

us that he had upon his receiving orders from the last Convention to March his Company to Virginia, examined the guns belonging to the men in his company, and could not make out more than ten that were in any sort fit for service. And as the Convention had ordered that the Company should be supplied with arms from Chester Town we advised the Captain immediately to make application to the Committee of that County for that purpose, which he has since accordingly done, but has been able to procure from thence only ten Muskets, with three Bayonets and not a single Cartridge or Cartouch Box, of which articles the Company are also intirely in want. It therefore, under the Resolve of the Convention, became our duty to endeavour to borrow as many guns as will supply this Deficiency and this duty we would with great pleasure readily comply with, was it in our power, but the scarcity of all kinds of arms in this county is such, that we are convinced they are neither to be borrowed or bought, were we impowered to purchase them.

As this is the condition Captⁿ Robson's Company is in, and it is impossible for us to supply their wants, we have thought it incumbent on us immediately to lay the matter before your Honors, in order that you may give such orders as you may think proper on this occasion. We believe Cap^t Robson & his Company are ready & willing to march if they can be supplied with arms, and any service that is in our power upon this or any other occasion we shall also be ready with great cheerfulness to perform.

We are with great respect, Gentⁿ
Signed by order of the Com. of } Your most obed^t Hble. Serv^{ts}
Observation for Dorset County } James Murray chairman

Original.

[Thompson to Rumsey.]

Cecil County February 1st 1776

Dear Sir. By Cap^t Craig I inform you M^r Nath^l Ramsey is arrived, I called on him yesterday, he tells me he has (in Partnership with a gentlemen of Philadelphia) about eight Tons of Gun Powder and five tons of Saltpeter, he has engaged to supply this County with one ton of Powder, at the same price the Committee of Philadelphia will give provided the money will be immediatly advanced, this County has very little Powder, I am sure not more than sixty pounds, the people are very uneasy on that head and seem much distressed. I most earnestly beg that you will represent this matter to the Council of Safety, and request of them to advance to the Committee of this County such a sum of money as will purchase one ton at the rate of twenty five pounds p^r hundred Cap^t Craig, if the