

be expected at Fort Frederick. We don't know what will be c. c. their Route but have recommended it through Black's Gap, to shorten the Distance and avoid Frederick Town. Washington County has been so much burthened already that we cannot expect a Guard can be fully furnished from thence, indeed it gives us real Concern to be obliged to call on the Militia any where for Service at this Season, but Necessity compels us & we desire that you will immediately order a full Company of the Militia of your County, of the Classes which have not yet served consisting of one Captain, two Lieutenants, one Ensign four Sergeants, four Corporals and 68 Privates, to hold themselves in Readiness and actually to march so as to be at Fort Frederick the 27<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> where they are to continue on Duty with half the Number of Washington Militia for five Weeks or until relieved, as we intend they shall be about that Time by a like Company from Montgomery, unless, as we hope, the Guard by that Time should either not be further wanted or some other Provision should take Place. You are to supply the Company with Arms and a reasonable Quantity of Ammunition. The Continental Commissaries are already ordered to furnish Provisions. In a Matter of this Consequence where Delay might prove so very injurious, we can rely on your Efforts and flatter ourselves that the Militia, impressed with the Necessity and having a just Confidence that we, on this as every other Occasion, shall joyfully embrace the first Opportunity of lightening their Burthen, will, as they have hitherto done, discharge their Duty with Alacrity. We request the Favor of you to send the inclosed to Col<sup>o</sup> Hughes immediately by Express, it is on the same Subject as this Letter & that you will also forward M<sup>r</sup> Murdock's Letter by the same, or some other safe Hand, it is from Col<sup>o</sup> Blaine, appointing him Comm<sup>y</sup> of Purchases with our Licence under the late Law.

We are &<sup>ca</sup>

Normand Bruce Esq<sup>r</sup> }  
L<sup>t</sup> of Fred<sup>k</sup> County }

[Council to II. Young.]

In Council Annapolis 12<sup>th</sup> Sept<sup>r</sup> 1779

Sir

The five nine Pounders were lent the Buckskin under the Orders of the Assembly; we did not know of their having been yet returned, as they are we imagine, they are not wanted again and therefore presuming the Assembly would sell them you may have them with any Number of, not exceeding two hundred and fifty nine pound Shot at Balt<sup>o</sup>, for the