

had a greater proportion of this duty than any in this army, C. S. C. for we have generally acted in Brigade under Northern Brigadiers General, who have seldom failed to favor their own and put the laboring oar on our Regiment, but it has perhaps made us the better soldiers. our Commander in chief is an excellent man and it would be happy for the United States if there was as much propriety in the appointments in every department below his. It is not owing to any want of precaution in him that discipline is not exacted with more rigour, much must depend respecting this, on the superior officers next under him in command; and here there seems to be a total ignorance of and inattention to this system, so necessary to render an army formidable.

Our next greatest suffering proceeds from the great neglect of the sick, and his orders relative to this Department are most salutary were these to be duly attended to but here too there is not only a shameful but even an inhuman neglect daily exhibited. The Directors of the General Hospitals supply and provide for the sick, who are extremely remiss and inattentive to the well being and comfort of these unhappy men, out of this train they cannot be taken. I have withdrawn all mine long ago and had them placed in a comfortable house in the country, and supplied with only the common rations, even this is preferable to the fare of a general hospital, two of these regimental Hospitals after I have had them put in order, one has been taken away by the Directors for a General Hospital and my people turned out of doors, and the other would have been taken in the same manner, had I not have applied to Gen^l Washington who told me to keep it. the misfortune is that every supply to the Regimental Hospitals of necessaries suitable for the sick, must come from an order from these Directors and is very seldom obtained. I have more than once applied that my Quarter Master might furnish and make a charge for what was supplied, by which means I could have rendered the situation of the sick much more comfortable, at a less expense, but could not be allowed. I wish this could be obtained. I foresee the evils arising from the shameful neglect in this Department. one good seasoned and well trained soldier recovered to health, is worth a dozen new recruits, and is often easier recovered, than to get a recruit, exclusive of which, this neglect is very discouraging to the soldiery and must injure the service upon the new enlistments; after the troops go into winter quarters, if the Convention & Council should judge it consistent with the interests of the province, and the good of the service, I could wish the regular troops might return home to refresh themselves in good winter quarters, and recruit the complement wanting, this I