

To his Excellency the Govn. of West Va.

Sir we are conscious that our company is too weak to perform the duty that is required on owing to the increased numbers of guerrillas and the disbandment of the other three companies putting all together it became dangerous to scout through the county or even hold a position in the county. We have time and again reported to the Federal Forces and with one single exception have failed to get help. They mearily tell us to remain with them and keep out of danger which you at once see gives our county no protection at all. Now I have conversed with your warmest constituence and past friends and they all think it due them and the intrust of our country that you should give an order for more men now. I can assure you that the men can be recruited in a very short time. You are aware that the term of service of the 5 Va. Regt. is now about out and there are quite a number of them who have not nor will not reenlist also quite a number of them who reside in Wayne County and cannot stay at home under existing circumstances. They therefore would readily enlist in a company of this kind and defend the interest of the Loyal People of this county. There are also quite a number of citizens who would become soldiers in a Local Company like this. Be you assured we must have more men or suffer great loss after running great risk of our own lives. We are held as usurpers of the laws of Va. and called Boreman bogus thieves and cut throats by the Rebels and threatened with instantaneous death when captured. We are not at all dismayed or intimated at their threats. Notwithstanding that there is plenty moar men to help us we think it nothing more than right they should be permitted to do we know they will do if armed and put at it so therefore petition you to give us the minimum number of a company say eighty the rank and file to be paid from the date of their enlistment and for to be economical Say one lieutenant whose wages might be in proportion to that of Capt. which would be less expensive in proportion to their three companies and 3 capt. And together please consider the awkward remarks and answer soon is our Humble Prayer to our chief magistrate of West Va.

Benjamin R. Haley Capt. and Company

With many citizens