

Camp Reading Feby 13th 1779 69 36

Sir

On my Journey from New Hampshire to Camp I had not only to Encounter with Bad Weather & Roads, but likewise with a Bad Horse — I Judg'd it expedient to take the Post of Middletown in order to obtain a Discharge of the Debt Due from the State of Connecticut to that of New Hampshire — to my great Surprise as well as Mortification when I sail'd for my home on the Morning 31st ~~Will~~

I found him totally Disabled to proceed the Remainder Part of the Journey — As I do not profess myself to be any ways acquainted with Horse Flesh I consequently sail'd in to my Certainty a great of known Knowledge & Integrity — I can't I flatter myself the Inclosed Copy of a Paper will Set this Affair in its true Light

On my arrival at the Store I Found the Board, Estim'd Favour of 12th Dec. 78 and 1st Jan'y 79 had been duly Received — you permit me to observe that as a Subject and Servant of the State of New Hampshire — I am not without my Feelings for its Interest and Prosperity — and when the Situation of Matters will admit to bring off the ground — and an Opportunity Presents for the Sale of any such on hand. I shall not be inattentive but shall Dispose of them to the Best Advantage — what the State in due Course shall have Credit for the W^{ch} Sold.

I Particularly observe what you say with respect to the Probs of Deficiency. I cannot conceive it to be a Deviation from that Line of Delicacy which ought to be Observ'd by every Person that sustains any Office under the Publick — To Point out to you the Part I have acted from the First to the Present Moment in this Affair — In mine of the 7th Sept 78 you'll then find my Ideas fully Pointed out with the Plain & Reasoning Language in Camp — As soon as I Received the Board's Favour of the 1st October I hast'ned to come in order to make the necessary Provisiō in consequence thereof — But at the same time I gave it in my Opinion that a complete Settlement of their Regimental Accounting w^{ch} with the Continent — would be an Essential Pre. Requisite — Being sensible of its Importance I have not lost Sight of the Object from that time to this, But then to your Desire that the Soldiers might receive some immediate Benefit. I was Induc'd to save out w^{ch} Art. 2: 3: of the Ledger with you when at home — I entertain'd the most sanguine Hopes that these Accounts would have been settled during my Absence. But I feel myself constrain'd to Inform you they remain in the same unsettled Situation as when I left

Camp — The several Letters of the Board to the Command^g Officers of Regiments has been Deliver'd as usual — I shall enforce its propriety to every Extent — Since I have Return'd to Camp have bin under the disagreeable Necessity of serving out some Articles on the Precarious Footing — A Supposition of its Being Due from the Publick

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As it appears to me to be very uncertain when these letters will be settled it will
 at least be highly necessary I should be instructed how to best — The Bearer
 Mr Samuel Emerson having some private concerns to adjust, and as it would
 not at this period Interfere with the Publick good — he has my Permission to
 visit home for a short Space — he will deliver you 758 Dollars of the
 Emassons which is to be taken from the circulation after the 1st June — it was
 taken during my absence but in future I shall not be disposed to take any more than
 it should be counterpoised — Mr Emerson will be able to give you any kind of Information
 you may be Desirous to know with respect to the same — and therefore shall refer you
 to him for Particulars — I have repeatedly been in Camp since my Return and it
 appears at present to be in a State of perfect Tranquillity — It remains no secret in
 Camp that the Officers of the New Hampshire Line have presented a Petition to the Genl Assen
 sly of the State setting forth the Difficulty they and the Soldiering Labour under the
 want of the depreciated Value of Curr Paper Currency — On the most Disinterested
 Principle I sincerely wish that something Effectual might be done — Because I am well
 assured in my mind unless something is done at least many Brave and good Men
 will be compelled to quit the Service in order to seek a Subsistence for their Families

I am with esteem

Yr most Obedt Servt
Joseph Leitch

1779
Leitch Joseph

Letter from Joseph Leitch
Feb. 13. 1779.