

attached to their old officers, and companies and cannot in any event be required to do so, be exempted from duty as draughts. The evils of course which you apprehended from the letter of the Council of the 10th of April will be found not to exist.

As complaints have reached us from different parts of the State that there have been too many officers for the Men in service, it may be proper to mention this and to direct that in any future call no more officers should be kept in service, than the Men, who actually turn out require, and no officers should be continued on duty unless he has under him the number of Men required for the command of an officer of his grade.

Since the foregoing was prepared, the Legislature has passed a Bill, to provide for calling out and detaching the Militia. It provides among other things that the commanding officers of Companies shall proceed immediately to divide their Companies into classes from one to ten, and when ordered into service they shall begin with the first class, and second when a class is required. The commanding officer of the Company shall notify them by writing, three days before they are to assemble, unless they are ordered into immediate service (when the order will so state) and any individual neglecting to serve in person, or to offer a substitute (who is to be approved of by the commanding officer of a Company) and unless prevented by sickness or other reasonable excuse shall pay a fine not exceeding fifty Dollars. In case of insurrection or invasion, the officer calling out the Militia shall give immediate information of it, with every circumstance attending the same as early as possible, to his immediate commanding officer, by whom such information shall be transmitted with the utmost expedition to the Commander in Chief. The commanding officers of the Regiment or Extra Battalion, within the limits of which such danger may be apprehended, to assemble his Regiment or such part thereof as he may deem necessary and take such measures as he thinks requisite for the protection of the State, till the orders of the commanding officer of the Brigade shall be received, and it is made the duty of the Brigadier to give the necessary orders for such aid from his Brigade as he may think necessary. These are the most material clauses of this Bill, which with several others, are to be published and distributed immediately.

Colonel Henry Ashton
Saint Marys County

We are with Respect,
Levi Winder