Oxford October 16. 1781

Gentlemen

94 Your favour by Mr. Blake I have just received, and have only to observe that the requisitions of Congress in beef from the respective States is neat beef, and they afterwards add pay for the hide and tallow, this convinces me that the State ought to pay the expence of slaughtering, and that expence will not exceed the cost of procuring hands, paying pasturage while driving the Cattle to places where I would be satisfiable in receiving them.

In the first place it is impossible for me to attend to the slaughtering of the Cattle in the respective counties, in the second place not one shilling of money to defray the expence allowing it to be a Continental charge, however as I do not wish to through any difficulty upon your State, shall agree to the following proposals viz. That if Mr. Moore with a committee of Congress say the expence of slaughtering the Cattle shall be a charge against the United States, I will pledge my honour to you to see it paid. If that of the State why it is done. any additional expence which

may

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