

Original distributed among the Army in general to prevent Jealousies. We are extremely sorry to trouble you with Matters which ought to be attended to by the proper Officers. But the Necessity of the Case must be our Excuse & your Weight is requisite to oblige the Officers to do their Duty as Matters are circumstanced. As to Provisions our uneasiness is by no Means quieted on that Score. The supplies from the Southward are slow & in Quantity purchased by no Means equal to our Expectations. Congress being informed that the salted Provisions in Maryland & Virginia were spoiling from Want of Care directed the Board to appoint a proper Person to go to the Southward to examine into the Matter & repack such as should want it, have it coopered & fitted for Transportation & forward the whole with all Expedition. Col Aylett writes us he intends to take Advantage of the Bay being cleared & Col Hollingsworth having sent to his Address a Number of Craft from Elk, the Board too having authorized Col Joseph Copperthwaite to execute the Resolution of Congress we hope any other Person's Assistance will be unnecessary. Yet as we do not know how long the Bay may be clear if your Excellency sees any Neglect in the Business the Board will ratify any thing you think proper to order on the Occasion. The Head of Elk is not perfectly safe while the Enemy remain in Philadelphia therefore too many Articles should not be collected there at present. Charlestown is fixed on as a safer Place & it will be best that in future they should go there. One half of General Smalwood's Division is posted at the Brandywine at Chad's Ford to cover the Stores & Provisions & the other has joined the Main Army as you are no Doubt informed.

I have the Honour to be
with great Respect
Your very obed^t Serv^t
Richard Peters
By order

His Excellency }
Gov^r Johnson }

P. S. The Board have taken uncommon pains for several Months past to have the Cloathing Tents Arms & Stores on the Eastern Shore brought forward. M^r Lux wrote us he should get them transported to Baltimore but we fear Nothing is done. If there is we know Nothing about it altho we have taken every step to get Information.

C. B.

Tuesday 2^d June 1778.

Present as on Saturday J. Hindman & Tho Sim Lee Esq^f
Attended