

128. ~~Yes~~ ~~to~~ This Matter is not properly represented by Capt. Cooke
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 Capt. 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 Nathl. Smith

We are &c

In Council Annapolis 10th July 1777.

Gent.

129. From your Letter of the 20th June, as well as the Information we
have from Time to Time received of the Disposition of the British
Men of War and armed Vessels, we thought it unsafe to send to Stamp's
Sanding for our Arms &c. however you can better Judge on the Spot and if
you think it advisable to risk them immediately from thence, we
shall be obliged to you to hire Boats and send them as soon as you
can, if you think it imprudent, or can not immediately get Vessels, we
shall be glad you'd order them up to Williamsburg by Water and so
across to the Creek which makes out of York. We were getting one
of our Boats ready to have sent in a Day or two & shall still send
her to Capt. David of the Galley in York, with Directions to the Galley and
Boat to go up the Creek and wait for the Delivery of the Goods, but if
by any Accident they should not get there by the Time the Goods are
ready, we shall be obliged to you to hire a Boat or two & send them
forward. We were fearful, from your former Letter, the Arms might
be injured, though we hoped they were not in so bad a Condition as
you mention in yours of the fifth Instant. Presuming the Tin
is wanted for Public Use and desirous of assisting our Neighbours
in any Thing we can, we agree that the State of Virginia have
one tenth Part of the Tin imported. We are Gent. with
Thanks for your Attention.

Mess^{rs} Norton & Beall.

Yrs &c

In Council 29th July 1777.

Gent.

130. We have just received Mr. Norton's Fav^r of the 25th Inst. by Capt.
David, who brought with him 30 Chests of Arms. The Boat is not yet
arrived. We have again dispatched Capt. David with Instructions to
call upon you for the Residue of the Arms in Williamsburg
and also the Gun Stocks, Tin &c. belonging to this State, which
you will please to deliver to him

Mess^{rs} Norton & Beall.

We are &c