

On an accompanying paper:

Camp near York October 26, 1781.

Sir,

Inclosed I transmit your Excellency a Return of the Detachment of the Regiment, under my Command, which (although small) have had an Active share in reducing the two Ports of York, and Gloucester, being detach'd to the Artillery, and having done duty with them during the Operations here.

In my last to the President of the State, which I sent from Baltimore, was inclosed a Return of the Clothing wanting for the Detachment—Having received no answer, I am obliged to repeat my Requests, the men being entirely naked—In my whole Command I have not one Waistcoat, One good shirt, or One pair of good Overalls, and am also in great want of about Fifty Blankets, and Fifteen Coats—for Want of Body shirts, they have been obliged to wear their Hunting Shirts, these, with the others are also wore out, and now they have no alternative but nakedness—Their Overalls being also worn out, makes their nakedness the more general—I have not more than twenty men who can do duty—The sick absent, and present, are rendered unable for Duty, for the above want, and I expect, at least Two Thirds of them, will be obliged to go to the Hospital, with Sickness, occasioned by their ragged situation.—In my last I mentioned the impossibility of procuring a supply from the Continental Store, and urged, in the most pressing terms) the Articles mentioned in my Return, being procured, and forwarded on immediately, by one of the Subaltern Officers in the State; I should wish this mode still to be pursued, as on the March to Carolina almost all my Men will be left in Hospitals which when releived by warm clothing, will be able to pursue their march—The Collection of them, would also be a necessary Duty for an Officer, and its out of my own Power to leave one on that Duty—I should send a Return of what Articles are wanting, but a Return of their numbers will serve the same purpose, as One Waistcoat woolen, Two Good Shirts, One Pair of Woolen Overalls, one pair of Socks, and one pair of Shoes, are wanting for each man—besides the blankets and coats mentioned before—

The weather being tolerably warm, since our arrival in this State, has favor'd the Men much, but the cold season has now come on, and I much dread the Consequences of it—

I hope the Finances of the State, will admit the purchasing a Relief, for which, I'm convinced it cant be better Apply'd, or do more Service—The men look up to the State, in their Distressed Situation, for Relief, I hope they may not be disappointed—They are good Men, and will make, with kind treatment, good Soldiers—but in their present State, little can be expected, from Men, who are naked, and full of Vermin, and have not an immediate prospect of a Relief—

It would have given me great pleasure could I have assured your Excellency, that the Command was hearty, and well clothed, and am truly sorry their Condition wont admit of it—

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As we will move very shortly for Carolina, I must press (in the most earnest terms) an officer being sent out, with the Within Mentioned Supply, who may Clothe the men on his Way, and Conduct them to the Regiment—

I have the Honor

to be, Sir

Your Most Humb Servt

WM. McKENNAN, Captn Comg Dett D. R.

On the back of the paper:

Public Service

His Excellency

The President

Honor'd by

of the State of

Colo. Stewart.

Delaware.

Letter from Capt. McKennan dated the 26th Oct. 1781.

**RETURN OF THE DELAWARE BATALION OF FOOT COMMANDED BY
CAPT. WM. McKENNAN NOW SERVING IN THE SOUTHERN ARMY OF
THE U. STATES.**

Light Camp	Officers present fit for Duty										Rank & File				Alterations since last Return.												
	Commiss'd & Staff Officers				Non Commiss'd Officers										Dis-charged				Join'd								
31st May 1782.	Capt.	Lieut.	Adjt.	Surgeon	Serj't Major	Q. M. Serjt.	F. Major	D. Major	Serjints	Ds. & Fifes	Present fit for Duty	Sick	On Command	On Extra Servis	Total	Dead	Inability	time expir'd	Deserted	Transfer'd	Promoted	Reduced	takin in prisoner	Serjints	Ds. & Fifes	R & File	
1st Comp'y	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	4	55	6	3	1	4	69	2	1	0
2nd Comp'y	1	1	6	3	56	3	7	3	5	74	2	0
Total fit for Duty	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	8	7	111	9	10	4	9	143	4	...	1	0
Sick Absent	1	...	Camden	5	2	Round—0
On Command	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	Round-0	1	2	...	...	Parkers Ferry	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Ponpon?	4	...	3	...	Wagoners	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	Artificers Hd. Qrs.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	Do. Georgia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	Ruckers?	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	Asst Commissy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	1	...	Present—? unfit to Carry Arms	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total Officers	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	11	7	10	4	9
											Fit for Action																
											At the Drill																
											Wanting Clothes																
											Wanting Arms.																
											Proof																
Fit for Action	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	8	7	111	111

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											Presint	Presint	Absent					Inability	time expir'd	Deserted				Serjints	Ds. & Fifes	
1st Comp'y	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	4	55	6	3	1	4	69	2	1	0
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Sick Absent	1	..	Camden	5	2	Round—0	
On Command	2	..	Round-0	1	2	Parkers Ferry	
	Ponpon	4	...	3	..	Wagoners	
	1	..	Artificers Hd. Qrs.	
	1	..	Do. Georgia	
	2	..	Ruckers?	
	1	..	Asst Commissy	
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