

Department to me, I shall not afford the Public that satisfaction which may be expected, and am well satisfied it would have been much better accomplished by some gentleman in the Civil Line, supported by a small Military Force, which if this could still be done I think the general good would be better Promoted by my Attention to and forwarding the Recruiting Service, however the commands of the general Assembly &c shall be a Law to me. Pray will it absolve and wash away the Offences of the young fellows who are excepted, should they enlist which I believe they would readily come into. Have inclosed nine Depositions which I judged might now be wanted at Annapolis, I have a number more taken, but really have neither Paper nor Clerks to enable me to send copies thereof. Doct^r W^m Dashiell who was with me last Campaign, and is a very deserving & well qualified young gentleman in his Department, desires an Application may be entered for his becoming Surgeon to Col^o Gists Reg^t which will fall in the Line; if Chirurgical Rank is admitted, & Wallace & Briscoe succeed to the 1st & 2^d Reg^{ts} also D^r Johnson of Frederick, a young Gentleman of equal merit, who served in the general Hospital and attended myself & the wounded of my late Reg^t, is desirous and I believe him well Qualified to act in a like Department, & there's D^r Griffith who acted in the flying Camp, desired me to enter his Application, but as he is a Stranger I cannot undertake to recommend him. Col^o Done desired an Application might be entered for his Brother W^m who supports a very clear character and is represented to be spirited; for an Ensigns comⁿ, he having served on Board a Privatier some small Time. I should be obliged should M^r Duvall be directed to transmit me a List of the Appointm^{ts} as there are many young Gentlemen here desirous to know what situation they stand in, particularly M^r Rich^d Waters Brother to John Waters, who behaved so bravely at the White Plains, this young Gentleman has enlisted nearly his Compliment of Men and can get more, I hope he has not been neglected

With much Regard I have the Honor to be

Y^r very Obed^t H^{ble} Serv^t

W. Smallwood B. G^l

P. S. I have just received Intelligence that the Phenix and her Tenders are now at Anchor in the Middle of the Bay opposite Hoopers Straights and that Callalo returned to Smiths Islands about 2 Hours after Cap^t Stewart and his Party came from there, so that He may yet its probable be taken. I make no doubt you have heard of the Enemy's having rec^d a reinforcement in New Jersey which has occasioned Congress to issue a Resolve requiring the Troops raised on the Continental Establishment in the several States to march