

(Circular)

War Office Feb. 10. 1778. (79)

4-117

Sir,

By the enclosed copy of Articles of Agreement entered into between the Board of War & Messrs. Touquet the Father & Son, your Excellency will observe they are obliged by their Contract to superintend the erecting of powder mills and of improving such as are already erected, by constructing a machine for preventing their blowing up.

Messrs. Touquet came over with general DuBouclay and highly recommended as an ingenious man, well acquainted with the art of powder making in all its branches, and he is obliged by his Contract to propagate the knowledge of his profession, by teaching such persons as may be pointed out to him  
for

for that purpose. He has received directions  
to wait upon your Excellency with his son,  
as soon as he has done what may be required  
of him by the Governor of the State of  
Massachusetts Bay, and your Orders  
with regard to the manner in which he  
is to proceed, he has received directions  
punctually to obey. He is not to leave the  
State of New Hampshire until he shall  
have done every thing that may be  
required of him in the line of his  
department, but as it is the wish of the  
Board, and indeed the motive for which  
he was engaged, that the knowledge  
of his profession may be fully known  
throughout the different States, I am  
to request your Excellency will be  
pleased

pleased to give such Directions, that every thing may be in a proper train for him to work upon, as the time for which he is engaged is but short considering the extensiveness of the undertaking).

The Board are of opinion that you will see the propriety of putting two or three intelligent persons and withal good artists, to be instructed by Mons<sup>r</sup> Touquet in the knowledge of his profession.

I have the honor to be  
Your Excellency's most ob<sup>d</sup> hum  
Servant. Horatio Gates  
President

Mons<sup>r</sup> Touquet by agreement is to receive the pay and Rations of a Captain, and when travelling the Board agree all his reasonable expences should be paid, moderate <sup>Requests</sup> demands for that purpose accounting for what he has before received your Excellency is requested to comply with

Letter from Genl Gates  
respectt<sup>ly</sup> M<sup>rs</sup> Stoughton  
add<sup>d</sup> John & Gundacker  
10<sup>th</sup> Nov 1770