

spinners and expects in a short time to have it in my power to finish 100 yards of linen per day, which the Convention may have provided they will give me as much as I can sell my linen for, by receiving letters from the Council of Safety that they were much wanting coarse linen, for tenting and sheeting. I carried 239 1/2 yards to Annapolis the week before last and by the valuation the Committee put on it I lost from 5 to 10 pounds of what I could have sold for it here, notwithstanding they confessed they had not received as good linen from any other factory. This is public punishment in place of public encouragement. With regard to the progress I have made in manufacturing it is so well known to the most of the gentlemen in this part of the Province and some of the members in Convention here I have brought manufacturing of linen to greater perfection than has ever before been done in the Province and is able to bring it to as good perfection both in ——— and white, as any imported provided I meet with proper encouragement.

To the Committee

I am with the greatest respect, Gentlemen,
Your very humble servant

Abel M. Tisdale

Sir,

Serlington Balt City 17th Sept 1776.

In compliance with yours of the 8th (and the resolves of Convention therein referred to) a meeting of the field officers of Cal Talley and the Baltimore Town Battalions with the Committee of observation, was held on Friday last by appointment previously advised for the purpose of nominating officers for two companies of militia to march immediately for New York which nomination was accordingly made.

On Saturday I met my Battalion to publish the same and solicit volunteers, they were very backward in offering, until some officers of the Companies turned out, this in some degree roused the ranks and each of the officers of those Companies got a considerable number of their men to offer to go. I met all these officers yesterday in town, each tells me he has engaged some, on the whole I think about a number sufficient for one Company mostly of this Battalion and say if they had money to discharge the bounty advance and purchase of arms they have no doubt of succeeding. There we went not only for the money, but also for an explanation. Requesting the offers of Companies, whether they are to be confined to two and therefore supersede an nomination, or whether all volunteer Companies together with the two by us nominated are to be taken into pay. Not that I have the least expectation that the whole County can turn out more than the two Companies properly equipped in good time, one of which we would have a good chance of offsetting by consolidating the three offering Companies of my Battalion with one of those nominated.

I know not whether I have been right in telling the Volunteers that so high a bounty is given to enable each to equip himself with a blanket as well as other necessaries for their immediate march. This will however be the most expeditious method of procuring blankets, should they be paid for by the State, which is by some expected. The Beaver Club learns one of our nominat^{ed}