

Gentlemen

Your letter of the thirteenth of March, has reached this Department. It is very much our wish to give every protection to the parts of the State exposed to invasion, and for that purpose to furnish Arms and Ammunition, as far as we are able. We have determined to order one hundred and fifty stand of Arms with Ammunition to be distributed under the direction of Colonel Wright and for that purpose an order to the Armorer at Easton is enclosed. With respect to the manner in which those Arms are to be kept, you will determine among yourselves. You will observe that before the delivery of the Arms by the Armorer the officers of the Companies will have to give Bond. The form of which will be enclosed.

Thomas Wright William H. Nicholson and
Peregrine Blake Esquires
Field officers of the 38. Regiment

We are with Respect
Levin Winder

Sir

In Council Annapolis April

The Board has received a Memorial from Officers of Militia, in Saint Marys County and also a letter from Colonel Ashton, covering a letter from Captain Barber and has given to these communications the most attentive consideration. It being the special duty of the General Government, to provide for the common defence, and to protect each State against invasion, the powers of the State Government are necessarily very limited and its resources unequal to any great exertion. The Legislature in its provisions, for calling forth the Militia, in any extraordinary emergency, seems to have been under the impression, that this State would not be required to defend itself for any length of time but as early as information could be obtained to the constituted authorities of the Nation they would promptly afford every necessary aid and protection.

The act of a assembly therefore, which authorizes the officers of Militia, in case of an actual or threatened invasion, to call out the Militia has omitted to make any provision for their subsistence while in the public service. This omission is very severely regretted, it is not within the power of the Executive to remedy. The Board however, in remanding the Militia into the public service, it would be proper to keep an account of the expense incurred for their subsistence, and to report the same to the Legislature.