

Proceedings of the
Committees of Safety

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Cumberland and Isle of Wight Counties
Virginia

1775-1776

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EDITED BY

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PREFACE

The first Continental Congress, which met on the 5th of September, 1774, adopted on the 20th of October a paper called the "Association". This was in its most important features a strict non-importation, non-consumption, and non-exportation agreement made by the delegates of the various English colonies in America in reference to all articles of trade with Great Britain and signed on behalf of themselves and their constituents, the several parts of which were to be put into effect at different dates, and were to remain in effect till certain oppressive acts passed by the British Parliament should be repealed. It had, however, additional provisions, looking to the promotion of agriculture and manufactures, the discouragement of extravagance and dissipation, and, generally, the strengthening of the inhabitants of the colonies for the struggle which had been entered into with the mother country. The necessity that there should be local agencies for the execution of the "Association", in addition to the committees of correspondence already in existence in the several colonies, caused the insertion in the document of a provision that a committee should be chosen in each county, city, and town in the country by those qualified to vote for representatives in the popular houses of the general assemblies of the colonies, whose business it should be "attentively to observe the conduct of all persons touching this Association", and to bring the force of public opinion to bear against violators.

In accordance with this provision of the "Association" local committees were formed very shortly all over the land, and the way in which they carried out the suggestions or directions made by the Continental Congress and by provincial congresses or conventions may be seen in the Cumberland and Isle of Wight proceedings which follow. The Virginia county committees soon became, when in the further progress of the revolution the several agencies of royal government disintegrated, the actual governments in great measure of their respective communities till the provisions of Virginia's first constitution, adopted by representatives of her people in June, 1776, went into effect. They were at first called committees of observation, or committees of inspection, or committees of inspection and observation, or committees for carrying out the provisions of the "Association", or merely committees, but in course of time, after the formation of the central Committee of Safety by the Virginia Convention on August 24, 1775, they came to be referred to as local committees of safety.

Of the proceedings of these committees, though not a few extracts from them, in the form, particularly, of important resolutions, are to be found in the "Virginia Gazette" and the "American Archives", only those for Cumberland and Isle of Wight counties have, so far as is known by the writer of this preface, been preserved; and these not in their entirety, but in sufficient fullness, happily, to give to them a very great value. Enough remains to show how these two committees conducted business, and what business was considered within their province. The proceedings of these two may undoubtedly be taken as examples of the proceedings of all the other committees, which now, unfortunately, are lost.

The proceedings of the Cumberland Committee are recorded in a manuscript volume now in the Virginia State Library, which came into the pos-

script history of Virginia has been left by Edmund Randolph, a member of the Convention, which gives some account of the proceedings of the committee, and there are a few other sources of information. They do not disclose, however, the part taken in the debate, if any, by Mr. John Mayo or Mr. William Fleming, the two delegates from Cumberland, who were content to follow the leadership of Patrick Henry, Edmund Pendleton, Thomas Nelson, and others. The resolutions were agreed to unanimously by the one hundred and twelve members present out of a total membership of the Convention of one hundred and twenty-eight. Hence it is almost certain that the two members from Cumberland voted for them.

The proceedings of the Isle of Wight Committee are recorded in a book in the clerk's office of Isle of Wight County whose contents are even more miscellaneous than are the contents of the Cumberland book, since it contains, in addition to the committee proceedings, tax records, land line records, and marriage records. Nor are the proceedings so nearly complete as are those for Cumberland, the first date being January 13, and the last, July 27, 1775. They are, however, so far as they go, of equal interest and value. As is the case with the Cumberland proceedings, they are evidently slightly postponed copies of loose sheet originals. The handwriting seems to show this, the name of the chairman, "John Sck. Wills", being written in each case by the same person who wrote the minutes themselves, and just before the name there being in each case inserted the formula, "The Minutes of these proceedings were signed". Moreover, the proceedings for the 15th of May appear twice, the second time, however, under date of June 15. The theory is that this duplication was merely the mistake of a careless copyist. The proceedings are printed only once in the following pages, and under the date of May 15, that being beyond doubt, from references in the proceedings of the next meeting, the correct date.

Because of their great historical value, the two sets of proceedings should have been printed long ago. Since this has not been done, however, their publication at the present time seems almost imperative. It will not be long, it is to be hoped, before the proceedings of some at least of the local councils of defense brought into being in the prosecution of the war with Germany are given to the public, and a comparison of the activities of these bodies with the activities of the committees of our forefathers will be extremely interesting and instructive.

H. R. McILWAINE,
Librarian, Virginia State Library.

RICHMOND, VA., *November 25, 1918.*

Cumberland Committee Proceedings

At a Committee held for Cumberland County the 18th day of February 1775.

Present. George Carrington, Chairman, William Fleming, Littleberry Mosby, John Mayo, Joseph Carrington, Richard James, Carter Henry Harrison, George Carrington junr., John Netherland, Robert Smith, Maurice Langhorne, Benjamin Wilson, Joseph Calland, Frederick Hatcher, Edward Carrington, John Woodson, the Rev. John Hyde Saunders, Charles Woodson, junr.

Resolved, That Friday the tenth day of March next be appointed for the Freeholders to meet at the Court House to elect Delegates to attend the Convention to meet at Richmond the twentieth day of March, and it is recommended to all the Freeholders to attend accordingly.

Resolved, That the Members of this Committee now present will give a Premium of three Shillings per pound to the first Person or Company of Persons who shall within eight Months from the date hereof produce to this Committee or the Chairman thereof fifty Pounds weight of good Gunpowder manufacteried in America on due proof that the same was made wholly of American Materials.

