

Montpelier January 6. 1820.

My dear Sir

Our militia claim has not been finally acted on by the Secretary of war. It has been referred to Mr. Hagner for his determination, and the result is, that considerable deductions have been made by the Accounting Officer; He has acted it precisely in the same way that he would have acted on a claim for services performed in the regular Army. This although right as it concerns Hagner's duty - is not the true principle on which the account should finally be passed. It was possible for the State to purchase supplies, procure Waggons to transport military stores to different places upon an emergency, on the same terms that they could have been procured by the general Government. And it was equally impossible to find contractors competent in every way. They were as good as could be obtained, but they wanted experience, and therefore frequently delivered out Rations not exactly in the way that the forms adopted for the regular Army required. If you could prevail on the Secretary of War to direct Mr. Hagner to pass the account as it was presented, you will promote the best interest of the State, and add to the many obligations that it is under to you.

Honble.

Wm Pinkney

yours affectionately

Amian Pinkney