

who it seems had a drum on board, from the Beating that & having Top sails to their Vessels, raised an alarm on that side the river among the people some distance below Alex^a w^{ch} quickly reached that place an set them to firing their Alarm Guns in the night & next morning, which I had not the least Idea of before, this alarmed the people on this side. Coll^l Addison without informing me of the matter it seems ordered the Militia of his neighbourhood to meet at the ferrey, many of whome I was told had met and gone home again, but for the want of Arms could have been of no other use than that of driving off the Stock had there been occasion for it. March 6

In the receiving yours respecting the Enemies taking Ritchmond I issued orders for a return of all the armes belonging to the Militia in this county but have not had a full return yet, from what I have had I dont think there are five arms in Order for each company in the county. I am in hopes this small fright will convince the people of the Necessity of having arms in their hands to defend themselves & property, and shall Order another meeting of the militia in hopes of raising our full Quota of Select Militia in this County.

[W. Beanes, W. Bowie, Edward Sprigg, and J. Contee, Prince Georges County to the Governor and Council.] March 7

As it always has been our desire and intention to perform our duty in the office of Commissioners of the tax for this county, we are sorry to find by yours of the first instant that we were to send an Account of the tobacco assessment to the treasurer by the 20th ult. that suits might be commenced against defaulters; we shall not attempt to excuse ourselves only by giving a short and plain State of the fact: which was that we have not received the Law to this day, but have been told the collector had to the tenth day of April to pay the tobacco assessment. However on the receipt of yours we have called on the Collector and settled with him this day and have delivered his account to be transmitted to the treasurer.

[Rich'd Dallam, Harford County]

March 7

When I left Annapolis it was my purpose to make up all my Accounts with the Public for a final settlement and attempted to collect Vouchers to have them regular. My want of money obliged me to make so many Partial Payments I found it w^{ld} cost me more time then I could take from the other Business I had to transact for the Public and as I hoped that income of the present collection to procure them without the trouble & Expencc of riding to Every mans House to collect them I have delayed it tho my mind is much set on the settlement of my old Accounts

All the money I have received has been expended for the public & I am considerably in debt for my last purchase & am much Pushd for the money to make my Brother Easey I give him an order for