

In Committee of Congress
Morris Town 2^d June 1780

Sir

In a letter of the 31st Ult^o from the Commander in Chief, which we had the honor to receive on the same day, his Excellency observes, "That in the expected cooperation with the force of our ally, against that of the common Enemy, it is of great moment that we should proceed with circumspection, and on the surest ground. Before we can determine what ought to be undertaken, we should be able to appreciate the means we shall have it in our power to employ, on some precise scale. To begin an enterprise against any point in possession of the Enemy, on a general presumption of sufficient resources in the Country, and proportionable exertions in the respective Governments to bring them forth, would hardly be justified by success - could never be defended in case of misfortune, to say nothing of the fatal consequences that might ensue. It appears to me necessary to ascertain the number of men, and the quantity of supplies which the States are capable of furnishing in a given time, and to obtain assurances from them, founded on experience of their continuing supplies in the same proportion. I esteem the plan adopted by the Committee in their circular letter, an extremely good preparatory one; but I think it of indispensable importance, in the next place, to come to something fixed and determinate. I therefore take the liberty to submit to the Committee the necessity and propriety of calling immediately upon the States for specific aids of men, provisions, forage, and the means of transportation."

His Excellency next states the Enemy's number, and position - mentions the points against which the combined arms will probably be directed, and furnishes us with an estimate of the force which America ought to draw into the field. with others, exhibiting a state of the provisions, horses, carriages, and a variety of other articles

articles indispensably necessary to give vigor and a probable prospect of success to our operations. — Duty and inclination equally impelled us to a conference with the General and to the most serious consideration of the subject. The result was a determination, specifically to apportion to, and request from the States referred to in the Resolutions of Congress of the 19th Ult^o, to furnish the requisite supplies by the first ^{day} of July. In estimating these, we have paid all possible regard to the probable resources of each, and to their relative position to those scenes of operation, which are at present in contemplation. We shall accordingly annex the kind and quantum of supplies which are monthly expected from your State, and we have to intreat that you will fully comply with the requisitions we have the honor to make, and that they will be kept up, in the same proportion until the last of November, if necessity should induce us to continue the application to that period, even although any of the articles now called for, should exceed the quota assigned you by the Act of Congress of the 25th February last: and you will please, Sir, to signify to us, without delay, the determination of your State on this important subject.

Here it becomes our duty to advise you, as upon examination you will perceive, that we have stated your quota per month, in some articles, beyond what it would have been, could we have strictly adhered to the proportion on which the allotments made by the Act of the 25th February last, were adjusted, but this was found impracticable, because of the exhausted condition of some of the States in which the Army and its principal detachments have wintered. But as these in the course of the campaign, will be enabled to afford more than they can at present, your quota as now stated, will of course diminish. The requisition, Sir, is large but it is barely competent. It is the least adequate to the intended operations, as it is calculated on the most limited expenditures, without the smallest allowance for accidental losses, or extra consumption.

Having given the States, a fixed point to regulate themselves by, their measures will be equal to it, and their exertions competent to the magnitude of the object. In matters of such high import it appeared to the General and to us, essential that there should be a proper understanding

Bear for circular

understanding on all hands. - That the States should know the wants of the army and what is expected for it. That the General and the Committee should be clearly and explicitly advised of their abilities, both individually and collectively, and to have determined with precision, what may be expected. We do not fear to discourage by the largeness of the demand, as we conceive it impossible they should not bear with the wants of their army, and because knowing them we are persuaded their wisdom and patriotism will impel them to every exertion fully to afford the supplies. #

The supplies apportioned to your State are as follows 166,835 pounds of Beef per month and 25 Hhd of Rum per month to be transported to and delivered where the Commissary General shall direct also 150 horses to be attached to the army and to be delivered where the Quarter Master General shall direct and on or before the first day of July next - The first monthly quota of supplies to be delivered by the first day of July next and the subsequent ones monthly within the months succeeding as the Quarter Master or Commissary General may direct. - The horses are ^{an} additional article to those stated in the act of Congress of the 25th February last, but the requisition on your State as on others, for extra supplies cannot be dispensed with, and the amount thereof, together with the transportation of any, must be charged in account with the United States. - We believe it would be advantageous to the States in general, that the horses should be procured by hire in preference to purchases as the drivers who will then accompany them will be more careful of the cattle. Should your State adapt that mode, we recommend that the contracts be made payable in specie, or in paper money equivalent, and that their value should be appraised on oath, and a return of the appraisement be made to the Quarter Master General. As the object, against which the military operations will be directed cannot be positively ascertained we have it not in our power to call on you for a determinate quantum of transportation, but believe it will be considerable.

The

The continental Troops already engaged and with the army, together with the addition requested by the General's letter of the 25th Ult^o, to compleat the Battalions to five hundred and four Rank and file, will still in his opinion, and in our ^{own} be inadequate to insure success in the intended operations. - In our circular letter of the 25th Ult^o we intreated your Legislature to adopt measures for drawing forth your militia on the shortest notice; we have now to request that such arrangements may be made, as that your quota of militia, which, with the concurrence of the Commander in Chief was stated at 945 Rank & file - I shall rendezvous at the army, or at such posts and places as the General I shall direct, by the ^{fifteenth} ~~first~~ day of July next at farthest, and to continue in service for the term of three months, computing from the day of their arrival at such rendezvous as aforesaid.

Such of the supplies herein required as make part of the quota assigned to your state by the act of Congress of the 25th February last, and which it is requested you will transport to ~~the~~ ^{where} ~~it is requested you~~ ^{the Quarter Master General} ~~will transport to~~, and deliver ^{where} the Quarter Master General ~~or~~ ^{General} shall direct, will be received for by the continental Officers appointed ^{that} for the purpose before either they, or your agents, convey, or transport the same beyond the limits of your State. If however such continental Officer should ~~be~~ not be present, you will give directions that the Weight, or quantity, of the articles may be estimated and an account of ~~the same~~ transmitted with each parcel. We have to observe that in the beef requested, hides and tallow are not included, allowance ^{therefore} must be made for these when cattle are sent to the Army - If ~~drives~~ are sent with the draft horses and cattle requested of your state, we wish to have ~~one~~ for every four horses or Oxen.

We have the honor to be with great respect and esteem

Sir Your most Obedient
Humble Servants

Jth Sedgwick
Jth Mathew
Nath^l Crosby

His Honor The President
of the State of New
Hampshire

Circular from General to Capt. M. & the members of
militia requested from each State

1780. June 2

P.S

We do most earnestly intreat, that the acquisition now
 made on your State, for the quota of Militia, may not be suffered
 on any consideration whatsoever, to retard the completion of the
 Continental Battalions, as recommended in our second cir-
 cular letter of the 25th Ult.; the necessity of that measure becom-
 -ing daily more striking and important. —

1780. June 2

82
C. J. ...
...

...

Letter from Com^{tee} of Congress

Letter from Com^{rs}
of Congress June 2 1780

1780, June 2

- On Public Service -

The Double.

Wesbeck Yeare Esquire

President of the States of

Q New Hampshire

Letter from Committee of Con-
gress, requesting official aid
of men, for age, provisions and
the means of transportation, for
the Conf. Army.
June 2, 1780.