

Camp Valley Forge April 15th 1778 6

Sir I received your letter by Col^o Gilley which gives me great pleasure to find you so forward in filling up your Regiments I hope they will be immediately be equipt and sent forward to Camp as our Army is much reduced by Desertions, Deaths and Sickness, since last December. Notwithstanding the pompous Accounts we had last Month from The Southern States of their Determinations to reinforce Gen. Washington with Ten or fifteen Thousand men by the last of March, we have recd Two Hundred, and many of their Regiments dont consist of more than fifty men at this Day, so that I am sure that our success under the Smiles of Heaven, depends on the Exertions of the New Englanders In your request of me to take charge of the Articles sent by the Committee of War and dispose of them to the men Agreeable to the instructions which will be sent, I should be happy in serving you when in my power, when you have only a single Load of ready made goods, as was the case last Winter, and them wanted for immediate Service, I can take the charge of them: but as it is probable your State must wholly supply your men in future you must always expect to have some goods on hand, in that case I would recommend that you appoint some suitable person to keep with and take care of your Stores as it wont be in my power to take charge of them, neither do I know of any Person here suitable for

Letter from Gen. Brencham
April 15, 1778.

for the trust — As there is a number of Officers at
home some of whom have wrote for liberty to resign His
Excellency refuses granting any Discharges to Absent
Officers as the Publick may suffer by their Accounts not
being settled previous to their leaving the Service —

I beg your order all the Officers belonging
to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Rhamptⁿ Regim^{ts} to repair to Head
Quarters immediately unless you should find it necessary
to detain some to bring forward your recruits, and should
any one be so lost to a sense of his Duty as to contemn
that Authority which he is paid to support, by refusing
to join his Regiment when order'd I must intreat of you
to send them Prisoners to Head Quarters where they
will be dealt with as Deserters — Your Soldiers are
in great want of Shirts, linnen Overall's Stockings
Breeches and some Waistcoats. I have not time or I
would give you a more particular acct. of the whole —
our men are chiefly got through the Small Pox, and lost
but few.

I am

Sir

with great Esteem
Your most Obed^t Serv^t

Enoch Poor

To

Col. Weare