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To the Honble the Council and House of Representatives  
in General assembly convened.

Gentlemen

In your last sitting at Exeter you were pleased to resolve that you would fall upon some measure for the settlement of my deprecation, and likewise to comply with the resolves of Congress in my favour, passed in September last and as I understood appointed a committee for the purpose; but as it was very late in the week when the resolve was passed, and consequently impossible for me to transact the business that week, and the Honble the committee of safety promised me that they would be in readiness to fall upon it the following week, and appointed that time for me to come or send and it should be amicably settled - I agreed to the proposal, but at the time appointed the weather proved very boisterous, and postponed sailing till the week following the first appointment, and then sent an agent with full power on my part to settle: - but lo! the act<sup>s</sup> against me were at Portmouth, and nothing could be done without them, and my agent returned but not till Mr Gilman one of the board of war had promised to send for the act<sup>s</sup> immediately - he wrote as he said to Colonel Wentworth another member of the board of war for the act<sup>s</sup>, but as my ill stars would have it, the store was gone up where they were deposited, and

and Colonel Wintworth returned that as an answer,  
and reason why they could not be sent. A third journey  
was made, and a third disappointment was the result.

I am now Gentlemen again compelled to have  
recourse to you, for that settlement which seems to be de-  
nied me from every other quarter. I expected to be sure  
that what you had done was sufficient, but as it appe-  
ars not to be, I must either conclude that your public  
Officers are highly deficient in their duty, or that yo-  
ur directions to them (by some inadvertency) was not so  
pointed as the business requires. - If it is the fault of  
your public Officers, that I have been thus insulted,  
and made to dance attendance, I conceive that I have  
great reason of complaint, but if otherwise I shall  
be satisfied.

Confident of your good intentions, and that you  
will do me justice, I shall not take up your time in  
complaints, and have no further to ask, but that  
you will order me acct. speedily settled, and the resolves  
before mentioned speedily complied with.

And am your faithful Servant

Wm. Starbuck

22<sup>d</sup> March 1782

P.S. I should have attended you myself, but  
my health forbids. -

J. S.