

County Arms, and who should be their Officers, never mentioning the duty or faithfulness they owed to your Lordship, and your substitutes (which I believe was forgetfulness, butt hoped that none of 'em (by what they heard read) would act anything against your Lordship, or your Countrey, and to be quiet and peaceable & in a small time all would be well. Two or three dayes after came up Coad's circular letters commanding every County to choose four delegates, who were to be ready at St Maries on the 26th August. The 24th they sent, for my arms and ammunition & Mad^m Lloyd's; betwixt thirty and forty men headed by Sweatnam, who had a warrant (in their Majestys' names) from Edward Man, Will^m Combes, and J^{no} Edmondson to take what arms, and ammunition they could find for the country's use; for that our Indians (haveing fled from the towne, and cutt up their corne) had reported, that they onely staid till the two great men came from the North, meaning Coll: Darnall and Major Sewall, who the day before parted from my house. I was resolved to find out who was the Inventor of those falsities, and rid down to Oxford to our Burgesses, who were just then takeing boat, where I mett a great Company of people, who askt me whether I knew not of Coll: Darnall and Major Sewalls being at our Indian towne: No, said I; but I know they were last night att Coll: Lowe's, and are now gone home. Upon this I desired the Burgesses to send some people to the Indians, to know the cause why they deserted the Towne, and betook themselves to that swamp; they said, it was a folly to goe, for the Indians would not come out except Coll: Coursey came; I tould 'em a Jackahick from him would doe, and I would frame one, and send M^r John Hawkins with itt, Att last they pickt out four or five men (who knew best where the Indians were) and signed instructions for 'em to enquire as above; they went, and brought the answer which your Ldp has a Copy off. This was the Tuesday; & because Will: Combes was to muster by Coade's order on Thursday, I stay'd with him, to see how my old souldiers would look upon me being cashier'd. On Thursday night I came home. The Wednesday following came a Justice of peace and three or four more, who had a kindness for me, and askt me where I was last Saterdag where, sayes I, here: Lord Jesus! said they, what lyes goes abroad? why, what's the matter? said I; Begod, said the Justice, Dick Sweatnam had much adoe to keep Capt: Hatfield and his Company from comeing to take you; take me, said I; for what? why, sayes he, there's two men att old Watts' will swear that last Saturday they see you over against the Indian towne, where you shot of two pistols, and three or four cannows full of Indians came over to you, to whom you tould that within ten days you would be with 'em at