

Lexington VA 21 March 1867

My dear Sir

I have read with much gratification your pamphlet in defense of your distinguished ancestor Genl Reed. Having always looked up to him as one of the great men of the Republic, whose devotion, & patriotism materially aided in the achievement of its independence, I considered the reports circulated to his prejudice at the close of the revolution of >76, as the result of the heated party politics which prevailed at the time, & that they had died with the passions in which they originated. I trust the able & candid manner in which you have vindicated his memory may silence them forever, & leave nothing to diminish the reputation he enjoyed among the noble men with whom he acted.

I notice on p. 9 of your pamphlet that among the letters which you had introduced in the life of your Grdfather were some from A Henry Lee.@ May I ask whether they were any of those you kindly sent me. I have inserted extracts from some of them in the life of my father, thinking they had never been published, I would not trouble you to answer the question, but I cannot procure here a copy of your Biography of President Reed

Very respy & truly yours

R E Lee

Honble William B. Reed