



Washington Dec. 31. 1802.

Dear Sir

The commission of the peace for the county of Lancaster stands thus  
 George Wilson, Wm. Ketchum, Thomas Patten, Jno. C. Murray, the assessors, George  
 John Thomas, William Tom, John Hottel, Peter Smith, William Powell, John  
 Wm. Ketchum, & Thomas Patten. as these commissioners expire with the  
 end of the present session of court, it is necessary for me to give  
 in I have given in their names to the court for government. I have  
 but it occurred that some of them may have resigned or refused to qualify  
 in which case it would be necessary to withdraw their names & substitute  
 others before the court. I take the liberty of proposing you to satisfy  
 yourself if any of the above have resigned or refused to qualify, and in that case  
 to recommend to me others in their place. If any of the above have not  
 resigned there be any whom it would be desirable to continue perhaps  
 you could know of them whether they will qualify if appointed, but if  
 they are as well out as in, then let me know the names of the appointing  
 if possible in your good opinion, & whether as far as I know will be so kind  
 to recommend to me. As I am desirous to see in the commission  
 to the court of the peace at least, I must press on your courtesy  
 to give me the necessary information by that day. I accept my  
 best wishes & salutations

Peyton Patten  
 Mar. 31. 1802.

*[Handwritten signature]*

Francis Peyton esq.