Resolved, That the defenceless State of this Country renders it indispensably necessary that a Quantity of Ammunition should be immediately provided; and as the same will be for the common Benefit, Defence and Protection thereof, it is but just and reasonable that the Expences incurred in procuring the same should be defrayed by a general and equal Contribution; and whereas in the present confused State of this Colony, no Method hath been adopted, nor Powers created to levy Monies to put this Colony in a Posture of Defence against the oppressive Measures of the British Parliament: It is the Opinion of this Committee that William Fleming, John Hyde Saunders, Edward Carrington, Carter Henry Harrison do draw up and prepare proper Instructions, empowering the Delegates to be elected for this County to attend the Provincial Convention at Richmond on the 20th of March next and concur with the Delegates of the other Counties for laying what * * * * Exigencies of the Colony may require and in making such * * * as they shall think necessary for the Well being and support thereof: And that each Member of this Committee shall furnish himself with a Copy of the same and use his utmost Endeavours * * * * The Freeholders of this County to sign it. That the Members of this Committee if they meet with any Person or Persons who shall refuse to be agreeable to this Resolution, they shall take Notice of * * * * Names of such Person or Persons and give them in to the next Committee held for this County, to the End that the Enemies to America may be known.

Resolved, That this Committee do approve the Association formed * * * and other Proceedings of the Continental Congress held at Philadelphia the 5th day of September last past and that they adopt the same as their Rule of Conduct and that an Address be drawn in behalf of themselves and their Constituents to the Delegates from this Colony, by William Fleming, John Hyde Saunders, Edward Carrington and Carter Henry Harrison expressing their most grateful Sense of the important Services they have rendered their Country in the present alarming Conjunction of Affairs.

Resolved, That each Member of this Committee be answerable for and pay his Proportion of fifteen Pounds for the Support of the Provincial Delegates who shall be appointed to attend the Continental Congress at Philadelphia in May next, and that the same be paid to the Delegates from this County on or before the 20th day of next Month.

Ordered, That Mr. Langhorne and Mr. Calland Members of this Committee do wait upon Henry Macon who was one of the said Committee chosen by the Freeholders, and that the Rev. John Hyde Saunders do wait upon Richard Eggleston and Edward Haskins who were likewise chosen, to know whether the said Macon, Eggleston and Haskins will sign the Association and accept their Places as Committee Men; and if they refuse, to know the Reason of their Refusal and report the same to the Committee.

Resolved, That wherever a Suspicion arises that any Merchant in this County hath infringed the Association of the late Continental Congress, the Person or Persons who suspect the said Merchant of such Misconduct, do make Information thereof to any three or more of this Committee, and if upon Enquiry they think that the same is well grounded they forthwith inform the Chairman and he summon the Committee of this County to take the same under their Consideration.

Thomas Miller is appointed Clerk of this Committee, and in his Absence Francis McCraw.

Geo. Carrington,
Teste Tho. Miller,
Teste, Thomas Miller, Cl. Com.

At a Committee held for Cumberland County on Friday the 10th of March 1775. Present, George Carrington Chairman, William Fleming, John Mayo, Carter Henry Harrison, James Pleasants, Maurice Langhorne, Littleberry Mosby, William Smith, John Woodson, George Carrington junr., Richard Eggleston, Robert Smith, Benjamin Wilson, Frederick Hatcher, Charles Woodson junr. and Edward Carrington.

Resolved, That Edward Carrington act as Clerk of this Committee.

The Members appointed to prepare and draw up an Address of Thanks to the Delegates who attended the late Continental Congress held at Philadelphia, in behalf of this Colony produced the following Address.

"To the Honourable Peyton Randolph Esq., Richard Henry Lee, George Washington, Patrick Henry junior, Richard Bland, Benjamin Harrison and Edmund Pendleton Esqrs. the Delegates from this Colony who attended the Continental Congress held at Philadelphia September 5th, 1774.

Gentlemen, Permit us, in Behalf of ourselves and our Constituents, to acknowledge our grateful Sense of your faithful Discharge of the Trust reposed in you by the unbought Suffrages of your Countrymen, in the

important Duties you have rendered them at the present alarming Crisis of Affairs. We beg Leave to declare our full Approbation of, and hearty Concurrence in, the prudent and pacific Measures adopted by the late Continental Congress, of which you formed so respectable a Part, and to assure you that we will exert our utmost Diligence and Zeal to carry the same into Effect; at the same Time when we reflect on the Manner in which the Schemes agitated against the Colonies for their Destruction have been conducted, we should be greatly wanting in our Duty and Prudence did we not extend our Views to the most unhappy Events and endeavour, as far as Circumstances will permit, to prepare for every Contingency.

With Hearts deeply impressed with the Pleasure of handing down to Posterity your Names and those of your worthy Brethren of the Congress, as the Friends and Guardians of your Country, of beholding your wise Measures applauded and adopted by every City, Town and County throughout British America; and overflowing with the warmest Wishes for every Blessing on you and your Posterity, we beg Leave to assure you that we shall be ready to risque our Lives and Fortunes in your Defence when any personal Insult shall be offered you by the Tools of an incensed and corrupt Administration; and that we are your affectionate Countrymen, and much obliged humble Servants."

Resolved, That the Committee approve of the said Address, and that it be transmitted to the Printers to be published in the Virginia Gazettes.

The Members appointed to prepare and draw up an Address and Instructions, to the Delegates chosen to represent this County, in the Convention to be held at Richmond Town on the 20th of this Instant, produced the following Address and Instructions, To wit. To the Delegates &c.

Resolved, That the Committee approve thereof, and recommend it to the Approbation of the Freeholders of this County.

Resolved, That the Election to be made this day of Delegates to represent the County in the Convention to be held at Richmond Town on the 20th of this Instant be made polling and that the Sheriff of the County be requested to conduct the said Election.

Present, Joseph Carrington, Mr. Saunders and Henry Mason.

Geo Carrington,

Ed Carrington, Clk.,

Teste Thomas Miller Cl. Com.

At a meeting of the Committee for Cumberland County on Friday the * * * * of April 1775. Present, George Carrington Chairman, Littleberry Mosby, John Mayo, Joseph Carrington, Carter Henry Harrison, Richard James, James Pleasants, George Carrington junr., William Smith, Robert Smith, Benjamin Wilson, Maurice Langhorne, Richard Eggleston, Edward Carrington, John Woodson, John Hyde Saunders, Clerk, and Charles Woodson junr.

The Chairman recommended that the Committee should take under consideration the Proceedings of the late Provincial Convention held at Richmond Town in the County of Henrico from Monday the 20th of March to Monday the 27th of the same; The Committee accordingly proceeded to the Consideration thereof and after the maturest Deliberation came to the following Resolutions. Resolved unanimously that this Committee doth cordially approve the

Proceedings and Resolutions of the late Provincial Convention and also recommend it in the strongest Terms to the Inhabitants of this County to observe them in every particular, and that they use every means in their Power to carry them into effect.

