

C. S. C. Gaither who was Ensign to the Company unless there should appear substantial Objections against his being advanced to the first Lieutenancy. We desire therefore you will inform us whether you apprehend William Gaither would be an improper Person to fill that Station and whether the others would answer for second Lieutenant and Ensign, or if you think there are Gentlemen in that Company more deserving Preferment we should be glad you would mention them to us.
27th March 1776

Original.

[Maryland Deputies to Council.]

Phil^a 26 March 1776.

Gen^t The inclosed contains a state of the powder and arms we have sent from hence. Willing and Morris still assure us they daily expect an arrival of powder to enable them to furnish us with the Quantity they contracted for they were but partly interested in the Salt petre which arrived & had not the management of it nor was it in their power to procure any of it to be manufactured for us the Congress having immediately on the arrival of the Salt petre taken up all the Powder Mills If you think it necessary we have no Doubt but that we can borrow a Ton of powder more as it begins now to come in from the mills we should be inclined to borrow & forward it but that we think the additional Expense and Risk cannot be justified but by necessity. We should have got a Return of the Musquets furnished the Hornet & Wasp with the powder but the Congress have it not in their power. M^r Rittenhouse has been pressed to get the plates done he has been lately chosen into the Assembly which has been sitting a good while past he promises to let us have plates to begin, enough for one Sheet, next week, the paper was to be finished about this Time. Inclosed you have the pay in the Marine Service and for the 3 independ^t Companies you'll be pleased to attend to the memd. at Bottom. There is no getting Camp Kettles or Canteens on any Terms or at least such Terms as you could submit to—instead of Canteens the Congress has been obliged to substitute little Keggs there's no Arrival here of any Tin. The price of Duck & indeed every kind of Linen exceeds here what it does with you any Thing of the kind cannot be got at scarce any price nor could it when T. J. got to phil^a wherefore no attempt was made to get Knapsacks & Haversacks buying proper materials might arrive in pot^o or from Vanbebber Time enough we hope what was sent down of Vanbebber's Cargoe will answer for there purposes & for tents. The duck is too heavy for