

which joined the Army at Valley Forge, have been attached & annexed to Col<sup>o</sup> Harrison's Battalion of ten companies from the State of Virginia which completes that battalion according to the establishment of twelve companies. The principle of promotion in the Artillery is to rise to Captains regimentally, and to Field Officers in the line of the Corps. No promotion has yet taken place so as to intermix the Officers of the above two companies from Maryland with those from Virginia. The companies from Virginia will soon be so weak as not to have more than sixty or seventy enlisted for the war in the ten companies, whereas those three companies from Maryland, viz. Brown's Dorsey's and late Gales (a company which joined about three months ago, and whose Captain has died since that period) amount to about two hundred non-commissioned officers & Privates, most of whom are for the war.

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From this State of facts perhaps it may appear, that as the ten Virginia Companies are so weak it will be necessary to reduce them to eight and to make four companies of the three from Maryland to compose Col<sup>o</sup> Harrison's Battalion, which will make a promotion to Captaincies of Capt, Lieut<sup>s</sup> Smith and Finley, the officers mentioned in the Governor's letter; and will be complying with his request and wish, so far as to provide for those two officers, and the making four companies from the State of Maryland; and will entirely prevent the confusion which would attend making a young Captain a Major.

The inconvenience that would result from this arrangement would be, that some of the Captain Lieut<sup>s</sup> of the Virginia companies, who are senior to Capt. Lieut. Smith & Finley, would probably think themselves injured by the promotion of those Gentlemen to companies. Perhaps this is an evil which cannot be avoided, considering the political reasons which urge the measure.

If your Excellency should approve of this arrangement, which is agreeable to Gen<sup>l</sup> Smallwoods sentiments, it would perhaps be necessary for a Resolve of Congress to incorporate the companies of the State of Maryland into Col Harrison's Battalion.

[Jas Calhoun, Baltimore, to His Excellency Gov Lee]

Sir I yesterday received Your Excellencies Letter of the 23<sup>d</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> respecting the forwarding Cloathing to the Army. Capt Keepert informs me there will be about six Waggon Load and that there is no Troops here of the Maryland Line to Escort them except Serg<sup>t</sup> Neary—the Capt<sup>n</sup> intends waiting on you at Annapolis in a day or two & believe might be persuaded to take charge of the Cloathing to Camp if he can be spared from here.

The Purchasing Commissary has this day apply'd to me for Waggons to Transport 370 Barrels of Flour from this place and the Flour of 10500 Bushels of Wheat from Harford County to Camp.

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