

March 5 vently to embrace the Moment Major Steward will take charge of him and will take him down myself with the first [boat] that can be procur'd. I am inform'd that M^r Dan^l Hughes is the present Commissary of Prisoners & his Certificate will be a sufficient indemnification for me to Act as I may think proper in future

P. S. the Capt^s name is Whitehead

March 5
Monday
night
11 o'clock
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 54

[Stephen Stewart, West River, to the Council.]

I have yours and shall Do my Indevor to serve the Emporment Caus but am afraid I shall be able to Do but littel I think I have one or two vesels In Hering Bay which I will have If they are not Gone as to Provition I think there is none I have not Bought 1200 lb^s of Poark this year When I asign^d to have had twenty thousand how Ever I will Do my Indevor to find the vesels meat provitions that I Impress I have ben very onwell myself for several Days Past and My Clarke is Gone on some Business In the lower Countys. I think Provitions and vesels might be got In Kent County and vesels from Chester If Proper methods are taken I have an old Sloop of my own which I would send to you Chearfuly but am fraid she would Drown some of your Troops

March 6 [Joshua Beall, Lieu^t, Prince G^s C^{ty} to His Excl^y Tho^s Sim Lee Esq^r.]

I was in hopes Ere this it would have been in my power to have returned you Rolls of at least two full Companys of Select Militia from this County. I only on the 4th instant received a return from the Upper Battalion of 26 men. This day I received a return from Coll^l Lyles of the Lower Battalion, of 35 men who had turned out from 4 of his Companys that met at Piscataway, the other half of his Battalion were to meet on the Patuxent side of the County, from whome he had then no return, but Expected he shuld be able to return a full company from his Battalion From the middle Battalion I am told only one man turned out. As it would be very inconvenient to form the men from the Extreme parts of the County into one Company, I shall try them once more, as a favourable Oppertunity presents at present from a false alarm we had on Monday last Which I did not hear of till about 11 oClock that day Capⁿ Wright of the Militia Company on the other side the Eastern branch came riding post hast to inform me, that three Ships of force of the Enemie was then lying off Alex^a That they had sent an Express in the Night from Alex^r to George Town for Assistance, and that his Company was then on its March to Hambourghe

I just wrote an Order to Coll^l Lucas with respect to the Stock & Craft along shore in Case it shuld be an Enemie, took my horse & rode down to be better informed of the matter; When I got to Middletons I found the three Vessells of force proved to be three small Top Sail Scooners that had come round from Baltimore for Tobacco,