

[Burwell to Jenifer.]

Original.

Baltimore Decem^r 18th 1776.

Sir.

I am to inform you that last night Capt. George Cook departed with about sixty or seventy men, M^r Auchenlick, his first Lieutenant and other officers belonging to the Ship Defence under his command, for the Head of Elk, from whence they are to proceed to Philadelphia with an intent to join the forces there.

I would have attended him, but was obliged to give place to my Senior officer wherefore I was left in command of the Ship 'till Capt. Cook's return from the Expedition, which I expect will not be 'till Howe's expulsion from the Jerseys, which I'm in hopes will be soon.

I have the Honor to be Sir,
Your most obed^t Humb. Servt.
John Burwell.

[H. Hollingsworth to Council.]

Original.

Head of Elk 18th Dec^r 1776.

Honoured Sirs.

Having just returned from Philad^a am inform'd by Col^o Rumsey of your order to hold the Battallion in readiness to march which I doubt not will be obey'd with chearfullness (so far as in our power) the want of armes is the only deficiency that at present appears, which I fear cannot be supply'd but from your City, as I mett a number of the militia going to Philad^a all without armes.

Coll. Rumsey and myself yesterday examin'd some chests of armes, said to belong to the Virgenia State, but found them old and much out of repaire, nor is there time at present to repair them, as orders are Epected immediatly for marching, in which case at the request of Coll. Rumsey and in behalfe of the Battallion I am Imboulden'd to sollicite, that armes be forwarded, unless there be a certainty of getting good ones at Philad^a, or some post forward, as it will annimate the Battallion much to be assured of good armes. I doubt not of your necessary credentials to some person forward (in authority) to enable us to obtain tents and every other nessesary for the Battallion, and am with much Esteam,

Gentlemen
Your most Obed^t Humb^l Servant
H. Hollingsworth.