Benjn Stoddert Esqr
4th April 1783.
(to Gov. Lee then in Congress)

Hon'ble
Thomas Lee Esq
Philadelph. Pa.

971

Dear Sir

Annap. 4 April 1783.

The post left Town so soon after his arrival, the two last weeks, that I had not an opportunity of replying to the favors with which you honored me.

I am afraid the Gentlemen of Congress as well as others, have been led into a very great mistake respecting the powers of the Gen Council, over the money, from the appearance of an alteration in the Intendant Law. — The fact is, that the Intendant has all the power over the money he ever had. And the Gen Council are exactly in the same predicament as formerly. They can inform the Intendant, that money is wanted for any particular purpose — but no more — it rests with him, to sell specifics to obtain it, or not, as he thinks proper. — Since the last specimen of a month, they have had the command of 1300 dollrs — [redacted] — Ever this small sum what was applied to fitting out the Barges, got into the Treasury sideways. — I have been thus particular — that the Gentlemen with you, may know

MdHS 1974 [625-971]