

there is enrolled in Capt Darnood's company, and I don't think the remainder could be got in less than a month from this date - 1/2 of those we are willing to enlist during the war or be turned over to another company, if some of their officers go with them. Capt Deems is likewise out of town, 'tis probable you may not hear from him. This express he wants a number of his new recruits 100 or 12: the expenses of one man has been considerable, and I would be glad to know, as they are at my charge, whether they will be turned over to Deems' company or discharged and go free with what they have. I will forward your letter to Capt Darnood as fast as possible that he may return the money not expended and in the interim.

To the Honorable

Remain but your very Obedt Servt

Council at Annapolis

Nathaniel Bond - Secy of Darnood's Company

P.S.

Since writing the above I have seen Capt Deems who has agreed to wait on you himself to morrow morning and if Capt Darnood does not come in town I will likewise wait on you with the names of the men that are enrolled.

N.B.

Camp N. Charles 13th October 1776.

Honble Sir. I arrived here the 18th inst when I found the three companies I forwarded from Baltimore under the care of Major Eden, Capt Corey, Young and Low, the latter of which I found wounded, which he received in an engagement, which happen'd the Monday before I arrived. The next day we were joined by Capt Hanson and Mafuder, the 22nd by Capt Tildard and Bowie and the 1st inst by Capt Forrest, so that I have 8 Companies here and am in daily expectation of Capt Brooks' company which will complete my battalion, sorry I am to inform you that the battalion is very sickly. By the last return I had 237 Privates sick, besides officers, owing to our lying on the cold ground, without straw or plank, which is not to be bad, and medicine being scarce, great numbers of the soldiers are badly off for clothing. I have given the Capt orders on the Continental Store for what things they want, but even there they cannot be supplied. Numbers of the soldiers are without blankets. Several who never received any and some of the first 3 Companies lost theirs in leaving New York. I have furnished Genl Beal with the account of all the arms and accoutrements received by my battalion from the State of Maryland as delivered me by the Capt all but Capt Corey who is in the country at sick lodging.

Yesterday morning we were alarmed here by an express which arrived at Headquarters from Genl Heath who commands our Kings Bridge, informing his Excellency that the enemy had landed about 4000 troops with an intent of cutting off our communication with the Country, upon which we were all ordered to our alarm posts, and Genl McDougals Brigade, in which is Col Swallowood and the Independent Companies, were ordered to march immediately to Kings Bridge. There was a report in the evening that the enemy were in possession of East & West Chester, if so are doubtless the sick and wounded with a great deal of stores, are fallen into their hands.

There is orders come out for our soldiers to cook three days provisions and to hold themselves in readiness for an immediate march, by which it is thought we will evacuate this Island. About five days ago there were three men of war frigates

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