Commonwealth of Massachusetts

General Orders, Head-Quarters Boston, 25th April 1791

The Commander-in-Chief feels the highest satisfaction in contemplating the prosperous State of the Militia of this Commonwealth. From the Returns and Reports of the Adjutant General, the Infantry, the cavalry, and the artillery, all equally present his approbation and thanks.

In most of the Divisions, the magisterial Military knowledge has already surpassed that of any former period. And he flatters himself, that by a continued attention of the Superior Officers, it may be still further extended.

To promote so valuable a purpose for insuring the happiness and safety of our Country, he calls upon all, both Officers and Men, to presume in the faithful discharge of their respective duties.

The Commander-in-Chief expects that all the Regulations and Courses will be annually assembled and reviewed, that timely and regular arrangements will be made in the Federal Divisions for that purpose, and that the Major Generals will hold all Officers under their command accountable in their particular departments, to see the laws fully executed.

By these means only, can Military knowledge be diffused through the Militia of the Commonwealth by them. The Men will be imbued with an emulation honouring to themselves. They will see patient under
under discipline - and the Officers will be equipped with a just sense of the dignity and importance of their stations.

The Brigadier Generals, the Colonels and all other officers commanding corps, will be particularly attentive to the government and discipline of their respective commands - they will require a punctual compliance with the laws and orders - they will encourage both officers and men to a cheerful acquiescence in the execution of them, and endeavour to expiate in them that passion for martial achievements which alone will prompt them to appear with splendor in their Arms and Deeds.

And the Commander in Chief assures that the Inspector General superintend a general inspection of the militia of the Commonwealth, and make regular Returns of his proceedings therein.

The two branches of the Legislature at their last session having requested the Governor to give orders to the Quartermaster General to furnish the Artillery Companies with Field Pieces and Appurtenances, Ammunition Carts, and such other equipments as the Law requires, to complete the said Companies for the field.

It is hereby made known, that Orders have been issued to the Quartermaster General accordingly - and the Commander in Chief promises himself that an early
equipment will be furnished to those Corps which are deficient.

He hopes the Officers in every Department have a just Idea of the importance of a well regulated Militia, which is the only natural defence of a free Republic - being depend'd on for their readiness to perform their several duties with promptness and promptitude - and that those of the Artillery in particular, by reason of their discouragements being removed, will feel an additional stimulus, to infuse their Corps, and render them as respectable as possible.

The Commander in Chief has a full persuasion in his mind, that all the Officers will exert themselves during the present season - and that the Militia of Massachusetts, will ever justly merit a distinguished character in the Militia of the United States.

By Order of the Commander in Chief

Williamorman Adj. General

Hon. Major General Lintzow of Dunsmor.