sent and of those that were received by him. The collection is a recent discovery, its existence not having been known to historians. As not all of the documents seem to have been printed, an indication has been made in the calendar when they have been discovered in print. Undoubtedly others
were printed in the original legislative journals, or in the contemporary newspapers, and the proclamations as broadsides. Some twenty-nine of these documents have the personal signature of the governor. Mainly, they are in the handwriting of Stephen Lush, private secretary to the governor, or of Robert Benson, a secretary of the Council of Safety and a clerk of the State senate. Besides these there is some writing of Richard Hatfield, acting secretary for a while to the governor in 1778, and there are some attested papers signed by Evert Bancker, secretary, or Pierre Van Cortlandt, president of the State senate.

The calendar is principally the work of Miss Mabel C. Weaks of the Manuscript Division. The pieces are numbered for citation and convenience of location. When a document is known to have been printed in any form, the fact is shown, following the entry, by a key-note, in which a * means Public Papers of George Clinton; a † means Messages from the Governors, and a § means Journals of Provincial Congress, [etc.], vol. 1, in which the "Journal of the Council of Safety," is printed. The word "Copy" indicates that the document is an official record copy. D. S. means that the document bears the original official signature.

V. H. P.

**Calendar**

Council of Safety. — Proclamation, July 30, 1777, declaring George Clinton to be "Governor General and Commander in Chief . . . and Admiral of the Navy of this State." Kingston: Printed by John Holt, Printer to the State of New-York, [1777]. Broadside. F°. Imperfect. (1)

Five hundred copies were ordered printed by the Council of Safety.—Jour. N. Y. Prov. Congress, I: 1022.

1 Stephen Lush, a native of New York City and a graduate of Kings (now Columbia) College, was admitted to the bar in 1774, at the age of twenty-one years. He engaged in the American Revolution as a captain in Spencer's Additional Continental Regiment, January, 1777, and rose to major. He served General Clinton as an aide-de-camp, and was his private secretary as governor. Lush was taken prisoner at the siege of Fort Montgomery, October 6, 1777, and suffered on the Jersey prison-ship. After the war he married Lydia, daughter of Dr. Samuel Stringer, noted as physician and patriot.

2 Robert Benson (1739-1823) was enrolled among the "Sons of Liberty"; was a secretary of the provincial Congress of New York in 1775, and one of the secretaries of the Council of Safety, 1777-1778. He was clerk of the State senate during its first six sessions and during the seventh session till February 18, 1778, leaving to become the county clerk of New York. In the American Revolution he was also a lieutenant-general and served as confidential aide-de-camp to Clinton, 1777-1783.

3 Richard Hatfield was of Westchester County, of which he was county clerk, September 22, 1777, and4 was county chair, March 23, 1778. He was a delegate from that county to the State convention which ratified the Federal Constitution in 1788.

4 Until June 30, 1778, when he was chosen lieutenant-governor.
Governor.— Message to the Assembly, Kingston, September 13, 1777, expressing thanks for congratulations on his election to office and for confidence reposed in him. Is pleased that the measures he has taken for the defense of the State meet with approbation of the House, and that the House agrees with him in the necessity of executing measures proposed for consideration. Copy. ½ p. °.

Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the Assembly, September 16, 1777, transmitting copies of papers received from the Committee of Tryon County relative to the military situation in that quarter; suggesting that troops be raised for the defense of the inhabitants; that commissions be appointed for settling disorders; that measures be taken for apprehending persons dangerous to the State, and respecting prisoners. Copy. 2 p. °.

†II: 13.

Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the Senate, September 17, 1777, transmitting extract of a letter relative to a member of the Senate, and informing that the remainder of the letter, accompanied by other papers received from the Committee of Tryon County, has been laid before the legislature through the Assembly. Copy. ½ p. °.

Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the Senate, September 18, 1777, informing that body that on the 16th, the Assembly had appointed John Morin Scott, a senator from the southern district, Jesse Woodhill from the middle district, Abraham Yates from the western district, and Alexander Webster from the eastern district, to constitute the Council of Appointment. Copy. ½ p. °.

Senate.— Address of the Senate sitting at Kingston, September 18, 1777, in answer to Governor Clinton’s speech at the opening sessions of the legislature. Discussing the military situation and approving proposed measures relative to the militia laws, finances, elections, etc. Signed by Pierre van Cortlandt, President. D. S. 6½ p. °.

The body of the document is in the handwriting of Robert Benson, clerk.

Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the Senate, September 22, 1777, expressing his pleasure that the steps he took for the defense of the State and the measures he recommended for consideration have been approved. Copy. ½ p. °.

Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the Assembly, Kingston, September 22, 1777, transmitting copies of the proceedings and resolutions of Congress ordering an enquiry into the causes of the evacuation of Ticonderoga and Mount Independence and the conduct of the General Officers who were in the Northern Department at the time of the evacuation; and recommending the necessity of adopting proper measures for collecting and seizing the facts. Copy. ½ p. °.

Lincoln, in Messages, says this message was transmitted to the Senate, Sept. 29, 1777.

Council of Safety.— Letter to Governor Clinton, Hurley, December 16, 1777, enclosing resolutions concerning grants of flags of truce and suggesting that copies be sent to the commanding officers of the different posts. Fears that the enemy will retaliate in kind for the burning of the De Lancey Mansion. Signed by Evert Bancker, President pro-tem. D. S. 2 p. °.

The body of the document is in the hand of Robert Benson, Secretary.


