

Sept. 22, 1780
Mr Mebane,

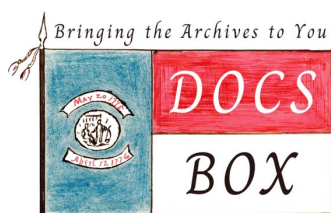
I am informed by General Gates that he is in great Want of Provision for the Troops under his Command, as well as Forage for the Horses; that unless he can be supplied, by having Magazines laid up by the State, he will be under the Necessity of permitting the Army to carve for itself, or must move the Troops away — he expresses an Unwillingness to do either —

From the Situation we are in, and the Necessity of procuring Supplies for the Army without Delay, I desire that you would lose no Time in obtaining them — You will try to purchase from the Farmers, but if they refuse to sell, you must then Seize both Provision for the Men, as well as Forage for the Horses —

Be careful to comply, as near as you can, with the Act of Assembly, both as to the Quantity you take, and the Certificates you give — You will inform me from Time to Time how you proceed —

Hillsborough September 22. 1780

J Penn



Name: Answer Key

Date: _____ Class: _____

SELECTIONS & QUESTIONS: Provision Correspondence

Mr. Mebane,

I am informed by General Gates that he is in great want of Provision for the Troops under his Command, as well as Forage for the Horse; that unless he can be supplied, by having Magazines laid up by the State, he will be under the Necessity of Permitting the Army to carve for itself, or must move the Troops away—he expresses an Unwillingness to do either

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Hillsborough September 22^d 1780

JPenn

Besides his role on the state Board of War, what other prominent roles did the writer, John Penn, have during the Revolution?

He was elected to the Continental Congress and signed the Declaration of Independence.

Armies had the right to take provisions they could find and promise payment at a later date. Does that seem right? Why or why not?

Answers will vary based on student.

Sir,

Hillsborough Septem^r 23. 1780

The Society of People called Moravians, in Surry County have agreed with General Gates to send One Hundred sides of tanned Leather to this Place, but are desirous of having a Guard part of the Way to prevent being robbed —

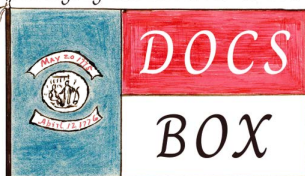
As it is of Great Importance to have the Leather as soon as we can, I recommend it to you to give Directions, that a proper Guard may be furnished as far as you think it necessary — The Leather will be ready by the Time the Guard can be got — Three or four Setts of Shoemakers Tools are absolutely necessary, if they can possibly be got to send with the Leather — They have promised to provide a Waggon —

I am, respectfully, Sir

Your Hble. Servt.

Gen^l. Butler

J. Penn



Name: _____

Date: _____ Class: _____

SELECTIONS & QUESTIONS: Provision Correspondence

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Gen^l Butler

J. Penn

How much would have been in a barrel? A bushel?

Bushel: 8 dry gallons or 2,150.42 cubic inches.

Barrel: 7,056 cubic inches.

Imagine you were Gen. Greene. How would this news have affected your plans?

Answers will vary based on student.

Sir,

Hillsborough 8th October 1780.

I received Your Letter, together with a Waggon Load of wheat by M^r. Anderson. Your wheat measured only Twenty nine Bushels here, for which I have sent you a Receipt.

We are in great want here, of Flour & Buf, the Soldiers have — suffered much & have been intirely without provision of any kind for some days past. Pray hurry on all the provisions you can to this post as fast as possible. We have no Material News here at present, Gen. Smallwood Marched from here Southwardly Yesterday. The Light Horse is arrived at this post. I am with respect Sir Yr. most Obedt. Servant.

John Taylor

John Taylor to Philip Vass, October 8, 1780 Military Collection, War of the Revolution papers, Commissary Correspondence, box 1, AMREV.1, State Archives of N.C.

Sir,

At the Request of his Excellency I have sent you as
Near the Quantity of ^{Publick} Grain in my County as I can
at this time, I have about five hundred Barrells of
Corn and a hundred & twenty Bushels of Oats as
to Meat I have None of any Kind

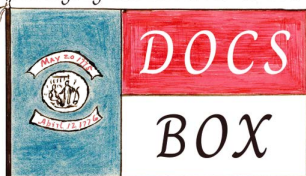
I am Sir your Humble Servt

Wash County

21. March 1781

Arthur Arrington & Co

Arthur Arrington to Joshua Potts, Commissary Correspondence, March 21, 1781, AMREV.1, State Archives of N.C.



Name: _____

Date: _____ Class: _____

SELECTIONS & QUESTIONS: Provision Correspondence

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Sir Y[^]r most Hble Servant

John Taylor

Imagine you were John Taylor. What could you recommend?

Answers will vary based on student.

Sir,

At the Request of his Excellency I have Sent you as Near the Quantity of Publick Grain in my County as I Can at this time. I have about five hundred Barrells of Corn and a hundred & twenty Bushels of Oats as to Meat I have None of any Kind

I am Sir your Humble Servt

Arthur Arrington

Nash County

21 March 1781

Who was “his Excellency?”

The governor.

How would the timing in March have affected the availability of grain?