Resolved unanimously, That the most cordial Thanks of this Committee and of all the Inhabitants of this County are justly due to the Honourable Peyton Randolph Esqr. and the rest of the worthy Delegates who represented this Colony in the late Provincial Convention, for their cheerful Undertaking and faithful Discharge of the Trust reposed in them, and for the Wisdom and Spirit displayed in their Proceedings.

Resolved, That in Compliance with the Recommendation of the late Provincial Convention for procuring Ammunition and other Articles of Military Preparation, the sum of one Shilling and three Pence be collected from the Inhabitants of this County for every tithable Person in it; and this Committee doth recommend it to the different Housekeepers, and all other Persons in this County as speedily as possible to pay to any Member of this Committee who shall apply for the same, the Sum of one Shilling and three Pence for every tithable Person which they listed or ought to have listed according to Law on the tenth of June last.

Resolved, That to avoid any further Request of Money from the People on this Occasion, the Members of this Committee will take on themselves the Collection of the aforesaid Money; and that Mr. Mosby, Mr. James, Mr. Joseph Carrington, Mr. George Carrington jr. and Mr. Edward Carrington divide the County into twenty-four Districts and allot to each Member his District for Collection.

Resolved, That the utmost Industry be used in collecting the said Money as soon as possible; and, although this Committee has the greatest Confidence in the Virtue and Spirit of the People of this County in general, yet knowing that in all Nations and Societies there are some who want Virtue, it is further resolved, that reports be made to this Committee of the few who shall refuse Payment and of their Reasons for refusing that proper Steps may be taken for punishing such Delinquents, in order that the Foes to the Cause of Freedom may be known, if from the Circumstances of their Refusal such Publication shall seem proper.

Resolved, That Mr. Chairman be appointed Treasurer and that each Member shall to him account for, and pay his Collections.

Resolved, That some Part of the Ammunition and other Articles to be procured for this County ought to be procured as soon as possible: be it therefore further resolved, that Mr. Mayo, Mr. Pleasants, and Mr. Charles Woodson, junr. be a select Committee for the Purpose of securing the same; that they as speedily as possible procure 500 lb. of Gunpowder, 1000 lb. of Lead, and 2000 Flints; and that the Treasurer out of the Fund to be lodged in his Hands, furnish the said Committee with as much Money as the aforesaid Articles, with Charges of Transportation, shall cost.

Resolved, That Wednesday the 17th day of May be appointed for the Election of Delegates to represent this County in Provincial Convention; that it be recommended to the Freeholders thereof to convene at the Court House on that day for the Purpose of electing the said Delegates.

Resolved, That this Committee conceive the bestowing any Victuals or strong Liquors by Way of Treat on account of such Elections as a Species

of Extravagance, and that it directly tends to lead the People into Dissipation ; It is therefore further resolved, that no Candidate shall by himself or by means of any other Person either previous to, at, or after the day of Election, give or bestow any such Treat, or make Preparation for or by any Means encourage an expectation of a Treat at his own House or elsewhere.

Signed by Geo. Carrington, Chairman

Teste Thomas Miller, Clk. Com.

At a meeting of the Committee for Cumberland County on Monday the first day of May 1775. Present, George Carrington, Chairman, William Fleming, Littleberry Mosby, John Mayo, Joseph Carrington, Richard James, Carter Henry Harrison, James Pleasants, John Netherland, Robert Smith, Frederick Hatcher, Edward Carrington, Richard Eggleston, John Woodson, Peter Stoner, Mr. Saunders, Clerk, and Charles Woodson junr.

Mr. Chairman opened the Business of the day by laying before the Committee the Information received from the Northward, respecting the Attack lately made by the British Troops on the Inhabitants of Massachusetts Bay, upon which the Committee after the maturest Deliberation came to the following Resolutions.

Resolved unanimously, That the Attack lately made by the British Troops on our Brethren, the Inhabitants of Massachusetts Bay renders it absolutely necessary, both to secure ourselves against an Attack from the same Quarter and to enable us to afford them Assistance if required, that the Military Powers of this County be immediately collected and put in the best condition ; It is therefore further resolved that Wednesday the 10th of this Month be appointed for a general Muster of the Militia of this County ; and that all free Men be summoned agreeably to the Militia Law, to appear at the Court House on that day equipped with whatever Arms and Ammunition they can procure.

Resolved that this Committee be adjourned to Wednesday the third day of this Instant.

Signed by George Carrington, Chairman.

Teste Ed. Carrington Secretary.

Teste, Thomas Miller, Cl. Com.

At a Meeting of the Committee for Cumberland County on Wednesday the third day of May 1775. Present, George Carrington, Chairman, William Fleming, Littleberry Mosby, John Mayo, Joseph Carrington, Richard James, Carter Henry Harrison, James Pleasant, John Netherland, Robert Smith, Edward Haskins, Benjamin Wilson, Edward Carrington, Richard Eggleston, John Woodson, Peter Stoner, Mr. Saunders, Clerk, Henry Macon and Charles Woodson, junr.

Resolved, That each Member of this Committee will pay the Money due for his own Tithables according to the Resolution of the 21st of April on or before the 10th day of this Month, and that Mr. Chairman write to the absent Members of this Resolution.

A Complaint being made to this Committee by John Wily Collector of Mr. Langhorne's District, that Zachariah Hendrick refuseth to pay the Request of one Shilling and three Pence per Tithable, and otherwise mis-

behaves himself with respect to this Committee, it is resolved that Mr. Langhorne or his Collector summon the said Henderick by Authority of an Attested Copy of this Resolution, to appear at the next meeting of this Committee to answer the said Complaint.

Resolved unanimously, That the Thanks of this Committee and of all the Inhabitants of this County are justly due to Captain Charles Scott and his Independant Company for their spirited Offers of their Service in defending this Colony against wicked Invaders; and their cheerful Appearance at this Place to-day in Readiness to march forward, on a late Alarm; and that this Committee in Behalf of themselves and of their Constituents do accordingly present to the said Captain Scott and his Independant Company, the most cordial Thanks as aforesaid.

