To the honte the Council of house of Representatives of the Colony of New Hampshire the Congress taking into consideration the urgent importance to the Safety freedow I wealth of the united colonies, that the manufacture of salt petro + gunpowder I hould be established in all of them, in addition to their former resolves on that Judgest, have passed those herewith inclosed & appointed the Committee therein mentioned; in persuance of this trust the committee trans mitt you the resolves. I being deeply imprefied with their importance to our comon cause, think them-- selver in duty bound to unge upon you the in me - diste & ergorous specention of them. the execting public works as mention ned in the resolves, will be the first step to promote this metal business, if prosecuted with shill and Diligence in will ansure the making talkpetre in large quantitys, I will also afford the best method for suitable persons to learn the process, & from thence be sent abroad to back those who have not opportunity of learning from these public works: for it is Thought an object of the greatest Concern that private family should be induced to make it; the inconsidera ble expresse attending, the making it in familys, when the method is once undesstood, I the quantity that each far mily may make, should remove all objections to their putting it in immediate practice. when we consider the great consumption of vallpetre, used as medicine, in preserving meat, and in gunpowder, even in times of peace, is should seem a sufficient inducement to private family to leave & practice this dot, but most of all when so large

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MMN # 101271

Date: March 16, 1776

Description: Robert Paine on manufacturing saltpeter and gunpowder, Philadelphia

To the honble the Council & house of Representatives of the Colony of New Hampshire Gentlemen

The Congress taking into consideration the urgent importance to the safety freedom + wealth of the united colonies, that the manufacture of saltpetre + gunpowder should be established in all of them, in addition to their former resolves on the subject, have passed those herewith inclosed + appointed the committee therein mentioned.

in persuance of this trust, the committee transmitt you the resolves. = being deeply impressed with their importance to our common cause, think them--selves in duty bound to urge upon you the imme--diate + vigorous execution of them.

The erecting public works as mentioned in the resolves, will be the first step to promote this mutual business, if prosecuted with skill and diligence in will ensure the making saltpetre in large quantitys, + will also afford the best method for suitable persons to learn the process, + from thence be sent abroad to teach those who have not opportunity of learning from these public works: for it is thought an object of the greatest concern that private family, should be induced to make it; the inconsiderable expence attending the making it in familys. when the method is once understood, + the quantity that each family may make, should remove all objections to their putting it in immediate practice.

When we consider the great consumption of saltpetre, used as medicine, in preserving meat, and in gunpowder, even in times of peace, it should seem a sufficient inducement to private familys to learn + practice this art; but most of all, when so large quantitys

quantitys are wanted for our necessary defence, and when it will in a great measure Jupply the want of Jall which the rage of our Enemies away render scarce, it should not reasonably be supposed that any true american with neglect it. as there can be no doubt but that every colony may produce salt petre enough at least for their own Consumption, it is necessary that powder mills be creeted, & skillful persons provided to menufacture gunpowder, and proper regulations established for preventing their explosion it is supposed that sulphur may be found in many Colonies, & it is necessary that it should be collected, trysty may be made at places supposed to contain it at no great up - pener it must afford great pleasure to find that some colonies have already in a measure anticipated the design of these resolves from the good affects of which it is clearly coinced that we can never want the most aboundant sup - ply of auxunition from our own manufacture but through inattention and heglest. We doubt not you will consider these proceedings as designed to promote the best welfare of the colonies, and that you will as soon as may be I from time to time inform the lon--gres of the state of these manufactures in your Colony, of the quantity of Saltpetre already made

quantitys are wanted for our necessary defense, and when it will in a great measure supply the want of all which the rage of our Enemies may render scarce, it should not reasonably be supposed that any time Americans will neglect it.

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We doubt not you will consider these proceedings as designed to promote the best welfare of the colonies, and that you will as soon as may be + from time to time inform the Congress of the state of these manufactures in in your colony, of the quantity of saltpetre already made

the preparation for & prospects of enceosing is, what quantity of gurpowder is already made & the state of your powder mills, & also what discoverys are made of sulphus mines & the progress in working them We suppose you already have the most ap proved methods of making saltpetre among you, but the laying together suitable comports either in fences or bedy in order to collect nitrous matter, seems herefram to be immediately attended to, as the carth from under or buildings may soon he exhausted. We hope this efforts of the Congres will have the desired effect, without which we have reason to fear is will are long be said of us, that we are become slaves because we are not industrious enough to be free by order of Jais Committee I subscribe my salf Philade March 16 18 1776

the preparation for + prospects of increasing is, what quantity of gunpowder is already made. + the state of your powder mills, + also what discoverys are made of sulphur mines + the progress in working them

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by order of said Committee I subscribe my self with great respect your honor [?] Serv<sup>t</sup>. - - -

Robrt Treat Paine

Philad<sup>a</sup>. March 16<sup>th</sup>. 1776