Camp at North Castle Township 31 Octr 1777

60

Sir

The late ungenerous behaviour of Colonel William Hoppar in the Eastern shore, lays me under the indispensable obligation to report his conduct to You Excellency, that through regard to his Connexions and reputation, I have hitherto withheld

Colonel Hoppar attended the Brigade under my Command, in our March to Germantown on the night of the 3d Instant - On the Morning of the 4th. the Enemys Picket began a scattering fire in front of our Column when the Colonel was unmercifully attacked with some qualms of Sickness that obliged him to leave his Regiment and retreat to Maryland.

as Mankind cannot be answerable at all times for the Weakness and frailty of the Human Heart, his feelings demanded more pity than Resentment, which led me to conceal his Error, until I had the pleasure of waiting on You in person;

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I accordingly Informd that he regaled on his way towards in his Neighbourhood at home, that the Maryland Militia were posted in front, and were entirely cut off; this with other Reports propagated by him to the prejudice of the Army, had its tendency to prevent the Second Class of Militia from turning out so generally as they otherwise would have done. Colo Ramsay Dinner with many other of his Neighbours can furnish You with a particular Account of this Conduct and its effects upon his return. I have the Honor to be

Sir

Yr Mo Obedt Servt

M. Gist

His Excellency Governor Johnson