

Officers from each Company should come to us here before the Militia
get to Marlboro. We wish all Expedition to be used as, eventually
it may be necessary to form a large Body of Militia, or what is indeed
to be wished, our Affairs may be in such a Situation as to allow us to
dismiss them on their Way. We are &c.

Benjamin Mackall Esq.
St. of Salvest County

In Council Annapolis 3^d Oct^r 1777.

175. Sir. It is quite uncertain whether it may not be necessary to keep up a
Body of our Militia at Camp, and the Time of those who are now there,
being nearly expired, we request you will immediately order the first &
second Clases of the Militia in your County to march, they will do
well to take each of them a Blankett, we have none with which we
can supply them and, such as can, a Gun. The Arms Sents, Camp Kettles
and Accoutrements, in the Use of those now at Camp, will be put into
Hands of those who are to supply their Places, but, probably, as is
too common, some of the Arms may be carried away and others abused
so as not to be immediately serviceable. Through Baltimore Town
will be the best Rout, and we shall be glad that an Officer from
each Company should come to us here by the Time the Militia
get to Marlbro. We wish all Expedition to be used as, eventually
it may be necessary to form a large Body of Militia, or, what is
indeed, to be wished, our Affairs may be in such a Situation as to
allow us to dismiss them on their Way. We are &c.

Richard Barnes Esq.
St. of St. Mary's County

In Council Annapolis 3^d Oct^r 1777.

176. Sir. By a Letter of Yesterday Evening from Genl. Buchanan, we
are advised that a Number of People are collected in Baltimore
in Arms, to oppose the Distresses made under the Militia Law
and are apprehensive that he may need Assistance from your County
to reduce them to a due Obedience to the Laws. If he applies for
your Aid, you are to furnish it, and of such as you can best rely on.
It is a distressing Circumstance to be obliged to exert Force against
our own Countrymen, but suffering a lawless armed Force to prevail
over the Laws, would certainly and soon enslave us all.

Charles Beatty Esq.
St. of Frederick County

We are &c.