

C. S. C.

[Morris and others to Hancock.]

Philadelphia Jan<sup>y</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> 1777  
10 o'clock

We have no certainty to this Hour, except the substance of current reports by various hands. Gen<sup>l</sup> Washington drew up his army and took post on the hills on this side Trenton Bridge. he caused large fires to be made and kept up. He had received certain intelligence that Gen<sup>l</sup> Howe, with a considerable reinforcement, was on his march from Prince Town to join the main body at Trenton, he decamped in the middle of that night, made a forced march, met M<sup>r</sup> Howe about Maidenhead, or Quaker Bridge, gave him battle, put him to the Rout, and took 500 to 700 prisoners, pushed forward, took possession of Prince Town at the point of Cannon, with a number of officers of the 40<sup>th</sup> regiment, and this morning we are told he was still preparing and determined to push on to Brunswick, where are all the Enemy's valuable stores &c. That part of the Enemy's army that possessed the part of Trenton on the other side of the Bridge never discovered Gen<sup>l</sup> W's march until they heard the engagement. They then took possession of all the Heights, and remained under arms until about 11 o'clock, when they marched off by the Prince Town Road, in order, as is supposed to get on the other side of our army, and join there Gen<sup>l</sup> Howe. Gen<sup>l</sup> Putnam marched from hence yesterday with about 600 men, 500 follow to day and more are coming in every hour. We hear various reports of Gen<sup>l</sup> Heath being again on this Side the North River, and of the New England Militia coming down ag<sup>t</sup> N. York.

Rob. Morris  
Geel Gune  
Geo. WaltonTo M<sup>r</sup> Hancock

[Lowndes to Jenifer.]

Sir.

Bladensburg Jan 8<sup>th</sup> 1777

I am favoured with yours of the 8<sup>th</sup> Instant, and agreeable to what you recommend, I shall pursue such steps as I think most promising in order to secure the quantity of hemp that will be sufficient for your cordage you want from me, my thanks are due for your offer of assistance in case I should want it, but I flatter myself I have materials that will purchase the quantity mentioned in your first letter, and further then that I desire not to go. Speculation when goods run so high I wish not to meddle with, though should you think it necessary to have a greater quantity than ten tons from me, then indeed I have doubts of my ability to deposite ready money, and nothing but ready cash will go down with those folks.