

30. When you think it may, safely done, to advance a Months Pay. I will represent the Matter to the Assembly and endeavour to get them allowed a Bounty of five Dollars and I am so well satisfied of the Necessity of a good Guard that, if the Men cannot be got without a small Bounty, that I think it will be better for the Inhabitants to advance it, I will give forty Dollars towards it myself. I am anxious to get the Powder out of your Town, I think it endangers the Life of every Inhabitant of it. Two Companies of Matropes being ordered to Camp has made it impossible to send a Guard from hence as I once intended, but the Expence of getting a small Guard for the new Magazine, be almost what it will, til you get your Guard Company inrolled, I beg you will immediately have the Powder removed. If you have more public Arms finished than will be necessary for your Guard, it will be prudent to put them into the Hands of such of the Inhabitants of your Town, as you can best rely on for taking Care of & using them on a proper Occasion.

I am Y<sup>rs</sup>

Charles Beatty Esq<sup>r</sup>  
 Lt. of Fredk County }

Gent.

Annapolis 31<sup>st</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup> 1777.

31. The Number of Prisoners at Frederick Town and those expected, makes it <sup>absolutely</sup> necessary, for the safe Keeping of the Prisoners and other Considerations of as much Weight, that a pretty strong Guard should be kept. I therefore request that your Battalion & Companies may furnish, on Charles Beatty Esquire's Orders, what will be sufficient, til a Guard Company can be inrolled; he will apportion the Duty, as nearly equal as he can, Situation and Circumstances considered, & your Assistance to get the Guard Company inrolled, will soon make an End of the Occasion of this Duty which I wish to be as short as possible

To the Col<sup>ls</sup> of the Battalions in  
 Fredk County and the Capt<sup>ns</sup> of  
 the Half Battalion }

I am Gent<sup>l</sup> Y<sup>rs</sup>

Sir

Annapolis 31<sup>st</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup> 1777.

32. This, I expect, will be handed to you by Capt. Brown, who commands one of the Artillery Companies to be sent from hence under the enclosed Resolution. I have given him Orders to march to you at Wilmington and similar Orders to Capt. Dorsey of the other Company, if he is ready to march, of which I am doubtful. I have given them Orders to march to Wilmington rather than to the Valley Forge, presuming that if they should be less useful at Wilmington, or, if General Washington should chuse to have them with the Main Body, the Difference of the Distance will not be very great and you will be better able than myself to direct the Route. I do not know whether it will suit with the General Plan of the Army