

the movement of the militia, and that if necessary in the meantime the several Committees of Observation, may be directed fairly to collect the sense of the Province on the subject of Independence, and make report thereof to the Convention. Any mode their Representatives may think proper to point out would be better relished by the people, than for us to put them into a violent ferment in a way that might not be approved of, tis a point of great magnitude and we think tis best the shortness of time considered to leave it untouched until the meeting of the Convention on Thursday next. Mr. Paen no doubt is with you before now, Messrs Johnson and Goldborough still with their families we hear. We wish to have you all down when the grand question is decided we leave it however to yourselves to Judge whether you can be spared from Congress and hope whatever is done will be generally agreed to, from the Virginia paper we learn that Clinton left Cape Fear with his Troop on the 21st of May, this comes to that Colony by express in a letter from General Lee to their Convention. - General Howes house was burnt and some of his domestics ill treated; no other damage of consequence say the papers, and Clinton published a proclamation warning the people of N. Carolina to flee from the wrath that was hereafter to come upon them, and exhorting them to return to duty, where he is gone is not ascertained the paper says that the prevailing opinion is that they are gone to the southward, General Lee writes he thinks they are coming round to Berg^s. If they are coming this way we shall soon hear of them and will let you know.

we are y^r. most obed^t. serv^{ts}

To Deputies in Congress.

Sir.

Annapolis 17 June 1776.

By the Resolves of the Convention one thousand pounds were appropriated for the building one or more powder mills, five hundred pounds have been already drawn by a gentleman in Charles County named Hanson upon his giving bond with security to erect a powder mill, there remains one other sum of 500 pounds unappropriated, which you may have an order for on complying with the terms prescribed by the Convention.

we are y^r. most obed^t. serv^{ts}

P.S. If any change be necessary in the order about repairing the vessels, application must be made to Convention, we cannot give directions to the owners themselves to repair, or oblige them so to do.

To Capt^m Isaac Vanbecker.

Sir.

Annapolis 18th June 1776.

You will be pleased to deliver to George Handy or his order as many Barrells of flour as may be necessary for loading the Schooner *Ther*

(Listed)