

was) to lay aside him and chuse another in his room, while he is in being and capable of the service. This seems to be an abiding doubt & not easily removeable.

To what they objected of my keeping men in garrison at Westfeild and Springfield being against y^e act of y^e Comission^{rs}, my answer was that I did not place them there; Secondly, I called y^m off, and they refused to obey; Thirdly, Major Treat and all his, upon their last appearance, have declared wth one consent y^t they did not account o^r whole 500 men, they all together, a sufficient strength then (tho formerly it was) to pursue the enemy on both sides of the River; and also y^t they judged we had not sufficient strength wthout them at Springfeild, & Westfeild; and Major Treat plainly declared y^t it was against his conscience to draw off those men from Westfeild, whereby the people should be exposed to such apparent and almost inevitable ruine. Hereupon, I forebore to call them off, yet declaring once and again y^t I was ready to call them at a day's warning, whenever the service called for it, and would doe it p^rsently, did they judge y^t wee stood in neede of them, or if y^e want of y^m wth us would be improved as an objection against us, for not attending the order. Hence I pleade they were not fixed in garrison, contrary to the true meaning & intent of the order.

We wait wth expectation for orders how to behave o^rselves. The enemy is not discovered of late here, nor do wee know y^t he is removed, tho many guesse