

A General Delany for New York — a General Skinner for New Jersey — a General Arnold at large have & are raising Brigades — & why not a General Ruggles for Massachusetts-Bay &c? should this be permitted by the Commander in Chief why may not you & I be the very Men to undertake the raising a Battalion each, which with the Dragoons to be raised by Ruggles will complete the Brigade. in this way all the Gentlemen, within & some friends without the Lines, of & from the Eastern Provinces may at the close of the War find themselves on sure ground of Provision you & I shall have it our Power to provide for our Bays &c — at the breaking up of the rebel Army (if not sooner) we shall most certainly fill our Regiments — Regiments & Brigades will most undoubtedly be kept up & left in all Parts of America, if won. On every Account particularly that of Climate the troops recruited ought at the close of the War to be left in those Parts from whence recruited — How shall this Business originate & be effected are serious Questions & how will the undertaking affect our Friends — first let us make an Application to the Commander in Chief subscribed by a Number of Gent^l from the Eastern Provinces requesting that Ruggles be permitted to raise a Brigade from that Part of the Country — this done we will apply for Warrants, you for one & myself for the other Battalion either as Colonels or Lieut Colonels in which Case we shall with the Rest of

of Dragoons employ every Gent^l from that Country who would wish to be concerned — by which Means we shall extend an Influence to all Parts of that Country — we shall by printed Exertions undoubtedly recruit many even in the present Situation of Affairs.

U.N.B. ARCHIVES
We shall, being properly organized, be in a Situation & Condition to avail ourselves of every favourable Opening while Government are carrying their Operations to the Eastward as I think they will early in the next Spring & Refugee Board are contriving fasten in the Air we shall turn our whole attention to the substantial Business in which we are engaged & I think we shall succeed — thus much having hinted in a dark & confused Manner I wish to see you — you have hopes — I have none — I have disclosed myself on this Business to but two or three Persons & that in Confidence — in this way I communicate my Sentiments to you — perhaps you will convince me that all my hopes are groundless & merely ideal — I have not hinted my Intentions either to Ruggles or Murray — I wish them to get fairly on their Legs before their Attention is diverted to any thing else — I really think my Plan, if adopted, will promote theirs — they surely will not object to our getting in