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Impact of Shays Rebellion > Public Commentary After the Rebellion

Massachusetts Centinel, 16 May 1787

On Monday evening an express arrived in town from the county of Berkshire, with letters for his Excellency the Governour [James Bowdoin], and the Hon. Gen. [Benjamin] Lincoln, from several Gentlemen of distinction in that county, which, we are informed, contain accounts of the Rebels, to the amount of 7 or 800, being collected in the state of Vermont, in the vicinity of this Commonwealth, and that it was given out by them, that they intended in the course of the present week, to make incursions into several parts of this state, and to kill, plunder, burn, and destroy whatever comes in their way.—That Shays, Day, Parsons, &c. had been seen at Crown Point, on their way to join them.—That the town of Sharon in Connecticut had turned out a company of men, properly officered, for the purpose of assisting the Rebels—and that the militia in Berkshire County had orders to hold themselves in readiness to oppose the inroads of these daring and infatuated men.

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