

the Fidelity of such Recruits has been Complained of to me by those who have Apprehended, that they were Continental Soldiers and under my Command; I do not conceive that I have any Command of them until their Officers are Arraigned in some of the Continental Battalions. But submit it to your Honors, whether it is not expedient that some place of Rendezvous be Appointed for them, as their strolling about from place to place not only gives uneasiness to the Publick but also exhibits a dangerous Example, which will be too readily imitated by others. — I am informed that some of the Troops which Marched from this State to Ticonderoga without Arms expecting to find them there agreeable to the Intimation which was given by the Commanding Officer there, (some time since) have been disappointed and are now destitute of Arms, I have Ordered three Hundred to be sent on, from Springfield to that place — I am  
Gentlemen, Your Most Obediant Humble Servant.

W. Heath

Honorable Council of Massachus<sup>ts</sup> Bay, —

Letter from Gen<sup>l</sup> Lee to  
the Presid<sup>t</sup> of the State  
Relative to the Treatment  
he Received from the Enemy

Sir,

New York May 7<sup>th</sup> 1777

It is with the greatest Concern (altho' it is some what flattering to me) that I learn a Misrepresentation of the Treatment I receive, has been the Occasion of Colonel Campbell and some other Gentlemen Prisoners with you, being closely Confined and in other respects harshly dealt with. — Sir William Howe as a Servant of the Publick thinks it incumbent upon him to guard me securely — but I give you my word and honour that from the beginning, I have been treated with tenderness, generosity and respect — Gratitude, truth and humanity impose it upon me as a duty, to undeceive you on this head, and I am confident, the Instant you are undeceived, that Colonel Campbell and the rest of the Gentlemen, will have reason

to be convinced that what they have suffered, ought not to be attributed to an illiberal way of thinking or want of humanity in those who have the direction of affairs at Boston, but to the principle of self defence, which frequently in times of civil contest obliges us to assume a severity repugnant to our Natures, and I can venture to say that severity and harshness is not the Characteristic of New England - In short I flatter myself and am persuaded, that the moment you receive this Note, Colonel Campbell and the other Gentlemen, will be put in the Situation, which their Rank and Character entitle them to, - I beg you will believe and assure the other Gentlemen of the State, that I remain, Sir, your and their, most devoted humble servant

Charles Lee

To the President of the State  
or Convention of Massachusetts Bay

Head Quarters Boston May 8<sup>th</sup> 1777  
Gentlemen } I some Days since gave Orders for the Cannon & Military Stores, lately arrived at Portsmouth, to be removed this Way, in order to their being sent on, and Deposited in proper places of Safety; some of the Stores are this Morning arriving at Cambridge, which I have fixed as the first Stage, I have plenty of Store Room for all the Stores except the Powder, and must request the Stone Magazine at Charlestown, (which belongs to the State of Massachusetts) for a short Time, for the reception of that Article, and flatter myself that it will be readily granted.

Letter from General Heath to the Council Requesting the Stone Magazine at Charlestown for a short Time

I am with sentiments of Esteem -

Your Honors,

Obedient Servant  
W<sup>o</sup> Heath

Hon<sup>ble</sup> Council of the State  
of Massachusetts Bay