Endorsed: Resolution of Council of Safety Dec’ 17, 1777 — respect the subjects of this State passing to the Enemy by Flags, &c. With Letter enclosing it.

Council of Safety.— Resolutions passed at Poughkeepsie, January 4, 1778, requesting Governor Clinton to raise seven hundred men by levies or detachments from the State militia for the defense of Westchester County and other parts of the State. Signed by Robert Benson, Secretary. A. D. S. “Extract from the Minutes.” 1 p. °.

Endorsed: Council of Safety enabling the Gov’ to raise 700 men for Defence of W:Chester County.

Council of Safety.— Resolutions passed at Poughkeepsie, January 4, 1778, reviving and enforcing certain resolutions of the Council of Safety passed July 31, 1777, for laying assessments on the exempts from duty in the State militia for the benefit of those who may be drafted for actual service in the militia. Signed by Robert Benson, Secretary. D. S. 1 p. °.

Convention.— Resolutions passed at Poughkeepsie, January 7, 1778, authorizing Governor Clinton to draw £5000, for the purpose of working the lead mines in the State at continental expense. Signed by Pierre Van Cortlandt, President, and Robert Benson, Secretary. D. S. 1 p.

Endorsed: 7—1778 empowering the Gov’ to draw from the Treasury £5000, for the purpose of working the Lead Mines at Rochester.

Governor.— Proclamation issued by Governor Clinton at New Windsor, November 10, 1777, setting apart Thursday, December 18, as a day of prayer and thanksgiving. D. S. 2½ p. °.

Endorsed: Proclamation setting a Part the 18th. Dec’ for Public Thanksgiving & Prayer.
Governor.— Proclamation issued by Governor Clinton at Poughkeepsie, December 15, 1777, calling a meeting of the legislature at Poughkeepsie, January 5, 1778, to consider important matters recommended by the Congress. Copy. ½ p. F°. *(22) *II: 578.

Senate.— Resolutions passed at Poughkeepsie, January 15, 1778, expressing the opinion that all business and proceedings which were depending and undetermined in the Senate on October 7, 1777, are still depending and undetermined, and that the Senate will proceed thereon. Signed by Robert Benson, Clerk. Copy. ½ p. F°. *(23)

Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the Senate, Poughkeepsie, January 22, 1778, recommending that a loan be made to Col. [Hugh] Hughes, Deputy Quartermaster-general, to meet the expense of works for the security of the Hudson River, and enclosing a copy of a letter from Hughes. Copy. ½ p. F°. *(26) *II: 687; †II: 19.

Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the Senate, Poughkeepsie, January 28, 1778, submitting for consideration a letter of Cadwallader Colden, a prisoner of the State, and a petition of the inhabitants of the District of Coxsackie, Albany County, in behalf of John Cunning, also a State prisoner. Copy. ½ p. F°. *(27) *II: 698.

Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the Assembly, Poughkeepsie, January 30, 1778, transmitting extract of a letter from Coloniel C...
berland, and Gloucester counties who are engaged in a contest arising from conflicting grants of land by the governments of New York, Massachusetts, New Hampshire prior to establishment of the eastern boundary of New York. Printed broadside. Signed by Governor Clinton. F°. Seal attached.

Governor.— Proclamation by Governor Clinton, Poughkeepsie, March 26, 1778, setting apart April 22, 1778, as a day of fasting, humiliation, and prayer. D. S. 2 p. F°. Seal attached.

Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the Assembly, Poughkeepsie, March 10, 1778, requesting that 700 militia men be raised for service in obstructing, fortifying and securing the passes of the Hudson River in compliance with a resolve of Congress of February 18, 1778. Has requested 2300 militia men from the States of Connecticut and Massachusetts for the same service. Transmitts copy of a resolution of Congress, February 9, 1778, recommending laws be passed for speedy and effectual recovery of debts due the United States of America. Copy. 1½ p. F°.

*III: 18; † II: 31.

Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the Assembly, Poughkeepsie, March 16, 1778, submitting a copy of an act of Congress, February 26, 1778, for filling the Continental Battalions and a copy of a report from the Board of War showing the number necessary to complete them; also a copy of an act of Congress, February 26, 1778, respecting the exchange of prisoners. Copy. ¾ p. F°.

*III: 47; † II: 33.

Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the Senate, Poughkeepsie, March 21, 1778, transmitting a resolution of Congress, March 21, 1778, suggesting that some means be devised for removing disaffected persons from the vicinity of posts, forts and passes in the State; informing that certain persons have collected quantities of provisions which they refuse to sell at the current price for paper money; and informing that he has ordered a considerable body of militia to the Highlands. Copy. ¾ p. F°.

*III: † II: 33.

Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the Senate, Poughkeepsie, March 26, 1778, transmitting copies of letters that he has received from Major General [Philip] Schuyler and Colonel Williams which merit the attention of the legislature. Copy. ½ p. F°.

*III: 85.

Governor.— Commission by Governor Clinton, Poughkeepsie, April 2, 1778, to James Duane as Commissioner for Indian Affairs in the Northern Department. Copy. 1 p. F°.

Entirely in the hand of Robert Benson, Private Secretary.
Captain Cregier, commissary for Capt. Robert Johnson's company of rangers. The expenditures exceeded the sum allowed by Congress; the necessity of doing justice to persons who furnish supplies to the militia. Copy. 1 p. F°.
* III: 483.

Governor.—Proclamation by Governor Clinton, Poughkeepsie, September 1, 1778, calling a meeting of the legislature at Poughkeepsie on Thursday, October 1. D. S. 1 p. F°. Seal attached.

