

fences against the government of this state, justly founded on the authority of the people, in opposing the power and measures of congress, in supporting by word and deed the dominion of the British crown, and authority of parliament, obstructing the recruiting service, and holding a traitorous correspondence with the open enemies of this and other the United States, and forgetful of their duties, which they owe to themselves, as freemen, to the state, as citizens, have even threatened with impious and unnatural war, their countrymen and brethren, and for this purpose have actually collected an armed force, and by erecting the standard of the king of Great-Britain, have invited the common enemy into their country. In compassion therefore to those unhappy and deluded people, and to prevent the effusion of kindred blood, the General Assembly have issued this proclamation, exhorting them to return to a due obedience to the laws of their country, and requiring them to disperse immediately, and within forty days from the date hereof, to repair to the commanding officer, at such times and places in the counties of Somerset and Worcester as he shall direct, and then and there deliver up to the persons appointed to receive them, all their fire and side arms, and take the oath of allegiance and fidelity to this state, prescribed by the form of government. Upon a strict compliance with these conditions, it is HEREBY DECLARED, and the PUBLIC FAITH SOLEMNLY PLIGHTED, that the offenders aforesaid shall not only be pardoned for all the above offences and for all others of the like nature heretofore committed against this state, but be protected by the laws, authority, and power thereof, and secured in as full and ample enjoyment of their religious and civil rights, as any of its other inhabitants; and MOREOVER that their grievances (if any) shall be heard and speedily redressed. But as an example to others, and to prevent such dangerous and unwarrantable combinations in future, the persons, whose names are hereunto annexed, are excepted from any benefit or advantage, which they might otherwise have claimed by virtue of this proclamation.

Andrew Francis Cheney, Hamilton Callallo, Whittington Turpin, Thomas Moore, Stoughton Maddox, Thomas Malcolm, Levy Langford, Josephus Beall, Thomas Pollett, jun. Angelo Atkinson, Jesse Gray, William Pollett, John Odell Hart, and the reverend Mr. Bowic.

**INSTRUCTIONS** by the General Assembly of Maryland, to brigadier-general Smallwood.

General Smallwood is to take with him the Virginia regiment of regulars, the company of regulars commanded by captain Deams, the company of regulars commanded by captain Godman, the independent company from Baltimore-Town commanded by captain Steret, together with the Annapolis independent company commanded by captain James Brice, and a detachment of matrosses, from Annapolis and Baltimore-town, with two field pieces, commanded by lieutenant William Campbell, and with all expedition proceed to Somerset and Worcester counties, and there publish and distribute the proclamation issued by authority of the general assembly, and see the same duly enforced, and use his utmost endeavours to apprehend all the several persons excepted out of the said proclamation. Should he find any disaffected persons assembled in arms, he is to use his utmost endeavours to quell them, shedding no blood if possible to avoid it, and taking care to arrest the leaders, and send them under a guard to the executive power of this state, by them to be disposed of according to law. That general Smallwood shall be at full liberty and is hereby instructed to dismiss from this service the Virginia regiment, and all the regulars on the continental establishment, as soon as he judges they can be spared, and all the militia and other troops as soon as the service be ended. He is to give intelligence of his proceedings from time to time to the executive body of this state.

That general Smallwood give the necessary orders for securing the arms of the insurgents in Somerset and Worcester counties, and pursue the directions he may hereafter receive from the executive power of this state, as to the disposition of those arms.

Which were read and assented to.

Mr. Bruff and Mr. Henry from the house of delegates, bring in and deliver to Mr. President the following message:

By the HOUSE of DELEGATES, February 13, 1777.

May it please your honours,

WE have appointed John Hall, John Henry, and Jeremiah T. Chase, Esquires, to join the committee of your house to examine the ballot box for the choice of a governor and council.

By order,

G. DUVALL, cl. ho. del.

The members of the senate having severally taken the oath prescribed by the form of government, proceeded to ballot for a governor, and the ballot box being prepared, the ballots were deposited therein, sealed up, and delivered to the committee appointed by this house to join the committee of the house of delegates to take the joint ballot of both houses, who retired to the conference room, and after some time the gentlemen return and report, that, on examining the ballots of both houses, Thomas Johnson, jun. Esq; had a majority of votes. Whereupon it is declared by the senate, that Thomas Johnson, jun. Esq; is duly elected governor of the state of Maryland.

Mr.