Chester 5 o'clock p. m. 3d Oct. 1831

To Col. Jno. Tilghman

Sir Reports of an insurrection having actually occurred and the assemblage of a large body of blacks in an attitude of hostility have spread through Caroline to an extent producing very great alarm. From the only means of judging now in my power I cannot believe that a force has arrived from the South or embodied itself so near to us. Prudence however requires that we should hold ourselves in readiness. Your Officers should be all advised to communicate to their men the caution to hold themselves ready to receive a call and obey it instantly. The scene of alleged attack being nearer to you I must refer to your own judgment the necessity of calling out your Regiment so soon as you have proof of an actual rising in Delaware or any part of the peninsula. I would in advance remark

Colo. Jno. Tilghman
Centreville

Pressing Express
Capt. Grahams
Oct 3d 1831.