

Sing Sing January 7th 1858

General Pierre VanCourland

Dear Sir

The men

that are living near the Croton on
your land are making great havoc
amongst your wood and as I have dis-
-charged them they are beyond my
control they have not worked for
me since the first of November and
they are determined to do all damage
they can possibly do, I cannot hinder
them, all I can do is to Report them
to you I have given Mr Dorkes
their names a month ago. General
I feel willing to Pay to the utmost far-
-thing for all Damages that my men
do but these desperadoes I cannot con-
-trol they tell me that the wood is not
mine nor any of my Business they
will cut as much as they please for
all me so that you see what a situation
I am placed in if you cannot come down
Please direct Mr Dorkes what to do so
that there shall be a stop put to destroy-
ing timber wantonly. I certainly do feel

I feel it my duty to do all in my Power
to Prevent Damage from being done
But without your assistance I can do
Nothing with these men that I want
they will only laugh when I threaten
them there must be prompt measures
taken or they will do as they Please —

Yours with every sentiment of Esteem

To Gen. P. VanCourland, Respectfully
Peekskill } J. W. Faulkner

Gen Pierre Vanoult

Peekskill

Westchester Co
N York



de Staehly

Handwritten text on the reverse side of the letter, written in cursive script. The text is mostly illegible due to the angle and fading, but appears to be a continuation of the letter's content.