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Ab<sup>t</sup> the time I received the publick arms it was thought more safe to deliver a proportion of them to each of the militia Captains than to deposit them in a magazine, but as every appearance of danger with which we were then threatened from the disaffected of this county appears to be removed. I am of oppinion that it would be better to collect them together, and hire some person to have them kept clean and fit for use. I had occasion to order A detachment of the militia on duty last week, and found the Arms which was repaired and cleaned a few months pass'd rendered useless by the rust. no attention is paid to keeping them by the officers who have the care of them by which means should their be the most pressing call for them they will be useless and in a short time intirely ruined; I shall be much oblige to your Excellency to advise me of the propriety of employing A trusty person to take charge of the magazine, and keep the Armes cleaned and in order. Ive inclosed the enlistments of the five men recruited in this County and sent the men up by Cap<sup>t</sup> Dashiell. and inclosed a list of their names. Except Mitchel and Case which has Deserted

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[George Dashiell, Som't County, to Gov. Lee]

Sir Since writing you yesterday I am informed by Charles Revel one of the recruits That Mess<sup>rs</sup> John Jones & John Wilkins have refused to pay him the mony which they contracted with him to enlist for. This lad was brought before me to pass muster for to exempt a class of the militia from being ordered on Actual service. but as the class was composed of a number of reputable persons who seemed anxious to procure a recruit, I refused him sundry times in hopes that some person better able than himself would have been enlisted, but when that could not be Done I pass'd him for that purpose. The two persons who had contracted with the lad to enlist contended for a power of Disposing of him to one of the classes which had not furnished a recruit, which I rejected, and applied him to the benefit of the class above mentioned, this so exasperated them that they have refused the payment of the mony which they agreed to give him, And M<sup>r</sup> Wilkins has since his enlistment (he informs) me taken from him a coat which he gave the lad to enlist, and a Shirt which he Purchased for one hundred and fifty Dollars received from M<sup>r</sup> Wilkins (in part) Revel is a minor which I apprehend renders him incapable of proceeding in a legal manner to recover agreeable to his contract. The lad was an appretice but a Discharge was procured from his master before his enlistment, Compassion to his tender years, and a sense of Duty to the common wealth, obliges me to represent the infamous treatment which he has received.

P. S. As my Brother has promised to write you relative to the late insurrection in Sussex. I have omitted to mention any thing of