

given the people I have had Forage pasture & c^t of the strongest assurances that I would pay them as soon as possible, and as the Sheriff is now on their backs for their Taxes which he will execute for (if not paid) I must Intreat that a sum of not less then five hundred pounds of the late Emission be sent me by the bearer John Hollingsworth who waits on you for that purpose, (and if tis possible, at least as much hard money, as it is impossible for me to go on without it. You will observe by the Inclosed requisition that I am requested by Col^o Yeates to procure twelve Tons of Hay p^r Day and short Forage Equivalent for twelve or fourteen days, which will amount to three hundred Bushels of Corn or Oats p day also which is not to be had in this neighbourhood the whole being consumed by the Army on their way down and by the ox Teams left here to recruit (untill the return of the Army) the expence of which has amounted to about thirty pounds p day, which is now Increased to near as much more, Col^o Dayton who commands the Jersey Bridgade and is now here waiting for their arrival & assures me there is fifty odd Teams now between this and Baltimore on their way up, which will want Forage in two or three days—by your letter of the 30th August you request me to have a sufficiency of Forage laid in at Elk, and were pleased at same time to send me £250 Red money this sum (though acceptable) was it all hard money, would not have defrayed the expeditors of Forage at this Post for any one week since, nor at several particular times would it have sufficed for two days, the expence now at this Post for Forage only on the best calculation I can make is not less then fifty pounds p day with an Arrearage of about three thousand pounds which by promise ought to be paid ere now, nor will a single person let one Ton of Hay or a Bushell of corn go longer on the credit of the State, tis my presence only that keeps this Post alive, nor can I go down the State be the business ever so urgent untill I am relieved. I must therefore Intreat that this letter be attended to, and that such provision be made for me as to you in your wisdom shall see just.

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[Don'l Yeates, D. Q. M. to Colo. H. Hollingsworth.]

As the Stores of our returning Army with the addition of those taken with the late Captured army under Lord Cornwallis, being on the return, some of which are already arrived at this place from York river; and the whole expected in a few days, these are required to be got a Cross to Christiana with the utmost dispatch, this business will require the service of all the teams that can be collected from the Country exclusive of the Ox teams that came on with the army when they first moved down for twelve or fourteen days at least; and from a calculation of the support of those teams and Oxen for this time it will require twelve Tons of hay p day and short forage

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