

Rapids, and for coasting the Lake with the baggage of the army in its advance--I had calculated upon being able partially to use this mode of transportation even if the enemy should continue their naval superiority on the Lake--but with this advantage on our side, the whole baggage of the army could be safely, and expeditiously carried along the coast in the boats & Perouges which could be taken into the strait to transport the army to the Canada shore. As I have before observed, the army unencumbered with heavy baggage would find no difficulty in marching round the lake at any season, but what the enemy would create; and, we have the means of subsisting a force that would be irresistible. The objections to proceeding in this way stated in my letter to Col. Monroe, arose from the time that would be necessarily to construct boats after we should have arrived at the strait--but this objection is entirely obviated by our obtaining the command of the Lake as the boats and perouges built upon the Miami will answer the purpose.

With regard to the quantum of force, my opinion is that not only the regular troops, designated in your letter, but a large auxiliary corps of militia should be employed--The only objection arises from the expensiveness of troops of that description--This however could not be an object considering the very short time, that it would be necessary to employ them. Let the moment for the commencement of the march from the Rapids be fixed, and the militia might be