

Title: Rough transcription of Sebastian Graff correspondence.  
Transcribed by Jeff Moore, June 2006

Documents:

Two Revolutionary War era letters concerning supplies.  
Both addressed to John Patton.  
One from Sebastian Graff, a Lancaster Pa. merchant, dated Sept 2nd  
1777.  
One from John Chaloner, a commissary purchaser, at Camp Valley  
Forge.  
dated Dec 29th 1777.

Provinance:

Original held by Graff Moore, Sand Point, Idaho, Nov 2005.  
A photocopy made by Graff Moore, Nov. 2005, provided to Jeff Moore.  
Graff Moore inherited the letter from his grandmother,  
whose husband was a ggg-grandson of the brother of author Sebastian  
Graff.  
Family members have no reason to doubt that the letters have always  
been in the family's possession.

Transcribers notes:

The original consists of two letters, one piece of paper each.  
The photocopy consists of 4 sheets of paper, one of each side.  
There is some bleed through of the copies, indicating  
which covers pages go with which letters.  
Transcribers' notations:  
    <?> means adjacent word is in doubt;  
    <----> is placeholder for a word not transcribed.  
Transcriber did not attempt to be faithful to capitalizations.  
The phrase "On Public Service" on the covers of both letters is  
similar  
to D.A.R. terminology.  
'Hogs head' was a unit of measure for whisky.

Names in the letters, per transcriber:

Sebastian Graff - author 1st letter  
    1744-1791; son of Sebastian Graff (1711-1763) & Eva Weber;  
    married Catharine Young 1766.  
    Farmer in Lancaster Township, Lancaster Co. Pennsylvania.  
    Moravian Church member.  
    Provincial Convention 1775. Continental Congress 1774.  
    County Commissioner. State Senator 1790.

John Chaloner - author 2nd letter

    1748-1793  
    Took the oath at Valley Forge in the spring of '78  
    A Philadelphia merchant and auctioneer  
    Employed by the Commissary General of Purchases, Jeremiah  
Wadsworth,  
    as Assistant Purchasing Commissary from 1778-1780.

John Patton - recipient of both letters

    unidentified  
    There were one or more Col. John Pattons in the war.

Col. Blaine - named by Graff who expects to meet him at "Head Quarters"

Ephraim Blaine, 1778 deputy commissary general of purchases in the Middle Department

Wm Layne or CLayne <?> - named in Chaloner's letter, as authorized to transport supplies  
unidentified

George Kahn - named next to figures on Graff letter cover  
unidentified

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TRANSCRIPTION OF SEBASTIAN GRAFF LETTER:

SEBASTIAN GRAFF LETTER - COVER PAGE:

<page has four sections of text, in different hands, and at two orientations>

<at top of page>  
On Public Service

John Patton Esq.  
at Reading  
or Lebanon

<in bottom third of page, in different hand & pen>

Letter from S. Graff  
dated Lancaster  
Sept 2nd 1777

<written beside it in different hand probably pencil> 66 years old

<in the center third of the page, in different hand & pen, turned 90 degrees>

<two columns of figures, assumed to be currency sums>

6 <?>	
6 <?>	37 " 10
-----	7 " 10
13 0	3 " 15
3 0	-----
-----	48 " 15
16 0	7 " 10
	3 " 15
	-----

George Kahn        60        0

George Kahn        60 0

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SEBASTIAN GRAFF LETTER:

Dear Sir

Yours of the 29th last past & first instant  
I have recd<?> -- I have been out yesterday endeavoring  
to engage Barley but met with little success  
as the<?> farmers have not had time yet to  
thrash it out<?> & I have given orders to  
some millers to purchase what they --  
could at present get and shell it immediately  
I expect have about 12 Hhd<?> of whiskey which  
I bought. Send off to Camp <'Camp' crossed out ?> Head Quarters to  
day likewise that which is in the magazine,  
as there are waggons ready to load it --  
for whisky I have to pay 17/2 17/6 per<?> gll. --  
for barley they ask 15/ per<?> bush. To morrow  
I expect to set out for Head Quarters and there  
shall make enquiry of Coll. Blain /<?> if I once think <?>  
how I'm to conduct one<?> self. --  
I am your Hb<?> Sv<?>  
Lancaster Sept 2 1777 Sebastian Graff

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TRANSCRIPTION OF JOHN CHALONER LETTER:

JOHN CHALONER LETTER - COVER PAGE:  
<page has two sections of text>

<section at top center>

On Public Service

Col. John Pahon<> (or Patton<?>) (or Clahon<?>)  
A<?> Commisary of Purchase<?>  
at the big spring near  
<-> <Express<?> Reading

<section at top right, turned 90 degrees, different hand>  
<probably the same hand as the "Letter from S. Graff... on other letter>

Letter from Chaloner <or 'es'>  
Dated Camp Dec 29  
1777

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JOHN CHALONER LETTER:

Camp Valley Forge Decm 29th 1777

Sir

Inclosed you have a letter to the W<?> M<?>-> Genl, copy  
of which is inclosed to Mr <or 'Wm'> Payne<? or Layne>; who has orders to  
demand  
a brigade of ten waggons daily to proceed on with flour  
to Camp. I hope you will be able to load them as they  
arrived<?>, as the contrary His Excellancy The Commander in  
Chief will be informed of, and you must answer for the  
consequences. Should it be out of your power to comply  
with the above, send the teams to Lancaster or Wrights Ferry<?>

for loading. For your own sake I hope you will be able  
to compliah<?> this order.

I am <->

Your very hble servant

John Chaloner <---->

<signature appears to be in a different hand>

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