

their is a very Great Backwardness in their Militia to turn out And March 21  
not knowing any Law that can force them I am much at a loss how  
to act

If their should be an occasion & our Men would turn out I am not  
able to Arm above 150 with Proper Musketts nor have I ammunition  
or Meat Provisions. I have sent to Baltimore & received some  
Powder & about 2000 Cartridges. As your Excellency must be in-  
formed of the Enemies Whole forces can form some good con-  
jecture of their designs I should be happy to receive Instructions how  
to conduct myself & where to apply for such Articles as I may want  
I am apprehensive that if the Enemy command the Bay this summer  
we shall receive frequent Vessels from their Tenders & Armd Boats  
therefore wish to be directed as to the mode of defence most likely to  
be effectual to prevent their depredation.

If there is any late Laws for the regulation of the Militia I shall  
be obliged by having them sent by return of the post with Commis-  
sions for Officers agreeable to the Inclosed lists Who are now on  
duty & any Orders your Excellency may Plan to give

I hear of no Person being appointed In this County to receive &  
provide for the recruits obtain'd under the act to procure recruits.  
Three recruits are the whole yet obtained & they are rambling about  
which must be the situation of any others that may enlist Until I  
have Your Excellencies Orders

A List of Officers wanting Commissions,

John Day Jun<sup>r</sup> Capt<sup>n</sup> of a Comp<sup>y</sup> (of the 8<sup>th</sup> Battalion) lately com-  
mand<sup>d</sup> by Sam<sup>l</sup> Groom Osborn. resignd being appoint<sup>d</sup> Ass<sup>r</sup> &  
Collector.

March 21  
[Indorsed  
"Com-  
mis.iss<sup>d</sup>  
4 Ap<sup>l</sup>  
1781"]

George B. Presbury 1<sup>st</sup> Lt in same Comp<sup>y</sup>

Joseph Presbury Jun<sup>r</sup> Ensign in D<sup>o</sup>

Aron Grace. Cap<sup>t</sup> of a Comp<sup>y</sup> (in 23<sup>rd</sup> Battalion) lately com-  
mand<sup>d</sup> by Syrus Osborn resigned & removed to Balt Town.

David Thompson Lt. in D<sup>o</sup>

[Edw<sup>d</sup> Gaither, Jr. Commissary of Provisions for Ann Arundel Co. March 21  
Elk Ridge to the Governor & Council]

I have delivered to Jn<sup>o</sup> Chalmers order thirteen Head of Beef  
Cattle, which I have received. I expect to receive some more in a  
few days.

[Jos<sup>h</sup> Merriken to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee Esq<sup>r</sup>]

March 21

the two Schooners are still up the Bay as I am Informed Lye of  
the mouth of Susquehanna River—I shall be glad to get a further  
Supply of Ammunition and some flints—I Received only one Hun-