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Sir

The Season is drawing near when possibly the Militia may be called out they are in no Condition for it in this and I believe in the neighbouring County not having exercised for this twelvemonth or more.

This as far as I can learn arises from the unsettled state of Matters in the Militia the Officers having no Commissions will not train their Men, the Men will not be obedient to them without them.

If the Men are called I am apprehensive they will not march under them as they publickly say they have no compulsory Power, the Officers too are unwilling to march without them no Distinction being made between an Officer & private if made Prisoner under such Circumstances nor has an Officer a Right to sit on Courts Martials.

A Real Desire of doing Service to the publick has induced me to give your Excellency this Information

I am
your Excellency's
Most humble Servant
Benjamin Rumsey

Feby. 23. 1778
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