

Sir

Lancaster (Sunday Morning)
June 17th 1781

Last evening received your favour of the 9th instant - The attention, which your Excellency and the Hon^{ble} Council, paid to my propositions - which however did not for judicious & good reasons - meet with your approbation - demands my most respectful & warmest acknowledgements.

I have, in consequence of your Direction ordered out the second Class of the 3rd, 4th, 5th & 6th Battalions, who come in course of Duty in this Parliamentary order. - My apprehensions expressed in my last, with respect to the Country Militia I fear are too justly grounded - And altho' I have ordered four Battalions to furnish the Relief from their present Station, I mean the necessary Attention which they must pay to their Farms at this season - I do not expect our the ~~Parliament~~ ^{Parliament} Requested. - I could wish Council, would at least during the present season, furnish me with discretionary power to order out Militia - indiscreetly, were time & Circumstances - absolutely require it. - Council I hope will not consider my Demand extravagant or forward - At present I conceive it absolutely necessary
and

And therefore, wish Council would take the matter into consideration, and give such Directions, as they shall think proper.

About 1200 of the convention troops, posted thro' here, a few days since, bound to the Eastward - A second Division of about 600 men exclusive of all the Convention Officers, near 300 Waiters & nearly that number of Women & Children, ~~have~~ arrived here, under the Direction of a Major Baily, who sits under Colo. Wood's Command in the Southern department - they are to remain at this place, until the Arrival of Colo. Wood, who is expected in a few days.

I am called upon by Mr. Mee Capt. of Major Baily for a Guard to attend them by way of Escort to Jersey. - I beg Council will put me under the Direction of the Genl, who delivers this, that I may be enabled to procure the Guards, as soon as possible, in order to get 'em & ease the people of the immense burthen & inconvenience, which they now labour under, by these troops being continued here - I must shew Represent before Council on material matters - I should a Guard be ordered out - I have not a single Stand of arms to put in their hands - so that I must beg Council will give Directions to forward as
soon

heart 100 hands ^{to arms}, or otherwise we shall remain
in a most unhappy situation.

Mr. Miller, also calls on me for a
Guard to take about 100 men to Philadelphia.
Council will give orders respecting the number
of the Buff: Guards as they shall think proper.

The York County Militia, who ~~condemned~~
-ted the last Division from York, could by no
means be prevailed ~~on~~ to continue, the called
themselves Volunteers and officers use their
own pleasure. This County is considerably
behind hand in Militia duty - people ^{are}
are considerably dissatisfied - I do not
to say think further about the matter - Council
I hope will inquire into it.

I am with the greatest respect
Your Excellency most Obedient Servant

James O'Neil

June 10th 1776
The Council and I have
I will say as much of
Council of York County

To Mr. Miller
Chief of Council
Be. Mr. Miller and of York

Mr. Miller - I have to command as a man
volunteer desired that in case of any disturbance
soffly, may you will please to return of it in
all respects to give any kind of disturbance in your
concerned with your duty of the

When the War was over