Resolved, That this Committee be adjourned till Wednesday the 10th of this Month.

Signed by George Carrington, Chairman.

Teste Ed. Carrington, Secty.

Teste, Thomas Miller, Cl. Com.

At a Meeting of the Committee for Cumberland County at the Court House on Wednesday the 10th day of May 1775. Present, George Carrington, Chairman, William Fleming, Littleberry Mosby, John Mayo, Joseph Carrington, Richard James, James Pleasants, Carter Henry Harrison, George Carrington junr. William Smith, Robert Smith, Benjamin Wilson, Joseph Calland, Frederick Hatcher, Edward Carrington, Richard Eggleston, John Woodson, Peter Stoner, Mr. Saunders, Clerk, and Henry Macon.

Mr. Chairman having informed the Committee, that he as Treasurer of the same had received one hundred and fifty eight Pounds and three Pence; a free Contribution of the Inhabitants of the County, for the purpose of purchasing Ammunition &c. for their Use; Resolved, That Mr. Edward Carrington be fully empowered to lay out the Money so contributed in such Manner as to him in his Discretion shall seem most proper for the Purpose aforesaid at the County's Risque; and that Mr. Chairman pay him from Time to Time whatever Money he may call for out of the Fund in his Hands, as Treasurer.

John Scruggs appearing before the Committee confessed that he had lately imprudently fallen into a Breach of the Continental Association, by Gaming, made Concessions [confessions] and exhibitted such Marks of true Penitence, that it is resolved that the said Scruggs be again considered as a worthy Member of this Community.

A Complaint being made to this Committee that Ray Moss and John Woodson junr. have within the Limits of this County, made a Breach of the Continental Association by Gaming. Resolved, that John Scruggs summon the said Woodson and Moss, by Authority of a Copy of this Resolution, attested by the Secretary, to appear before the Committee at the Court House on Wednesday the 17th of this Instant to answer the said Complaint; and that the said Scruggs to attend as a Witness.

Resolved, that this Committee in Behalf of themselves and of their Constituents, doth offer Protection to the Inhabitants of the lower Parts of this Colony for their Families and Property in Case any Invasion shall be made there and that Mr. Harrison and Mr. Fleming do prepare an Address

for the Purpose of inviting them in such Case to remove their Families and property to us.

Resolved, that the most cordial Thanks of this Committee are justly due to the Inhabitants of this County, for so cheerfully contributing the Money requested of them for the Purpose of procuring Ammunition &c.

Resolved, That this Committee be adjourned to Wednesday the 17th day of this Instant.

Signed by Geo. Carrington, Chairman.

Test Ed. Carrington, Secr'y.

Teste, Thomas Miller, Cl. Com.

At a Meeting of the Committee of Cumberland County Wednesday May 17th 1775. Present, George Carrington, Chairman, William Fleming, Littleberry Mosby, Joseph Carrington, Richard James, James Pleasants, Carter Henry Harrison, George Carrington junr. William Smith, Robert Smith, Edward Carrington, John Woodson, The Rev. Mr. Saunders and Charles Woodson junr.

Mr. Chairman opened the Business of the Day by laying before the Committee the Information lately received by Express from the Northward respecting the Government of New York, among which is a Resolution of the Maryland Provincial Convention, for immediately suspending all Exportations from that Province to Quebec, Nova Scotia, Georgia and Newfoundland, or any Parts of the fishing Coast or fishing Islands or to the Town of Boston until the Continental Congress shall give further Directions therein; Wherefore the Committee after the maturest Deliberation came to the following Resolutions:

.Resolved unanimously that this Committee doth heartily approve the said Resolution of the Maryland Provincial Convention, as well concerted upon a View of the present conjuncture of Affairs, and do recommend it as a proper Rule of Conduct to all Men.

Resolved, That the present alarming Situation of American Affairs especially in the Province of New York renders it absolutely necessary that a Colony Convention be immediately called, and this Committee doth recommend it to Robert Carter Nicholas Esquire in the most earnest Terms to call a Colony Convention as speedily as possible, provided the General Assembly now called to meet on the first Thursday in June, shall be prorogued to a further day.

Resolved, That it is the Opinion of this Committee that the Public Treasury of this Colony is at this Time in an insecure Place; and this Committee doth in the most earnest and respectful Manner recommend it to Mr. Treasurer to remove it nearer the Center of the Colony where it shall be more secure.

The following Address to the Inhabitants of the lower Parts of Virginia was proposed and unanimously agreed to.

Friends and Countrymen.

We, the Committee for the County of Cumberland, taking into our serious Consideration the unremitting Efforts of a despotic Administration to effect the total Subversion of American Liberty; aided by the wicked Tools of Corruption who are endeavouring by the basest Misrepresentations and Falsehoods to effect an unnatural Division between the Mother Country and her Colonies; covering their wicked Design under the

specious Pretence of Duty and Attachment to our gracious Sovereign and the sacred Laws of the British Empire: And also the unhappy Situation to which you will be reduced in Case of an hostile Invasion of this Colony, do for ourselves and our Constituents (should such a distressing Circumstance take place) most cordially invite you to remove so many of your Wives and Children into this County as the Inhabitants thereof can conveniently entertain, where they will meet with the best Protection and Accommodations which we are able to afford them.

Resolved unanimously, That Mr. James and Mr. Edward Carrington or either of them be fully empowered to lay out the Money contributed by the Inhabitants of this County for the Purpose of purchasing Ammunition and other Articles of Military Preparation, in such Manner as to them in their Discretion shall seem proper, at the Risque of the County, and that Mr. Chairman pay whatever Monies they or either of them, shall from Time to Time call for or direct, out of the Fund lodged in his Hands as Treasurer of this Committee.

Resolved, That Mr. Chairman, Mr. Joseph Carrington, Mr. James, Mr. Harrison, Mr. George Carrington Jr. Mr. Edward Carrington and Mr. John Woodson, or any three of them, be a select Committee, from Time to Time to select from the Proceedings of this Committee such Parts as may be proper for Publication, and direct them to be published accordingly.

