

been discharged and new drafts ordered. You may be acquainted with the extent of my division—more than 110 miles square. Almost the whole of this extent is uninhabited. My detachment takes from the draft of 100,000 ordered by the President.

After my detachment is completed, I must ask the question how and in what manner are the heavy bills accrued in this business to be defrayed? I have spared no pains to effect the object, and involved myself and may be my ruin, should the Government neglect me. I have, and still continue to place, the greatest confidence in the present Administration; have had the strongest assurance verbally from Mr. Huntington for my support.

Your obt. servant,

ELIJAH WADSWORTH.

Maj. Gen. 4th Division Ohio Militia.

GEN. WADSWORTH TO WM. EUSTIS.

HEADQUARTERS,

HURON, Nov. 20th, 1812. }

SIR: I have, in obedience to your directions of Sept. 5th, called out fifteen hundred men from my Division, most of them have now been in the service on the frontier nearly three months, one Regiment is organized and marched to the Lower Sandusky, the residue are in this camp; they also would be at Sandusky if we had any provisions for them, but the contractor after some time dealing out damaged flour, is now entirely out of corn. When to this is added that since the troops were first called out they have received no pay I trust you will appreciate the difficulty of keeping them together, and the delay (incident to such a situation of things) in completing the arrangements you have directed. I trust, however, that within a week I shall be able to cause the residue of the troops from my division to join their brethren at Sandusky, and give up the command of them to General Harrison.

Very respectfully,

Sir, I am your obedient,

ELIJAH WADSWORTH.

GENERAL WADSWORTH TO SEC. OF WAR.
HURON, Nov. 28th, 1812.

SIR:—I have organized three Regiments from the Division under my command, comprising the number of men you required me to order to take the field, and have placed them under the command of *Brig. Gen. Simon Perkins*, agreeable, to instructions from *Gen. Harrison*. One Regiment has advanced to the Sandusky Bay, where they occupy the Fort, Parties are detached daily, to gather corn and other Forage, and every means are made use of to prepare for a continuous campaign. I trust Sir that the men will signalize themselves when they engage with the enemy. I have drawn three several Bills of Exchange on you to defray

a part of the expenses incurred in organizing this detachment and keeping it in the field. The draft that I mentioned in my letter of Nov. 8th was not forwarded by Lieut. Church from Pittsburg, owing to his having been informed by Major Stoddard that the subsistence of the provisions from Detroit was improperly embraced in his estimate on which my draft was predicated. It would accommodate the public creditors if some person in the Western Country should be authorized to purchase bills on the War Office.

GEN. WADSWORTH TO WM. EUSTIS, ESQ.,
SECRETARY OF WAR.

CANFIELD, Dec. 20th, 1812.

SIR: Having on the 29th ult. completed the force ordered by you from my division by your letter of Sept. 5th, and placed them under the immediate command of General Harrison, reporting to him the whole force, it seemed that my service was no longer necessary or required by Government, and accordingly on the 30th I left the headquarters of the right wing of the Northwestern army at Huron and returned home.

Various causes combined, which were altogether beyond my control, has in some measure lengthened the time in completing the organization of the detachment. However, no time has been lost. The extensive new settlements have been saved from savage barbarity, and the detachment equally ready to go forward with the main army. Doubtless you are sensible of the great disadvantages I have labored under to equip, support, and march into the field such a detachment of men without money. Although the credit of the United States may be good, there are a class of citizens that will not lend any assistance or support to the war. Of course it is more difficult to procure supplies for a military force, and in the present case has fallen heavy on the real friends of the Government. You will see I am placed in a critical situation. By my orders great expenditures have accrued. I am daily called on for payment and several suits have been actually commenced, although I do not conceive myself personally holden, yet it will make extra expense and, Sir, I do conceive it necessary as well for the honor of the Government as the good of the creditors, that some effectual measures be immediately adopted to save expense, would it not be advisable to appoint some person within the limits of my Division to audit and pay off those demands?

I can assure you, Sir, that many of the creditors are much embarrassed for want of their just dues.

Yours very respectfully,

ELIJAH WADSWORTH.