

MSA SC 6205-1-6

Henry H. Chapman to William Smallwood

30 January 1782

Summary: Chapman asks Smallwood for instructions about returning to the army after going on furlough due to illness.

Charles County Jany 30th '82

Dear Genl

The severe Indisposition of Health, I suffer'd about the Time of the Siege of York<sup>1</sup>, oblig'd me after the Capitulation, to apply to B. Genl Gist<sup>2</sup> for a Furlough to Return to this State for the Benefit thereof; Whien being granted was inform'd on my Recovery, to call upon you, & subject my-self to your further bidding and in Consequence of his Injunction as soon as I was rid of the Fatigue of riding (Home) incident to a Person in an extreme State of sickness, I took an Oppurtunity of going to your House; just before your Departure for Annapolis; but being disappointed in seeing you, spoke a few Days after to Major Stoddart,<sup>3</sup> who promiss'd to communcate my Business, and said he imagined had you any Thing for me to do I shou'd hear from You; but fearing that might not be all which was necessary, have once more attempted to inform You of my Situation by Letter, as my Coming to Annapolis has till now been prevented by a constant attending Complaint in my Breast, and am now prohibited by the exceeding Illness of my Mother, beging this may suffice. Your favouring me with an Answer will enfinately oblige.

Sir,

Your obedt and most

humble Sert

Henry H. Chapman<sup>4</sup> Ensign

4th Maryland Regt

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<sup>1</sup> The American siege of the British troops at Yorktown, Virginia, which ended with the British surrender on October 19, 1781.

<sup>2</sup> [Mordecai Gist](#) (1743-1792), a brigadier general in command of the Maryland troops.

<sup>3</sup> William Truman Stoddart (?-1793), of Charles County, was the adjutant, or chief administrative officer, of the Maryland Brigade.

<sup>4</sup> Henry H. Chapman (1764-1721) was commissioned as an ensign in the Fourth Maryland Regiment on September 4, 1781, and served until the army was disbanded at the end of 1783.