

MSA SC 6205-1-8

Donaldson Yeates to William Smallwood

17 March 1782

Summary: Yeates explains problems with receipts for supply purchases from John Bullen and others, making it difficult to produce accurate returns; [Mordecai Gist](#) expressed need for quartermaster in Annapolis; James Tootell recommended but did not accept.

Elk 17th March 1782

Sir

Your favor of the 1st Inst is Just recd, Mr. Bullen<sup>1</sup> has not had any appointment from me and I am confident receipts passed from him to this state, must be injudicious and tend to embarras and create disputes in the settlemnt of accts between states and state. every endeavor in my power so far as my knowledge in business extends has been used to point out to parties the disadvantages arising on indulging individuals to transact business inconsistent with the line laid down for a regular process, while persisted in it must tend to disorder and cover the supplies for our Army in such manner as to render it impossible for such officer whoes immediate duty it is to make Accurate returns, (most assential to the operations of an Army) and in its ultimate tendancy operates as as much against the Real Interest of a State as the United States. some time ago I was advised by Genl Gist<sup>2</sup> in which he informed me he had your concurrent opinion, that a temporary appointment of a Qr Master at Annapolis was absolutely necessary until you had marched the State troops, on this advice Mr. Tootle<sup>3</sup> being recommended I gave him the Appointment which was presented to the Hon. Council Board for such Aid as could be Afforded, no aid was gained and he returned me the commission.

If necessary He make return to you of every person employd by me in the State and shall be happy in rendering you any information servicable to Redress Errors in business, I am with much

Respect Sir

your very Hbl Servt

Don Yeates DQM<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Probably John Bullen, Quartermaster for the Maryland troops.

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

<sup>3</sup> Probably James Tootell.

<sup>4</sup> Deputy Quartermaster