

1780, for those who read it will find, that very proclamation forbids and excludes, by description, almost by name, Mr. Lisle from holding any commission in his Majesty's service, and that persons having been banished to the islands marked him sufficiently for suspicion at least; and surely if all this had been attended to, this same Lisle would not have obtained a certificate of his being a good subject, or have been appointed to any command, and consequently he would not have had it in his power to have committed the above traitorous act. Mr. Stedman may surely find other causes for the revolution in the minds of certain people in South Carolina at the time he mentions, even though he should have been convinced, the civil administration under which the province *then* was had not contributed. The approach of General Gates with an army; the French already arrived, and reinforcements expected; the Spanish interference; the Dutch added to Great Britain's enemies; and the armed neutrality; all these probably had their effect.

Page 319, vol. ii. Mr. Stedman, in a note, says, " Dr. Ramsey, in his " History of the Revolution in South Carolina, charges the British with " seizing the property of the Americans, and their Commissaries and " Quarter-masters with taking provisions and all other things they wanted " for the army, wherever they could find them, and charging them to the " British government." What Mr. Stedman observes is as follows; " That " peculation was carried on in some of the departments of the army, and that " many individuals made large fortunes, cannot be denied; but this never " took place to any extent in the southern army, and the writer of this (who " was Commissary of the army under Lord Cornwallis) takes the present " occasion of repelling the calumnies of Dr. Ramsey, as far as they may relate to himself."

Mr. Stedman has in the course of this History repeatedly implied, as Lord Cornwallis had done before in his examination at the Board of Public Accounts, in February, 1782, that this abuse, this scandalous peculation had existed;