

issued his order to the Adjutant General directing him to lay before the Executive without delay a full Return of the Militia; which order was communicated to the Major Generals by the Adjutant General.

On the 11th of the same Month the Executive apportioned the Men to be raised from this State amongst the different divisions, and forwarded to the Major Generals a copy of the act of Congress and gave particular directions for the full and speedy compliance with the Requisitions. On the 14th of the same Month the Commander in Chief again ordered that the Adjutant General should call on the Commanders of Divisions to furnish without delay their Quota of Men, required by the President of the United States, of this State, and agreeably to the proportions fixed by the Executive of Maryland.

These orders were also forwarded by letter from the Adjutant General to the Major Generals. Orders were again issued by the Commander in Chief and on the 23rd of September 1797 were forwarded by the Adjutant General to the Major Generals urging them to a speedy compliance with the orders before issued and requesting them to make immediate Returns of the drafts in their respective divisions: a similar order issued on the 2nd of December. Thus it appears every caution has been made by the Commander in Chief and the Executive to effectuate the object of the act of Congress and for a compliance with the Requisitions of the President, as far as could be effectuated by simply issuing of orders, and forwarding them by the Mail or Private conveyances: but those repeated orders have only produced the Returns from one third of the Militia commanded by Major General Forrest. Nearly a twelve Month has elapsed since we were called on for Men to be in readiness and completely equipped without the Executive or Commander in Chief having received any information that the least regard has been paid to their orders, or whether they if required could forward one Man from two entire Divisions of the Militia. In times like the present when every movement of the National Government indicates the immediate prospect of War, and when the other State Governments are strenuously exerting themselves to aid the operations of the Union, the Executive of Maryland are called on to say whether they will rest satisfied with a mere renewal of unexecuted orders, or whether they will pursue more effectual measures for the completion of its Quota of Men. - We know not the causes that may have existed to delay the compliance with the orders. - We know not whether it may have been occasioned from the defective system of the Militia law, but we firmly believe, that the simple renewal of the orders will not be sufficient.