Governor.—Message of Governor Clinton to the legislature, Poughkeepsie, October 12, 1778, giving brief account of movements of the enemy and condition of the State. D. S. 4½ p. F°.
* IV: 155; † II: 50. In both of the printed texts the date is October 13.

Assembly.—Address of the Assembly sitting at Poughkeepsie, October 16, 1778, in answer to Governor Clinton's speech at the opening session of the legislature. Congratulations on the prospect of a speedy and honorable termination of the war; assurance that provision will be made for the safety and defense of the western frontiers; controversy relative to the rights of the soil in the northeastern part of the State; determination to maintain the jurisdiction of the State throughout the whole of it; taxation the only effectual and rational remedy for depreciation of paper currency. Signed by Walter Livingston, Speaker. Copy. 2½ p. F°.

Governor.—Message of Governor Clinton to the Assembly, Poughkeepsie, October 16, 1778, expressing thanks for the address of October 16th and assuring cooperation in execution of measures calculated to promote the interest and prosperity of the State. Copy. ½ p. F°.
* IV: 178.

Governor.—Message of Governor Clinton to the legislature, Poughkeepsie, October 16, 1778, transmitting copies of letters from General Washington, Col. [Clement] Biddle, Commissary of Forage, Charles Pettis, Assistant Quartermaster-general, and Royal Flint, Assistant Commissary-general of Purchases, relative to difficulty of procuring forage, flour and wheat for the army; also a letter from the Common Council of the City of Albany concerning the conduct of monopolists of flour and wheat. Copy. 2 p. F°.
* IV: 178; † II: 54.

Governor.—Message of Governor Clinton to the legislature, Poughkeepsie, October 17, 1778, presenting the memorial of John Beebe, Philip Frisbe and other inhabitants of King's District in Albany County with a statement of their case; also a paper signed by inhabitants of Peinpack on western frontier of Ulster County requesting that a company of rangers be raised for their protection, and copies of two letters giving an account of depredations of the enemy in that quarter. Copy. ½ p. F°.
* IV: 166; † II: 54.

Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the [Senate], Poughkeepsie, November 2, 1778, complying with resolution of November 1st, in which he is requested to give information in regard to the improper use of flags and violations of the embargo law. Copy. 2 p. F°. *IV: 57.

Governor.— Proclamation issued by Governor Clinton at Poughkeepsie, November 27, 1778, setting apart Wednesday, December 30th as a day of public thanksgiving and praise. D. S. 2 p. F°. Seal attached.


Governor.— Reprieve issued by Governor Clinton to the sheriff of Orange County, January 19, 1779, staying execution of John Ryan until March 22, 1779. Copy. 1 p. F°.

Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the legislature, January 28, 1779, transmitting resolutions of Congress, and the Commissary and Quartermaster departments, difficulties in obtaining flour and corn from New York into Rhode Island. Copy. 1 p. F°. *IV: 56; †II: 67.

Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the legislature, Poughkeepsie, January 30, 1779, submitting case of Amy Auger of Orange County, whose execution has been suspended until March 20, 1779. Copy. 1 p. F°. *IV: 56; †II: 67.

Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the legislature, Poughkeepsie, January 30, 1779, submitting letter from Gov. [William] Greene of Rhode Island, January 7, 1779, telling of great scarcity of bread there and requesting that the embargo law be so far dispensed with as to permit the transportation of flour and corn from New York into Rhode Island. Copy. 1 p. F°. *IV: 56; †II: 68.

Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the legislature, Poughkeepsie, February 2, 1779, transmitting several acts of Congress, which supplement the papers that accompanied his message of January 28, 1779, on finance. Copy. ½ p. F°. *IV: 549; †II: 69.

Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the legislature, Poughkeepsie, February 8, 1779, transmitting an act of the legislature of New Hampshire for preventing the return to that State of certain persons therein named and of others who have joined or shall join enemies of the United States; also a letter from Jeremiah Powell, President of the General Assembly of the State of Massachusetts Bay, respecting the scarcity of wheat and flour in Boston, and requesting permission to export 3000 barrels of flour from New York State. Draft. ½ p. F°. *IV: 551; †II: 69.

Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the legislature, Poughkeepsie, February 12, 1779, transmitting a printed copy of certain resolutions of the Executive Council of Pennsylvania, dated February 3, with a copy of letter from the President of the Council requesting him to communicate them to the legislature. Copy. ½ p. F°. *IV: 550; †II: 69.

Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the legislature, Poughkeepsie, February 18, 1779, submitting for consideration a resolution of Congress, February 8, 1779, directing the President to write to governors of Connecticut and New York requesting them to furnish flour and provisions to the distressed inhabitants of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, together with a copy of the President's letter on the subject. Copy. ½ p. F°. *IV: 550; †II: 69.
Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the legislature, Poughkeepsie, March 2, 1779, transmitting an account of expenditures for expenses and other contingent charges and of monies advanced by him pursuant to concurrent resolutions and a law of the State. Copy. ½ p. F°.

Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the legislature, Poughkeepsie, March 5, 1779, submitting petitions from the inhabitants of Tryon County and of Marlbetown and Rochester in Ulster County representing the exposed situation of the western frontier of the State. Copy. ½ p. F°.

Governor.— Reprieve issued by Governor Clinton to the sheriff of Orange County, Poughkeepsie, March 9, 1779, staying execution of Matthew Dobin and John Ryan until May 28, 1779. Copy. 1½ p. F°.

Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the legislature, Poughkeepsie, March 15, 1779, transmitting letter delivered to him by gentlemen who now come in person to represent to the legislature the distressed situation of the inhabitants of Massachusetts Bay occasioned by the scarcity of hay and grain. Copy. ¼ p. F°.

Governor.— Proclamation by Governor Clinton, Poughkeepsie, March 20, 1779, directing that the Supreme Court of Judicature of the State be held at Albany until further orders are given. D. S. 1½ p. F°. Seal attached.

Governor.— Proclamation by Governor Clinton, Poughkeepsie, April 16, 1779, recommending that the first Thursday in May, 1779, be observed as a day of fasting, humiliation and prayer; in accordance with resolution of Congress, March 20, 1779. D. S. 2 p. F°. Seal attached.

Governor.— Proclamation by Governor Clinton, Poughkeepsie, July 24, 1779, calling a meeting of the legislature at Kingston, Ulster County, August 9, 1779. D. S. 1 p. F°.

Governor.— Reprieve issued by Governor Clinton to the sheriff of Ulster County, Poughkeepsie, July 27, 1779, staying execution of Joseph Brown, William McCrary, and Josiah Wood until August 20, 1779. Copy. 1 p. F°.

On reverse: A further respite was granted by Governor Clinton at Kingston, August 18, 1779, fixing the date of execution on the first Friday in September.

Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the legislature at the opening of the session, Kingston, August 24, 1779. Reasons for calling early session; general condition of the State; a considerable part of Westchester County laid waste by the enemy; settlements on northern and western frontiers undisturbed for the most part; robberies and other offenses against the public peace becoming less frequent; necessity for taking immediate steps to restore order in the northeastern part of the State; submits letter from General Washington, May 22, 1779, and sundry resolutions of Congress respecting clothing and recruiting of Continental regiments and finances; recommends the subject of the currency for the most serious consideration. Copy. 3 p. F°.

*V: 253; ±11: 75.

Governor.— List of "Papers laid before the Legislature with the Speech" of Governor Clinton, August 24, 1779. Copy. 1 p. F°.

Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the legislature, Kingston, August 24, 1779, announcing that he had suspended execution of Jonah Wood, who had been convicted of murder, and the case was therefore submitted to the legislature for its consideration. Copy. ½ p. F°.

Governor.— Reprieve issued by Governor Clinton to the sheriff of Ulster County, Kingston, August 24, 1779, granting further respite to Joseph Brown, William McCrary and Jonah Wood to September 25, 1779. Copy. 1½ p. F°.

An appended note says: "A further Respite to 24th Oct' 1779. Dated 21st Sept."

Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the legislature, Kingston, September 1, 1779, transmitting copies of letters from General Washington, Jeremiah Wadsworth, Commissary-general, and the President of Congress, and also an act of Congress, and recommending legislative consideration of the matters therein contained. Copy. ½ p. F°.

*V: 259.

Senate.— Address of the Senate sitting at Kingston, August 31, 1779, in answer to Governor Clinton's speech at the opening of the session. Approve his reasons for calling early session; regret the sufferings of their brethren in Westchester County; pleased with the degree of security enjoyed by inhabitants of the frontier and with the suppression of robberies and other atrocious offenses; regret the necessity of employing harsher measures to enforce laws in the northeastern counties; promise to consider measures for the appreciation of the currency. Signed by Pierre Van Cortlandt, President. Copy. 3 p. F°.

*V: 256, dated September 1, 1779.

Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the Senate, [Kingston, September 3, 1779], acknowledging address in answer to his speech at the opening of session; expresses reciprocal felicitations. Copy. 1 p. F°.

*V: 261. There is also a draft of this message in the Library's Emmet Collection, no. 7050.

Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the legislature, Kingston, September 4, 1779, recommending that means be devised for enabling citizens to obtain a reasonable supply of salt. Copy. 1 p. F°.

*V: 264; ±11: 78.
Assembly.—Address of the Assembly, September 4, 1779, in answer to Governor Clinton’s speech at the opening of the session. Approve reasons for calling early session, regret that they cannot effectually protect citizens of Westchester County from ravages of the enemy; pleased that frontier settlements have been made secure and that robberies have become less frequent; declare purpose of maintaining rightful jurisdiction of the State in northeastern counties; importance of devising means to effect appreciation of the currency; necessity of wise and unanimous councils in the present crisis. September 8, 1779, submitting letter from James Wilkinson, recommending attention to the following matters: providing clothing for the troops; also a circular letter from Congress to its constituents, dated September 13, 1779. Copy. 2 p. Fº. Signed by Evert Bancker, Speaker. Copy. 2 p. Fº. *V: 262.

Governor.—Message of Governor Clinton to the Assembly, [September 6, 1779], acknowledging address in answer to his speech at the opening of the session. Pleased at the approbation of his reasons for calling an early session of the legislature; expresses confidence that the Assembly will adopt vigorous and effectual measures for the expulsion of the enemy. Copy. 1 p. Fº. *V: 266.

Governor.—Message of Governor Clinton to the legislature, Kingston, September 8, 1779, submitting letter from James Wilkinson, directing, with copy of letter from the Board of War, August 16th, to which he refers. Copy. ½ p. Fº.