A Complaint being made to this Committee, that Ray Moss and John Woodson Jr. Inhabitants of the County of Buckingham, have lately within the Limits of this County made a Breach of the Continental Association by Gaming: Resolved that Mr. Chairman do at any Time hereafter, when he shall appoint a Meeting of this Committee, issue his Summons directed to any Person, ordering them to summon the said Moss and Woodson to appear before this Committee to answer the aforesaid Complaint: And that he in like Manner order any Witness which he shall be informed of to be summoned.

Signed by George Carrington Chairman.

Test Ed. Carrington Sec'y.

Teste, Tho. Miller, Cl. Com.

At a Meeting of the Committee for Cumberland County June 30th, 1775. Present, Mr. Chairman, Mr. Fleming, Mr. Mosby, Mr. Mayo, Mr. Joseph Carrington, Mr. James, Mr. George Carrington junr. Mr. William Smith, Mr. Robert Smith, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Hatcher, Mr. Edward Carrington, Mr. John Woodson and Mr. Charles Woodson junr.

Mr. James and Mr. Edward Carrington informed the Committee, that their most careful Endeavours to procure Gun Powder in America had proved ineffectual; and desiring to be advised whether they should risque the Money put into their Hands for that Purpose upon a Plan proposed by Robert Carter Nicholas Esqr. for importing that Article from foreign Parts; Resolved that it is the Opinion of this Committee that Mr. James and Mr. Carrington continue their Endeavours to procure Gun Powder and other Articles of Ammunition in America; but that the Attempt to procure it from foreign Parts be suspended till the Resolution of the ensuing Convention in that Respect be known.

Resolved, that Application be made to the several Committees of Amelia, Chesterfield, Goochland, Buckingham and Prince Edward, requesting them

to join this Committee by Way of Subscription in erecting a Powder Mill, with six Beaters on each side; and that Mr. Eggleston and Geo. Carrington junr. or either of them, apply to Amelia, Mr. Mayo to Chesterfield, Mr. Fleming to Goochland, Mr. Ed. Carrington to Buckingham and Prince Edward.

Resolved, that Mr. Fleming and Mr. Edward Carrington, draw a Scheme for the Purpose aforesaid and furnish Copies to the Members aforesaid, also each Member of this Committee that they may apply for Subscriptions.

The following Address to the Inhabitants of this County was proposed and unanimously agreed to:

Dear Country Men.

In Contemplation of securing your dearest Rights and Liberties against the Oppression of Great Britain, you, some Months ago, by your free and unbiassed Suffrages, elected us, subordinate to those august Bodies, the Continental Congress and Provincial Convention, Guardians of these invaluable Blessings. At an early Period, after receiving this Honour, we convened ourselves for the Purpose of discharging the important Trusts, so reposed in us, and have from Time to Time devised such Measures towards a happy Event of your important Contest, as the maturest Deliberation could suggest; in return you have ever paid us the grateful Tribute of entire Confidence, testified by the most implicit Acquiescence and Concurrence in whatever we recommended. We with Pleasure bear in Mind a very recent Instance of your Confidence, that of the speedy and cheerful Contribution of Monies requested of you for the Purpose of making Military Preparation, and this Contribution you may depend that no Means shall be untried for laying out to the best Advantage. We however find that you can still contribute much to this Preparation by immediately applying with Diligence to the making of Salt Petre; this is an Article much wanted as an Ingredient for Gun Powder; your Tobacco House and Stable Floors are Foundations from which it may be produced, with but little Trouble, in great Abundance and Perfection: We therefore most earnestly request, that you obtain the most short and ready Process, and lose no Time in making this necessary, but easy procured Article.

We have been attentive to the Movements of the cursed Instruments of your Troubles, and, had any Prospects of an Accommodation with the Parent State come within our View, should gladly have laid them before you; such an Event however we have till lately hoped for, but must now tell you it cannot be expected at all. Your Enemies seem Implacable in their Determinations to ruin American Liberty, and for effecting that diabolical Purpose, suffer no Engine to ly still, that can be put in Motion, by any Manouvre, however mean, cowardly and detestable: For Instances we need only to refer you to the late Conduct of that MERCENARY MINESTERIAL TOOL, LORD DUNMORE, within your own Colony, and be assured that many such Hirelings are employed, and will be as long as Means can be Supplied for paying them. In short believe us, when we say, that Nothing can be expected for your Relief from the Virtue of a British Ministry or Parliament; although there are some Members in both Houses of the latter, who, ashamed of the black Deeds of their Body, daily, to their lasting Honour, hold out their Names as Dissentients; yet, unhappily for Britain, and America too, they are but few. You may indeed consider yourselves as in a State of War with Great Britain, for several Engagements have been between her Troops and the Inhabitants of your Sister Colony of Massachusetts Bay, and each

Power still stands in opposite Military Array. All the American Colonies have long since united in opposing British Oppression, a Blow, therefore, struck at one, must be considered as struck at all; You may daily look for the Invaders in your own Colony, or should the whole Force of the Enemy be bent on that, or any other Province, your assistance must not be denied. In your Arms under divine Providence, rests your Security. We entreat you therefore by that Regard you have for the Safety of your own Persons; for your Liberties, civil and religious; for every Thing which can render your Being on Earth happy, for, what is of more weighty Consideration, the Happiness of yr. Posterity for endless Ages to come; under Sanction of that Confidence you repose in us; that, without Delay, you take up your Arms; put them in the best Condition; get acquainted with Military Discipline; and stand in Readiness for actual Service, upon the first Sound of the Trumpet of War. Suppress every Animosity among yourselves; pay Obedience to Officers properly appointed; let no Discontents on Account of their Advancement interrupt the necessary Preparation; let Harmony dwell amongst you:—Remember the old Proverb, “United, we stand; Divided, we fall”. Preserve what Ammunition you have by you; do not expend it on any Occasion whatever, except in the greatest Necessity, for more will be wanted for your Protection than can shortly be procured. Observe these our Entreaties, and fear not; Your American Bretheren are firm; you have many Friends in Great Britain and Ireland; and in the Justness of your Cause, you may, with Confidence, look up to Heaven for Assistance; In Supplication for whose Interposition to avert the approaching Scene of Blood and Destruction, we recommend that you universally, in Compliance with the Appointment of the Grand Continental Congress, devote Thursday the twentieth Day of July to public HUMILIATION, FASTING AND PRAYER.

