in the field, have formed into the several
gradations of military rank from the general
down to the private. In such state of things, it
is the exception, but few are really capable, but
have been entrusted with that peculiar talent, inde-
pendent of the military qualifications of a
man, who should be entrusted with the Militia
time of danger, in hour of battle; And when
can with a peculiar Art bring them to a
good state of subordination & discipline — the
martial Law must certainly be exercised
the due severity, yet accommodated to the
particular state of things — It is not always
that men, in their infinitely, bravery, & tran-
scendent talents, might with the masterly skill
and Generalship of a Frederick the Great
manage a Mighty Army in Fort & Lines of
Operations, yet be inadequate to the charge
ge of Militia Force! — A Commandant
of Citizen Soldiers in time of peace, should be
in an honorable standing among his fellow men,
clothed with reverence & held in the highest
esteem & respect as a Citizen. — For
in our adjacent Counties cannot construct
a few sentiments, nor enclose a report to
the Commanding General correctly.

In me can but feel a
Acknowledging you Dear Colonel
my candid sentiments, & with the utmost
ness, and feel confident it is the unan
wish of your Officers & men that you
remain our Commanding Colonel. I sincere
ly hope the nature of your affairs may
state such turn, as to permit you to remain a Citizen of our
County of Lifer. — In the Accept the
the most assurance of the highest respect
& esteem, with the Candor of
Dear Sir
Your Obt. Servt.
Jno. Lighter
Col. John Lighter