

[B. Rumsey to Council.]

C. S. C.

Joppa 23^d December 1776.

Gentlemen.

M^r James Talbot a merchant in Joppa and an officer in the militia in the eighth Battalion is desirous of procuring a Captain's commission in the Regulars to be raised as the Quota of this Province.

I have known him for some time, he is a cool serious thinking man a native of America, possesses as far as I have ever heard a fair character in trade and his dealings, has ever been ready to do his duty as a Militia officer, has on all occasions shewn his readiness to meet the enemies of freedom, upon every requisition, early in this contest has solicited a commission, and in my opinion has spirit enough added to his attachment to the cause to meet the foe and do his duty in the field to the best of his skill and ability.

M^r John Wayne would accept of a Lieutenancy under him, he is a native of Great Brittain married into a family in this neighbourhood, seems much attached to the cause of Liberty, is well acquainted with the manœuvres generally taught in the militia and I verily believe would make a good officer.

I am Gentlemen,
Your most Humble Serv^t
Benjamin Rumsey.

[G. Cook to Council.]

Original.

Philadelphia Dec^r 23^d 1776.

Hon^{ble} Gent. I wrote you from Christiana Bridge on the 19th Inst. and on the 21st arrive at this Place, where I waited on Gen^l Putnam for orders. He directed me to the Marine Board; on waiting on them my People were desired to assist in fitting out the Delaware. There is nothing at this time appears alarming the Enemy are retreating its supposed to Winter's Quarters, I am extremely willing to do every thing in my power to serve our Country, but it appears to me from what intelligence we have, that we shall not be wanting, in that case it will be better to be fitting out the Defence. I have inclosed you a list of the officers and men now with me, they are in high Spirits and very desirous of engageing the Ennemy, and I am satisfy'd would have endeavour'd to excell each other in being of most service to their Country. I had not time before I set of to make mention of those Gentlemen who are worthy of preferment. I now will use the freedom of mentioning my first Lieutenant M^r Auchenlick, likewise my second M^r Burnell both those Gentlemen are very deserving