

did by rowing the unit so that the matter was concerted and with a design to prevent
Mang and from having any right to a ferry over Potomac at all, but as to the right
we submit it to our Legislatures to be determined at any future day, yet when dispa-like our Ferry
is at this time so mostly necessary for the Port and for troops that may have occa-
sion to pass, as well as private travellers, we hope for immediate relief as to our
Ferryman so far as it may be thought in the favor of our Convention, for it is
notorious that unless he is released our passage over Potomac either to the Southward
or Northward will be very much obstructed, the Virginia Ferry men having no
boats, at least not a sufficient number for the purpose. We look upon this to be
a matter of consequence and hope you will not neglect having done in it what you
think right, at least so far as you have it in your power and we are very respectfully Sir
The Hon Thomas Jefferson Esq. Annapolis

Your most Obedt & Affl Servts

Robert Peter

Thos Richardson

Philips Heights October 1776.

Gentlemen. I have received but two letters from you, of the 11th September and the 2nd
October, in the latter of which you express some surprise at never having received a letter from
me since I left Maryland, which is just and should I have incurred your censure, it is
nothing to be that I have expected and let me assure you it was with great reluctance I
subjected myself to it, but I am yet anxious, and you have viewed the reverse and per-
plexed duty I have had, and our cups in general have & to, you would at
least have noticed them and excused me for this neglect, in answer to yours wherein
you require a particular relation of the arms, accoutrements, Camp equipage and
utensils of the Regular troops immediately under my command, must beg
leave to refer you to a letter wrote to the Convention on the 12th in answer to theirs
of the 4th of this inst, wherein you'll find a short detail of occurrences from our
march to Long Island to the 12th when I was obliged to conclude rather abruptly,
having received orders to march immediately for Philips Heights, four miles
above Kings Bridge, the enemy having landed a body of men at Frog's neck
adjacent to these Heights - also a copy of a return made out in Philadelphia
to be rendered the Congress of those articles appertaining to the Matthias & Capt
Beazey's Company, being all the troops I marched from Maryland, which hope
you'll find satisfactory, also a list of the killed and missing on Long Island,
and a general weekly return as rendered Genl Washington, which will show both
men present as are effective, and such as are sick among which are included
the wounded - a general return of killed and missing was rendered General
Washington the next morning after the action on Long Island and as the
drafts of their pay are suspended till exchanged, have been directed to discon-
tinue the entry upon the weekly return, for we can't ascertain, nor will the
enemy indulge us with a list of such as were taken prisoners without which
we can't ascertain who have been killed, perhaps you may require the names
inserted in the Returns, agreeable to the returns of our minute rolls at Annapolis
your letters do not use this mode, but should it be required, it shall be supplied with