credit for myself or of rendering a service to my country. You cannot therefore be surprised, and I hope you will not be displeased at my requesting leave to resign this command, and return to Mackinac, if it is not in your power to send me other men, with supplies requested to enable me to make a defence.

I have had nothing but trouble & vexation since I came to this distracted country, and I apprehend I shall tire your patience with the numerous Letters, Trials & other papers which I think necessary to submit for your perusal, and approbation. Enclosed you will receive the Proceedings of a Court of Enquiry assembled on the 5th Instant to investigate charges preferred by Mr. Dickson against Mr. Rolette. When first presented to me, I told Mr. Dickson that they were very serious accusations, and if not proved, it would look very bad on his part; but he seemed confident of being able to substantiate them. Consequently it became my duty to notice them. It is not perhaps necessary for me to say anything more than what is remarked by the Court, tho' as Commanding Officer I will take the liberty of giving my opinion. *I think the charges would not have been brought forward at all, if Mr. Dickson & Mr. Rolette had not quarreled,* and the *unwillingness* of Mr. Dicksons witnesses, who are all his own people, & depend upon him for their subsistance, to say what they knew in favor of the accused, until it was extorted from them by Questions from the Court, justify me in believing that the object in view was, *to ruin the man,* and *not the good of the Country.* Altho' the accused has, at times, given himself a latitude in speaking, far from being allowable, yet he has by his actions shown that he is not that bad subject which they have endeavored to make him appear. I shall say no more, as the Proceedings of the Court of Enquiry will enable you to form a correct judgment of the Prosecutors motives, and the criminality of the accused.

There being no Ensign nominated to the Michigan Fencibles, I beg leave to recommend to you for that ap-