

January 14 ner as the nature of the case can possibly admit of, by which means perhaps some very dark Villenys may be brought to light. Any State or cuntry whatever thats threatened with an invasion, cannot take too many precautions for its own Safety.

I must Beg you<sup>l</sup> Excuse my freedom in this, and belive me to be with the sincerest well wishes for the Good of my Country.

January 14 [Chas. Gr. Griffith, Mont<sup>y</sup> County, to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee.] (P<sup>r</sup> Mr. King)

I have this minute your letter before me, and observe its contents shall take every step in my power to have our Militia in readiness to march at a Minutes warning, should this State be Invaded, I am sorry to Inform your Excellency that we in a manner are destitute of Arms. What few there is shall be Immediately put in a condition for service so far as lays in my power you may rest assured I will attend to the preservation of Military Stores, provisions &c. I should be much pleased to have Arms Ammunition &c to compleat a full Regiment sent us, as should the Enemy attempt George Town, on speculation of Tobacco, or otherwise it will enable us to oppose them with the assistance of the Neighbouring Counties.

January 15 [W<sup>m</sup> Lyles, J<sup>r</sup>, Potomack to the Governor & Council]

Agreeable to your directions I had a meeting of the Captains in my Battalio for the purpose of recommending a Proper Person for a Major to the said Battalio, and they Unanimously recommended Cap<sup>t</sup> Jn<sup>o</sup> H. Beanes, if you approve of him, you<sup>l</sup> be pleas<sup>d</sup> to forward his Commission by the earliest opportunity.

January 15 [Jas Calhoun, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee]

Inclosed is the Report of a Gentleman lately from Charlestown who come to Town last night which I do myself the Honour to transmit to your Excellency.

Capt Babcock commander of the Privateer ship Gen Mifflin belonging to Boston came to Town last night and reports that he was taken off Charles Town by the Hyena Frigate about the first Dec<sup>r</sup> and that he left that place the 8<sup>th</sup> Charles Town was Garrisoned by about 700 Hessians 384 Men had arrived from N York a few days before and were immediately sent forward to Cornwallis—a number of the Principal Inhabitants had been sent to Augustine which so exasperated the others that five hundred of the most Active Men had deserted the Town and joined Gen<sup>l</sup> Sumpter determined neither to give nor ask quarter Lesly was not in either of the Carolinas—a Major Wates who is aid to one of the Southern Generals told Cap<sup>t</sup> Babcock at Wilmington that the Enemy had evacuated Camden and that our Army had possession of the Country 20 Miles south of