

600.

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at Frederick Town should create any breach among the People of your County, we are sensible there are many as good Whigs in Washington as in any County in the State, and can assure you they are much mistaken in ascribing our Determination to a Distrust in them or an Opinion that an impartial honest and well attached Jury could not be got. The Difficulty of keeping so many People confined in your County until they could be tried and the ease and convenience of the Judges of the general Court who live very remote from Hager's Town are the only Motives that governed our Opinion, for we candidly confess we do not discern the advantages which the Whigs suppose or seem to think would accrue to the County from holding the Court there nor did we suppose it was desired by them. We much applaud their Spirit and Activity in detecting such a dangerous and nefarious Plot and apprehending how concerned in it. We cannot without being chargeable with Levity and Inconsistency revoke the Commission already granted.

Thomas Sprigg Esq.

In Council 30th June, 1781.

Sir,

601.

A Person of the Name of John Parks of Baltimore has been charged as a considerable Accomplice in the intended Insurrection at Frederick upon the oath of Philip Knappe; he is now in Goal at Baltimore Town arrested on Suspicion and has petitioned for a speedy Trial. As your Commission is extended to all the Counties on the Western Shore, and as it would be extremely inconvenient to have a special Court for him alone or his Trial delayed till the next general Court, we presume that you will order a Habeas Corpus to bring him before you at Frederick.

Judges of the general Court.

In Council 2^d July, 1781.

Sir,

602.

We think it proper that the Select Militia should attend their Harrows, and therefore request you will discharge them, and at the same Time give them positive Orders to be in constant Readiness to march at a moments Warning.

Colo John Muddock.