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Worcester County 23d May 1777

May it Please Your Excellency:

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Your of the 19th Inst. came to hand Yesterday in consequence of Which I have given the necessary orders, but find that we have not Arms to put into the hand of more than One Class of our Militia in Case of Invasion. and have not Cartouch boxes and Cartouses for half our Arms, We must therefore request. if they can possibly be spared to send us down One hundred good Arms Two hundred Cartouch boxes & the same number of Cartouses as they Cant possibly be got on this side the Bay.

We shall likewise be very badly off in Case we are called out for the Article of Bread, there is One hundred Barrels of flower at Snow hill Private property which might be had if there was any person here Authorised to purchase it.

Inclosed you have a list of officers. which we hope will be Commissioned in Order to fill up the Different Battilions. Should be Glad to know of the County of ~~Dorchester~~ is Invaded on the Eastern shore Whether it is the Sense of the Govr & C that we should march to their Assistance

It will be Absolutely necessary to Have some Money Lodg'd in this County to Defray the expences that must necessarily arise from being in motion. I am already in Debt for Over hauling and repairing the Public Arms &c I have likewise Inclosed my Acc^t for the fourth purchase Last Winter for the Public by Orders Should be Glad of the Ballance.

I am Your Mo Obt Hble St

Joseph Dashiell Lieut. Col.

ARCHIVES OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND.