

part of the State to direct the following measures to be taken...

First- You are hereby instructed to disarm all persons in this County who are known or generally deemed to be disaffected to the Government of this State, or that of the United States. In this service you will employ such portions of the Militia under your Command as you shall think proper. The act of disarming is to consist in the taking possession of all warlike weapons and Instruments, as well as all Ammunition discovered in the hands of the disaffected in such quantities as may seem to indicate improper Designs. For all which articles receipts are to be given by you or by the persons seizing them under your orders and an account of all seizures by you or them made, you are to forward to me at the City of Annapolis with all convenient Dispatch. In cases of supposed disaffection to the Government of the United States you will form your Judgment only from the Conduct of the persons subsequent to the late amendments made to the Federal Constitution. For the nature and measure of Evidence in these Cases I refer to your own discernment which being followed with strict impartiality will I am persuaded enable you to execute this task to the advantage of the public.

Secondly- You are with the Militia under your Command to apprehend and bring before the Justices of Washington County Court all persons residing within your County, who are either known or suspected on strong Grounds to be concerned in Combinations against the Government and Laws of the United States:

Thirdly- You will receive from M. William Lee of this Town one third part of the Lead purchased of him for the public use and now in his possession which you will distribute and employ according to your discretion for the strengthening the hands of the well disposed Inhabitants of the County. You will also receive and employ in the same manner one third part of two hundred Stand of Arms and two quarter Casks of Powder which will be sent forward from the Arsenal at Frederick Town

Circular to Lieut. Col<sup>l</sup>

Thomas Sprigg  
Prezior Davis  
William Van Leer  
Washington County

I am with respect, Sir, Yr

Tho. S. Lee