Resolved, that the foregoing Address from the Committee to the Inhabitants of Cumberland County, be read by the several Ministers to their Congregations; that it be sent to Mr. Purdie to be printed; and that he also be requested to furnish the Chairman with a Number of Hand Bills thereof for the Benefit of this County.

Signed Geo. Carrington, Chairman.

Teste, Thomas Miller, Cl. Com.

At a Meeting of the Committee for the County of Cumberland the same 30th Day of June 1775. Present, the same Members as before, Mr. Hatcher excepted.

Mr. Chairman laid before the Committee a Letter dated the 27th Instant, requesting that twenty five Men should march from this County to join a Body for the Protection of Williamsburg, and it's Neighbourhood, against Violences apprehended from British Troops.

Resolved, that Captain Charles Scott be in the most respectful Manner requested to detach that Number from his Company of Volunteers, for the Purpose aforesaid.

Resolved, that each Member of this Committee will pay his Proportion of five Pounds advanced by the Representatives of this County as a further Contribution for the Support of the Delegates in behalf of this Colony, now sitting at Philadelphia.

Signed Geo. Carrington, Ch. Man.

Teste, Thomas Miller, Cl. Com.

At a Meeting of the Committee for Cumberland County, Monday the 28th of August 1775. Present, Mr. Chairman, Mr. Fleming, Mr. Mosby, Mr. Mayo, Mr. Joseph Carrington, Mr. Pleasants, Mr. Harrison, Mr. George Carrington jr., Mr. Netherland, Mr. James, Mr. Langhorne, Mr. Eggleston, Mr. Calland, Mr. William Smith, Mr. Robert Smith, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Haskins, Mr. Edward Carrington, Mr. John Woodson, Mr. Saunders and Mr. Charles Woodson.

Resolved, that Mr. George Hancock officiate as Clerk of this Committee to-day.

Resolved, that Mr. Pleasants, Mr. Chairman and Mr. Harrison be nominated to attend as Deputies in Behalf of this County at a Committee to be formed for the Amelia District, according to the Ordinance of Convention in that Case made.

Resolved, that Mr. Mosby, Mr. George Carrington junr. and Mr. Charles Woodson be nominated to attend the said Committee in Case of a Non-Attendance of either of the first nominated.

Resolved, that the Thanks of this Committee be presented to Mr. James and Mr. Edward Carrington for their faithful Discharge of the Trust reposed in them in their Journey to Philadelphia for the necessary Purpose of procuring Gun Powder for the Defence of this Colony in general, and of this County in particular, and that the Accounts of their Expenses as returned to this Committee are very reasonable.—Resolved that this resolution be read by the different Ministers to their Congregations.

Resolved, that Mr. Chairman and Mr. Mayo inspect the Sulphur offered to this Committee by James Fairlie, and if they judge it merchantable, receive it for the Use of this County.

Adjourned to the fourth Monday in next Month.

Signed, Geo. Carrington Ch. Man.

Teste, Thomas Miller, Cl. Com.

At a Committee held for Cumberland County on Tuesday 26th of September 1775. Present, Mr. Chairman, Mr. Pleasants, Mr. Mayo, Mr. Mosby, Mr. Harrison, Mr. James, Mr. Joseph Carrington, Mr. George Carrington junr. Mr. Netherland, Mr. William Smith, Mr. Robert Smith, Mr. Langhorne, Mr. Calland, Mr. Eggleston, Mr. Hatcher, John Hyde Saunders, Clerk, Mr. Macon, Mr. Haskins, Mr. John Woodson and Mr. Charles Woodson.

Mr. Chairman recommended to the different Members of the Committee to proceed in their Debates and Deliberations with Order, Decency, and Decorum:—And then proceeded to lay before them the Business of the Day, and informed them that they were met together agreeable to their last Adjournment, to nominate to the Committee of Safety such Persons as they should think proper for Officers in the Militia, agreeable to the Ordinance of Convention.

Unanimously resolved, that this Committee, in the Nomination of such Officers for the Militia under the Ordinance of the Convention, shall and will observe the same Rules as were observed by the late Convention in chusing Field Officers for the Standing Service and that they will proceed by Ballot, and that no Officer shall be nominated unless by the Votes of a Majority of the Committee.

The Committee proceeded to the Nomination of a County Lieutenant, by Ballot, and after the several Members had given in their Votes to the Clerk of the Committee; Ordered, that Mr. Mosby, Mr. Netherland and the Clerk of the Committee do examine the Votes for the said Office and report the same to the Committee; Then the said Littleberry Mosby, John Netherland together with the Clerk of the Committee proceeded to examine and count the Votes, and found them to stand as follows:—For George Carrington, Esqr. 13;—for John Mayo, Esqr. 3;—for William Fleming, Esqr. 2, Votes; and for Carter Henry Harrison Esqr. 1 Vote: George Carrington Esqr. appearing to have a Majority of the Votes; Resolved unanimously, that the said George Carrington be nominated to the Committee of Safety by this Committee as a proper Person to receive the Commission of County Lieutenant. Then the Committee proceeded to nominate a Colonel for the said County in the Manner aforesaid, and the same Persons who examined the Ballots for the County Lieutenant were now ordered to examine and count the Ballots for the Commission of Colonel and to make Report, who withdrew, and after examining and counting the Votes, found them to stand as follow: For William Fleming, Esqr. 8; Carter Henry Harrison, Esqr. 5; for Beverly Randolph, Esqr. 3; for John Mayo, Esqr. 2 Votes; and for Henry Skipwith, Esqr. 1 Vote: Then the Committee proceeded to vote by Ballot for William Fleming and Carter Henry Harrison, Esqrs. and the Persons aforesaid being appointed to examine the Ballots found them to stand as follow, which they reported to the Committee: For William Fleming, Esqr. 10; for Carter Henry Harrison, Esqr. 7 Votes; Resolved therefore, that the said William Fleming be nominated by this Committee to the Committee of Safety as Colonel for the County. Then the Committee proceeded to nominate by Ballot a Lieutenant Colonel, and the same Persons being appointed to examine the Ballots reported the Votes as follow: For Beverly Randolph, Esqr. 11; for John Mayo, Esqr. 5; and for Henry Skipwith, Esqr. 2 Votes: It appearing by the said Votes that Beverly Randolph, Esqr. had a Majority in his Favour: Resolved therefore that the said Beverly Randolph be by this Committee nominated to the Committee of Safety as a proper Person for the Commission of a Lieutenant Colonel for the County. Then the Committee proceeded to nominate a Person to act as Major of the Militia of the said County, and the Persons appointed to examine the Ballots reported to the Committee the Votes as follow: For Henry Skipwith, Esqr. 8; Thomas Davenport, Esqr. 5; Edward Haskins, Esqr. 4, Votes, and David Coupland, Esqr. 1 Vote: Then the Question was, whether the said Henry Skipwith or Thomas Davenport, on whom the greatest Numbers of Votes fell, be nominated as a Major for the said County, for which the Committee proceeded to vote by Ballot and the same Persons being appointed to examine the Ballots and report to the Committee, reported as followeth: For Henry Skipwith, Esqr. 15; for Thomas Davenport, Esqr. 3 Votes:—A Majority of the Votes appearing in Favour of Henry Skipwith, Esqr.: Resolved, that the said Henry Skipwith be nominated to the Committee of Safety for a Major's Commission in the Militia of this County.

