

(Circular)

Office of Finance 29th July 1782

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Sir

Finding that several States are still in the Habit of making partial Payments to their Troops, as well as of expending monies for the purchase of Cloathing. It becomes my duty to inform you, that the requisitions for the Service of the Current Year included both the Pay and Cloathing of the Continental Army.

Any payments which the several States may think proper to make, or any expenditures for Cloathing or the like cannot be admitted in Deduction from the Quota Assigned them. It becomes necessary for many reasons which I will not trouble your Excellency with the Enumeration of, that ^{nothing} be received from the States but money; this alone can prevent those intricate accounts which hitherto have involved every thing in a Labarinth of Confusion.

Had the States complied with the requisitions made on them for the Current Service, in any Degree proportionate either to

and to our Efforts. Congress had forseen the danger and

the Magnitude or Urgency of the Occasion, We should ever this
have had the Pleasure of knowing, that our Army enjoyed all
the Emoluments they have a right to ask for — I take
the Liberty to add that it would be proper to cause accounts to be
transmitted to the Pay Master General, as speedily as possible of
what has been advanced for Pay, that he may at least prevent a
Double Credit for the same Sums — With respect to the Pay
which may have become due anteriorly to the first day of January
1782: it will become a Part of that Debt from the United States,
for the funding of which Revenues will be required from the
Several States, so soon as Congress shall have digested their Resolu-
tion on that Subject. I have on many Occasions delivered the
Sentiments contained above, to several of the States, as Circumstances
called or Occasion required, but it appears necessary to make the
formal Communication to all, and therefore I must Pray your
Excellency to excuse any Repetitions which may have happened

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Before I close this letter I must observe Sir, that of four
millions payable according to the Requisitions of Congress
by the first Instant, I did not receive forty thousand Dollars. Judge
then of the anticipations which were necessary to bring us where we
are. Judge of the Situation in which we are placed, and be not
surprized at any Consequences which may follow from that
universal neglect, which is alike unaccountable and inexcusable.

I have the Honor to be

with very great Respect

Sir -

Your Excellency's

Most Obedient

&
humble servant

Robt Morris

His Excellency

The Governor of New Hampshire -

d to our Efforts. Congress had forseen no danger and

18 of 1702 relative to
partial payment of Joseph
as well as expenditure of
cloathing —
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(Circular).

Office of Finance, 30th July 1782.

32

Sir.

I do myself the Honor to enclose the Extract of
a Letter received from a Confidential Correspondant in one of the United
States. The Evil there mentioned is of so dangerous a nature, that
should it prevail in any Degree the Consequences may be fatal. I know
that the selfish Spirit there complained of, is but too prevalent, and
it is very long since I bore my Testimony against it, from a just
Apprehension that the safety of our Country might be thereby endangered.
If it is of Consequence that a war which has cost already so much Blood
and Treasure be safely and honorably concluded, it must be vigorous-
ly prosecuted. If it is to be vigorously prosecuted, the means must
be granted. If the means are to be granted, The several States
must contribute speedily and effectually. If one has a Right to
prefer local to general Interests, others have the same Right. If
one exercise that Privilege, so may all. And if all do, there is an
end to our Efforts. Congress had foreseen the Danger and

called on the States to provide for Collecting the Continental, Separate
from the State Taxes. Since this has not been done, perhaps the
Reasons for the refusal may account for the Facts stated in the
Extract. I must pray of your Excellency to provide such Remedy
to any thing of this Sort which may exist in your State, as shall
be within your Power, and that you will urge the Legislature
to make that Solid Provision, which can alone prevent it in
future —

I have the Honor to be

Sir —

Your Excellency's

most Obedient

&

humble Servant

Robt Morris

His Excellency

The President

of New Hampshire