

April 14 up here by the Marquis, in order to fit her out to Act for a small time against the small Enemys Boats, this Application is seconded by Col^o Thompson Captain Garland is proposed to Conduct this matter I have reason to believe him of proper Carrecter and well Attached to our Independance I know nothing of the Circumstance of this Boat and as he is the bearer you will be pleased to give such order as you think most proper

April 15 [Jos^a Beall, Broad Creek, to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee.]
12 o'Clock

The Enemies Gott under way this morning about 6 o'Clock, and before set out for this place had got Down as Low as Coll^l Masons. On Thursday morning Capⁿ William Dent Beall who undertook the command of the men who had turned out as Select Militia and several others who joyned them on this Occasion Marched with a about 20 who formed themself into a body of Light horse to get forward to Assist in opposing the Enemie in Case of their Landing, as the Enemie were then moved down to the mouth of Piscataway Thursday Evening the Enemie sent a flag on Shore to Coll^l Lyles demanding a supply of fresh provisions, which being refused, they Land^d about a hundred men under cover of the their cannon & burnt all his buildings, in this Attempt some of Capⁿ Bealls party, 7 of them got a fire at them on their Landing & those prisoners say wounded 5 of them 1 or 2 Mortily.

The Enemie got under way on fryday morning but the wind blowing Hard at North West they all came to again, I ordered the remainder of Capⁿ Bealls Company to joyne him, who was Stationed with some other Militia under Coll^l Lyles As a guard to M^r Bonds Houses & Property, Yesterday morning some of the Enemys boats were a shore at Lyleses fishing landing killing some Hogs that had got Down about the Landing, in the Evening 2 of their boats again Landed with the Sailing Master of the Hope & ten men in one, the Purser & 6 men in another, who had got on shore strolling about, when Leiv^{ts} Osborn Williams & Henry Lyles with a party of Young Men pushed in & cut them off from their boat, & took the sailing Master, Boat & all his crew amounting to Eleven in the whole & brought them off in the face of the Enemie Notwithstanding the fire of their cannon, In short Sir this was as brave an Action as was Ever performed by men, as they were Exposed to the fire of three of their Vessels at a short distance from them I do not think I shall do them justice if I do not return Your Excellency a roll of their Names, I sent an Express to Coll^l Lyles this morning desireing he would Observe the Movements of the Vessells & in Case they continue their course down the River, shall Discharge the Militia this Evening or Tomorra morning.

P. S. Inclosed is a list of the Prisoners who I have sent under Guard to the Goal of this county till your further orders respecting them.