Then the Committee proceeded to appoint proper Persons to lay off this County in Districts, in Order to take a List of all Persons within the County, either white or black, male or female, adults or infants for a general Survey agreeable to the Resolution of the last Convention: Ordered, that Mr. Chairman, Mr. Mosby and Mr. George Carrington junior do divide and lay off the County

into twenty four proper Districts for the Purpose aforesaid, and allot to each Member his proper District. Resolved, that Cumberland Court House be the Place for the Rendezvous of the Minute Men of this County after the Completion of the Company.

George Carrington (Chairman).

Thomas Miller, Clerk for the Day.

Teste, Thomas Miller, Cl. Com.

At a Committee held for Cumberland County at the Court House on Tuesday the 17th of October 1775. Present, Mr. Chairman, Mr. Pleasants, Mr. Mayo, Mr. James, Mr. Mosby, Mr. George Carrington junr., Mr. Joseph Carrington, Mr. Langhorne, Mr. Calland, Mr. Wilson, Mr. William Smith, Mr. Hatcher, John Hyde Saunders, Clerk, Mr. Edward Carrington, Mr. Eggleston, Mr. Robert Smith, Mr. Netherland and Mr. Woodson.

Mr. Chairman proceeded to lay before the Committee the Business of the Day and informed them that they are convened together to nominate proper Persons for Captains, Lieutenants and Ensigns of the Militia of the County.

Upon Consideration whether the Doors of the Committee Chamber be shut and no Persons admitted but the Body of the Committee and their proper Officers, or whether they be continued open for the free Admittance of all Persons, who shall behave themselves decently:

Resolved that the Doors be left open for the free Access of all Persons desirous of being present, and who will behave with Decency and Order.

On the Motion of Mr. Joseph Carrington a Captain of a Minute Company for said County, whether this Committee will proceed to review a part of his Company of Minute Men before the whole Company are ready to be reviewed and received: Resolved, that this Committee will review and receive a Part of the said Company before the whole Company be completed; or direct the same to be done agreeable to the Ordinance of the Convention.

Thomas Harris is nominated Captain of the Company of the Militia in the lower End of the County where he lately acted as Captain in King William Parish.

Anthony Martin is, by Ballot, nominated Lieutenant to the said Capt. Thomas Harris.

John Harris junr., Son of James Harris is, in Manner aforesaid, nominated Ensign under the said Capt. Thomas Harris.

Seymore Scott is, in manner aforesaid, nominated a Captain of the Militia in the upper End of the County.

Miller Woodson is nominated a Captain of a Militia Company below said Scott's down Appomattox River.

John Langhorne is nominated a Captain of a Militia Company next below the said Woodson's.

Archer Allen is nominated a Captain of the Militia over the Company where he was lately appointed.

Benjamin Wilson is appointed a Captain of the Militia within the County below, where John Burton was lately Captain.

George Carrington junr. is nominated a Captain of the Militia where Joseph Carrington was lately Captain.

Edmund Vaughan is nominated a Captain of the Militia where John Cox lately held that Commission.

William Mayo is nominated a Captain of the Militia where he lately held that Place.

Poindexter Mosby is nominated a Captain of the Militia where he has formerly acted.

Edward Haskins is unanimously nominated a Captain of the Militia in the lower End of the County (on Appomattox River.)

John Lee is nominated a Lieutenant under Capt. Seymore Scott.

William Anderson is nominated an Ensign under the said Capt. Scott.

Nathan Glenn is nominated a Lieutenant under Captain Miller Woodson.

Bernard Guttery is nominated Ensign under the said Capt. Woodson.

Richard Allen is unanimously nominated Lieutenant under Captain John Langhorne.

Moses Arnold is nominated an Ensign under the said Capt. Langhorne.

Alexander Guttery is nominated a Lieutenant under Captain Archer Allen.

William Coleman is nominated Ensign under the said Captain Allen.

Robert Anderson is nominated Lieutenant under Captain Benjamin Wilson.

George Keiling is nominated Ensign under the said Captain Wilson.

John Swann is nominated Lieutenant under Captain George Carrington.

Edmund Logwood is nominated Ensign under the said Capt. Carrington.

James Drake is nominated Lieutenant under Captain Edmund Vaughan.

Samuel Hyde Saunders is nominated Ensign under the said Captain Vaughan.

Thomas Stegar is nominated Lieutenant under Captain William Mayo.

Joseph Mayo is nominated Ensign under the said Capt. Will. Mayo.

William Hobson is nominated Lieutenant under Captain Poindexter Mosby.

Richard Booker is nominated Ensign under the said Capt. Mosby, by unanimous Vote.

