

[Hindman to Council.]

Original.

Oxford July 13th 1776.

Gentlemen:

When I was in Somerset the Committee of Safety delivered me three prisoners to bring up as far as Talbot there to be delivered to the Militia to send over to Annapolis, when I came to Cambridge I delivered them to a Guard of Militia there who had some men to send over, the Committee there thinking I had no right to leave them there, have sent them over here to me with a prisoner they had in Custody in expectation of my calling at Annapolis on my way to the Head of Elk. as it may be a means of stopping us some time by calling, have hired the Boat to carry the prisoners over, whom you will please to pay and take charge of the prisoners. I shall set off to morrow morning early for the head of Elk and shall make the best of my way to Philadelphia as fast as possible.

I am Gentlemen

Your hble Serv^t

James Hindman.

[Barnes to Council.]

Original.

St. Inigoes 13th July 1776.

Gentⁿ I rec^d information on Friday the 12th July that there was arrived a considerable number of Ships and small Vessells between Smiths Point & Point Lookout, on which I ordered five Companys of Militia to repare there as fast as possible and imediately set out to the Point myself in order to git further information, On my arrival there I found about forty Sail of Vessells, they were then about twenty five miles off the Point in the Bay, where they continued till in the night. In the morning about fifty eight Sail were discovered opposite Smiths Creek in Potomack & eight in the Bay, on which I gave orders to call the Companys of my Battalion immedately to march to Potomack in order to prevent their landing in the District of the 21st Battⁿ. We have had two small vessels drove on shore from the Fleet, on board of one of them was three whites & two Negroes, three of which now have the Small Pox on them. On of the white men informed us the Fleet was Dunmore's, and that Gov^r Eden was on board the Foey, & that he heard it surmised that they intended to take possession of St. George's Island, since which the Foey and her Tender have come to in St. Mary's River, and I don't doubt but the greatest part if not all of the Fleet will be there in the morning. We have between two and three hundred of our Militia Stationed in different places, and I have just sent off an express to Col^o Jordan to supply me with one or two hundred