

**This is semi-diplomatic transcription of George Lucy's observations. A semi-diplomatic transcription makes a number of changes in the interests of clarity and readability, including the £ sign in place of the contemporary 'li' and addition of superscript insertions into the main text. All capitalisation, punctuation and spellings are as written.**

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Some Observations made upon the Conduct of the Militia during the late Troubles which shew there is a necessity for a further Regulation amongst them, Especially of the Horse in order the make them Serviceable, Together with an Expedient how the same may be effected, agreeable to the Laws already in force, Humbly offered as an aditionall Security to his Majesty's Person and Government.

The late tumultuous Ryotts in severall Parts of this Kingdom that preceded the late Rebellion in Scotland having given Occasion in one or more Countys for raising the Militia horse in order to suppress the same, And it being observed that this Corps, according to Custome, being raised and furnished by Persons of all Partys in proportion to their Estates and that tho' through the Blessing of God upon the vigilance and care of the Officers xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx a Speedy stop was put to those Troubles at that time yet the difficulty the Officers met with in forming those Troops from the little Regard many of 'em shew'd for the Publick Peace, was a convincing Proof (had the Ryotts long subsisted) how little their Fidelity was to be depended upon, and of what import it henceforth may be to the Government to avoid the like Risques for the future?

In order to facilitate this Affair It is to be observed By the Acts of the 13<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> Car: 2<sup>nd</sup> Every £500 per Annum in Lands are chargeable – to find a horse, horseman and Arms and every £100 per Annum in Lands or upwards is chargeable to contribute in proportion for such Horse, Horseman and Arms and there is a power lodged in the Lord Lieutenant or their Deputys to nominate which of the Contributors shall find Horse, Horseman and Arms and which shall contribute towards the Charge.

By the Act of 9<sup>th</sup> Guilielmi [*William*] the 3rd all Roman Catholicks and Nonjurors are disabled to find any Militia Horse but a Power is lodged with the Lord Lieutenant and their Deputys to nominate other Persons to find such Horses etc And the Estates of the Roman Catholicks are to be charged with paying the said Expenses.

That besides the Roman Catholicks and Nonjurors It's much to be fiared there are many Gentlemen in most Countys, that, tho they have taken the Oaths do not appear hearty, nor over and above well affected to the present Government and therefore in times of Publick Danger the Persons sent by such Gentlemen with their Militia Horse are not entirely to be depended upon: and there may be found Instances, as it is to be feared, in some Countys where the Militia Horse are Composed of a majority of Gentlemen's Servants suspected to be disaffected, so that to Arm anybody of such Mien would be far from being any Security to the present Government.

That altho' the Act in the 1<sup>st</sup> Year of his present Majestye in power the Lord Lieutenant or his Deputys to call in any part of the Militia upon Service in times of Danger and consequently many summons only the most faithfull of this Majestys subjects, yet this Act alone seems only a Remedy in part in regard if it leaves the Disaffected part of the Militia at home armed in a condition to Joyne the Enemies of the Government if ever any occasion (which God forbid) should present itself , so that the

only share the Militia can have in time of Danger in preserving the Publick Peace as they are yet regulated cannot be much more than to maintain in it's own Body a Neutrality – since only one part of the Militia can be called out with Security which will only serve as a Guard to observe the other part remaining armed at home suspected to be Enemy's to the present Government.

For preventing any Misfortunes of this kind, its only proposed that care shall be taken where there are many Contributors to the finding a Horse, Horseman and Arms, to have one Person intermixed amongst them as a Contributor whose Loyalty may be depended upon and even where a single Person finds an entire horse and that happens to be in the least suspected a well affected Person should be added to alleviate the Burthen.

Vice versa the like advantage may be allowed the well affected Person singly providing a Horse etc.

In either of which Cases, the Deputy Lieutenants may appoint the well Affected Person to be intrusted with providing a Horse, Horseman and Arms and the suspected Persons to contribute to the Charge.

The Disaffected can hereby receive no other prejudice than that of being excused from Trouble.

By this Means the Disaffected will not only be in a great measure disarmed, But the Government capable of receiving a Reinforcement of near 10,000 Horse drawn out amongst the most faithfull of his Majestys subjects from all parts of the Kingsome whereby amongst other advantages, the regular Troop will be more at Liberty to Act as his Majestys Service shall from time to time require.