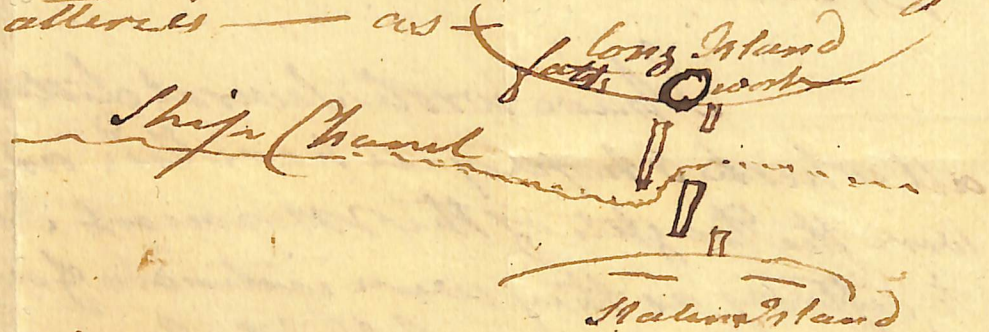


Croton Jan^y. 27, 1812

D^r Brothers

I have wrote several Letters lately
all which I hope you have rec^d and as they
were the thoughts of the Moment I wish you
to destroy as they were intended for your
private use only - I think I now see War
Unavoidable unless Great Britain should
be disposed to do Justice. I hope Congress
will provide for the Defense of the Coast
they should be very liberal in their
Appropriation for the different Forti-
fications especially New York as that
will be one of the first to be attacked
The Narrows is the best place to be attended
to. Sink a strong work on the East side of
Chanel and furnish it with heavy Cannon
opposite the batteries on Staten Island
and fill in with Stone so as to lessen the
depth of water that Heavy Ships cannot
pass in a direct course leaving a space
as deep as it is at present but in

a Manner that when a Ship comes up
they must Expose their Stern to one of
the Batteries — as



This will cost money but when done
it will be permanent — With all
Respect I am Yours —

Ch. V. Cortlandt

Free

Wm^{ble} Pierre Van Cortlandt Jun^r
in Charge

Washington

Sam^l Phillips
Nov. 1872
N.Y.