“Dear Sir—Since my letter of yesterday morning, I have been visiting the different battalions of militia, and finding them so exceedingly uneasy that I am afraid that notwithstanding everything that can be said and done, the people, or at least many of them, will go home. The situation of their families is so very distressing that no argument can prevail with them. Many of them left their families without wood, without meal and without fodder at home for their cattle, as many of those near the drowned land depend entirely on those meadows for support of their stock, many of their families without shoes at home, and some of them little better here for the above, and many other reasons, I am sure you will, as far as possible. A large number of cattle in Orange have lately been bought up for the Philadelphia market, which I am afraid will cause a scarcity of beef. I beg your advice, whether it will not be best to stop the cattle for the use of the army.

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