

than they were ever under any Obligations to.

and they will do no further. I am sensible not only by letters I have received from you but from Mr Dumble that you imagine Maj^r Durkee has not in many Instances dealt with you with that honor & Integrity which you ~~would~~ ^{might} have expected. & Truly I ~~think~~ ^{am sure} he has not. & for ~~that~~ not withstanding he has been a Gentleman of honor & strict Integrity I fear his misfortunes have had a very ill effect upon his Virtue & Morals it has been the case of many Gent^l who in times of Prosperity have maintained an excellent Character but upon their fortunes following & being reduced in their Circumstances they have ~~been~~ produced the most fatal Effects. When the case is so I really think ye Man deserves our pity more than our Indignation if Maj^r Durkee could be soon released he might possibly get he saved from total ruin, his family & friends are distressed for him, but he is so totally reduced as to his Circumstances there is none can think of paying any debts for him & I must assure you that you cannot have ye least encouragement of that any person will advance any ~~thing~~ ^{sum} whatever for him on that account I have therefore in his behalf & in compassion to Maj^r Durkee and especially his family & friends if you would lay aside ^{all} ~~your~~ resentments upon account of his ill conduct pity his Misfortune release him from his Imprisonment on your account otherwise he must die in prison which am persuaded will yield no satisfaction to a Gentleman of your Character & disposition

Sr

Post

Merthford May 16th 1779.

On Mr. Trumble's Return from Philadelphia
I understand by him that Maj^r Duskee is still
left in prison that he has no doubt but he could
have procured his release had it not been for your
Demand upon him & that ~~so long as~~ unless your
Compassion is extended towards him he must dye
in prison as his health is already much
Impaired his Spirits sunk & that he has left him
in the greatest Distress imaginable We sent by
Mr Trumble to ^{obtain his release} pay his Expence, the Goalers fees &
for his Support but as it is manifest he might be
soon discharged if it was not for his own Private

Debt the Supt^r Company cannot be prevailed upon
to goe any farther in paying for his Support in
Goals I understand by Mr Trumble that you have been
Informed that Maj^r Duskee went into the Companys
Services on Wages of 16^s per Month & that there is
considerable sum now due to Maj^r Duskee on that Acct
which if you could relieve you might be willing to
Release him I have to assure you there is not
the least foundation for such a suggestion neither
has Maj^r Duskee ever had from either ye Company
or Comtee ye least Encouragement of any pay way,
it is directly against ye plan of ye Company ~~in the way~~
that has never been done in any one Instance ye Company
have already expended for Maj^r Duskee much more
than

Merthford May
16th 1779
J. P. Dugan's Son

if I that he ever could pay you, lying in prison or
any other person, for him, I could under all circum-
stances excuse you, but when it is not in a man's
power it cannot be of any advantage to you to furnish
him. I hope so you will excuse my importunity
as I really think his circumstances claim
Duty & Compassion & forgiveness from you I should
be glad of an answer directed to me at Hartford
as soon as may be as we may send to pay the
remainder of his charges that he might not be
detained on that account. I hope for a favourable
answer from you & am so with sincere

your Very Aff. Servt

Walter Franklin B. M. Dyer
New York