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State of Massachusetts Bay

Council Chamber Boston April 18th 1780

Sir,

The General Assembly of this State, taking into Consideration the grievous hardships to which the Maritime Towns on the Coast have been reduced from the Enemy's being permitted to hold Possession of their Forts at Penobscot; And at the same time reflecting on the great distress now suffered by our brethren the Inhabitants of the Eastern Country, have represented their Sentiments on that Subject to Congress, with a View to impress the Continent with a just Idea of the importance of that Country to the Enemy, and to the United States, and of the Necessity of a vigorous exertion on the part of the Continent to rescue that Post out of the hands of the Invaders. They have also ordered Six hundred Men of the Militia of this State under the Command of Brigadier Wadsworth to be stationed in those parts for its defence - This Force they are far from thinking adequate to the Necessity of the Case, but it is all that in their present Circumstances they Judge themselves able to spare at this juncture for that Service -

The effect of this scanty Provision they should consider with Regret, did they not reflect that the Spirit of Patriotism of our Sister State of New Hampshire (which is more immediately in the Vicinity of this Seat of Distress) have never failed to display itself in the Common Cause whenever

whenever it has been duly called upon, And that there is good ground to believe
that her exertions will be ready at this Crisis to give weight to those of this State in the
defence of that Important Part of the Continent, if your Legislature is duly apprized
of the occasion — I am therefore desired by the Assembly of this State to
represent this matter to your General Assembly thro' your favor; & to request
that they would take such Measures as their Circumstances will admit to Oblige
the exertions of this State in defence of the Eastern Country against the Attempts of
our Enemies; and if Practicable to reduce them as this will be acknowledged an
eminent Service to your own State to this State and to all America —

In the Name & Behalf of the General Assembly
I have the Honor to be

With every Sentiment of Esteem

Sir,

Your most Obedt. Servt.
J. Powell, President

Hon^{ble} Meshech Weare Esq.