

Major Genl. Smallwood

Annapolis



Dear General Camp Bacon's Bridge  
14 April 1772

I have yours of the 16<sup>th</sup> Jan<sup>y</sup>.  
now before me and should have  
thanked you for it by Mr. M'Clay  
of my Regiment but his anxiety  
to get away made him forget who  
twas obtain'd him leave to go

I shall never wonder at the weak-  
ness of the measures adopted by your  
People while they are governed by a  
Faction who will sacrifice the most  
important considerations of State to  
secure an Election, or a Bargain  
of twice wrought Iron - and who in  
order to effect their purpose, impose  
on their blind Adherents a show  
of Cabalistic Mystery, which those  
misfortunate



infatuated Gulls swallow with as much  
avidity as devout Christians do the  
Surrender of the great Lama

We quietly lay within 22 miles  
of the Enemy without hope of enga-  
ging them tho' if they knew our true  
situation they would certainly have  
a touch at us and drive us from  
Nakedness to eternity.

Pray tell Mrs. Sprigg that I  
will convince her that I am not inatten-  
tive in ten Days I have been up all  
night upon duty - it is now Troop Beat  
and Genl. St. Clair just setting off  
Adieu to Genl. Spr' General  
John Howard