

Providence January 22<sup>d</sup> 1778.

Sir,

We are favoured with yours of the 27<sup>th</sup> ult<sup>o</sup>. since which Lord Howe hath arrived at Newport with several Ships of War and Transports, making their Force in the Harbour and River 9 Ships of the Line, 20 Frigates and 180 Transports. - The Land Armament on the Island consists of the same Troops as when we wrote you last. At the Meeting of Committees from the New-England States at Springfield it was agreed that 4050 Men should be kept up in this State to oppose the Enemy on Rhode Island of which Massachusetts was to furnish 1500. Connecticut 750. N. Hampshire 300. and this State the Remainder; which was then judged to be the lowest Force that could any Way be deemed sufficient for that Purpose. And without Doubt a larger Force would have been provided had not the dangerous State of our Affairs to the Northward made so pressing a Demand for Troops in that Department. - Notwithstanding the Capture of Burgoyne's Army the abovementioned Stipulations, and the perilous Situation of this State, Connecticut and New-Hampshire have ordered only two Thirds of their Quota, and the Massachusetts although they have ordered the whole Number yet are greatly deficient in the Number that have been sent forward.

Humble Mestech Weare Esqr;

We

Letter from Mr. Weare Esqr.

We cannot avoid complaining and remonstrating that this State which hath ever been foremost in its Exertions for the common Defence should in this Manner be neglected and left to contend with the Enemy almost singly, as hath been the Case at several Times with us. - It is unequal, unfriendly and hath a Tendency to interrupt that Harmony and Union so necessary to the common Cause. - And we do most earnestly press you to reconsider your Vote ordering Two Hundred Men to this State, and to order the whole Quota and to take the most vigorous Measures to send them forward with all possible Expedition.

I am with great Esteem and Respect

Yours Most Obedt. hble. Servt.

Hick's Cooke,