

## HULL TO EUSTIS

Duplicate

Sandwich. U.C. August 4, 1812

Sir

At the time when the Army under my command took possession of this part of the province of upper Canada, everything appeared favourable and all the operations of the Army have been successfull. Circumstances have since occured which seem materially to change our future prospects—

The unexpected surrender of Michillimackinack and the tardy operations of the Army at Niagara are the circumstances to which I allude. I have every reason to expect, in a very short time, a large body of Savages from the north, whose operations will be directed against this Army—They are under the influence of the North and south west Companies—and the interest of those Companies depends on opening the Communication of the Detroit River this Summer—It is the Channel by which they obtain their supplies and there can be no doubt but every effort will be made against this Army to open that communication—It is the opinion of the officers—and the most intelligent Gentlemen from Mackinack—that the British can engage any number of Indians they may have occasion for and that, including the Engages of N.W. and S.W. Companies) two or three thousand will be brought to this place in a very short time,—Dispatches have been sent to Malden, and the Messengers have returned with Orders.—With respect to the delay at Niagara—the following consequences have followed—A Major Chambers of the British Army, with fifty five regulars, and four pieces of brass Artillery, have been detached from Niagara and by the last accounts, had penetrated as far as Delaware—about one hundred and twenty miles from this place—Every effort was making by this detachment, to obtain reinforcements from the Militia and Indians—considerable numbers had joined, and it was expected this force would consist of six or seven hundred—The object of this force, is to operate against this Army—Two days ago, all the Indians were sent from Malden, with a small body of British Troops, to Brownstown, and Maguago, and made prisoners of the

Wyandotts at those places. There are strong reasons to believe, that it was by their own consent—not withstanding the professions they had made—Under all these circumstances, you will perceive that the situation of this Army is Critical. I am now preparing a work on this Bank, which may be defended, by about three hundred men. I have consulted with the principal Officers, and an attempt to Storm the fort at Malden, is thought unadvisable without Artillery to make a Breach. The pickets are fourteen feet high, and defended by Bastions on which are mounted, twenty four pieces of Canon—I am preparing floating Batteries, to drive the Queen Charlotte from the mouth of the River Canards and land them below that River—and it is my intention to march down with the Army, and as soon as a breach can be made, attempt [Malden?] by storm—Circumstances however, may render it necessary to recross the River with the Main body of the Army to preserve the Communication, for the purpose of obtaining supplies from Ohio—I am constantly obliged to make a strong detachments, to convoy the provisions between the foot of the Rapids and Detroit—If nothing should [?] be done at Niagara, and the force should come from the north and the east, as is almost certain, you must be sensible of the difficulties which will attend my situation—I can promise nothing but my best and most faithful exertions to promote the honor of the Army and the interest of my Country—

I am very respectfully,  
your Most Obt Servt.

Hon. Wm. Eustis  
Secty Depart of War—

W HULL.