

In Council December 17 1788.

Gentlemen,

Your information given the other day that a Mr. Patrick Ewing was about to remove from Cecil County did not induce us to leave him out of the Commission of the Peace, because we were apprehensive that our motive might (as has happened on other occasions) be mistaken, <sup>and</sup> that Gentleman's Character receive some injury by it. We considered moreover Mr. Ewing's removal <sup>as</sup> an uncertain event, and we do not recollect any instance in which we omitted a person on such information. Your last representation contains much stronger reasons for omitting him; but you must be sensible that we ought not to proceed without some proof. The Charge you have made against him strongly requires us to investigate his Character, but this more readily be done by your furnishing us with the particular violences and outrages against the laws of which he is accused. We wish you at least to explain what you intend by the "sense of the County" that we may not defer issuing the Commission till the Election, without knowing what we wait for.

We are Gentlemen  
Yrs  
J. E. Howard

The Delegates from  
Cecil County.