

qualified to take the command. Capt. George Cooke has served on board the English Navy for seven years and has been in several engagements, and I think well qualified for the Business. I have had an opportunity of finding him to be a man of Undaunted Courage since I have been in these parts. As Col^o Plater is well acquainted with Cap^t George Cooke and I suppose some others of the Council, I shall say no more about him, further than I thought it my duty to prevent his passing unnoticed if in my power.

I remain, Gent. Your Hble Serv^t
Rich^d Barnes.

[Bracco to Tilghman.]

Original.

Port Tobacco J 26th 1776.

D^r Sir. I have sent the Bearer Sergeant Smith express to inform you that the small pox has broke out among the men under my command here and hope that you will be kind enough by his return to let me have instructions in what manner I am to act whether emediately to inoculate the remainder of the men or remove them out of the way. I think the latter would be of no effect as the man who communicated the infection was a day and night in company with all the Soldiers here; some combed his hair and others slept with him. He was a man that called himself a deserter from Lord Dunmore and produced a pass from the committee of Essex County in Virginia. I have spoke to D^r Browne who had the care of the fellow and he says he thinks he was inoculated.

I am D^r Sir with the greatest gratitude Your most obed^t
Hble Serv^t

B. Bracco.

N. B. We have but four men that have had the small pox.

[Hawkins to Jenifer.]

Original.

Cha^s County July the 26th 1776.

D^r Sir: On the 18th Inst. I received orders from Brigad^r Gen^l Dent to select from the interior parts of my Battalion three comp^s of militia to be composed of men out of different companies and dispatch them to S^t George's River to relieve the Militia collected there at that time. Agreeable to order I set out immediately & had two of the Comp^s raised the next day commanded by Capt. Parnham & Cap^t Jno. Hanson, the other was not raised till 20th and was commanded by Cap^t M^cPherson. Parnham's Company which was foremost got down to S^t George's or within a small distance of it before great part of the fleet sailed up Patowmack, & has been