

meet on the Monday and not on the Tuesday agreeable to my request. Being in hopes it would be in my power to remove some prejudices, I desired Majors Hemsley & Emory to attend at Kent Island (where more than an hundred privates attended) and determined to go myself to the other field, where, after the privates were drawn up in one line to the number of about 60 or 70, M<sup>r</sup> James Obryon informed them, that the business of the day was to chuse Field officers, that there was a probability of their being now gratified, that he offered himself a candidate for the first office, and said he demanded it as a matter of Right for two reasons—First, because he was the oldest officer in the Battalion and 2<sup>ndly</sup> because he thought himself as well qualified, if not better than any other. Three Gent were then named to take the polls, the number of those who voted I cannot with certainty pretend to say, as I was by the company denyed a copy of the number of voters, but believe it somewhere between fifty and sixty. However on the clerks examining their numbers, M<sup>r</sup> Ja OBryon was declared duly elected Col<sup>o</sup> M<sup>r</sup> James Bordley Lieut. Col<sup>o</sup> M<sup>r</sup> John Dames 1<sup>st</sup> & M<sup>r</sup> George Hanse second major.

While the men were standing up I happened to be in an argument with M<sup>r</sup> Turbutt Wright, a threat was made to throw us over the fence. I knew it was designed for myself, however it did not intimidate me from speaking my sentiments.

It is well known that Gent. has publickly advised the people not to meet in Battalion under any appointment but their own and he avowed it in the last Convention. It is said that some of the Gen<sup>t</sup> Delegates from Q Ann's have wrote over to some of their friends who have long opposed the Convention, with regard to their appointment not only of field officers but other militia officers, that the Convention is disposed to gratify them in their own appointments, and that now is the time. If that be the case why does not the Convention signify it to us, or take the Commissions from us by commissioning others. The people have been induced to believe they ought not to submit to any appointments, but those made by themselves, so that whenever I have requested a meeting of the Batt<sup>a</sup>, part of the officers and five of the companies have met before and not on the days I appointed. The other four Companies in the 20<sup>th</sup> Batta<sup>l</sup> have always conformed to the regulations of Convention, and I believe approve of the power being lodged in that Respectable Body.

It appears to me needless to attempt hereafter to call the Batta<sup>l</sup> as some of those who have received commissions from Convention, as well as others, refuse to obey orders, particularly some of those voted for and chosen last Monday.