18th Sept 1778

Sir

I recd your of the 12th instant the 17th in the Evening inclosing the Copy of the Act &c, which I shall distribute without loss of time. Since I saw you I have been under an Inoculation of the small pox, which I thank God I have got well out and shall now be in a condition to pursue my business without any danger from that malady though it has in a great measure retarded my business in forming and compleating the Battalions. The Lower Battalion is done with all to the appointing the Officers, Colo. Lucas is compleat wanting about 40 men, that and the Middle Battalion I hope to have fully compleated in a few days, when I shall be in town with the lists of Officers for each Battalion. Three of the field Officers I understand refuse to act, their reasons for which I imagine they have alle-ged you will see. I understand they have returned their commis-sions to you. I am really at a loss who to recommend till I know whether they will serve or not, and it would give me pleasure to have those Offices filled with men of property and influence.

I am in hopes the encouragement given by the Act, and the Alacrity of the people in procuring Substitutes will raise the Quota of men in this county without much difficulty.

I have been so much confind at home since last fall, that I really dont know who were the persons appointed to recruit in this county, as I have not yet got the Acts of that Session, I have had but fifteen men brought before me, by Hezekiah Wheeler 4, Edw. Beall 4, Walter Lilburn Williams 4, Thos. Gordon 2, Benj. Wales 1. The business of taking up deserters seems to begin with I have had 4 brought before me already.

I shall pursue every measure in my power to have the Quota of men in this county made up as Quickly as possible

I am Sir Your Most Obedient & Very Humble Serv.

Jos: Beall Lieut. Do. Ga. Cty

Thomas Johnson Esqr
Gov. of Maryland