

misunderstood the object of your letter, I shall hope to be informed of it and shall with great readiness take any further measures you may indicate that seem likely to secure the accomplishment of your views -

I am &c

The Honble

Edmund Randolph Esq.

Secretary of State

Thos: G. Lee

Council Chamber October 25th 1774.

Sir

I have received your letter dated the 21st instant. I intimated to you in mine of the 11th that the forming a body of Cavalry to act against the Pennsylvania Insurgents had been prevented by a variety of difficulties. The most striking of these was the impracticability of applying the operation of Draughting to these Corps without entirely breaking them up in future, since few persons would prefer a service that subjected them to greater expence than others of the militia, and the principle of Draughting necessarily comprehends that of giving of course either in person or by Substitute, and of course would oblige a person to do the first or procure both Man and Horse. On this consideration I rejected the idea of raising Cavalry by Draught. The offers of Service were in general vague. Yours was the most precise; which circumstance has occasioned your being called on at present. The General orders of the 14 August as they respected Cavalry were not understood or were not generally attended to and I remained ignorant of the force of many Troops and more so with regard to their disposition. The only offer of Service besides that for your Troop was from a few of the Annapolis Troop and that on the condition of their serving under their own Captain, who finding the number too small for a command and supposing that your Troop would likewise prefer serving under its own officers went no further than to express his readiness to go if desired. The Baltimore own Troops waited as General Monk says for orders, which as I have already said I did not think it proper to give - at this crisis the disturbance happened in Washington County and the call I then made on the