

Andrew Jackson to Willie Blount, January 4, 1813, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

TO WILLIE BLOUNT.1

1 Copy. Internal evidence shows that this letter was written to Governor Blount but in Jackson's copy it is stated that it was to the Secretary of War.

Nashville, January 4, 1813

your order of the 31st. ultimo is recd. and I beg you to be assured that the moment the payment of the troops is complete, we will march agreeable to your order without a moments delay. Should the arms equipments and munitions of war not arive in due time I shall proceed without them chartering a barge and leaving a detachment to bring them on. we have been too long delayed for the public good, but permit to observe what you well know, that neither your exertions or mine could obviate the dificulty, that the want of funds and other supplies threw in the way. the delay of the payment of the troops could not be prevented the most prompt exertions of the paymaster and every citizen of influence amonghst whom permit me to remark I know you stand foremost, has been made to obviate the dificulty. The exertion of the officers of the bank deserve my thanks. I hope to be able to strike our tents on the 7th. instant there remaining but seven companies to be paid. your polite and friendly expressions as the[y] relate to my exertions in raising and organising the volunteers, are certainly pleasing. I have only done my duty, and I hope on every occasion during life I shall do this so far as my Judgt. may direct. brought up under the tyranny of Britain—altho young embarked in the struggle for our liberties, in which I lost every thing that was dear to me, *my brothers and my fortune* —for which I have been amply repaid by living under the mild administration of a republican goverment. to maintain

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this, and the independant rights of our nation is a duty I have ever owed to my country to myself and to posterity, and when I do all I can it it [*sic*] support, I have only done my duty, and it will be ever grateful to my reflection, If I find my acts and exertions meet your approbiation.

I sincerely respond to your excellency's Letter in praying that the God of Battles may be with us, and that high Heaven may bestow its Choice Benedictions on all engaged in this Expedition.²

² This paragraph is not in Jackson's handwriting.