

To the Honble

Major Genl. Smallwood

Amnapolis

Dear Genl.

I did expect to hear from you by Mr. Nelson but I suppose your Town and situation did not furnish much matter of information and I know you to be an Enemy to a superfluous use of Paper —

I beg you will acquaint the Executive of our State that their Artillery are in a precarious situation I have had information of an intention of ~~to~~ — to form them into

into a Corps with 4 Companies
from Virginia as a Command
from Col. Carrington to
the Virgⁿ Regt. which they are
=poss^{ible} to have
dissolved in order to give
a Command - he is
first favorite and will have
every Support he can lend how-
ever - as the Men are held
indistinct to the State only,
it will not be in their pow-
er without consent of the Legis-
lature to do it - the great dan-
ger is that it may cause a
total

disposition of these two Com-
-panies, without your unne-
-cessary interference should
prevent it.

We shall march Northward
by the last of Nov^r at farthest
I will tell you a great deal
which cannot be trusted to the
frail conveyance of paper
till the 5th Gen^l. I wish
you all Happiness possible
Yours truly
J. M. Howard

23 Oct. 1782
Camp 5th Gen^l.
Gen^l. Smallwood