

Horse in this quarter was too fuddled to admit of their being prepared for
further expedition and of course I permitted them to return without pressing
it. The same consideration and the great fatigue your Troop had undergone
occasioned me also to leave Frederick without taking any notice of the offer
you had made, and I should probably have declined any further attempt
to procure Cavalry for the Expedition, had not a Gentleman of influence
in Montgomery assured me by letter that 20 or more Volunteers might be got
from the Troops in that County. I could not refuse this proposal and in ac-
cepting it, I thought a few might be obtained from Wilson's and Lyon's Troops
which had not been on the Washington Expedition. Your offer of
Service then occurred to me, as well as a letter from General Bayley
mentioning that a very considerable number of your Troops had turned
out for the Expedition, and as you was the only Captain who had
expressed an anxiety to be employed, and your Troop was likely as I
thought to produce more Volunteers than any other, I was willing that you
should have the Command. - I have called generally on the Troops would
have produced an over profusion of Officers for the Service, and conceiving
that a full Troop would be raised by the Measures taken, I thought there
would be a Number not very disproportionate to the body of Infantry
from this State. It does not appear to me that there is any propriety in
your Troop's complaining of being called on upon this occasion, for I merely
accept the offer which they had thought proper to make of their Service
nor do I think that for an Expedition of any length, I can with Justice make
a positive demand on Cavalry unless in cases of such danger and emergency
as to supersede all scruples. -

I know nothing certain respecting the Numbers you may expect from
Wilson's and Lyon's Troops. I have Reason to believe that you are misin-
formed respecting the George Town Troop but I do not know exactly what
number it will send. I am very much concerned to hear that General
Smith has taken the Swords and Pistols as it will be disagreeable to the
Cavalry to march to Lumberland and perhaps further without them.
However it is a matter that I cannot remedy, and I hope it will be got
over. I can say nothing as to your route except to recommend your taking
the most direct and convenient one to join General Smith's army in