

to have their Commissions taken from them, without committing any offence, it would be submitting to what never was done, or heard of in any Service whatever. Instance Majors Forrest, Tom. Smith and Howard, who gave up their Companies to other Officers, on their being promoted to the rank of Majors. Would it not be very unjust to take those Officers Commissions from them and give them Capt's Commissions, and set them out recruiting at this advanced season, when they might have had their Companies recruited by this time, and the choice of men which would have added honor and credit to them, had they been first appointed Captains. I will only beg leave to ask your Honours, whether you could have a good opinion of a man's honor and Spirit who would submit to any thing so much below the character of an Officer and Gentleman.

If Gen. Smallwood and Col. Price, want us broke (for I must give it that appellation, if our Commissions are taken from us) to do us justice (or me which they may particularly point at.) let them keep a watchful eye over us, and when we are guilty of any action unbecoming and unworthy the service in which we are engaged, have us tryed by a Court Martial, broke and discharg'd from the service, then they will have an opportunity of promoting their Officers.

If the last Resolution of Convention is adopted through the whole arrangement of Regular and Flying Camp Officers, as they went out from this State to Camp, it will bear some degree of justice, but the Flying Camp Officers would retain their Commissions, many of them promoted to a higher rank and many of the Regular Officers lose theirs, or not rank as high as they expect they do at present, which I imagine would disgust such regular Officers, and cause them to lay down their Commissions after being promoted, so that adopting either mode will have its bad effects. I observe on their Proter Col. Trace, Price and Graft ranks before any Officers in the Flying Camp, and the other Regular Officers rank as it was settled by Convention, if those Officers ought to be first promoted, by the same rule every Officer in the Regular Service ought to be raised according to their rank. By the first Resolution of Convention, Genl. Smallwood call'd me in the Council Room if I did not think it unjust, I should command Captains of the Regular Service. If there is any injustice in the case, it is equally unjust for me to command Captains of the Flying Camp, as the Regular Captains command no higher than Captains of the Flying Camp, I do Brig^d Major ranked as youngest Major which in point of rank ought by the line of promotion to be promoted before any Captain the Service, but I never call'd any such right. I only ask a Lieut.^{nt} Col.^l Commission in the Flying Camp, which I thought I had a right to, and there is no doubt ~~at~~ but the Genl. who so strongly recommended me to the Commissioners were of the same opinion.

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