

subject the Town to surprize and Plunder, without effectual Resistance being made; and we are persuaded, that the Citizens would most chearfully perform Garrison Duty, while the Enemy continue to infest us, were Directions for that Purpose to come from your Excellency & Honors; and that no Difficulty might arise by calling out the Militia at this busy Season, we wish not it should extend further than the Town, but that Directions might be given that such Arrangements should be made in the Neighbourhood by fixing proper signals, as to assemble the County Militia on the shortest Notice.

April 4
Red Book
No. 27
Letter
No. 49

Having full confidence that your Excellency & Honors would willingly, on every Occasion, promote the Exertions of this Town for their Defence, and that the necessary orders will be given

[Jos^a Beall, Lieut. Ps. Gs. C^{ty} to His Excell^{cy} Thomas Simm Lee Esq^r] April 4

It is not yet in my power to return you one Roll of a Select Militia Company from this County, There are very Near two made up, one in the Upper & one in the Lower Battalion, But those men live so remote from Each Other, there is no taking from one to hold to the Other without making it too inconvenient for the Men to Attend the Musters, And one great Obsticle I find is that of there not knowing how far they may have to go to their Musterfield.

There is nearly a Company Convenient to Piscatoway and another to Bladensburgh; I think if we had Arms sent to those two places to make a Begining we should soon have full companys convenient to those Towns, Which might Possibly Encourage another Company to form about Malbro or Nottingham.

It would give me great pleasure to see Usefull arms in the hands of some of our Militia, for at present, from the returns I have received, there are scarcely fire arms Enough fit for use in the whole county to furnish one Company.

There is yet a Considerable sum of money due from the people of this County for not finding Substitutes in their Last years Clases, many of them are pressing me to receive the old Continental Currency, which I have refused till I receive your directions therein, which I could wish to have by this weeks post.

Wee have not yet reced the last Commissions Either for the County or orphans court, The Latter is mutch wanted

[And. Buchanan, Balt Town, to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee Esq^r] April 4

This Town being very Liable to be surprised by the Enemy and the Magazines and Stores much in danger dont you think it Absolutely necessary the Militia of this Town about fifty or one hund^d shou'd be Order'd immediatly on duty. I beg you will if you agree with me send your orders to me without delay