

c. s. c. Ewing, which we intimated in our first letter. Since that, we have received a copy of their requisition transmitted to the Committees from one of our Delegates in Congress, so that we have always had doubts how far it would be proper for us to interfere. The Militia being to march under the requisition of Congress addressed to the several Committees of observation.

Your commission gives you the right to command, and we are desirous you should take the command of the whole Militia from this State in case you determine to go under the requisition of Congress. We cannot be more explicit. Your going or not we leave to your own discretion.

The arms heretofore belonging to this State furnished the Flying Camp were stopt in Philadelphia or that neighbourhood by the Board of war, acting, we presume, under the authority of congress. A copy of their order we send inclosed. We know not whether the General Assembly will consider those arms as our property. We make no doubt all the militia have been furnished them. Many have been lost or changed for worse arms. Congress is responsible to us for the deficiency at least, and we apprehend it would be improper to give an absolute order for them until the point is settled. We take it for granted arms will be found you by order from the Board of war at Phil^a and there we request you to apply. Congress have said in their requisition arms should be furnished. 500 pairs of shoes we have sent forward to Jesse Hollingsworth through the stages, to be sold out to the soldiers at 12/6 under your directions, and we have sent by the post the commissions you wrote for. We heartily wish you success in the military line, since it seems to be your choice and would gladly gratify you in every thing, but we apprehend it may involve this State in a dispute about the arms. Should we give you an absolute order, it would be an evidence against us that we consider them as our own, which we think at present would be a disadvantage to the State. Few or none of the good arms we fear will be got at any rate, and we should be extremely obliged to you to enquire into the affair and let us know your opinion when you get to Philadelphia, what arms that did belong to this State can now be got.

We are, &c.

To Brigadier General Johnson.

No. 100.

[Council to Chase.]

Jan^y 10, 1777

Sir. We are much obliged to you for the intelligence you have communicated, and most cordially congratulate with you