Governor.—Message of Governor Clinton to the [Assembly], Kingston, September 8, 1779, recommending attention to the following resolutions of Congress: May 5, 1779, relative to accounts of late Commissary-general [Joseph] Trumbull; July 23, 1779, relative to preservation of property belonging to United States; June 22, 1779, recommending measures to prevent plundering of inhabitants of Long Island and other places in possession of the enemy; and of April 14, 1779. Copy. ½ p. Fº. *V: 269; † II: 79.

Governor.—Proclamation by Governor Clinton, Kingston, September 24, 1779, directing that the inferior Courts of Common Pleas and Courts of General Sessions for Westchester County be held at the meeting-house in Upper Salem in the said county until further notice. Copy. Unsigned. 2 p. Fº. Seal attached.

Governor.—Message of Governor Clinton to the [Senate], Kingston, September 24, 1779, transmitting three resolutions of Congress, one of August 21, 1779, on the subject of an embargo; August 25, 1779, against restrictions on the inland trade between the States; and Sept. 10, 1779, for providing clothing for the troops; also a circular letter from Congress to its constituents, dated September 13, 1779. Copy. ⅓ p. Fº. *V: 282; † II: 81.
Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the [Senate], October 4, 1779, transmitting a letter from Samuel Curson of September 10, 1779. Copy. ½ p. F°.

Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the legislature, Kingston, October 9, 1779, informing that the Honorable John Jay has been appointed Minister from the United States to the Court of Madrid, and suggesting that a suitable person be elected to supply his place in Congress. Copy. ½ p. F°. *V: 316; †II: 83.

Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the [Senate], Kingston, October 13, 1779, submitting a letter from Jeremiah Wadsworth, Commissary-general of Purchases, October 3, 1779, relative to the scarcity of salt. Copy. ½ p. F°.

Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the [Senate], Kingston, October 14, 1779, transmitting a resolution of Congress, September 30, 1779, directing the Continental agent at Boston to sell to New York State a certain quantity of rum and sugar at current wholesale prices, together with a letter from the President of Congress accompanying the same. Copy. ½ p. F°.

Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the [Senate], Kingston, October 18, 1779, transmitting two acts of Congress of October 6 and 7, 1779, for supplying the Continental treasury by monthly assessments, together with a letter from the President of Congress. Copy. ½ p. F°.

Governor.— Proclamation by Governor Clinton, Poughkeepsie, November 1, 1779, proclaiming Thursday, December 9, 1779, as a day of public thanksgiving and prayer. D. S. 3 p. F°. Seal attached.

Governor.— Proclamation by Governor Clinton, Poughkeepsie, December 1, 1779, calling a meeting of the legislature at Albany on Tuesday, January 4, 1780, to enact laws for establishing and carrying into execution a general limitation of prices, as recommended by Congress. D. S. 1 p. F°. Seal attached.

Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the [Senate], Albany, January 27, 1780, communicating resolutions of Congress and calling special attention to that of November 19, 1779, for the regulation of prices; recommending that more adequate provision be made for the quota of New York State in the Continental Army; that the militia law be continued, and that the utmost diligence be exercised in despatching business of the session on account of the military situation. Copy. 3 p. F°. *V: 316; †II: 87.

Governor.— List of papers accompanying Governor Clinton's message to the legislature, January 27, 1780. ½ a p. F°.

Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the [Assembly], Albany, January 27, 1780, transmitting papers showing distressed situation of the army and recommending that measures be adopted immediately for its relief; also transmitting letter of Major-General [William] Heath of January 20, 1780, and recommending that steps be taken to prevent the enemy from receiving aid from disaffected inhabitants of Westchester County in future. Copy. 1 p. F°.

Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the [Assembly], Albany, February 8, 1780, transmitting letter from Major-General [William] Heath, January 25, 1780, and letters from Col. Udney Hay, Deputy Quartermaster-general, January 28 and February 3, 1780, respectively, relative to lack of provisions for the army. Copy. ½ p. F°.

Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the [Assembly], Albany, February 14, 1780, transmitting letter from Samuel Curson of December 6, 1779, on same subject as that of September 10, 1779, which he transmitted October 4, 1779. Copy. ½ p. F°.

Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the [Assembly], Albany, February 14, 1780, transmitting an act of Congress, January 14, 1780, recommending that the several States make provision for conferring like privileges and immunities on subjects of "his most Christian Majesty" as are granted to subjects of the United States of America by articles of treaty of amity and commerce subsisting between the two nations. Copy. ½ p. F°.

Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the [Assembly], Albany, February 17, 1780, transmitting letter from Gouverneur Morris and Francis Lewis, late delegates to Congress, dated October 26, 1779, and a letter from James Black relative to clothing for the five Continental Battalions; also transmitting letter from General Assembly of Massachusetts Bay, January 4, 1780, respecting the repeal of inland embargo laws. Copy. ½ p. F°.

Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the [Assembly], February 28, 1780, transmitting a petition presented by Casper St stout for compensation for services in manufacturing sulphur and copperas. Copy. ½ a p. F°.
Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the [Senate], Albany, February 21, 1780, recommending that provision be made for the protection of frontier settlements against possible incursions of the enemy in the spring. Copy. 1/2 p. F°. (121)

Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the [Assembly], Albany, February 21, 1780, recommending certain claims growing out of military service together with a letter from Col. Jacob Klock, October 20, 1779, to the consideration of the legislature. Copy. 1/2 p. F°. (122)

Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the [Assembly], Albany, February 25, 1780, transmitting two acts of Congress of February 9, 1780, one making requisitions on the different States for their respective quotas of men for service of current year, the other engaging to make allowances to States that shall have had in service more than their just proportion of troops; together with the President's letter accompanying the acts. Copy. 1/2 p. F°. (123)

Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the [Senate], Albany, March 3, 1780, transmitting return to troops forming quota of New York State in Continental army showing that proportion to be furnished by New York State for ensuing campaign is more than complete and suggesting that proper measures be devised for recruiting regiments for future service. Copy. 1/2 p. F°. (124)

Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the [Senate], Albany, March 7, 1780, transmitting letter received from Jacob Cuyler, Deputy Commissary-general of Purchases, dated March 6, 1780, with a resolution of Congress of January 1, 1780, relative to that department; also a letter from Dr. Malachi Treat of the General Hospital of the United States, dated February 29, 1780, representing distressed situation of wives of soldiers who have served as nurses in the hospital, together with a petition of their husbands on the subject. Copy. 1/2 p. F°. (125)

Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the [Assembly], Albany, March 9, 1780, recommending that measures be taken for the payment of money due to the militia of the State for their pay and subsistence while in actual service. Copy. 1/2 p. F°. (126)

Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the [Assembly], Albany, March 9, 1780, recommending that Wednesday, April 26, 1780, be observed as a day of fasting, humiliation and prayer. D. S. 1/2 p. F°. With seal attached. (127)

Governor.— Reprieve issued by Governor Clinton to the sheriff of Dutchess County, April 20, 1780, staying execution of Gulielmus More, otherwise called William More, and James Wilson, until May 19, 1780. Copy. 1 p. F°. (128)

Governor.— Proclamation by Governor Clinton, Poughkeepsie, April 22, 1780, calling a meeting of the legislature at Kingston, May 9, 1780. D. S. 1 p. F°. With seal attached. (129)

Governor.— List of papers delivered with Governor Clinton's message of May 25, 1780. Copy. 1 p. F°. (130)

Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the [Senate], Kingston, June 2, 1780, communicating letters from General Washington and from a Committee of Congress at Headquarters, acts of Congress, May 19, 26, and 27, 1780, and letters from James Duane and John Morin Scott, the said papers having come to hand during his late absence from Kingston. Copy. 1/2 p. F°. (131)

Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the [Assembly], Kingston, June 13, 1780, submitting a letter from James Black, Commissary of Clothing for New York State, June 9, 1780, with his account; a petition from some of the officers of the Fifth Continental Regiment of New York State, May 24, 1780; and an account of the Governor and Company of Connecticut against New York State for cannon furnished in 1776. Copy. 1/2 p. F°. (132)

Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the [Assembly], Kingston, June 15, 1780, submitting a memorial of officers of New York State who are prisoners of war with the enemy, together with a letter from Colonel Allison relative to their situation; also a letter from Colonel Yates and seven other
field officers of the militia of Albany County, dated May 20, 1780, representing the state of the northern frontiers; and an act of Congress, June 1, 1780, respecting extra supplies which may be furnished by any of the States. Copy, 1/4 p. Fº.

†II: 101.

Governor.—Message of Governor Clinton to the legislature, Kingston, June 29, 1780, transmitting circular letter from the President of Congress, June 15, 1780; several acts of Congress of June 17, 21, and 23, 1780, and accompanying letters; a letter from General Washington, June 22, 1780, two circular letters from the Committee of Congress at Headquarters, June 19 and 23, 1780; and copies of his [Governor Clinton's] letters to the President of Congress and to the Committee at Headquarters, June 24 and 25, 1780. Copy, ½ p. Fº.

†II: 101.

Governor.—Message of Governor Clinton to the [Senate], Kingston, June 30, 1780, submitting, at the request of Major-General [Benjamin] Arnold, the proceedings of the general court martial on his trial, together with his letter which accompanied the same. Copy, ½ p. Fº.

†II: 102.

Governor.—Proclamation by Governor Clinton, Poughkeepsie, August 4, 1780, calling a meeting of the legislature at Poughkeepsie, Monday, September 4, 1780. D. S. 1 p. Fº.

Governor.—Message of Governor Clinton to the legislature, Poughkeepsie, September 7, 1780, in which he calls attention to the necessity for an immediate election of delegates to Congress; recommends that provision be made for the protection of the frontier; submits letters from the Committee of Congress at Headquarters and the Commander-in-chief relative to the need of supplies for the army; suggests the advisability of accelerating the proposed confederation of States, and urges the importance of completing the Continental Battalions so as to establish a permanent force sufficient to bring the war to a speedy and successful issue. Draft. 4 p. Fº.

*VII: 159; †II: 105.

Governor.—Message of Governor Clinton to the [Senate], Poughkeepsie, September 8, 1780, submitting and recommending letters of Col. John Hay to the consideration of the legislature. Draft. 1 p. Fº.

†II: 108.

Senate.—Address of the Senate, Poughkeepsie, September 9, 1780, in answer to Governor Clinton's speech, expressing approval of measures for defense of frontier and promising cooperation in the several matters recommended to their consideration. Signed by Pierre Van Cortlandt; President. D. S. 3½ p. Fº.

