

c. s. c. intrust it to a casual conveyance I have engaged a person to take the care of it to you by way of Rock-Hall with orders that should he be pursued in the bay and be in danger of being taken to sink the letter with weights. M^r Houston brings no intelligence worth communicating.

I am Gen^t Y^r Hble Serv^t
 Tho^s B. Hands. 23rd Mar. 1776.

Chester Town.

[J. Steward to Council.]

Gentlemen. The late convention were pleased to Honour me with an appointment in the regular independent service of this province. I am well pleased with my present situation, but from the consideration that I cannot attain so just a knowledge of Military duty in it, as in the Battalion or artillery I wish to exchange for the vacancy in Cap^t Fuffords company; If gentlemen you think I merit such Favour, it shall be my constant study to qualify myself for the Post.

I am gentlemen with the greatest respect,
 23^d March 1776. Y^r ob^t Servant,
 Jn^o Steward

[J. Beall to Council.]

Bladensburgh 24th March 1776.

Gentlemen. I received yours of the 19th instant, with the commitions for the majors and other officers in the 25th Battalion; requesting me to recommend proper persons as a second Lieu^t and ensign in Cap^t Warrings company, and an ensign in Cap^t Richardsons Company. As to the first, M^r Baruk Duckett was commissioned by the convention & has acted as ensign in that company; I am therefore at a loss about recommending a second person till I know whether you intend to remove, or leave him out of that company M^r Joseph Carlton who has acted as first serjant to that company ever since it was formed, and is very capable of acting in either of those offices, would be very agreeable both to the officers & men of that Company: I am not yet well enough acquainted with Capⁿ Richardsons company to fix on any particular person in that, but will in a few days inform myself and send up his name. inclosed you have some acct^s for wood and candles furnished the guard at this place, as also for the hire of an express to Annapolis, to acquaint you with the arrival of the powder. I have received your order for the delivery of ten barrels to the Gentlemen in Virginia, which will be delivered this day. And I sincerely wish there may be as speedy dis-