

Council Chamber. Annapolis May 10. 1819

My Dear Sir

I have this moment returned from Washington, where I had been for two days, in comparing the duplicate account of our militia claim which I had made out since I had the pleasure of seeing you with the one filed at Washington. I found ~~on~~ ^{at} my arrival ~~at~~ Washington, one of Mr. Hagner's clerks busily engaged in the examination of the account and vouchers, and I have the satisfaction of informing you that he told me that the Maryland claim was presented in a form more perfect than that of any which has been presented by any of the other States, and indeed that it could not have been making all circumstances into consideration, made out in a more perfect form. It is however the duty of Mr. Hagner to examine in the most particular manner the vouchers that are filed to support the account. The vouchers filed so far as they respect the Eastern Shore are merely Muster Rolls and the amount of Pay allowed to each person is not noted opposite to his name. This of course gives Mr. Hagner's clerk more trouble than he otherwise would have ^{had} had, the Militia account made out a duplicate Pay Roll of the one that was delivered to the pay Master. He observed to me that if I could furnish him with the Pay Rolls that had been delivered to the pay Master to pay the troops off by, and could give him my presence for a few days that it would save him a great deal ^{of trouble} ~~and~~ ^{as he} ~~is~~ ^{is} considerably his part of the business and of course pave the way for an interview with Mr. Hagner and yourself when the Secretary at war returns. For before he does I do