

Boston Jan^{ry} 13th 1777.

Sir

Your Favor of the 18th Dec^r last came to hand Yesterday which eased us in some Degree of the Anxiety we were in from an Ignorance of your Situation & at the same Time gave us great Concern to find you had been so fully supported by Letter to Gen^l the States in your Vicinity at a Period when every Effort might have been expected, but We hope an Opportunity for Recollection will awaken a Sense of Injury that will move them to Exertions correspondent to the Importance of the Contest. Having learned, that the Addition we had made to the monthly pay of the Men who should enlist in the Battalions raising by this State had been disapproved by Congress and by your Excellency, we immediately put a Stop to all such Indestments, and in lieu of the monthly pay, gave an additional Bounty payable out of the Treasury of this State, and not intended to be a Continental Charge - thinking this a necessary Step to raise our Men, and directed all such as had enlisted upon our first Encouragement, who should refuse to re-enlist upon the last Terms, to be discharged the Service, upon their restoring the Bountys money or other Things, they might have received in consequence of their Indestment. But being informed by our Committee from the Northern Army that they with the Consent of General Gates had, before our Battalions marched from Ticonderoga enlisted between four & five hundred Men upon the first mentioned Terms and that probably

Letter to Gen^l
Washington

(and that probably more had since enlisted on the same Terms)
 a considerable Proportion of which men they had reason to think
 would decline to enlist on any other Terms, by which Terms
 means the little Army then under your Excellency's immediate
 Command might be considerably weakened at a Time, which
 requires every possible Addition to its Strength, we thought
 it absolutely necessary to take away that Election, and retain
 such of them in the Service upon the Terms of their In-
 -tment, as should decline accepting of the other untill
 they should be duly discharged. - We trust this Measure
 instead of being disagreeable to the Congress or yourself will
 meet with the warmest Approbation, seeing unhappily we
 have before us but the Choice of Evils. As We thought it
 would be difficult if not impossible for Gen' Lincoln to obtain
 your Orders in time for the Disposition of the Militia under
 his Command we directed him to act in Concert with Gen'
 Heath in such Manner as the Situation of Affairs might
 require, Subject to such Orders as he might receive from
 the Commander in chief & We are happy to find our Directi-
 -ons to him coincide with yours, Our Officers are recruiting
 in the Country, but as this appears too slow a Method
 raising the Army, We propose to assist the Men in the
 several Towns immediately. We heartily condole with
 you on the Loss of a brave Officer & a worthy Citizen in
 the Captivity of Gen' Lee & we feel the most tender Concern
 that your own Situation has been of late so embarrassed and
 so little attended to but We hope that long before this
 Time a Spirit of Patriotism, has roused the Friends
 of America

of America & prompted them to render you effectual Support.
 You may depend on every Thing in our Power for the
 general Safety & we should be happy to know as often
 as may be the Situation of the Army under your immediate
 Command

In the Name of the General Court
 Pres.

Council Chamber Boston Jan^y 13th 1777

Sir Your favor of the 10th December last is come to hand
 which

Council Chamber Jan^y 13th 1777

Letter to Genl
 of Congress

Sir The Council have received your Letter of the 20th
 Ultimo & that directed to the General Assembly has been
 also communicated and considered. We informed you on the
 16 Dec^r last that the Council had ordered one Quarter part
 of the Militia of y^e County of Berkshire, & one half the
 Quarter Part of the Militia of the County of Hampshire
 that had been draughted for y^e Reinforcement of the Continen-
 -tal Army, to march forth with to reinforce the Lines
 at Ticonderogo, and so sensible were the Assembly
 of the Importance of defending & securing that Post that
 they had also recommended it to General Ward to issue
 out his Orders to Three of the Continental Battalions now rais-
 -ing in this State and into which the greatest Number of
 Men had been enlisted directing them to march as fast as
 the Men enlisted to Ticonderogo, and since the Reception
 of your