

In Committee Baltimore 14 April 1776  
10 °Clock P. M.

Hon<sup>l</sup> Sir

The Inclosed Copies of Letters were just now received by our Committee by Express from the Council of Safety of Virginia with Desire that they might be forwarded to you instantly. Indeed we think, they contain matters of too much Importance to have been delayed a Moment. In consequence whereof we have prevailed on our Commanding Officer here to appoint M<sup>r</sup> David Plunket a Lieutenant, in whose Prudence and Industry we can rely to wait on you with this, And if your Honourable Body should think it necessary to take any Steps, or give any Instructions to the Council of Safety on the Occasion, he will wait your Commands.

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|   | We have the Honor to be with greatest Respect |
| Hon <sup>l</sup> Sir,                                       | Your most Obed <sup>t</sup> Serv <sup>t</sup> |
| Sam <sup>l</sup> Purviance Jun <sup>r</sup> Ch <sup>n</sup> | John Smith                                    |
| Will <sup>m</sup> Lux Dep <sup>y</sup> Ch <sup>n</sup>      | John Boyd                                     |
| Tho <sup>s</sup> Harrison                                   | Ja <sup>s</sup> Calhoun                       |
| Benj <sup>n</sup> Nicholson                                 | Jno. Sterrett                                 |
| W <sup>m</sup> Buchanan                                     |   |

The Committee then resumed the Consideration of the Council of Safety of Virg<sup>as</sup> Letter, and Resolved thereon, that M<sup>r</sup> John Smith, Capt<sup>n</sup> Benj<sup>a</sup> Nicholson, and Capt<sup>n</sup> John Sterrett, three of their members do wait upon the Council of Safety at Annapolis early tomorrow morning with the Packet directed to them, as they think it of too much Importance to be trusted by a Common Express, and that they carry with them the Letters above referred to in order to lay them before the Council of Safety, lest their Packet might not contain the same Intelligence, and that they take with them M<sup>r</sup> Jere Townley Chase one of the Committee, who is now in Annapolis.

Wednesday Evening 17<sup>th</sup> April 1776.

Present, Sam<sup>l</sup> Purviance Jun<sup>r</sup> Chairman  
W<sup>m</sup> Buchanan, John Boyd Tho<sup>s</sup> Harrison, Benj<sup>n</sup> Nicholson  
Ja<sup>s</sup> Calhoun, John Sterrett, Jere. Townley Chace.

The Gentlemen of the Committee appointed to go to Annapolis returned and reported, that they had delivered the Paquet to the Council of Safety, and also, as was directed, laid before them the Letters from Virginia, and that the Council of Safety had given them the following Copy of their Proceedings