

Council Annapolis Jan 31 1820

Dear Sir

Captain Damsell's Muster Roll is not authenticated agreeably to law. It is only certified to be correct whereas it should be proved to be so. It is stated to be only a copy. The original having been ~~lost~~ means lost. probably by Mr Ward. If Capt Damsell could procure the certificate of Judge Ward as to that fact, and would certify it himself to be a true copy of the original, it would make the muster Roll more perfect. I will certify that it has never been passed by the Executive. The Gen^l Government have the means however by examining the account at Washington ^{of ascertaining} that fact. They are particular as to the vouchers, and it is right that the State Government should be so too. Just claims however ought to be paid and I have no doubt that the claim of Capt. Damsell and his company is so. Where the muster Roll shall have been authenticated in the way I have ~~been~~ pointed out, I will take great pleasure in laying it before