

Original.

[Hammond to Council.]

Gen^t. At a meeting of Cap^t Thomas Mullikins Company of Militia the 15th Ins^t he resigned his commission as did also M^r Belt Mullikin the 2^d Lf^t. The Comp^y then unanimously made choice of M^r Vachel Gaither the 1st Lf^t for their Cap^t M^r Absolom Anderson the Ensign for their 1st Lef^t M^r Stephen Basford for 2^d Lf^t & M^r Thomas Fowler Basford for their Ensign whom they desired me to recommend to your Honours to be commissioned which I now do as they are Gen^t very agreeable to the Comp^y

I am Gen^t respectfully y^r Humble Servant.

28th May 1776.

Rezin Hammond

Original.

[Nicholson to Council.]

Ship Defence Wecomoco May 28th 1776.

Gentlemen. I did myself the pleasure [of] writing p^r Cap^t Pitt informing of the situation of the Enemy down at Norfolk, since which have been Join'd by Cap^t Boucher and a Brig he had in Convoy, from the certainty he has of the Tenders being so numerous about the Cape, he is now halling the Brig up a Creek in this River, and there to lay untill a more favourable opportunity. For want of the assistance of a Tender (my own having sprung her Mast) I did not go lower down the Bay than Rappahanock, where the Bay appears quite clear, Cap^t Boucher & myself intend down this Even^g for the purpose of making discoveries, and should the vessels not be already sail^d would recommend they should be held in readiness until I return & send or bring you advice; But should you think proper to send them before or should they be already sail'd, you may depend upon my utmost care of them.

I am Gentⁿ y^r most

oblidged Hum^l Serv^t &c. James Nicholson

Original.

[Nicholson to Council.]

Off Wecomoco Mouth May 28th 1776.

Gentⁿ Two hours since, I wrote you, since which have discovered five sail of Topsail vessels which had been at an anchor off windmill point one of them wears a broad pend^t suppose the Commadore. she & another Capital ship is now under way standing up the Bay we apprehend there may be a fleet under Windmill point at anchor as we heard the Commadore fire a Gun the signal for weighing. I am now halling my wind down the Bay, to make all the discovery I can &