

Head Quarters Valley Forge
23 May 1778-

Sir, I have received your favour of the 10th.
With respect to Hamet the State will do whatever they
chose to consider and treat him as a Traitor, I have
no objection to it; if they chose to turn him over to
me as a prisoner of war, I shall receive him
accordingly. As that part of the drafts which comes
from West Jersey, will pass near your post, it
will be inconvenient for them to march to this Army
and return to the Jerseys. It is therefore my wish
that such of them as would prefer entering into the
two regiments under your command - may remain
with them and be mustered there - The Brigade
being now divided this cannot be deemed inconsis-
ent with the intention of the law directing the
Mustro Master to attend at the Quarters of the
Brigade to receive and muster the drafts -
You will accordingly signify to Mr Durr,
that I think the mode here pointed out would
be most eligible - All the drafts from East
Jersey, I would have come on to Camp,
for several reasons, I am sorry I cannot
comply with your request in favour of
Mr Rhea. Resignations have been, for
some time past so frequent in the Army
that it has become necessary to throw
every discouragement in the way of so
improvements in practice. One of them is not
to admit any person to reenter the Service
who has once resigned. Mr Rhea's case I
consider is somewhat particular; but it

is difficult to discriminate and if the
indulgence should be granted in some
instances, it would be hard not to grant
it in all.

I am Sir

Your most Obedt Servant

G. Washington

P.S. The Enemy seem to be preparing for
some general movement among others
it is possible they may make a push
across the Jerseys - towards Amboy - You
will keep the troops under your Command
in the most compact order, to act according
to circumstances - In case they should make
a general Embarkation you will not
enter the City, but hold yourself in readiness
to march on receiving orders from me
for that purpose.

Sr I opened yr letter supposing that it contained
positive orders for all the drafts to join you but
I find it is more limitted - We should have
sent officers out to engage the drafts as others
have done. I send Applton to Belk's Ferry to engage
them as they pass. Procure all the substitutes from
Soremans as Dayton is doing from Spencer. I see
shure to employ all from below. Under a pretence
of taking no care about them Dayton is displaying
great cunning - We have very little to expect from
above. The other two Regts were ordered to march to
join you but the orders were suspended on
acct of some intelligence. I am Yrs R. Howell -
I send three on Horse and return by way of
New Mills.

Col. Shreve -

Cresham

New Jersey

G. Washington -

Valley Forge
23d May 1778

Genl Washington to Col Shreve

14th April 1778 - ✓

25th March 1778 - ✓

June 1780

23 May 1778.