to give order respecting the matter, I inform'd him that all ~~Clothing~~ distributions of State Stores in our Line, had been made by order of Genl. Smallwood, & never heard the authority doubted ~~by any in the Line~~, except by Mr. Randall & that very lately, — but these Arguments proved to have no effect; — a material difference there was in the Quality of the Cloth, I leave you to Judge; from the nature of the distribution, whether those that were not among the foremost it not Injured, they are of your Brigade and did not expect an unjust distribution, would have taken place, I am so unfortunate as to have none of the Cloth, & cannot conceive that the Assembly of Maryland, ever intended that Mr. Randale should have had the entire order of the clothing, furnished for the use of his Officers, or from the Letter of her Act, that an Ensign should have preference to a Field Officer in distribution; I wrote to Mr. Randale some short time after he had made delivery, requesting he would inform me the quality of the Cloth he had on hand, also what he had delivered, he inclosed me in his answer, five or six Samples of the cloth he had received, in them were papers pinn'd to the different Samples