

If it should therefore become necessary to order out such a force,  
I should prefer acting under the authority of the Government  
in Chief, that the Troops may rely upon a punctual discharge  
of their claims against the Government, for services &c.

I shall hope for your  
answer by return of the Mail —

Yours Excellency

Gen. Mason

Comm<sup>d</sup> in Chief

John Mallery & Ch. Kerck

O. H. Williams Brig Gen

2<sup>d</sup> Brigade Milit

To General Otho H Williams, commander of the 2<sup>d</sup> Brigade,  
Maryland Militia:

State of Maryland, Allegany County, to wit:

Whereas, we the subscribers, two Justices of the Peace of the said State &  
and for the County aforesaid, have good reason to believe that the  
peace and quiet of the State is likely to be endangered by an in-  
-surrection or opposition to the Law, proceeding from armed bodies  
of men, who, without any respect to law or humanity, have in ma-  
-ny instances, in a most wanton and cruel manner beaten men  
and broken open their shanties and destroyed the property of the  
owners in one instance which occurred Saturday night last.

A body of men, amounting to about 100, armed with guns, clubs  
and other deadly weapons, came to section 293. on the Chesapeake &  
Ohio Canal, at the upper end of Seven Mile Bottom, and broke open  
every shanty occupied by Germans, and one that was occupied by an  
Irishman, and destroyed all the property they could reach, and beat with  
violence all the men they met with; one of them they threw in the fire, who  
is extremely ill from the burn. They went from there to section 281, and  
pursued the same course of cruelty and plundered and destroyed  
property to a large amount. There are several of those persons who  
have been beaten are not expected to live. You are therefore hereby re-  
-quired, to order out the Troops under your command, forthwith and pro-  
-ceed to quell the said Insurrection. Hereof fail not, and this shall be  
your warrant therefor. Dated this fifteenth day of August in the year  
of our Lord Eighteen hundred and thirty nine.

John R. Brooks, J. P.

Jacob Reel, J. P.

I certify that the within is a true copy from the original, on  
file in my possession. —

Hagerstown

Aug 17<sup>th</sup> 1839

(sign) John Thompson Massey

Aid de Camp.