Answers to the Queries of Gov.r Johnson & the Hon.ble the Council in their Letter of the 12th June 1777

✝ Major Smyth has wrote you what he heard Capt.n Dean say respecting his intention of Continuing in the Service. Capt.n Hawkins (who was Deans first Lieut.t & is now absent) has told me several Times that he has often heard Capt.n Dean say (before his Captivity) that he did not mean to Continue in the Army: However 'tis possible his Sentiments may have Changed Since. Mr. Benton can have no pretentions to promotion before Frazier, as is clearly shewn to you by my Roster.

A. It is not unlikely but the appointment of Stokes may give umbrage to some of the Ensigns: His appointment is however made known to them, and I have not heard of a Murmur. There are but two or three that in my Opinion deserve promotion viz. Jacob Jones — Truelock & King — the two last are unknown to me, therefore speak of them but from Information — I think Stokes at least equal to Jones. I think it wrong where men stand equal as to Merit ~~[illegible]~~ to put a stranger over the Head of those that have been in Service.

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B. There can be no doubt but the same objection will lye against Goldsborough that does against Mr. Broom; — But both having been in the Service they have pretentions — I did not mean to put Goldsborough in Competition with Mr. Broom — I had often mentioned him to the Council of Safety, but finding him not Noticed, I thought they might have omitted transmitting his Name to you, and mentioned him with a view only of shewing him Notice hereafter. It is true that Boyd in Justice ought to & does stand before Skinner, but were we at Camp he would not hold a Commission longer than while a Gen.l Court Martial could be held to break him. My Roster will shew you that by the Commissioners Arrangement, Boyd, Gibson & Skinner follow each other — That according to their former