

communications and that you will please either yourself or require the officers commanding  
near the enemy to keep me advised of their movements by Mail or private conveyance  
unless some circumstance should make it necessary to send a special Messenger.  
Brigadier General Caleb Hawkins  
Charles County

I am Sir with Respect  
Levin Windey

Gentlemen

In Council Annapolis December 8 1813

In virtue of a Resolve of the General Assembly at its May Session the Treasurer was directed  
to borrow Three hundred and seven thousand dollars. The terms upon which the loan was  
effected will appear by the Report of the Treasurer. As soon as the Money was obtained  
steps were taken to procure Arms, Ordnance and Military Stores for the State, and consid-  
erable purchases were made, but owing to the interruption of intercourse between the  
States they could not all be received in time to be sent to those parts of Maryland which  
are most exposed to danger.

Soon after the adjournment of the Legislature an order was passed for a return of the  
Public Records and Papers to the Seat of Government but in consequence of the approach  
of a considerable naval force of the enemy it was found necessary again to order their  
removal, and they were sent to the Town of Upper Marlborough. It has been deemed  
expedient to direct from time to time a return of such of them, as were necessary for the  
purpose of holding the Courts, but the Board has passed no order for the removal of the  
rest, and it is submitted to the Legislature what shall be done in regard to them. It is  
certainly very much to be desired that the offices should be kept open for the transaction  
of business, but besides the difficulty of removing the Records from the Seat of Government  
in time, whenever the appearance of the enemy may require it, there is considerable danger  
of their being lost or destroyed by frequent removals. The Legislature will see the necessity of  
making some further provision with respect to them. The Resolution of the last Session does  
not make it the duty of the officers to open their offices at the place to which their Records  
are removed, and by confining the authority thereby conferred upon the Executive to two  
Counties, it has been found impracticable to procure the necessary accommodations for the officers.  
The attention of the Legislature will of course be directed to the Militia system; in its present  
state it is almost a dead letter, and without power to compel the services of those who in a  
sudden emergency are unwilling to assist in the defence of the Country. It is not to be  
expected that while those who understand the defects of the system continue to