

May 30 very deficient (provided the supply is to come from this State) as you are well acquainted with the situation of the Southern Army, and of the importance of forwarding the Stores and the inability of individuals to attain this end when Public support fails, the whole scene of business now being confined to an expensive land transportation, on an assurance I shall meet every assistance from your Hon^r board to reduce business to order and efficacy, on this presumption I hope your State of these several circumstances to the Gen^l Assembly, and view it my duty to give you the facts, there is the utmost want of teams and draught horses, repeated applications has been made to me for these articles from this and the Delaware State, called for as proportionate supplies, estimates of which I have transmitted to you, there is at present of Cloathing and other Stores wanted in the Southern Service, near a hundred loads ready to go forward, the want of which occasions much uneasiness with the troops, I am destitute of forage, horses, or teams, except such as is worn down in the Service and for want of food, these circumstances not being speedily remedied it will be impossible to pass any kind of Stores, thro' the State, the present unhappy situation of our paper credit and the reduced situation of Public Posts in other States renders it absolutely necessary to do some business by impress, modes of Classing teams in such Counties as is convenient to business and calling into service by rotation is practised in some States, this measure so far as I can learn has given Sattisfaction, a number of inhabitants in this County has requested me to mention it as a regulation desireable by them

May 31

[J. Bolton, Chester Town, to Gov. Lee.]

All the Provisions of Meat I have been furnishd with to serve out to the Troops is entirely gone. I wrote to M^r Voorhees the Comisary of Provision, who came here on Tuesday & told me he had sent me all he had, & that he had no money to purchase more. M^r Th^s Smyth the Collector is in the same scituation. I have applied to several Farmers for Meat but none of them will let me have any on the Credit of the State except one man who let me have two Sheep & Doct^r Scot has promis'd me two or three more this week; but have no prospect of any more unless I had hard money to pay for it, for the State money has quite lost its Credit here; some have offerd to let me have what they could spare provided I would give my Bond to pay them in Specie in two or three weeks, but I have not the hard money nor any way of procuring it in that time.

As there is a Plenty of Flower & more wheat still to manufacture if that was made into super fine Flower & sent to Philadelphia it would sell for hard money, on the Credit of which I might procure some meat, but that cant be done immediately & know not what to do in the mean time. If the Draughted men were sent to the Camp it would lessen the number & the Regulars would be easier provided