

poor soldiers are very badly off for want of subsistence. I therefore think it would very much forward the good of the service to put the soldiers as raised into barracks. I would be glad you would give me leave to issue such orders. M^r Chew tells me he thinks he could procure a quantity of Gunns and Blankets provided he had money. I should be glad you would let him have some.

I am with due respect, Honb^e Sirs
Your most obed^t Hble Serv^t
Tho^s Ewing

Original.

[St. Mary's Committee to Council.]

St. Mary's County Leonard Town August 7th 1776.

Gentlemen. In Committee.

Capt Mantz with his Company is arrived here; we presume to assist in repelling the Enemy from this quarter as well as to supply the place of the Independent Company ordered from hence to the Northward. We beg leave to observe to you, that as the principle cause, that of the Enemy is now happily removed by the Fleet having left Potowmack and passed down the Bay there may not be so great a necessity for that Company now as existed and appeared to your Board, at the time you ordered Cap^t Mantz to march to our assistance. We would further observe to you, that we find the strongest dissatisfaction prevailing in these men, at being stationed in this part of the Country, proceeding from a representation of some persons that it is unhealthy; and from the difference of situation, disease and ill health must be expected as a certain consequence, Espescially to those who have been born and bred in a more healthy climate. Add to this their licentious behaviour since they have been at this place, in killing and destroying people's property, and threatening to disband & return should any of their company fall sick. And being as we perceive and observe under no control or command of their officers, we fear they will rather prove a disadvantage, than service to the people of this county. Under these circumstances and for these reasons, we have taken the liberty to remonstrate to you and intreat their removal from hence, hoping that this act (which we conceive to be for the good of the whole) cannot meet with your censure or disapprobation. That it is right, agreeable to a Resolve of Convention, to station some troops in the lower part of this County, we agree, and beg you will order that part of Cap^t Beall's company now stationed at Port Tob^o to move down, or any other you may think more proper. This we are of opinion will answer the purpose better. Upon this principle we have