

paign. What may we not therefore now expect from them c. c. when Experience and Acquaintance with their Duty has qualified them to discharge it. When we are become better acquainted with the Character of Officers and the men are more familiarized to Danger and Discipline. We promise ourselves Sir the greatest Advantage from a decisive Superiority in Horse in the open Country where the scene of Action will probably lie and are the more anxious on this Subject as the Enemy are evidently increasing their number by every means they can devise purchasing and stealing Horses for the Purpose wherever they can be found. They have already formed two Troops of Tory light Horse who are chiefly employed in Kidnapping those civil officers who are distinguished for their Activity in executing the Trusts reposed in them by Government. The Consequences of this to our infant States are too obvious to need Enumeration. We are sorry to say they have lately had such Success as will probably encourage their Progress in this mischievous Business and extend it very far unless they meet with some seasonable Check. We apprehend therefore your Excellency and the Gentlemen in Authority with you will fully concur with us in the Propriety & necessity of recruiting this Corps with all possible Dispatch & favor us with your best assistance in so doing. The Regiments are nearly completed with natives of the Country whose Time of service in the Infantry having expired readily reinlisted in the Horse. These men inured to Fatigue, Danger and Discipline have only to learn the special Duties of that Service and will form excellent Dragoons. The great Difficulty under which the Service labors is the want of Horses and saddles to mount them. On the one Hand to wait the tedious Process of collecting Horses in the common mode of Purchase by employing either Officers or Agents uncontroled by any immediate Authority will occasion great Fraud and Delay. On the other Hand to use Force in any Degree appears oppressive and leaves such lasting Discontent in the minds of the Sufferers as not only sours and disaffects them to the general Interests of the Country but to the particular State where the Exaction is made. We have been therefore extremely solicitous to find some Expedient to reconcile their clashing Duties, an Expedient which may provide for the pressing Exigence of the Service without wounding too deeply those Feelings and Attachments which all men have for their Property in a greater or lesser Degree. At Length Sir as the safer and more effectual mode we have concluded to rely on the Wisdom and public Spirit of the Gentlemen in Authority in this and the neighbouring States and to request their Exertions in the following Mode. We have made a Calculation of