that it was out of our power to proceed in the Business
their coming so unexpectedly it was impossible for us to
collect a force sufficient to stop them before they return
on the Evening. Many of the Men swear they will out
what they have done at the Hazard of their lives as it
they have associated to do & by their declarations agai
the present Measures of the Country & in favour of the
then themselves intirely disaffected to our cause

If these Men were all we had to contend with it
probable our Militia might be sufficient but from the be
information we can obtain we are of Opinion they have
a very formidable number to protect them from Cecil
Worcester & Sussex County on Delaware, and as since the
outrages several Companys in this County have taken Satis-
fearly in the same way which will of Course stop them fro
opposing them if they do not join them we are unanimo
of Opinion that it is very improbable there can be in
General Hoopers Brigade a sufficient number of the Milit
raised, who would on the present Occasion take up Arms to sup
& stop the progress of these Rioters & their Adherents & bring
the Offenders to Justice; and we therefore think it most pr
dent to decline making the attempt as a failure would be
very detrimental to our Cause & give Strength & Spirit
to their party & Friends. And have sent this by an
Express hired for the purpose to inform you there
of what we have done & what we apprehend is our situ
ation, and we would by leave to submit to your Judgem
whether it would not be proper under our present Circum
stances to send Men to bring these Offenders to Justi
who having neither connexions or acquaintance with
may be more relied on & will probably much better
through the Business. It is becoming a matter of g