

as an opening will probably arise during the summer. Two Companies of my Reg.^t are ordered to Cape Preston as soon as the Navigation is relieved from Ice. Lt. General Ogilvie is appointed President of the Island, & removes thither as soon as possible. Lt. Col. Bayard goes with the N.S. detachment. they are to have, also, a Lieut. & twelve Artillery men.

I wish the meeting of the Commissioners had been appointed one month or six weeks later, or could be postponed, as it interferes with the sessions of our Genl. Assembly, where Col. Barclay will be much wanted. It appears to me there cannot be a doubt, that the proofs are clearly favorable to the Claim of Gr. Britain. and that nothing short of violent departure from obvious Truth can disappoint us. Surely Men to whom the two Nations look up for wisdom and integrity will not

commit their names with infinite censure, to the World and to posterity. I cannot penetrate the causes of your apprehensions, perhaps you may suggest some means of safety, without hazard. It would be better to delay the decision than to have its merits sacrificed. I trust Capt. Lyman will soon return, and that by so safe a conveyance you will furnish me with some flow to be useful. It shall be safely, and discreetly exercised.

Lady W sailed for Liverpool on the day preceding the date of your letter. Her impaired health required immediate change of climate, & a similar state of our Only Son, in England, added to the indispensable urgency of her requiring a passage, in these times of great