

dustrious man, Shaw from the best information I could get, is a very idle Lasey fellow, who is rather a burden, than a help to his family, for which reason I chose him to go into service, I shall inquire farther into the matter from some persons whose Names are to his Petition. This mode of raising men I think is against both the people & Service, Had the people at large been Taxt half the sum of money it has cost individuals to procure Substitutes, And that money put into the hands of proper officers for recruiting, I am convinced there would have been three times the Number, and good men procured for a length of time. The present mode of raising men is very uncertain, in making out the last classes, I indeavour^d to put an Equal Number of single men in Each Class, yet in many of the class None but Married men were Drafted, in one instance where there were but 5 married men in a Class of 20, two of the married men were drafted

[P. Thomas, B. Johnson, Frederick to His Excell^{cy} Thomas S. Lee Esq^r] August 21

M^r Samuel Morris of this place expresses A strong desire to serve his Country in the Field And proposes to Apply to the Hon^{ble} Board for An Ensignsy

I beg leave to mention that He supports the Character of a man of Honor is a firm independant Whig and will probably make a good Officer

[P. Thomas, Tho. Price, B. Johnson, Mich^l Boyer, Frederick to His Excellency Tho^s S Lee Esq^r] August 21

M^r George Ming of this place expresses a Strong inclination to serve in the Army And intends to Sollicit that Hon^{ble} Board to appoint him An Ensign in the Maryland line. We beg leave to mention that since his residence here, which is About twelve months, He has supported An unspotted Character. He appears to us to be a very promising Youth, is well attached to the Indepence of his Country and only wants experience to make him a good Officer.

[W. Smallwood, Annapolis, to Gov. Lee.]

The first and second Continental Regiments to the Southward, and the third Reg^t now ready to March are in great want of Blankets and other necessaries suitable to equip them for the approaching Winter Season, which if by any means can be procured, I wish to forward under the Escort of this Regiment that the Troops in the Southern Department may be supplied early in the Fall—this is an Object worthy your Attention, to preserve the Men in that unhealthy Climate.

August 21
Brown Book
No. 2
Letter 5