

Captains and commanding officers where there are no Captains, requesting them to call their companies together, those on Kent Island to meet on Monday, and those on the main to meet on Tuesday now last past. A few days after I had written to the officers on the main, the principal persons in five of the companies (some of the officers in them excepted) had a meeting and determined to 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 Hershey and 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. Mr James C Bryon informed them, that the business of the day was to choose 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^{ndly} because he thought himself well qualified, if not better than any other. Three gentlemen 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, deputed a copy of the number of voters, but believe it somewhere between fifty and sixty. However on the checks examining their numbers. Mr J. C Bryon was declared duly elected Col, Mr James Bradley Lieut Col, Mr John James 1st & Mr George Haufe second Major.

While the men were standing up I happened to be in an argument with Mr Thibault Major, 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 Kent has publicly 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 Kent Delegates found themselves 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 Battalion, 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 20th Battalion have always conformed to the Regulations of Convention, and I believe possessors of the power being lodged in that respectable body.

It appears to me needless to attempt here after to call the Battalion 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.

There have been very few applications made to the Field officers and as we are of opinion no time was to be delayed, if any service was expected this fall from the Company to be raised in this Battalion, we met yesterday and have recommended. but I am really apprehensive there will be great