

August 30 As I have nothing in View prejudicial to the State, but nearly Appreciation for kindnesses done, I flatter myself I shall meet your indulgence, w^{ch} if I do be pleased to deliver M^r J. Chase for his speedy conveyance as on Sunday Morn^g I leave this for Phil^a w^{ch} is so much on my way

August 30 [Joseph Dashiell, Wo^r to The Hon. Maj. G^l Smallwood, Annapolis.]
(By Mr. Wm. Handy)

I am Sorry to Inform you that we have bin Very Unsuccessful in apprehending our Draught that kept out of the way, Indeed one thing has retarded it I have bin & still am Very Ill; sum have Come In and some have got substituts, Young men that I am in Grate hopes will Inlist, those shall be sent forward as soon as a sufficieit number get together to make it worth while.

The Bare M^r W^m Handy is a gentlemen that is one of the last Draught, he was draughted with a man that provd to be ruptured, and of Consequence he was Judg'd most proper to go, In consequence of which he got a Substitute, But the man prov'd to be a Soldier Inlisted for the war which I sent up has the last Conveyances, his Name was Edw^d Blake, a molatto

Since that M^r Handy has made me acquainted with a wound that he Rec^d sum Years ago in one of his Leags, he says weakings it so that he Could not posably hold out to march any distance as he is a gentleman of Varisity I Cant doubt his asertion and altho I dont think I have a right to Discharge him yet I have no doubt you will if He Can satisfy you that he is weak in his Leag

I am so bad at present with a fevour that I keep my Bead, Therefore hope you will Exquese this Imparfect scribe.

August 29 [Levin Handy, Peter Chaille, Robert Done, W^m Allen, James Martin, S. Bishop and Zadok Purnell, Worcester, to The Hon^{ble} Major Gen^l Smallwood.]

We have taken the liberty of recommending M^r William Handy to your Honor as a Gentleman—Worthy of any indulgence you may think proper to grant him, he was draughted with a person, who was ruptured, and consequently was adjudged to be the most proper person to March. M^r Handy has had the misfortune to loose a wife, who has left him four small Children; there are to be supported by his industry alone, as he has not a fortune to support them: this under the former draught Law wou'd have been a sufficient excuse for his not marching; but as a further excuse we beg leave to inform your Honor, that some years ago M^r Handy received a bad wound in one of his legs, which he hath since complained of being weak in; & from the information of the Doct^r who attended him, we are satisfied he could not compleat one days march M^r Handy is in-