

them great honour and has given me great pleasure. To induce the privates in the several battallions to enter cheerfully into the service, I ordered the Col^s to direct a Cap^t, Ensign, Sergeant and 2 corporals to march with the drafts of each company; and tho the number of officers was greater than I deemed necessary, yet I incline to think the men would not have marched with the same alacrity had they not been accompanied by their captains. After the troops had arrived at their several places of rendezvous I discharged the supernumerary officers in every instance where I cou'd do it without breeding great discontents among the troops, both officers and privates being in general averse to the measure.

I am further to inform your board that I have taken such steps as it will put it in the power of every officer and private now on duty to attend and give their votes at the ensuing elections without leaving our coast exposed to the attacks of the enemy, which it is not all improbable they may make, under an idea that our people are taken off to attend the elections.

July 30th 1776.

I have the honor to be with great respect
Your mo. obed^t Serv^t
Henry Hooper.

[Nathaniel Smith to Council.]

Original.

Gentlemen

I rec^d a letter yesterday, by Order of Council dated the 27th Ins^t from M^r DuVall, desiring I would let you know the number of Guns, sent down latley by M^r Hughes, the two last he sent us was about five weeks ago, Viz^t—one Eighteen & one nine pounder. I have now only three Eighteen pounders left.

I this morning Rec^d your order by Cap^t Nicholson for five Eighteen pounders which have dellivered, with a number of Shot, & other Apperatus Acc^t of which you have inclos'd, there is no nine or Eighteen pounders here but what are mounted except those nines that ware first Cast by M^r Hughes & not thought fit for use.

Fort at Whetstone
July the 30th 1776.

I am Gentlemen
Your m^o Oblidged Hhbl^e Serv^t
Nath^l Smith

[Harrison to Council.]

Original.

Port Tobacco July 30th 1776.

Gentlemen. I have the happiness to inform you that the Molly Cap^t Tho^s Conway is once more safely arrived in great