

for the company commanded by W. Mackenheimer
of which he is an officer - When your applica-
tion arrived, we were under some difficulty on
the subject; owing to a similar one being made
at the same time by a company at Chester town,
and a report that several companies were forming
on the Eastern Shore from whom we were to
expect immediate applications. Your letter
likewise contained the first intimation we had
received of any suggestion respecting military
associations proceeding from the Magistrates;
and although we entertained no doubt of the fact,
yet the manner in which the Magistrates re-
commended these associations not being fully
explained, and some communications from the
Secretary of War obliging us to depute a Mem-
ber to go to Baltimore we desired him to
converse with Mr. Chase and obtain his precise
ideas of the extent to which the safety of the
place required these associations to be carried -
The report made by this Member has removed
our difficulties, and we accordingly gratify your
request so far as we think we may with propriety.

We are &c

W. Hugh Thompson }
W. M. Lowrey }
Robt. Taylor }
John S. Seton }

James Bruce Pref