

and shall hereafter give them commissions either as second Lieutenants or as Ensigns according to their merit and the diligence and activity they show in recruiting. We thought this step most advisable and that it would expedite the service. Some money is necessary to and proper to be lodged here and to give out to the officers occasionally. They frequently call on us and think it hard to be obliged to ride up to Baltimore. Whatever you may order shall be delivered out to some of the Field officers and their receipts taken for the same.

We are your most ob. &c.
To John Hancock Esquire President of the Congress.

25th 1777.

Sir, Inclosed you have a copy of a Resolve of Congress for marching the militia of the State to reinforce General Washington. The Council of Safety have determined to request the militia of Anne Arundel Prince George's Kent and Queen Anne's Counties or to march together with Baltimore Harbor & Cecil are particularly mentioned in the Resolve. Be pleased therefore to give the necessary orders to your Battalion. General Johnson who takes the command is already at Philadelphia on his way to the Jerseys with the militia of his Brigade. Should any commissions be wanting, we will send them to you on hearing a List of the persons that you recommend. We earnestly request that no time may be lost in forwarding the necessary service. Those who have not arms will obtain them at Philadelphia.

We are Gentlemen yours,

To Commissioners of observation for Baltimore County

Sir, We received yours of the 26th instant by Col. Richardson and have complied with your request in advancing the sum of 2000 Dollars. We have also advances to the General pretty considerably, and request you would send us down by the first good opportunity thirty or forty thousand dollars. That we may give out occasionally to the field officers that do frequently apply to us. We observe what you say relative to the delegates in Congress and shall use our endeavours to have it complied with when the General Assembly gets together. We are &c

P. S. We wrote to the President of Congress yesterday and mentioned the necessity of sending down money here to him.
Samuel Chase Esquire Baltimore Town.

January 20th 1777

Sir, We received yours of the 24th instant by Mr. Munn and shall be glad to have the state of your accounts as soon as it is convenient that it may be laid before the General Assembly. The proportion that you are to retain in your hands is two thirds.