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Sir

Oct 25<sup>th</sup> 1776

This board requests the favour of you to take the enclosed from Captain Handy and his secretary as Bonds and when done to transmit it to us by some safe Conveyance. After the Bond is executed be pleased to deliver Capt Handy the enclosed Commissions and Instructions.

To Bonton Harris Esquire

Sir

Annapolis Oct 31<sup>st</sup> 1776

We are obliged by your favour of the 28<sup>th</sup> ult. and are sensible of the Distresses you and those under your command must have been and suffered by the repeated shiftings of the continental camp. So soon as it is in your power we again beg that you will furnish us with an account of the accoutrements carried out of this Province agreeable to our request in the letters you have referred to that we may debit the Continent with the whole credit it for what may be returned. We may have granted General Beall leave to take the Fifor out of Captain Bracco's company but we do not recollect it and we hope he will settle the affair to your and Mr Bracco's satisfaction. Your sending of your Books and Paper to Philadelphia a prudent precaution. Thomas' company were paid for furnishing their own cloathes and the Extras should be deducted out of their own pay. We think it right that you should draw and retain in your hands the monies you mentioned were due to this State and wish that our men could be indulged with or draw the residue that may be due to them from the company. They deserve every countenance and assistance that can be afforded them. Enclosed you have two Commissions one for Todd and the other for Harrison the dates you will be pleased to fill up. When your list is made out of the other vacancies a due regard and attention shall be paid to your recommendation and should Mr John Michel be among the number it will give us pleasure he being warmly recommended to our Board. Wetherhall & Wallace had considerable stock of medicines which would be advantageous to this State for at present we are almost without them. We are very sensible of the truth of your observations respecting the frequent removal of Camps. We know the men must suffer greatly. You must derive great comfort from your Commander in Chief whose excellent qualities cannot we conceive be equalled. Had those who have had the supreme command of affairs been as vigilant & provident our men would have suffered less than they have. We wish that the service may allow our Troops to return into winter quarters in their own country where nothing in our power shall be wanting to furnish them with every comfort which is so much their due. We are making provision towards their cloathing & wish to see them in situations agreeable to their desires. We are pleased to hear that General Washington has removed his Camp to a place as much for the better & where its probable you cannot be outflanked or surrounded. Pray present our respectful compliments to him and believe us to be very truly

Very your Obedt Servt.