

I'm informed by Capt Bolton Master of the Duane that he was boarded by a
boat belonging to a 22 gun ship the first of this instant, who inquired of him
if the Jamaica fleet had sailed, he likewise says there were another ship of 24 guns
the names of either he does not remember. he was also informed by two passengers
from the sloop that the Otter, Squires and ten does, the Schooner Birchhead and
and three small schooners with 4 and 6 guns are stationed off St. Augustine
the Cherokee of six 4 pounders, the Queen of sixteen 6 pounders and the Aphrodite
of twenty 9 pounders stationed off Coosau in Georgia which is all the intelligence
I have got at present.

I have the honor to be Sir,

To the Honble Council of Safety

Your most Obedt Servt

of Maryland at Annapolis

Geo Looch

NB - The two passengers above mentioned I've sent in the sloop and am
hoping they'll be able to give you some satisfactory intelligence. &c.

The Form of a Deposition which Mr Gilbert Hamilton Smith is ready
and willing to swear to if called upon.

True Annd del County:

This is to certify that I Gilbert Hamilton Smith of the
"County above mentioned" heard Capt Richard Chew of the said County say that
no poor man was intitled to a vote, and that that would insist upon voting,
if he had his way, should be put to death, and I do affirm also that I heard
his brother Samuel Chew say that a poor man was not born to free dom, but to be
a drudge on earth - Given from under my hand in the presence of

John Birchhead Jr

Gilbert Hamilton Smith

Stephen Birchhead

The humble petition of a majority of Capt Richd Chew's company of militia
belonging to Colo John Meems battalion.

These humble petitioners doth petition this honorable house of Curatives for
a new choice of Curatified officers to serve under in the militia, as they think
ing themselves ill used by the present ones for the reasons hereafter mentioned.

First: we do complain of an unfair election for a second lieutenant on Friday the
ninth day of August last. two judges being appointed to take down the votes,
and one of the Candidates desiring to see the poll after it was closed was denied
the right of it, for which reason he thinks himself illused.

Secondly - he can and are ready when called upon to prove our officers have
been partial in regard to fines upon the people for not attending on field days
and offering to clear all their black lines that would vote for Mr Richard Hamilton
to be second lieutenant.

And thirdly and lastly we do complain of our Captain and Ensign, speaking in public
company against the poor people in general as you do see in Mr Gilbert Hamilton Smith's
form of Deposition above mentioned.

Signed Octob 5th 1776.

John Birchhead Jr

Lidens Shorniker

William Whittington

Seaborn Ducker

Gilbert Hamilton Smith

Thomas Turner

Francis Whittington Jr

William & Turner

Stephen Birchhead

Francis Whittington

Isaac & Necker

Francis Birchhead