

Original End. Upon our commissioners examining the powers of the Commissioners on the part of Gen^l Howe, they discovered he meant the treaty to be of a personal nature, founded on the mutual Confidence and Honor of the contracting Generals, and had no Intention of binding the nation, or of extending the Cartel beyond the limits and Duration of his own Command. They declared themselves ready to treat with us on this footing, with their present powers which they deemed adequate to the purposes of their meeting. Upon this point the treaty broke off. I lament the situation of our prisoners, and must approve of the Conduct of our Commissioners. A Cartel upon so narrow a foundation as the personal Honor of Gen^l Howe would be of little use to us and of short duration; liable at any time to be set aside by a subsequent Commander or by the British King without a breach of honor. This conduct will teach us a lesson respecting Gen^l Burgoyne and his Army.

I make no doubt you have heard of the insurrection in the Delaware State. By a Letter from a M^r Patterson we are informed that a considerable number of the disaffected have assembled at a place near the head of Chester River—They are exerting themselves to add to their number and those who will not join them, they deprive of their Arms and Ammunition It is said here they have British officers among them and expect to be reenforced from Philadelphia. This matter is viewed here as very desirous by some. M^r Carrol gives his Compliments to you and desires me to acquaint you that there is a considerable quantity of provision at Charles Town at the Head of our Bay which appears to be in a dangerous situation. There is also as I am informed by M^r S. Stewart quantities of provisions at Prince's Ann in Somerset, and other places in that neighbourhood, which it would be fortunate for us if we could remove them without Delay.

When I wrote to you, some weeks ago, I informed you, that I had procured ten thousand Dollars for the recruiting Service which I sent down by Col. S. Smith. I have never heard whether you have rec^d it. If you should write to any of the Delegates, by the next post, I should be obliged to you to acquaint us with the receipt of the money if it has reached your hands.

I am Sir with great respect
Y^{rs} J. Henry Jun^r

C. B.

Tuesday 21st April 1778.

Present as on Yesterday

Ordered That the western shore Treasurer pay to Col^o