

occasion such conciliatory measures as do not ultimately endanger the efficiency of our Establishment; but if such measures shall not have their expected consequence the only remaining expedient must be adopted.

I need not observe to you that in the infancy of a Militia System it is in itself more than discretionary, in its formation the moment of public emergency is not a proper time for subjecting to the sword Coercion the first Instance of deviation from duty.

If perseverance in such circumstances would indeed be too obstinate a course to be countenanced but I presume you will think with me that in a decided intention so to persevere is manifestly it would be better to attempt a reform in a mode less harsh and irritating than that to which you allude.

I am not in possession of the articles of War which you request me to forward to you nor do I believe it is in my power to obtain them except from the records of the old Congress.

I imagine however that if it was adviseable to put these instances of disobedience into a train of Enquiry, it could only be by a Court Martial, and that this could only be directed by the Commander in Chief.

I will give you a choice of the Quota of Officers from your Brigade and I enclose a Commission for all 300000 conformably to your wish.

We give to Expresses twenty five shillings per diem in consideration of horse hire in this Town being seven shillings and six pence, but I imagine you may procure them for less.

I sincerely regret the present state of your health and have no doubt that as far as it will permit you will not be wanting in your endeavours to forward the embarkation of the Detachment.

Very dear General

Yours Obedt Servant

I am &c

Thos. Lee