

Council Chamber October 11. 1794

Sir

Although the many doubts that have occurred respecting the proper mode of procuring a body of Cavalry from this State to act against the Insurgents have hitherto occasioned a suspension of any steps for that purpose, I have at length determined to procure by Volunteers from different Troops, at least a full Captain's command, and have in consequence written to General Forrest and Crabb who I expect will procure upwards of thirty from the two Troops in Montgomery County and to Captains Wilson and Lyon in Baltimore County from whose Troops I presume on obtaining some Volunteers - to complete the plan I have determined to accept your offer of service, and if my influence can produce an acquiescence in those whose Commissions may be of equal date with yours, you will have the Command of the whole body which I flatter myself will be strengthened by a respectable number of your own Troop. The Volunteers will be directed to repair to Frederick Town with all possible speed. I enclose you a letter to Captain Boyce who is the only person that can contend with you for the Command of the Cavalry as Captains Forrest and Beall are Commissioned on a later day. I hope that you will immediately let me hear from you on this Subject, and that you will use all possible exertion to turn out a good number of your Troop.

I am Sir

Captain Roger Nelson

Thos. J. Lee

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Sir

Having determined to procure a body of Volunteer Cavalry to join General Smith's Detachment, I have accepted the offer of service made by Captain Nelson of Frederick County (immediately on the promulgation of the Continental Requisition), to serve on the present expedition on the condition of his having the Command of the Cavalry, unless an officer of superior rank during the last war should likewise serve. In accepting Captain Nelson's services I have apprized him that this condition cannot be absolutely secured to him as you have received a Commission of the same date with his. But I have engaged to use such means as are in my power to procure the acquiescence of the officers who may serve with him in his being considered the senior