

Sir,

His Excellency the Commander in Chief's answer to my memorial for leave of absence has been communicated to me by the Deputy Inspector General. Nothing short of the consideration that I am thereby reduced to extreme distress, could induce me to give you any additional trouble on this subject, but I am so sensibly affected by this decision that I flatter myself I shall be forgiven for relating the following circumstances. That I was among the first who made a voluntary sacrifice of property & enjoyments & joined the British Troops after the commencement of the rebellion, and to the present time I have been constantly employed with the army. When I was appointed Muster Master General to the provincial Forces there were only two companies raised & even then I received twenty shillings a day for mustering them, and for my other appointment. — They are now increased to several thousand all the returns of musters from the various posts on this continent are made to my office, and in addition to the common duty of a Muster Master I am obliged to examine all the subsistence accounts & to certify their concurrence with the Muster Rolls. During the whole of my services in this department I have never received any species of emolument except a bare allowance for my travelling expenses, and I beg leave to add that in the execution of my duty I have never in any instance to my knowledge, given just cause for complaint or censure. I have in the province of Massachusetts an informant father upwards of seventy years old to whom I am indebted for the best education this country could afford, & for innumerable other favors, he has a wife & two daughters with him, (my mother & sisters). This family habituated to affluence have now no possible source from which they can obtain even the necessaries of life without my assistance, and I have hitherto had it in my power by secluding myself almost from society & practising a system of rigid economy to save them from burthening government by adding to the number of distress'd supplicants. But by the circumstance mentioned in my first memorial I have been deprived of one half the allowance which I was accustomed to receive & am thereby effectually prevented from performing this necessary duty to my family.

Major Dulaney.

Copy
Muster Master General
Major Dulaney
U.S. ARCHIVES
No. 2
(6/17)
24th Jan 1791