Governor.—Message of Governor Clinton to the Senate, Poughkeepsie, September 11, 1780, acknowledging address in answer to his speech. Expresses satisfaction over the approbation of his conduct and concurrence in the importance of matters recommended for consideration of the legislature. Copy, ½ p. Fº. (141)

Assembly.—Address of the Assembly, Poughkeepsie, September 9, 1780, in answer to Governor Clinton's speech at the opening of the session. Expressing approbation of his conduct and promising cooperation in matters submitted to their consideration. Signed by Evert Bancker, Speaker. D. S. 3 p. Fº. (142)

Governor.—Message of Governor Clinton to the Senate, Poughkeepsie, September 11, 1780, acknowledging address in answer to his speech. Pleased with approbation of his conduct in measures taken for the defense of the State; assured that unanimity and despatch equal to public emergencies will attend their deliberations. Copy, 2/4 p. Fº. (143)

Governor.—Message of Governor Clinton to the legislature, Poughkeepsie, September 13, 1780, transmitting acts of Congress of August 12 and 24, 1780, recommending that the States make compensation to their officers and soldiers for depreciation of their pay and making further provision for officers and soldiers of the Continental Army, together with a letter from three gentlemen who were deputed by the officers of the line of the State to represent to the legislature the distressed situation of the troops. Copy, 2/4 p. Fº. (144)

†II: 110.

Governor.—Message of Governor Clinton to the legislature, Poughkeepsie, September 13, 1780, transmitting a proclamation of Gov. Jonathan Trumbull of Connecticut, founded on an act of the governor and council of that State, repealing their inland embargo laws; together with a letter from Governor Trumbull accompanying the proclamation. Copy, 1/4 p. Fº. (145)

†II: 110.

Governor.—Message of Governor Clinton to the legislature, Poughkeepsie, September 13, 1780, transmitting petition of Mary Tenis and others relative to their distressed situation. Copy, ½ p. Fº. (146)

Governor.—Message of Governor Clinton to the legislature, Poughkeepsie, September 14, 1780, submitting an act of Congress, August 26, 1780, recommending that the several States take the most speedy and effectual measures for bringing the new bills of credit into circulation and making provision for payment of public debts, and for other purposes; together with the President's letter of September 3, 1780, accompanying the same. Copy, 3/4 p. Fº. (147)
Governor.—Proclamation by Governor Clinton, Poughkeepsie, September 20, 1780, assigning lines in Westchester and Orange counties to the southward of which no neat cattle of beef shall be driven or removed unless such neat cattle or beef shall be intended for use of troops in service of the United States or New York State, or being draft cattle shall be actually employed in public service. D. S. 1½ p. F°. With seal attached. (154)


Governor.—Message of Governor Clinton to the [Assembly], Poughkeepsie, September 27, 1780, transmitting a letter of September 14, 1780, from John Carter, who has been appointed to procure provisions for the French fleet and army at Newport, accompanying two letters of September 10, 1780, one from De Tiel, Intendant of the fleet and the other from De Grandchaine, Intendant of the army. Copy. ½ p. F°. (150)

Governor.—Message of Governor Clinton to the [Senate], Poughkeepsie, September 30, 1780, transmitting a letter from Robert R. Livingston, September 19, 1780, relative to his continuance as a delegate in Congress. Copy. ½ p. F°. (151)

Governor.—Message of Governor Clinton to the legislature, Poughkeepsie, October 3, 1780, transmitting a circular letter from the President of Congress, September 10, 1780, with accompanying papers respecting the confederation of the United States. Copy. ½ p. F°. (152)

Governor.—Message of Governor Clinton to the [Senate], Poughkeepsie, October 7, 1780, transmitting list of persons at Peterborough of the German Flatts District in Tryon County who, having been reduced to extreme indigence by the operations of war and the ravages of the enemy, require assistance from the State; and recommending that provision be made for payment of expense of erecting a blockhouse at Palmerton on the northern frontier. Copy. 2 p. F°. *1: 112.

Governor.—Message of Governor Clinton to the [Senate], Poughkeepsie, October 7, 1780, transmitting a letter of September 23, 1780, from Major Tallmadge of Colonel Sheldon's Light Dragoons stationed near the lines in Westchester County relative to certain abuses committed there. Copy. ½ p. F°. *1: 113.

Governor.—Proclamation by Governor Clinton, Poughkeepsie, October 7, 1780, recommending that Thursday, November 2, 1780, be observed as a Day of Prayer and Thanksgiving to Almighty God for the recent remarkable Deliverance wrought on Behalf of the United States in general and of this State in particular by the Discovery of the treasonable Conspiracy for Betraying the Fortifications in the Highlands into the Hands of the Enemy. D. S. 1 p. F°. Seal attached. (155)

Governor.—Proclamation by Governor Clinton, Poughkeepsie, November 15, 1780, recommending that Thursday, December 7, 1780, be set apart as a day of public thanksgiving and prayer. D. S. 1 p. F°. Seal attached. (156)

Governor.—Proclamation by Governor Clinton, Poughkeepsie, November 28, 1780, calling a meeting of the legislature at Albany on Tuesday, January 2, 1781. D. S. 1 p. F°. Seal attached. (157)

Governor.—Message of Governor Clinton to the legislature, Albany, January 2, 1781, submitting Acts of Congress and other papers; calling attention to the necessity of protecting frontier settlements and the need of clothing the troops; and suggesting the enactment of amendments to law for raising troops to complete quota of New York State for service in army of United States during the war. D. S. 1¼ p. F°. (158)

Governor.—List of papers delivered with Governor Clinton's message to the legislature, January 2, 1781. 1 p. F°. (159)

Governor.—Message of Governor Clinton to the [Senate], Albany, February 3, 1781, communicating a letter from Congress, January 7, 1781, with an estimate of sums required from the several States for immediate payment of the army, and an act of Congress, January 8, 1781, requiring certain sums of specie from the different States for the use of officers in captivity in New York and on Long Island, together with the President's letter accompanying the same; also transmitting an act of Congress of January 5, 1781, relative to treatment of prisoners. Copy. 1 p. F°. *1: 116.

