

By many of our deluded Citizens to the westward made it necessary in the opinion of the Executive of the United States to call forth a military force to quell that opposition, it was thought proper by the Governor and Council to furnish a Detachment from Maryland with arms which were the property of our State... This was considered by the Legislature as a laudable exercise of power, prompted by the necessity of the times and used at the request of the General Government.

Mr. Hamilton who then acted for the Secretary at War by a letter of the 17th of September 1794, made a further request, that the Executive of this State should furnish arms to the Virginia Line in case they should be wanting and pledge the faith of the United States for their restitution: but although the request was acceded to by the Executive, yet as the Virginia Detachment was provided from a different quarter, no arms were ever delivered out for this purpose... This seems to be an admitted fact.

As none of the letters from the officers of the United States except the one of the 17 of September 94, in any manner expressly guarantee the arms to Maryland, and as none were actually furnished except to the quota required from our own State, it seems questionable to me, altho' a different opinion has been entertained, whether this State can have any just claim against the United States on this score, especially when it is considered that if any effectual Militia law had been made on the basis of the law of Congress, our own Militia would have been equipped by itself.

Under these circumstances I am of opinion that a letter should be written to the Secretary at War to obtain information of the situation of our claim, and the causes which have impeded its adjustment... a former correspondence being had with that Department which has not been successful.

The second question proposed... It is to be remembered that General Orders have issued from the Commander in Chief to the Major Generals of the different Divisions, to raise our quota, directing the Returns to be made to them and from them to the Adjutant General's Office; this order has been fully complied with by General Forrest, but the Returns are not completed from the other Divisions... No orders have issued from the Commander in Chief except to the Major Generals.

Every man who has considered our present Military establishment, must have seen the difficulties the officer has to encounter in the execution of his duty, and how impossible it is for him to be successful in his endeavours completely to perform it without authority to enforce obedience to his commands, without funds to defray the expenses, he is put to: with officers thus surrounded with difficulties, it is not surprising that