

without exception such flour as may be found. And as I have a quantity of wheat & flour purchased for the Marine of France, I would be obligd to your Excell^y & the Council for information on this head, as I have understood the commiss^{rs} are of opinion this flour comes within the Law, and I would Just beg leave to observe that several Vessells are chartered to Carry the provisions in my possession to the fleet. And some transports are dayly lookd for from the West Indies for the same purpose. I have taken the liberty to mention this matter, as I observe the com^{rs} are under the direction of the Gov^r & Council

[J. Gunby Camp near Morris Town to Col Forrest]

January 3

D^r Forrest From our present Arrangement of Field Officers I have the Honour to claim you as Lieu^t Colonel to the 7th Regiment and shall have you muster'd accordingly, the bearer of this Serjeant Enoch M^cLane, I beg leave to Recommend as an honest fine Lad, and send him to you for the purpose of a Recruiting Serjeant, to be continued as long as you may think proper, or while recall'd and to receive your orders & directions for the Execution of that business, Cap^t Beatty is ordered to Frederick Town with a Drum & fife, and Cap^t Lieu^t Beall to George Town, as Recruiting officers; Serjeants David Green Robert Green and Robert Yates, of the seventh Regiment, are Recommended for Commissions in said Regiment; and will Apply to you for your Instructions, and Assistance, in the Recruiting Business, Please have Money drawn for that purpose, & give them your orders, Your Interest I am well convinced will tend much to the Promotion of the Regiment; if Cloathing is to be had in the State, be as Early as you can in drawing for the Recruits, of the Regiment, if Captain Beatty & Beall could have Clothing drawn for them, and in readiness, that as soon as a man Enlists, Scour him up, shave his face, put a new Suit of Cloaths on him, powder his head, and make a Gentleman of them, as soon as they become Soldiers, it would be a great Inducement for their Inlisting & I am Confident there would not be half so many Desertions, with Recruits in the State, that heretofore have been, I have the Pleasure to Inform you that Excepting the 3^d the 7th is the Strongest Regiment in the Maryland Line & flatter myself that with your Assistance it will soon be the Strongest & best in the Line, as we have few good Serjeants now left in the Regiment, would be glad of your endeavours to have some Enlisted, which are qualified to fill the places of those who are promoted; the news of Camp Refer you to Gen^l Smallwood, & Capt. Jones & believe me Dear Forrest to be with every Sentiment of Respect and Esteem. Your sincere Friend & most Obed^t H^{ble} Serv^t