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No. 3, Office of Finance, between 1782-1783

Robert Morris

William Duer

United States Superintendent of Finance

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George Abbot Hall, Receiver,
for South Carolina

N^o 3.

Office of Finance 10 June 1782,

"I have received your favour of the 3. April,
The mode of supply adopted by the state may perhaps be the best
which could, under all circumstances, have been chosen. And as
they have adopted it, I am indued to believe it is the best; altho' I
cannot help thinking the prices are high, especially as I find
by General Greenes letter that the Articles are bad, however we
have no other means of obtaining supplies, and must do
the best we can. But I confess myself to be somewhat sur-
-prised that those supplies should Amount at those ~~different~~
prices to sixty thousand Dollars p. Month or two thousand
Dollars p. Day. because allowing only one half of that sum
to be applied in feeding the Army. and calculating the
Price of Rice at eight ninetieths p. Ration this sum would
afford daily eleven thousand two hundred & fifty Rations
which ought to be sufficient for supplying an Army of
ten thousand men at least. That the Country is ex-
-hausted and that provisions are drawn from a considerable
distance, I readily conceive and firmly believe but the dis-
-tance however great ought not to make so great an ex-
-penditure as that which you mention.

With

With respect to the notes you have for the State I shall not object to the proposal made me by the Governor of paying these notes to the Commissaries and Quarter Masters and taking their Receipts as for Cash, so that those Officers can pay them over to the State Commissaries for provisions and then that you receive them again from the Governor as Cash - This is far from being consonant to my original intentions; but we must on such occasions do the best we can - I expect however that no Commissions will arise on these various Negotiations -

Office of Finance 11 September 1782

I have received your letter of the 15th of August, I am informed that the prices fixed for the supplies in your State are higher than the Cash prices - I thought them them high and only consented to them on the assurance made me that they could not be purchased even so cheap

My letter of this date, I have requested General Gage to adjust this matter on proper terms and am now to desire that you apply to him for his advice on this subject - I am persuaded that no Gentleman in

Your -

you state can wish the Continent to be charged more than
the things is worth, and therefore I attribute any over charge
to misinformation which will I am sure be readily corrected
on further consideration.

Office of Finance 22 January 1783.

Sir,

I am to acknowledge your letter of the 18th of last
month by Major Burnett. His Accounts of the probable
price of feeding Troops with you alarm me. I am per-
suaded they may be supplied much cheaper with you than
they are in this Quarter, and yet I pay but ninepence half-
penny of Ration of this Currency for the State of Pennsylvan^a.

(Signed) R. Morris.

Office of Finance 16 May 1783.

Sir,

I am to acknowledge your several favours of the
19th & 22 of February 4th of Aprile and 7th Instant. I shall
look for the Accounts and Vouchers which you promise

As to the question you put, my answer is, that
all supplies really made since the Commencement of

of 1782 - may be credited on Account of the Requisitions
for that and the Current Year; but the prices must be
reduced to the hard money Value at least for the excess
beyond the last Years Quota or else they must be credited
on the old requisitions for Specific supplies ~

Compared with the Record of the Original
in the Office of the Comm^r of the
Board of Treasury.

W^m Duer Sec^y.