

Lancaster July 13. 1781
from G. Huddy

Done for the Prisoner

Wm. Huddy

The Barrack Surgeon
General's of Prisoner

1. Inhabited Prisoner?

Lancaster July 13th 1781

I have this moment, been favoured with a perusal
of a letter, to Colo. Wood - respecting the Prisoners, and Guards at
this place. - It appears, Colo. Miles, and some others, have
represented, that the Convention Troops, which were intended
for York-town - might easily be accommodated in the Barrack
at this place. - Upon what principles they have gone, I
cannot conceive - for my part, I differ widely with them
- and beg leave, to give your Excellency & Council some
reasons, in support of my objections. -

Exclusive of 500 Women & Children, the
Prisoners, here amount to about 4400 Men (the whole amount
near 2000) - The Barrack has 78 Rooms in it, so that
not less than 26 Souls, must be put in each of them to
accommodate the whole, heretofore, it has been thought 15
in a room, was an acceptable proportion - And as matters
stand now, it would be equal to the last degree to put
more in - I can assure Council that since the addition
of a part of the convention troops, to those already in the
Barrack, not less than from 4 to 6 are daily buried -
owing to their crowded situation, and should those which
yet remain out, be also ordered in - their situation may
be truly distressing - I conceive it my duty, to be particular
on this subject - and beg Council will take the matter
under further consideration. -

With respect to the number of Men on duty
here - I am fully of opinion, 150 will answer - ~~and~~
my purpose, Provided the whole Prisoners should remain

But, should they be divided (as was ordered) I will take all
the Men now here to guard them properly (allowing a sufficient
guard to remain here) to the places they were intended for.

As I have not yet received, any directions for
a reduction, I shall continue them until further orders.

I am just returned from (ex-tour) the
Militia, who were ordered to Randegrouse there, were delay
a few days longer, than was expected, owing to the want of
Provisions, - Not an ounce was provided for them on their
arrival - and had I not luckily come up, and advanced
as much hard Money as would purchase 6 days Rations
(including the days they were without any) to carry them
to Northumberland they must have disbanded - and
indeed it was with considerable difficulty, that I got
them to wait until provisions could be provided.

Council will I hope give the Purchasing Company
at this place orders to reimburse the amount of the
Monies I advanced for that purpose.

I have the Honor to be with every respect
Your Excellency's most Obedient Servant.

A. W. Hubley