

September 5
Red Book
No. 5
Letter
No. 61

[J. Henry Jr. to His Excellency Thos Sim Lee Esquire]

Dear Sir Maj^r Giles has a warrant from the Board of war for a number of Articles, which I am in hopes will cloath his troops tolerably well for the present. He is still in this Town where I have advised him to stay untill he has secured his Clothing, which is in the Store at Camp. He will not be wanting at camp immediately, as I am afraid all hopes of offensive operations against N. York is entirely frustrated by the want of a superior naval force, the General has discharged the militia of this and other States, partly from the cause above, but principally for the want of provisions. The Army has been for some Days without meat and has only depended upon the gleanings of the neighbouring Country which is now entirely exhausted. Flour is from day to day scantily supplied, and after a small quantity is gone which the General has drawn from West point there is not another Barrel nearer than Trenton. It is in vain to veil our situation, the Army must disband, unless other states will do as Maryland has done; If Laws taking the surplus of provisions were passed in some States relief might be given. The Generals Letter upon the present state of the Army is a circular one, and I presume you have it before now. All the provisions, that have been procured ought to be forwarded as soon as possible. This subject I flatter myself will engage your Excellency's and the Council's Attention

The plates for the new Emissions meet with great delays. It was with some difficulty that we procured metal proper for them. The workmen who have undertaken it, has made little progress in the Business and is now very unwell, so that I can give no certain information when you may expect them.

The papers respecting Col. Hollinsworth will be sent forward by to Days post; your Letter and the Colonels on that subject I put into the Hands of a Gentlemen & the Treasury

September 6
Brown Book
No. 1
Letter No. 40

(G. W.'s
Circular
Letter of
May 25),
(Sparks
VII, p. 50,
Ford VIII,
p. 284),

Aug. 27
(Ford VIII,
p. 400) and

Act 27
(Ford VIII,
p. 502) are
found in
Brown Book

No. 1,
Letters 33,
37, and 38

The British Fleet has left Rhode Island and are on their return to N. York. It is said a number of empty transports are ready for some purpose, but what is not yet known.

M^r Hanson has been very unwell for a week past and of course the State unrepresented. It is now a very critical Time, and I wish not to be alone. I have wrote to Mess^{rs} Jenifer and beg you will do the same, urging the necessity of his attendance.

[George Washington to T. S. Lee]

Letter printed by Sparks VII p 186 with the following changes: "lately raised" altered to "enlisted to serve during," "of your State" add after "recruits" and "or of how extensive a nature it is" omitted after "late disaster." The letter was written upon receipt of news of Gates's defeat.