

Prince Georges County Nov: 10th 1775

Gentlemen. It is at the request of several persons of Fortune and Character that I am induced to inform you how partially matters were conducted with regard to the nomination of Field officers to the Battalion on the upper part of the Continent, there are six Companies in the Forrest and but three below which gave them an advantage which they took of nominating whom they pleased, I was present when the nomination was made and objected strongly to their naming but for, by arguing that they would by that means give you no alternative, whatever, but as they had previously agreed on their man what I said avail? nothing, I have now only to inform you that the persons polled for that day besides those recommended were M^r Barton Lucas, M^r Thomas Snowden, M^r Walter Bowie, Benjamin Ogle Esquire M^r James Mullikin, M^r Reason Beall, M^r Williams Tenor Wootton & myself any of whom in my humble opinion are equally entitled to your notice in every respect with those returned therefore it is to be hoped you will pay no regard to such a recommendation. I am Gent^l with much Respect.

Your most Humble Serv^t.
Rob^t Tyler.

It can be proved there was pains taken to obtain votes by solicitation & I think the persuasive argument was that they should have a majority of Field officers above.

To the Hon^{ble} The Council of Safety.

Virginia, Gunston Hall. Nov^r 25th 1775.

Gentlemen. Having just received the following important intelligence, and not knowing whether you were apprized of the Character & dangerous designs of Maj^r Cornelly, I thought it proper immediatly to transmit it to your board, together with a copy of a letter & Intelligence, respecting him, rec^d sometime ago from his excellency General Washington. This appeared to me the more necessary as the prisoners being taken up in your province, we could give no orders here for their safe Custody: - Maj^r Cornelly was taken above Frederick Town in Maryland, in his way to the Indian Country and with him a Doct^r Smith from Charles County & one Cameron, they are all now fast by the heels in the goal of Frederick Town. Cornelly, we are told, had with him a Commission from Gen^l Sage to raise a number of Indians, & with them to penetrate, thro the Country, towards Alexandria, in the spring, where he would be met by Lord Dunmore - Com^{missions} for the other two were to be furnished hereafter.

Who this Doct^r Smith is I know not, Cameron I take to be the deputy Indian agent to the southward, from whom a letter was intercepted last July advising the government to raise a number of the Creek & Cherokee nations, to fall upon the back Inhabitants, offering his service upon the occasion, & boasting of his Interest with these Indians. I make no doubt but your Board will take proper measures to prevent the escape of such dangerous men, and am, with the greatest Respect. Gent^l. Your Most Obed^t Serv^t. G. Mason.

To the Hon^{ble} The Council of Safety.