

Original being maltreated. This being such an unaccountable Step, and so general a Charge that it even involvd the Doctor as to whose Province this matter chiefly belongd, which obligd me to Speak to Major Smith about it and make Inquiry if he had any Complaints against the attending Surgeon, and finding he had none but accus'd only the Quarter Master with respect to Straw and broken Windows, I thought it necessary to remind him that the broken Windows were not a fault because it was Sum̄er and could be mended, and that the Barracks at the fort, had no Window at all, besides that he himself was by me lookd upon a Delinquent concerning the Straw & which he probably had forgot. The Major however mended this Inconsistency, with another when he replied, that he did not think the Com̄ander was obligd to furnish Straw to a hospital, and I suppose he was at that Time so full of his Command that he did not reflect, that he might sell Straw to the Quarter Master for the use of the hospital, without derogation to his Comandership, which made this Excuse appear as an unbecoming Subterfuge.

Nevertheless as I am not prone to Cavilling and the Patients rather in a mending way; I went down to the Fort to inspect the place, the Major had allotted for an hospital, and thought proper to give him my opinion with Candour in writing, The Copy of which I have herein inclos'd, for Your Excellencys Perusal and Opinion, as likewise the Majors answer to me, in which his warmth of Temper and ungenerous Expression and Ignorance of such matters are so conspicuous, that it cannot escape your Excellency's Penetration.

I cannot help taking Notice however of an Expression, in his Letter, and which I have Reason to presume he has in a manner made to Your Excellency, viz, the hospital being like a Horse Stable, & I must own, that I must do violence to myself to withhold the Indignation a man must necessarily feel, to be thus reflected against, merely to make good their faults which have been by the reflector com̄itted, and I must assure Your Excellency that the Hospital was kept neet and clean, washd every other Day, as which only and alone constitutes a healthy hospital, Straw is only a Convenience, & the Ignorance of the Major appears as he himself mentions the appearance of a horse stable on Acc<sup>t</sup> of Windows, and want of Straw, & which latter was in a great measure his fault.

Upon the whole as I presume, that the Doctor is the principal man in Hospital Affairs & its Direction, and that the Quarter Master, is his Assistant, to procure those things which the Doctor orders, I do not know what Bussiness the Com̄ander has with him at any Rate, except when faults are com̄itted, and then he is to assist, to have those faults remedied in a