

Passy, December 14<sup>th</sup> 1782.

293

Sir,

I received duly your several Letters of Sept<sup>r</sup> 25<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>,  
28<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. October 1<sup>st</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> all by Capt. Barney, and Oct. 27<sup>th</sup> since.  
I immediately made the Application so strongly pressed by the Congress for  
a Loan of four Millions of Dollars. I annex'd to my memoir the Resolves of Con-  
-gress, with Copies and Extracts of your several Letters and those of Mr Livingston  
upon the Subject, all of which appear'd to me extremely well written for  
enforcing the Request. I was at first told that it would be a difficult thing  
to furnish such a Sum at present, but it should be considered. It was much  
wondered that no Letters were brought by the Washington for M. le Comte de Ver-  
-gennes, as several were come to the Secretary of War, M. de Segur, and to the  
Marquis de Castries Secretary of the Marine; and the next time I waited on  
the Minister, I was told that nothing could be done till the Dispatches  
from M. de la Luzerne were received. I enquired of Capt. Barney who told me he  
believed M. de Forest had them, who left him to go for Paris by way of Nantes.  
M. de Forest was a week or ten Days before he arriv'd at Paris; and he had not

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the Dispatches. after a Fortnight had thus pass'd I sent Capt. Barney down  
to search for them in his Ship; he there found them, and in about eight Days  
more they arriv'd and were deliver'd. I have since continually press'd for a favor-  
able answer; The Marquis de la Fayette has likewise been importunate;  
but we could only learn that there was yet no Decision. The Negotiations for  
Peace were going on, and I ascribed the Delay partly to the Uncertainty of the  
Event, which might make a less Sum sufficient if it succeeded, or a greater ne-  
cessary if the war was still to be continued. I believe too, that the new Loan medi-  
tated for this Government, but not ascertain'd, might occasion some Suspension.  
But whatever are the Causes, the Fact is, that, tho' I understand we are to be aid'd,  
I am still ignorant what the Quantum will be, or when it can be obtain'd. I  
have detain'd Capt. Barney, hoping he might carry a part of it, but seeing  
that so very uncertain, the Commissioners for the Treaty here, urge me to send  
him away with the Preliminary Articles, and take some other opportunity of  
sending Money when we get it. Perhaps we can make use of the Alliance, who  
is out upon a Cruise.

Of the amount of Mr Adams's Loan in Holland I have no certain ac-

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212  
count. He thinks it may be between 15 and 1700,000 florins. Mr. Grand has obtained a Part of it to pay the Interest of the Dutch Loan, which is done, But he will acquaint you better with the State of his Funds than I can do. He tells me he will restate his accounts as you desire.

The Shipping of the Stores from Brust is wholly in the Hands of Mr. Barclay. He will likewise take care of those which are unloaded out of the three Transports at Rochefort, that were to have gone with Convooy in May last, and have ever since been detained there unaccountably, which I did not know till lately.

The four Jamaica Ships brought in by the Alliance will furnish him with Money for paying Charges. —

The Accounts of Goods bought to replace the Fayette's Cargo, having been sent you by several opportunities, I hope you have them before this time. —

I am extremely glad to be freed from your Money accounts, and the Payment of Bills. and I hope this will be last application I shall be charg'd with to borrow. In a former Letter I requested you to be my attorney, to receive and remit my salary, which I now repeat. The Friends of the Duc de Lauzun, who is an officer in the French Army having occasion to send him some Money, requested me to furnish Bills. To oblige them

them I gave a Draft on you for Six thousand Livres, which I request you would honor  
and deduct the same out of my salary. We think M<sup>r</sup>. Grand should have some  
general Order to defray the contingent Expences of your Ministers. I am concerned  
that the Resolution of appointing a Person to settle all our accounts in Europe  
has not yet been carried into Execution. They certainly cannot so well be settled in  
America; and I shall think it hard, after I am out of Place, to be detained here on  
that account for years like poor unhappy Deane, who by the way is I think  
that Respect hardly dealt with. Settlement of accounts and Payment of just  
Balances, is due even between Enemies.

I know not where the Virginia stores lie. I will enquire, and acquaint  
M<sup>r</sup>. Barclay with your Resolution concerning them, which I think very  
prudent.


Penet, who was employ'd by that State as an Agent to borrow money  
here, is broke and absconded. His Creditors are all worrying me with  
their complaints, who have nothing to do with his affairs. I have long  
since mentioned the Inconvenience of the Attempts of separate States  
to borrow Money in Europe. They have hurt our Credit, and produc'd  
nothing.

nothing. We have put Faith in every adventurer who pretended to have Influence here, and who when he arriv'd had none but what our appointment gave him.

I congratulate on the Tokens of approaching Peace. I wish nothing may happen to prevent it. With sincere and great Esteem, I am,

Sir,

Your most obedient & most  
humble Servant

(Signed) B. Franklin  


Hon<sup>ble</sup> Rob<sup>t</sup> Morris, Esq<sup>r</sup>

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