Historically, grain prices tend to increase after the harvest as supplies are sold from storage. This can continue into March.

Sir

Halifax, th 16 March 1781

I this Day received a Letter from Col^l. William R. Davis, C. G. B. S. L. C. dated y^e 13th Instant, in which he mentions a probability of being distressed for Salt, having only five Days supply of that Article. & signifying the Stores already sent had not then joined them, which he attributed to the various Movements, both of the Enemy as well as our Army: also requested that I would forward 14 or 15 Hogsheads Rum & 3 or four Hogsheads Molasses —

I the other Day sent on six Hogsheads Rum, & should be glad you would forward on to Gen^l. Green's Head Quarters all the Molasses stored at Mr. Aburnathys, together with Salt if there be any stored near you — should you have it in your Power, may send on a Quantity of Salt, at Margon Lead, or two at least —

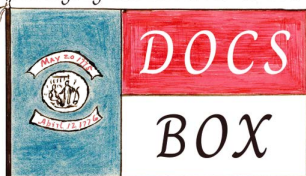
The Morning on which Col^l. Davis wrote me he informed that the Enemy were lying about three miles from Guilford Courthouse & our Army about 16 miles from that Place, in a Northern Position — that a complete Junction of our Forces was then formed, & that we might expect to hear of something very Capital soon —

Hoping that you will do every Thing in your Power to serve our Friends — I am

Y^r ob^l. Serv^t.

Joshua Potts
by W^m of
Nicholas Long Esq^r
D^d M^d Gen^l,

Colo. Th^o. Morden



Name: _____

Date: _____ Class: _____

SELECTIONS & QUESTIONS: Salt, Rum, Molasses

Halifax, 16th March 1781~

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I this day received a Letter from Col^o William R. Davie C.G.B.S.C. [Commissary General B. S.C.] dated [the] 13th Instant, in which he mentions a Probability of being distressed for Salt, having only five Days supply of that article. & signifying the Stores already sent had not then Joined them, which he attributed to the Various Movements, both of the Enemy as well as our Army: Also requested that I would forward 14 or 15 Hogsheads Rum & 3 or four Hogsheads Molasses~

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Hoping that you will do every Thing in your Power to serve our Friends_ I am

Sir your hble Serv^t

Joshua Potts

By order of

Nicholas Long Esqr [Esquire]

DQM [Deputy Quarter Master]

Colo. Tho^s Wooten~
Gen

What items does Potts most need for the men?

Salt.

What important news is he sharing?

That they know where their enemy forces are and that they are close by, and they may hear an update soon.

Guilford County

H. June 28, 1781

The Petition of your Petitioners

Humbly sheweth that the Inhabitants of this County have laboured under some particular Difficulties since the British came in pursuance of General Morgan. Our Salted provisions are taken, Our Cattle killed, many of our plantations destroyed by the Enemy, that it is not probable provisions can be raised for our Families this Season & many of our Friends in this & the neighbouring Counties murdered by these Enemies of Mankind. On the little property that is left, the Tories are frequently making Depredations either privately stealing, or publicly robbing. Our Light Horse & Infantry frequently pursuing them; so that our Farms are uncultivated, our Families suffer, & other necessary business much neglected.

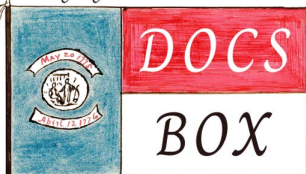
That the above grievances may be alleviated, we pray a Board of Auditors be appointed to sit in our County to examine & adjust our Claims.

We also pray that a Law be enacted directing the commanding Officer in every County to take what Tories he can & keep them under a sufficient guard, & in the meantime publish

to every man for every robbery or murder committed, retaliation should be made on such Tories. Prisoners, as you in your Wisdom Judge proper, & your petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray.

Edw. Holland

William Dick



Name: _____

Date: _____ Class: _____

SELECTIONS & QUESTIONS: Petition of the Inhabitants of Guilford

The petition of your petitioners

Humbly Sheweth that the Inhabitants of this County have laboured under some particular Difficulties Since the British come in pursuite of General Morgan; Our Salted provisions are taken, Our Cattle killed, many of our plantations discharged by the Enemy, that it is not probably provisions can be raised for our Families This Season & many of our Friends in this & the neighbouring Counties murdered by those Enemies of Mankind. On the little property that is left, the Tories are frequently making Depredations either privately Stealing, or publicly robing. Our Light Horse & Infantry frequently pursuing them; So that our Farms are Uncultivated, our Families Suffer, & other necessary Business Much neglected.

That the above grievances may be alleviated, we pray a Board of Auditors be appointed to sit in our County to examine & adjust our Claims.

We also pray that a Law be enacted directing the Commanding Officer in every County to take what Tories he can & keep them under a Sufficient Guard, & in the meantime publicly [illegible, page break] that for every property [illegible, page break] retaliation shoud be made on Such Tories. Prisoners as you in your wisdom Judge proper, & your petitioner as to Duty Bound Shall ever pray

50 men signed this petition.

What could the phrase "plantations discharged" mean?

Answers will vary based on student.

What should the state government do for these citizens?

Answers will vary based on student.

What should the state government do to punish the Tories?

Answers will vary based on student.