

Battalions with all diligence and speed to move forward either in Battalions or Companies as they get ready. Most of those we have seen of the new enlisted men appear to be quite new, and in great want of necessaries, some pay must be advanced to put them in the best condition to appear in. On Tuesday last we gave orders to Capt Thomas to march with his men to Philadelphia as soon as the Commanding officer below thinks he can be spared and this day on receipt of your letter we have ordered Capt Hindman to move forward, although we apprehend the Eastern Shore will be weakened thereby, and we are doubtful that will be the next place invaded.

We feel for the State of New York, but cannot help feeling also for Maryland and shall endeavour to conduct ourselves in such manner as to give every assistance in our power to them, and to the common Cause, without exposing ourselves to destruction. Since the March of our Regulars we are truly in a ~~defensible~~ defenceless State, and if powerfully invaded know not what may be the consequence, however we hope for the best and are exerting ourselves to the utmost.

We wish our powder that arrived at Egg Harbour to be sent to Baltimore. The arms, &c. we desire may be left at Philadelphia for the use of one of the Companies of the Flying Camp, who will have our orders to call for them.

We approve of what you have done as to the 5,000 dollars and would have you keep the Balance to answer contingent expenses, and render account from time to time as you may see fit.

Doctor Footel our Surgeon Major has put into our hands a list of Chirurgical Instruments which he send you herewith and request the favour of you to procure and send down by first opportunity.

We send you also the proceedings of the last Convention. Jennings Esq is just arrived in good health after a very long passage. He left London the 29th of March and bring us very particular news that we have heard.

To Deputies in Congress. We are &c.
Gent.

We received a letter yesterday from W. Mankell one of the Committee of Observation of Calvert County advising us that they had not been supplied with Powder and Lead from your County agreeable to an order of the Council which was made transmitted you, 4th 23rd of January. Delay upon such occasions may be attended with dangerous consequences and it will be impossible for us to direct the military operations with any probability of success unless our requisitions are complied with. Calvert is greatly exposed and ought not to be without a proper supply of ammunition. You may be assured it is our wish to provide equally for the defence of every part of the province and that we will not reduce your stock below your proportion. It appears by a report of the Committee appointed by the last Convention to enquire into the state of the arms and ammunition that there were 120 1/2 lbs of Powder in your County and from them there have been but 250 sent to St Mary's so that you have now 95 1/2 remaining. We desire you will therefore immediately dispatch the barrels of Powder and Lead now in Calvert, when a further distribution is made we will supply you with a full share.

We are &c.

To the Committee of Charles.

In Council