

It is also to request the propriety of applying to the Secretary of War, for a force sufficient to keep order, to be stationed near the Tunnel, on the Canal, and that every laborer on the line, who has any fire arms, and will refuse to give them up, should immediately be discharged from the work, and no laborer should be employed, who will bring any fire arms on or near the work. This may be done with safety, if a military force is placed on or near the line, otherwise it would be dangerous for a contractor to dismiss one of his band, even at the order of the principal Engineer.

Should the Secretary of War refuse to send a Military Corps, the proper Officers of the State should take such measures as they may deem proper, to place a Military force on the line, by raising volunteers or drafting men.

It is supposed that one hundred men would be sufficient to be stationed on the line, and a company or two might accompany them down, and take the leaders who could be identified; and it is also supposed, that in two months, the line could be pursued, and the work progress, and the Military be discharged.

We are of opinion that no good could be effected by a Military force going down the line, to dispossess them of their arms. They would be informed of our movements before we would leave the town, and they would have their arms all secreted, and unless we had a force to station on the line, we should not be able to get any evidence against any of their leaders; and should we go down and not be able to identify and arrest any of them, it would make them more impudent than they now are, and leave the line in a worse state than it is at this present time and subject the Contractors, the Farmers along the line and the citizens of Oldtown and Orleans to insult and danger.

Respectfully yours

Geo. W. Haller.  
Geo. W. Rice -

To Col. C. W. Thurston.

Head Quarters 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade M. A.  
Capeis Town 28<sup>th</sup> Aug<sup>r</sup> 1839.

On the receipt of a letter of the 20<sup>th</sup> inst from Col. Thurston, and which came to hand yesterday morning, a copy of which is herewith headed for, immediate orders is Captain Barnes and Capt. [unclear] of the [unclear], to march, forthwith, with their respective troops, to join & report themselves to Col. Thurston at [unclear] on the turnpike road, west of the town of Hancock, or at such other place as he might be found on his route to the [unclear] & this band, of which I informed Col. Thurston, by express.

I take pleasure in informing your Excellency, that my orders were promptly obeyed, and that Capt. [unclear] with his troops, took up the line of march from here at 10 o'clock