

men of his Battalion if Possible. From the above affair I think it would be proper Captⁿ Beall's company from Drum Point should be ordered here and their place there supplied with the Militia of the Co^{ty}. I should be glad of your advice and assistance. I should have wrote you more particularly but have been marching from place to place from the morning till now, which is twelve o'clock in the night, and am much Tiard. M^r Hugh Hopewell has promised me to hire an express in Calvert to carry this to you, should therefore be glad you would pay him.

I remain Gent^l Your hble Servt.
Rich^d Barnes

Original.

[Weston to Council.]

Gent:

I rec^d your favour 8th curr^t and sorry it is out of my Power to serve the Province with Guns, as both our furnaces is out of blast nor can we blow till late this fall for want of water. Cap^t Charles Ridgly's Furnace is in blast and like to continue for some time.

Kingsbury Furnace 13th July 1776.

I am Gent
Your humble Serv^t
Jno: Weston.

Original.

[Somerville to Council.]

5 oclock Sunday 14th July 1776. Calvert County Gentlemen. About one o'clock yesterday morning by Express from Captain Beall, I received information that there were forty sail of vessels off Point Look Out (Eight of which were Square Rigged) & requesting some Assistance from our Militia (and to get the other part in Readiness in case they should proceed up the Bay) Col^o Mackall not being in the County, I gave such Orders as I thought might put us in the best posture of Defence: the Six Upper Companys were to hold themselves in readiness to march on the shortest notice, & with Part of the rest I went to Drum Point. About 4 o'clock a firing of Cannon &^c was heard (Supposed to be in Potowmack) which is confirmed this Morning by M^r Hugh Hopewell Jun^r who was down near where the firing was; and brought the Inclosed Letter from Colo. Barnes: who also requested the Assistance of Captⁿ Beall & his men. M^r Hopewell came to Drum Point this morning ab^t Nine o'clock & Captⁿ Beall with all the men he had there, set out about half past Ten; leaving that Post in the Charge of our Malitia, who are now but few in number, but I propose to get (& keep) there about Sixty or Seventy men, Exclusive of Officers untill