

Brown Book
No. 5

We have in our former letters dwelt so forcibly on the several matters contained in the General's letter, that it is now become almost unnecessary for us to say any thing more on them. But when we consider the season for operation wears fast away, the small force we have now in the field, being still fed in a scanty and uncertain manner, the hourly expectation of the fleet and Army of our ally, on our coast, and that the commander in chief, as well as ourselves, are as yet totally uninformed, what are to be our expectations on the subjects of our former letters; Be assured Sir, we feel an anxiety congenial with his. You will therefore we are perswaded, pardon us for being thus solicitous, when we again intreat you, in the most earnest, in the most urgent manner, to use every exertion in your power to engage your State, to a speedy and decisive compliance with our former requisitions. The two points we would wish to impress most forcibly on yours, and the minds of the legislature of your state, are the immediately forwarding your quota of troops necessary to compleat your battalions in the Continental Army and of supplies of provisions agreeable to the estimate inclosed you in our letter of the Instant. At the same time we would not wish you to consider any part of our former requisitions, as become in the least degree unnecessary, on the contrary, we are more strongly convinced, that they are already as small as the important objects in view can possibly admit of. We only mention the two first, as the most *immediately* and *indispensibly* necessary. For, reinforced as the enemy now are, by the from the reduction of Charlestown, momentarily expect will be made on our weak and almost resistless army. should this event happen, whilst in this State, we seriously dread the result.

From the well known indefatigable attention of your State to the welfare of the united States, we cannot entertain a doubt of its exertions, at this interesting conjuncture. And we most earnestly intreat you, to give us the earliest information of the final determinations of your state on the subjects of this and our former letters.

June 20

[Bennett Dyson, Charles County, to Gov. Lee]

Sir I Received your Letter Requesting me to acquaint you with what provision we have been able to procure under the Act for the Immediate supply of the Army. I have Received Six hundred and Sixty Bushels Corn, and have this day sent off Four hundred and Fifty Bushels in a Vessel lately Built to be delivered to Col. Henry Hollingsworth at the head of Elk, and shall forward the Balance as soon as the Vessel Returns. It has not been in my power to forward the Corn before, as there was no Vessels that wou'd answer for Carrying Grain. I have Informed the General Assembly of what I have been able to procure and what I have forwarded.