

Dorchester County - Cambridge Oct: 21st 1776.

I humbly certify that some time last summer a certain Stanly Cook with four or five others complain'd to me (as one of their field officers) against Capt Joseph Byas. They said that being call'd out on duty with others of Capt Byas's Company that he, Capt Byas purchas'd provisions from some of the neighbours for the use of the Company, but being discharged in a short time, and receiving provisions from some of the inhabitants, that were kind enough to make no charge against them, they made use of very little of that purchased by Capt. Byas, and that when he was going to pay them their wages, wanted to stop a shilling per day out of each mans pay for the provision he alledg'd he had found them, great part of which Stanly Cook said he could prove Capt Byas put to his own private use. I told them I would speak to Capt Byas, and have the matter settled. Some time after I saw Capt Byas and Stanly Cook together. I acquainted him of the charge made against him, upon which he said if he had done wrong it was for want of knowing better, and that he was ready to settle in any manner that I or any other of the Field officers would advise him to, he said there was some Indian meal and I think some pork that his wife had deliver'd out, the quantity he could not prove, therefore, could make no account of it, there was likewise some bacon he had purchas'd of Capt John Trippe which he said he had then by him and desired to know what he should do with it. I told him to sell it and apply the money towards paying off his men which he promis'd to do. I then asked Stanly Cook (as he seem'd to be the active person) if the Company would be willing and satisfied to allow the remainder of Capt Byas' account, which was Rum and some other articles, he said he believ'd they would, upon which I thought the matter would be settled.

Thom: Musk -

To all persons whome this may concern - I the subscriber to the best of my knowledge and remembrance on a Monday in March 1776. in my way home call'd in at the house of Mr William Bennetts he being not present his wife and self fell in discourse how the people call'd to Cook's point on account of the man of war would get provisions, she says she had sent or they had from them a certain quantity of meat, and as near as possibly can remember the quantity she mention'd was fifteen poundg, whether she speaks of the quantity by Imagination or Tryal of weights cannot Tell, for do not remember either was mention'd - Before God and the World to the best of my knowledge and remembrance give the above out for as true Testimony as if my hand was on the Book and Mouth to kiss it.

Witness
Joseph Payer Secy

1776	The Province of Maryland.	
March 18	- To $\frac{38}{\text{w}}$ of Bacon @ 3 ^p for Capt. Byas'	} ----- 1.. 5.. 4
	and Capt Wolford's Company	
	$\frac{26}{\text{w}}$ of Pork for ditto @ 5 ^p -	----- 0.. 10.. 0
	3 Gallons of Rum @ 6 ^p for ditto	----- 0.. 18.. 0
		<u>----- 2.. 14.. 2</u>
Remaind of Capt Joseph Byas the within said.		} Savings errors for Mrs Trippe
In Mrs Trippe		