Governor.—Message of Governor Clinton to the legislature, Albany, February 5, 1781, transmitting a letter from Thomas Chittenden, November 22, 1780, in which he demands that the legislature relinquish jurisdiction over that part of the State known as "The New Hampshire Grants," together with a copy of his letter to Congress. July 21, 1780. Copy. 1 p. F°. (161)

Governor.—Message of Governor Clinton to the legislature, Albany, February 6, 1781, submitting letter from Col. Jacob Klock and others, dated February 5, 1781, in behalf of inhabitants of Tryon County and recommending that provision be made for their defense. Copy. 1 p. F°. (162)
Governor.—Message of Governor Clinton to the legislature, Albany, February 10, 1781, submitting copy of letter from Col. [Ephraim] Blaine, Commissary-general of Purchases, to Congress, January 17, 1781, together with the President’s letter covering an order for their transmission; emphasizing the absolute necessity of supplying the troops with provisions. Copy. 3/4 p. F°. (165)

†II: 116.

Governor.—Message of Governor Clinton to the [Assembly], Albany, February 10, 1781, recommending for consideration the petition of Catharine Snell, Gertrude Garter and Anna Lower. Copy. 3/4 p. F°. (166)

Governor.—Warrant of impress issued by Governor Clinton at Albany, February 10, 1781, to Udney Hay, Agent of the State of New York, authorizing him to impress such quantities of wheat and flour in the several counties and districts of the State as shall be equivalent to their respective deficiencies of those articles under acts of legislature. Copy. 2 p. F°. (167)

Governor.—Message of Governor Clinton to the [Assembly], Albany, February 22, 1781, submitting the following papers: letter from Col. William Malcolm, February 3, 1781, requesting an advancement of pay for Brigades of Levies lately under his command; petition from inhabitants of Kirksland and German Flatts Districts in Tryon County, February 6, 1781, requesting that two companies be raised for defense of frontier; a petition from Col. Peter Bellinger and Capt. Henry Herder for appointment of William Petri as a surgeon for Forts Herkimer and Dayton; petition from William Moulton and others for a grant of unpatented lands on borders of Lake Champlain; and a petition of Freeholders and Inhabitants of Half Moon District for ascertaining boundary line between that district and the Schenectady Church lands. Copy. 1 p. F°. (168)

†II: 117.

Governor.—Message of Governor Clinton to the [Assembly], Albany, February 23, 1781, publicly declaring that he considers a compliance with requisitions contained in concurrent resolutions of Senate and Assembly of February 21 and 22, 1781, would be repugnant to law and inconsistent with his duty. Explanation of his position in the matter of granting warrants of impress. Copy. 13/4 p. F°. (169)

†II: 119.

Governor.—Message of Governor Clinton to the [Assembly], Albany, February 23, 1781, transmitting two acts of Congress of February 3 and 7, 1781, which recommend that the several States vest Congress with the power of levying duties on the importation of foreign merchandise and on all prizes and prize goods for the purpose of raising a fund for discharge of debts contracted on the faith of the United States for support of the war. Copy. 23/4 p. F°. (171)

†II: 120. Printed under date of September 24.
Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the [Assembly], Albany, March 19, 1781, transmitting a letter of March 11, 1781, from the New York delegates in Congress, in answer to a letter to Congress, written by the Governor on behalf of the legislature. Copy. ½ p. Fº. (178)

Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the [Assembly], Albany, March 21, 1781, transmitting a letter of March 9, 1781, from Gov. Jonathan Trumbull of Connecticut together with papers to which it refers. Copy. 1/8 p. Fº. (179)

Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the legislature, Albany, March 29, 1781, transmitting letter from Brig.-Gen. James Clinton, March 29, 1781, which he recommends to attention of the legislature. Copy. ½ p. Fº. (180)

Governor.— Proclamation by Governor Clinton, Poughkeepsie, April 15, 1781, recommending that Thursday, May 3, 1781, be observed as a day of humiliation, fasting and prayer. D. S. 3/8 p. Fº. Seal missing. (181)

Governor.— Proclamation by Governor Clinton, Poughkeepsie, May 8, 1781, assigning the town of Poughkeepsie as the place of meeting of the legislature on the first Wednesday in June. D. S. 3/8 p. Fº. Seal attached. (182)

Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the [Assembly], Poughkeepsie, June 17, 1781, transmitting acts of Congress and other public papers received during the recess of the legislature; and promising to submit returns of New York regiments serving in army of United States as well as of levies raised for immediate defense of the State. Copy. ½ p. Fº. 

† II: 132. Printed under date of June 16.

Governor.— List of papers laid before the legislature by Governor Clinton with his message of June 17, 1781. ½ p. Fº. (184)

Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the [Assembly], Poughkeepsie, June 18, 1781, communicating two letters from “his Excellency the Commander in Chief,” June 16, 1781, pointing out the necessity of immediately completing the New York regiments in service of United States together with another letter from his Excellency of same date recommending that measures be taken for payment of troops of New York line. Copy. 3/8 p. Fº. 

† II: 133.

Governor.— Message of Governor Clinton to the [Assembly], Poughkeepsie, June 19, 1781, transmitting papers received from Col. [Udney] Hay relative to his office of State agent and settlement of public accounts. Copy. 1/8 p. Fº. (186)