

c. c. a Sergeant who happened upon the Wharf and with whom he had then made some slight Acquaintance, to do some small Service for him ; he never asked or demanded, or had Occasion to ask or demand, or received any Aid from the Fort, and that he refused to shew his Instructions in pursuance of his Capt's Orders which were designed, as the Cap<sup>t</sup> alledges, to obviate the Inconvenience of his being obliged to shew them to Masters of the Vessels who might, perhaps be too curious. We also are informed by Cap<sup>t</sup> Cooke, that he wrote to the Commanding Officer of the Fort to lend his Assistance to his Officer, if it should be necessary, and which corresponds with the written Instructions produced by the Officer. Upon the Whole we apprehend the Information you have had, respecting the Conduct of Cap<sup>t</sup> Cooke & his Officers as mentioned in your Letter, has not been well founded, and, from the best Judgment we are able to form upon the Examination we have made, there was no Intention, on the Part of Cap<sup>t</sup> Cooke, to treat you with any Slight in the Management of the Affairs he had been intrusted with.

Yet if you think this Matter is not properly represented by Cap<sup>t</sup> Cooke & his Officers we shall, if you desire it, make a more formal Inquiry on Affidavits being made, a proper Way, we think, to lay the Foundation of calling on an Officer for his Conduct, which, in some Degree carries an Imputation with it. You may be assured we had no Intention of your being ill treated in any Degree ; we sent Cap<sup>t</sup> Cooke, who was not at all honored by the Commission, and, we believe, he has executed it with the Fidelity and Diligence we expected.

Major Nath<sup>l</sup> Smith

We are &<sup>ca</sup>

c. B.

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> July 1777.

Present as on yesterday.

That the western shore Treasurer pay to Joseph Middleton five pounds Am<sup>t</sup> of his Acc<sup>t</sup> passed the board

That the said Treasurer pay to Robert Berry Thirty pounds, Ten shillings and eight pence Balance of his Acc<sup>t</sup> passed the Board

That the said Tréasurer pay to Robert Casey Express from Norton & Beall seventeen Pounds Ten shillings.

That the Armourer deliver to M<sup>r</sup> Winters twenty five Gun Barrels, twenty five Locks & Powder to prove them to be Stocked by him.