

Send and Isaac Boston went on board said Lord Dunmore's ship and after they returned said Levin Townsend asked this Deponent and others if they would enlist under Lord Dunmore, that if they would they should have a suit of regimentals, a guinea and a crown at entrance, with the gun and bayonet and standing pay, to which proposal this Deponent objected and said he would return home, said Levin Townsend replied that he would not return home till he took a certain oath, which oath was administered to this Deponent by a person who he understood was a Colonel, and that the tenor of said oath as well as this Deponent can recollect was to bear faith and true allegiance to his Majesty and to abjure all authority of the General Congress and this Deponent further saith that he heard said Levin Townsend say he was fitting out a vessel to cruise up and down the bay in order to take prizes and that Isaac Colton was to be his Lieutenant and that said Levin Townsend said he would in a short time be up Pocumuck River where he intended to lay his befall against the Cypresses and then seize the Committee of Uncertain in the night whilst they were asleep and carry them to Lord Dunmore as speedily as possible, & further saith that on their return he heard Cornelius Dickerson say at Newcombs County that if he had thought he would have been taken up he most certainly never would have left Porter's vessel with whom he went to Norfolk and further saith that Levin Townsend pressed him this Deponent pressed him this Deponent to meet and join him when he came into Pocumuck, also saith that he saw William B Townsend and Thomas Moore talking very much in private whilst the said Townsend was in Wacetas and that said Wm B Townsend advised him whilst in Norfolk to enlist in Lord Dunmore's service and that he this Deponent heard Levin Townsend say he expected a large number of men to join him on his return in Annamessick and that Thomas Moore afterwards went down to Pinley's landing, from which place this Deponent embarked and where they parted and that Thomas Moore wished them well and said he hoped in a short time to see them return safe.

Sworn before Joseph Dashiell

Hugh Besterly.

December 12th 1775.

Solomon Butler of lawful age being sworn deponee and saith that Levin Townsend sent for this Deponent by Hugh Besterly that he wanted to see him and talk with him, that he went on the Tuesday evening before Townsend went away, that he this Deponent was sworn to secrecy, and Townsend told him he wanted him to go down to the mouth of the river for that there was plenty of salt there very cheap and that this Deponent accordingly agreed to go and went home next morning to get his cloaths and by Levin Townsends direction carried his gun, Townsend telling him there was plenty of fowl at the mouth of the river, that he accordingly embarked with Townsend and his company