

Laws making further Provision (as specified in the Resolve) to guard against the Abuses & deceitful Practices of the British by making use of Papers & Clearances they may take in American Vessels

May 19
Red Book
No. 8
Letter 26

The Measures recommended in this and the former Resolve of the 11th of November 1780 become the more necessary, as our Allies have not only suffered by the Deception of the British, but in several Instances our own People in the West Indies have also suffered from the French under the Apprehension that they were British, for Want of Evidence and proper Documents to evince the contrary

[Dan'l. of St. Thos. Jenifer and Dan'l Carroll, Philadelphia, to Gov. Lee]

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We immediately upon receipt of the Letter you honor'd us with by M^r Croxall, laid it before Congress, who referred it to a Special Com̄ittee We have some reason to believe, the measure proposed cannot be carried into execution, as a report on an application to send provision to Charles Town for the prisoner there was rejected. It is therefore probable the report will go no further, than that the state may send Tobacco for the purposes mention'd. The Board of War having wrote to Gen^l Washington to know of S^r H^y Clinton whether Tobacco wou'd be received at Charles Town to be disposed of for the use of the Prisoners, his answer may likewise determine whether it wou'd be received at New York. We hope to be able to inform you of the determination of Congress by the Post

P. S. We return to the Treasury by M^r Croxall, the money which was drawn for us we can make no use of it here.

[Sam Smith, Balt, to Gov. Lee.]

Difficulties in Commanding Militia oblige me to be troublesome to your Excell^y—Gentlemen accept of Commissions something disoblige them & they reject them. I intend if possible to make my Battalion respectable, if Militia can be so. I must beg your Excell^{ys} pardon for so frequently giving you Trouble I inclose you M^r Sadler's Comm. who refuses to serve & M^r Daniel Dennis Commission 2nd Lieu^t & beg he may have one fill'd as first Lieu^t to the same Comp^y I also request Commissions for John Stewart as 2nd Lieu^t & Thomas Constable Ensign to the same Comp^y. It is more difficult to procure proper Officers than Men.

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[James Wood, Frederick Town, to Gov. Lee.] (Hon^d by Col^o Johnson)

I did not receive your letter of the 10th ultimo 'till yesterday. I was detained much longer in Richmond than I expected by Particular request of the Executive; and have since been so much Indisposed

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