

Dear Sir,

Philadelphia Nov. 6th 1781

72 2/10

You will receive from the Financiers, a recommendation to our state, to raise its Quota of 8,000,000 dollars, for the service of the ensuing year. This Quota, being 373,598 dollars, which you will find by calculation is nearly a one & twentieth part of the whole 8,000,000, is as I suppose, eighty or ninety thousand dollars more than it ought to be.

And this I urged to the Committee that made the Quotas, of which committee I was one, & also to congress, when it was under debate before them, but without success. I now write this to you, & to the honourable court, that you may judge, as I know you can much better than I, first, whether the state is overcharged in the manner above supposed; but secondly & principally, that the Court being informed of the case, may maturely consider and determine what ought to be done, in respect of complying with the requisition, which would establish in some measure, by acquiescence, their quota for the future. I feel on the one hand the importance of an immediate compliance with the requisition, knowing the bad constructions that both our friends & enemies, respectively, might put upon any thing that looks like an evasion, or removing our shoulder from the burthen;

on the other hand, a compliance with a requisition so manifestly out of all proportion may tend to destroy that confidence which the Citizens of our state at large have and ought to have in the Court. You know, that by the confederation, the states should be Quoted according to the amount of the value of their land; but an estimate of this value has never been made. The committee therefore took for the basis of their quotas the proportion made by a resolution of Congress the 29th of July 1775, (which please to turn to) founded on the supposed number of inhabitants in the several states, wherein our numbers were unfortunately supposed to be 100 000; & our quota of 3,000,000 dollars was 124,069 $\frac{1}{2}$ doll.

The respective numbers ^{of inhabitants}, tho' not inserted in the Journal, I am informed were as follows,

N.H. 100,000	Penn ^a . 300,000
Mass ^a 350,000	Del ^a . — 30,000
Rh ^d . — 60,000	Mar ^d . 250,000
Conn. ^t 200,000	Virg ^a . 400,000
N.York 200,000	N.Car ^a . 200,000
N.Jer ^y — 130,000	S.Car ^a . 200,000

The whole 2,420,000

But afterward, a true estimate of our numbers was made, and being represented to Congress, by our delegates in 1779, to be abt 76,000, our quota

was established accordingly, as M^{rs} W Langdon & Co^{rs} (250)
Peabody can inform. We were quoted in Octob^r
1779, 400.000 to 15,000.000, ^{which} is about a seventh
thirtieth part. I do not know how that was calcu-
lated. I take our just proportion to be ab^t a
three & thirtieth part, besides our proportion required
to make up the deficiencies of those states that are
disabled by the ravages of the war. If the court
should think it best to make a representation of this
matter to Congress, in order to get the quota set right,
before they proceed to raise the money, it will be neces-
sary to prove, as clearly as possible, that our number of
inhabitants did not exceed 76,000. in 1775; because
it has been ascertained here, that we had 100,000
inhabitants, by a Census taken before the revo-
lution. Now the whole of my complaint is,
that we are taxed for 100,000, instead of being
taxed for 76,000. I presume this will find
the Court sitting, so you will soon come to a
determination upon the subject. We have nothing from
Vermont. Twenty four standards of Cornwallis's
army bro^t to Congress last Saturday, displayed & paraded
through the city, made a most pleasing appearance.
Particulars you will have in the paper inclosed.

Your most obedient humble servant

Samuel Livermore

Hon^{ble} President Ware

P.S. The resolution of Congress says this proportion shall not be drawn into example in future. ~~Direct~~ All the former resolutions have said to the same purpose: nevertheless Congress have expressly taken the erroneous former guess-work proportion of 1775 for the basis of this. It is further held forth that if any state is now overburthened they shall be recompensed hereafter. I fear this word hereafter is to be taken in a theological sense.

Yesterday being the day appointed to elect a president Mr. Hanson of Maryland was elected.

Letter from Hon. Daniel
Livermore. Nov. 6, 1781.

D Livermore Esq
Nov 6 1781
State's Quota of 8,000,000th