

PASS vol. XI (p. 660-661): This is a letter dated January 8<sup>th</sup> from Philadelphia from Matthias Slough to Jasper Yeats. Slough mentions the particulars of the revolt up to that point and the refusal of the soldiers to listen to British offers of defection.

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*Matthias Slough to Jasper Yeates.*

PHILADELPHIA, *January 8, 1781.*

DR. SIR: Having a few days ago, in a letter to Mrs. Slough, which she tells me she communicated to my friends at Lancaster, mentioned some particulars respecting the revolt of the Pennsylvania Line in the Continental army, and knowing that you will be anxious to hear the manner in which this most unfortunate affair is likely to terminate, I will, in as concise a manner as possible, mention to you the particulars respecting it as they stood yesterday morning, which I have from the mouth of Mr. Turnbull, who comes express from Trent Town, and from Mr. John Barkly, who left Trent Town after him, which was as follows. I must, however, in the first place tell you that on Saturday last, the President of the State accompanied by a part of this City Light Horse, and a committee of Congress, accompanied by another part of the troop, left this city in order to pay these unhappy men a visit, and if possible to bring them to a sense of their duty. That the revolted troops remain at Princeton and suffer none

of their officers, excepting General Wayne, Col. Richard Butler, and Col. Walter Stewart, to have any intercourse with their men, the whole being now commanded by a Serg<sup>t</sup> Major Williams, to whose inspection all letters &c., those officers who are with them write, must be submitted, that are determined it is said not to have an interview with the committee of Congress, aludging that all their misfortunes are to be ascribed only to that body; but that they appear extremely anxious to have a conference with the President of the State, which it is reported took place either yesterday in the morning, or this morning, the event of which we hope to learn to-morrow, when you shall hear from me again. But amidst all their confusion you will be surprised when I relate to you the advantage which Sir Harry expected to derive from this truly lamentable mutiny, and the credit which on that occasion is due to our unhappy troops. On Saturday last, two men who learn are refugees were sent out of New York, and arrived safe in the camp of our troops, who brought with them an instrument of writing, not signed by any person, which writing mentions to our troops that Sir Harry has heard of the deplorable situation they are in, and that he is concious Congress cannot nor have they inclination to do them justice. That if they would turn their backs on the heads of the "Rebells" and march back to Amboy, he will send commissioners to meet them at that place, which commissioners should bring a sufficient force with them to protect them against the rebells; that those commissioners should have full power to settle and adjust their accounts, and that Sir Harry would bind himself immediately to pay them the whole of their pay and arrearages of pay due to them from Congress. And that in consideration of this, nothing more should be required of them but to lay down their arms, and that not a man of them should be asked or required to perform any further service. That such is the virtue of our men, that they spurned at the attempt, and instead of listening to the proposal, they immediately communicated the matter to General Wayne, who had the two lads secured, and they were immediately delivered over to Messrs. Blair McClennaghan and Alexander Nisbet, who were sent by the Philadelphia Troop for the purpose, & who it is expected brought them to Trent Town last evening where it is to be hoped they will soon be "Andreed." You will I hope, pardon this imperfect scrawl, as it is wrote in a great hurry. Communicate it to the rest of our friends at Lancaster, and believe me in haste,

My Dear Sir,

Your most Hu<sup>ble</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>,

MATTHIAS SLOUGH.

For other news refer to the inclosed paper; pray send the inclosed letter to my niece.

JASPER YEATES, *Esq*."