

July 25 [Enclosure Joseph Reed President, In Council Philadelphia
Brown Book to Luzerne]
No. 7
Letter
No. 25

Sir In answer to Your Excellency's favour this day, I have the honnour to acquaint you that the enlisting any deserters in the Continental Army being expressly contrary to the direction of the Commander in chief, the Hessian Deserters are quite at liberty to enter into the service of his most Christian Majesty, if his Officers approve it; and that they will in that case receive every encouragement from us so to do.

November [D'Anmours, Baltimore, to Gov Lee]
19
Brown Book Sir the French Subjects settled in this Country have represented
No. 8 to me, since my return from Virginia, that the Commissaries for
Letter the taxes required them to Pay in their hands, those demanded by
No. 47 the Assembly of this State. they have Constantly refused to Comply till they had my Approbation for doing it. Some of them have declared to me that they were threaten'd with having their Goods & Properties seized if they did not Pay the 28th of this month.

Permit me Sir, to represent to your Excelency that in all the french west india dominions, the Americans settled there are Subjected to no Personal taxes, & that the law of retaliation intitles his most Christian majesty's Subjects to the same favour here. I am Conscious that those who have Bought, Either land or houses ought to pay in the same proportion with the inhabitants of the Country But as to their moveables, I think in Justice they ought to be exempted from any duty: Besides their number here is so very inconsiderable, that it Can not be of Great importance to the State whether they are taxed or not, it may be observed that that number will probably increase, & I sincerely wish it. But in that Case there will probably be some Agreement settled between his Majesty's ministers and those of America in europe which will fix imperturbably the Privileges & Line of Conduct of valuations. I am even almost Certain that this is already done. Monsieur de Sartinne has wrote to me upon that Subject informing me that I was promoted to Rank of Consul General for his most Christian Majesty in this State and the four Southern ones. & that he would soon send me with my diploma his General instructions Relating to that Agreement.

I also Beg that your Exelency will Exempt the Subjects of France from all militia duty upon the same Principle of retaliation, the Americans were never Disturbed on that account either in france or in the west india, as the Commissaries for the taxes are to act with Rigour on the 28th of this month, I have directed the Gentleman Bearer hereof to wait for your Exelency's answer.

I have the honour to be with Respect Sir Your Exelency's most humble & most obedient Servant

LeChevalier D'Aumours Consul G^l of his M. C. majesty