

rations for the Battalion that are to supply the places of our own Regulars. We wish you to apply to the Congress and let us know what is to be done about subsistence for the other Battalions; they are all coming to us to be supplied with almost every necessary, and you may judge our situation is very disagreeable, not having it in our power to answer their demands. Our militia in a general way during this time of invasion cannot be persuaded to lend their arms, most of those who enlist have none of their own. - We take it for granted it would answer very little purpose to send you a number of men unarmed and unprovided with necessaries and therefore do not order them forward. We congratulate you on the victory that hath been obtained in South Carolina by the Americans over the British fleet, some of Commodore Parkers Squadron have met with a severe drubbing according to the particulars we have heard, of which we doubt not you have more perfect information before this time. - We send you the Maryland Gazette in which are inserted some particulars of the damage sustained by Commodore Parker. We have information from below that Lord Sumner hath been beat off at Gwynns Island, and we have too much reason to believe by intelligence from a deserter who was examined before us yesterday that Gov^r Eden is still on board the Fowey. - they have 72 sail of vessels, divers of them small sharp rigged sloops or boats. We have received Mr. Stones letter of the 12th but know not what answer to give as to supplying tents, until we can see how our canvass holds out, do not believe it will be in our power to furnish any in time.

To Deputies in Congress.

Sir.

July 20th 1776.

We received yours of the 1st July by Capt^m Reynolds and have no particular orders to give at present more than to request you would forward the militia of the flying camp, use your endeavours to have the men well armed, and furnished with blankets and all necessaries; Col^l Williams we are told had declined, - you stand in the way of promotion, therefore exert yourself to the utmost, and may be crowned with success. We wish you health, and are

Y^r most obed^t serv^{ts}

To Major Henry Shryock. Elizabeths Town.

Sir. Your favors of 17th & 20th instant are before us. We approve of your ordering an additional number of Militia from Col^l Hawkins Battalion, and dont doubt your doing every thing necessary to repel the invaders, we have ordered Major Price down with three field pieces, and one nine pounder with Captain Thomas' independent Company which were rest satisfied are arrived with you by this time. These will enable the Major and you to speake more properly with the Row Galley than you hitherto could do. You apprehend the enemy are moving up the River, it is not improbable but they may, you will (as you have done) continue to watch their motions and from time to time inform us. We wish to be acquainted (how