

**Joseph Chew to George Washington, August 15, 1757, Intelligence Report, Letters to Washington and Accompanying Papers. Published by the Society of the Colonial Dames of America. Edited by Stanislaus Murray Hamilton.**

**FROM JOSEPH CHEW, ESQ.**

NEW YORK Augst. 15th. 1757

DR SIR

This just serves to inform you that since my last this Country has been in Continued Alarm and hurry you will see by the inclosed that the French have made themselves masters of Fort Wm. Henry the Acct I send you has the greatest Appearance of truth, but there is as yet no Certainty what Terms the Fort was surrender'd upon or who of that Garrison are safe<sup>1</sup> I will write you again before I leave new York and as soon as I can Come at the truth, our friend Beverly is gone to Albany, Please to forward the inclosed to my Brother and be Assurd that I am with the sincerest Love and Respect

Dear Sir Your Obedt. Affectionate JOS CHEW.

*Inclosure in Letter from Joseph Chew, Esq.*

NEW YORK August 15th. 1757

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On Wednesday the 3d. of Augst. the Enemy Set down before Fort Wm. Henry with an Army, according to sundry Accos. from 9 to 12,000, men and train of 35 Ps of Cannon & six Mortars and the same day open'd the Trenches

The firing Continued with great Vigour & Resolution on both sides untill Tuesday the 9th. during which time the beseiged had several Cannon burst and some of their best Mortars and others Render'd useless it is also said their Ammunition was nearly Expended when they Surrendered the Fort on the Following Terms That the Garrison and troops Should march off with all honours of war, with 4 Cannon and all their arms Baggage &c and should not be Molested but Escorted to Fort Edward—That they should not serve in America for 18 months That after the French had got Possession and the Garrison had Marched about two Miles the Indians were let Loose amongst them who killed and Cut numbers to Pieces and striped the others naked in which Condition they were Coming into Fort Edward Genl. Webb, Lord Howe, Sr. William Johnson & others were at Fort Edward and notwithstanding all the Industry of them, Governor Delaney, Mr. Olliver Delaney & others of great note and merit his whole force last Thursday was scarcely 7,000 including the Raw Militia, but great Numbers were dayly Joyning him and few days will discover where monsr. Montcalm will next bend his Course or whether General Webb will be able to dislodge him from Fort Wm. Henry —

our Fleet was in Halyfax Harbour the 28th. of July 1st of august when they will sail the Lord *knows*

1 Fort William Henry was situated on the southern coast of Lake George, with a view to command that lake and protect the English colonies. The fort was garrisoned by about three thousand regulars.—WYNNE'S History of the British Empire in America.