

March 16 Principle but to serve the Cause of Virtue and my Country (the  
 Red Book latter of which I am convinced would be much benefited by the Ser-  
 No. 27 vice of those Gentlemen in the field,) have taken the liberty though  
 Letter 42 a stranger to trouble Your Excellency with this note.

Capt<sup>n</sup> Tawnyhill and Lieut Evens served with me on Col<sup>o</sup> Morgans Rifle core during the Continuance thereof and was at the seige and Capture of Burgoyne, and deported themselves as Officers Soldiers, and Gentlemen, Capt Tawnyhill went into the Service as early as 1775 as Lieu<sup>t</sup> in a Rifle Core to Boston, the Year following was appointed into Col<sup>o</sup> Stephensons Rifle Core, and Evins was appointed into Stephensons Core the same Yeare, have served on different Campaigns, and adarouss detachments perticularly with General Sullivan against the Seanacae Indians, and with the Commanding Officer of the western departm<sup>t</sup> against the Mingoes, and in the whole of their Service have maintained Inexceptionable Characters.—

I have thought it my duty to inform your Excellency of those Circumstances, and hope this Letter may in some Measure have the effect designed which is to Justify Innocence and Love my Country.

I hope your Excellency will excuse this presumption on your Excellencys goodness and believe me to be with Sincere Esteem

March 16

[Donaldson Yeates, D. Q. M., Elk, to Gov. Lcc.]

I rec<sup>d</sup> your letter yesterday Afternoon acquainting me of the Situation of our fleet and troops and the two British Ships, previous to this I had dispatched two Vessels with Bread and flow'r for the troops, and an Express Boat with two large Packages for the Marquis, and sundrie Public letters, all which I have come up with and stoped from proceeding, till I receive further information, I have Just regained the Public Papers and send them forward by land, as I don't know where the Marquis is at present I have directed the riders to wait on you for orders with them, from this circumstance that has happened, it has delayed them one day, it was the Marquis's orders to me to provide express boats and send dispatches in that way I have three hundred Barrels of bread and flow'r shiped in these Vessels I have stoped, but no flesh provisions as yet, the day before yesterday I rec<sup>d</sup> a letter under Cover from G<sup>l</sup> Washington to the Marquis, but directed if he had embarked from this place to distroy it which I did, Col<sup>o</sup> Miles advises me he was in Rhode Island. I have acquainted the Lieut<sup>t</sup> of Kent County of the Brittish Ships passing Annapolis

P. S. I am requested to attend to fixing and keeping up a regular Chain of riders thro' this and the Delaware State, would it be Agreable to you to order such as are appointed by you for the State, to attend to the Passage of all Public papers and acquaint me with the terms usual in this case