

in case of their sudden approach, to be ready to Assist the people in driving off their Stock, and securing their property & Craft along shore. April 16

I shall be more particular in any intelligence I shall communicate for the future, my first to you on this Occasion was from a letter of M<sup>r</sup> George Lees to M<sup>r</sup> Sydebottram in which he Earnestly requested the Assistance of his or any other Craft to remove himself & Effects up to Bladensburgh, my second with respect to burning Portobacco Warehouse was by a letter from Coll<sup>l</sup> Addison to myself. I had an oppertunity from Piscatoway yesterday of writing to Coll<sup>l</sup> Ware desiring that he would for the future on any such alarms of the Enemy coming up the river, Endeavour to get the best intelligence he could of the appearance of their forces, & send an Acc<sup>t</sup> thereof to Coll<sup>l</sup> Lyles below Piscatoway who is to send it forward to Coll<sup>l</sup> Addison & he to me, such a Chain of intelligence might prevent a great deal of unnecessary Expençe Trouble, & confusion.

If you approve of the schem of keeping part of the militia on duty, I could wish to know how they are to be supported in provision, Whether by the commissary, or find themselves during a short Touer of duty, & paid money in Lieu of the rations, & how much.

[Chris<sup>r</sup> Birckhead Talbot County to His Excellency  
Tho<sup>s</sup> Sim Lee Esq<sup>r</sup>]

April 16

I am informed that there is a late Act of Assembly, respecting the Regulation of the Militia: Should take it as a favour if I cou<sup>d</sup> be furnish'd with it

[H. Hollingsworth, Head of Elk, to His Excellency the Governor  
in Council.]

April 16  
Red Book  
No. 30  
Letter 106

And please Your Excell<sup>ys</sup> & Honours Notwithstanding my letters of the 11<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> I am now constrained to inform you that Col<sup>o</sup> Ephraim Blain C. G. of Purchases (who will be with you before this) has lodged a letter at my office on this day, acquainting that he is on his way to your Excellency & Honours, and so by Kent Island to the Eastern shore, in order to hasten the provisions out of it towards Trentown, as every necessary directions has been given to the Commissarys of each Counties to have their provisions collected put up and forwarded to the Head of Chester according to your former Orders I have only to acquaint your Excellency and Honours that the Teams belonging to this and the adjacent Countys which went with the Marquis are not returned, and that I am too feeble and poor to go into distant Countys to hire Teams for this Service unless strengthened by your Honourable Board. I therefore most earnestly Intreat that an order be sent me by Col<sup>o</sup> Blain (if not already sent) (according to my former application) on the Eastern shore Treasury, for such a sum as may be thought sufficient to defray the expence