Thomas Haskins is nominated Lieutenant under Captain Edward Haskins.

George Williamson is nominated Ensign under the said Capt. Haskins.

Resolved, that the Thanks of the Inhabitants of this County are justly due to the Rev. Mr. John Williams for several late Patriotic Discourses delivered by him, which discover him a most warm Advocate for American Liberty: And the Members of this Committee do in Behalf of themselves and their Constituents present their most cordial Thanks to that Gentleman accordingly.

Resolved, that Mr. Edward Carrington do wait on the said Mr. Williams with this Resolution, and that it be published in the Virginia Gazette.

Minute Men of the Company of Captain Joseph Carrington were reviewed by Mr. James, Mr. John Woodson and Mr. Langhorne, and found by their Report to be sufficient Men.

Ordered, that the said Mr. James, Mr. John Woodson and Mr. Mosby, and Mr. Netherland, or any three of them, review the Remainder of the said Company of Minute Men when required by Captain Joseph Carrington.

Geo. Carrington, Ch'm.

Teste, Thomas Miller, Cl. Com.

At a Committee held for Cumberland County at the Court House on Monday the 23rd October 1775. Present, Mr. Chairman, Mr. Pleasants, Mr. James, Mr. Mosby, Mr. Mayo, Mr. Fleming, Mr. Netherland, Mr. George Carrington junr. Mr. Edward Carrington, Mr. John Woodson, Mr. William Smith, Mr. Robert Smith, Mr. Eggleston, John Hyde Saunders, Clerk, and Mr. Charles Woodson.

A Report of a Review of fifty four Minute Men of Captain Joseph Carrington returned and a Certificate ordered.

Absent Mr. Chairman and Mr. Fleming. Mr. Mosby took the Chair in the Absence of Mr. Chairman.

George Carrington, Esqr. took the Oath and qualified as County Lieutenant before the Committee, agreeable to the Ordinance of Convention.

William Fleming, Beverly Randolph and Henry Skipwith, Esqrs., took the Oath respectively and qualified before the Committee agreeable to the Ordinance of Convention; the said Fleming as Colonel, Randolph as Lieutenant Colonel, and Skipwith as Major of the Militia of the said County.

Mr. Mosby left the Chair and Mr. Chairman resumed the Chair. Present, Mr. Fleming.

Resolved, that Captain Poindexter Mosby hold his Place in Precedency and Rank the first of the Militia Captains of this County.

Resolved, that Captain George Carrington junr., be the next Militia Captain in Seniority after Captain Mosby; that Captain Benjamin Wilson come in next to Captain George Carrington junr., in Seniority as Captain of the Militia, and Captain Thomas Harris next to Captain Wilson, and that next to said Captain Harris, Captain Edward Haskins take Place in Seniority as a Militia Captain; and after the said Haskins, Captain Archer Allen to take Place next in Seniority as a Militia Captain, and after the said Captain Allen, Captain William Mayo is next in Precedency.

Resolved, that Captain Seymour Scott have Seniority and Place as a Militia Captain in this County next in Order after Captain William Mayo; that Captain Miller Woodson come next after the said Scott, as Captain of the Militia in Precedency; Captain John Langhorne the next Militia Captain in Seniority to Captain Miller Woodson; and that Captain Edmund Vaughn be the next Militia Captain in Seniority in the Militia to Captain John Langhorne.

Resolved, that the Lieutenants and Ensigns hold their Commissions in Seniority and Place among one another respectively agreeable to the Seniority and Place of their Captains.

Absent Mr. Mosby and Mr. William Smith. Seymore Scott and Archer Allen, Gent. took the Oath and qualified as Captains of the Militia agreeable to the Ordinance.

Richard Allen, Gent. Lieutenant, and Moses Arnold, Gent. Ensign, took, each, the Oath, and qualified agreeable to the Ordinance.

Ordered, that Mr. Chairman, the Treasurer of this County for the Time being, or the succeeding Treasurer, do pay out of the Money collected for purchasing Ammunition for this County for 19 CW of Lead, purchased for the Use of this County by Mr. Fleming in some of the Frontier Counties, and that he receive the Lead for the Use Benefit and Defence of this County and secure the same in the most proper and convenient Place for the Purpose till further Orders from this Committee.

Ordered that Mr. Mayo and Mr. Mosby do procure Locks for the publicke Musquetts and Guns of this County, and contract with any Person or Persons for repairing and fixing the publicke Arms of said County.

Ordered, that Mr. Edward Carrington and Mr. Mosby do collect the publicke Arms distributed in this County.

Geo. Carrington, Ch. M.

Teste, Thomas Miller, Cl. Com.

Soldiers enlisted under Captain Joseph Carrington, for the Minute Service, in the Amelia District, Cumberland County.

1 Nathaniel Wade Barker.	2 Samuel Mosby.
3 David Hughes.	4 Edward Hix.
5 James Tucker.	6 Michael Tucker.
7 David Linch.	8 John Wily.
9 Thomas Bolling.	10 William Dillon, Junr.
11 Henry Sumpter.	12 William Hudgins.
13 William Miles.	14 William Saunderson.
15 Hezekiah Carter.	16 Robert Mosby.
17 Hugh Robinson.	18 John Carter.
19 Martin Aslin [or Oslin].	20 Jesse Mosby.
21 John Diggs.	22 Wright Bond.
23 Patrick Fitzsimmonds.	24 Warren Parker.
25 Henry Fallwell.	26 Daniel Johnson.
27 Hans Stegar.	28 John Clarke.
29 William Turpin.	30 John Scruggs.
31 Peter Pollock.	32 Jesse Dillon.
33 John Williams.	34 William Ballieu.
35 John Franklin.	36 John Miles.
37 Samuel Robinson.	38 William Jones.
39 Joel Johnson.	40 John Hendrick.
41 Terry Gallaway.	42 Humphrey Coleman.
43 John Graves.	44 James Winston.
45 John Cocke.	46 John Reade.
47 William Powell.	48 James Hix.
49 Richard Faris.	50 Isaac Peters.
51 Nathaniel Robinson.	52 Habbacock Pride.
53 Andrew Edwards.	54 Jesse Meador.

Subaltern under Capt. Joseph Carrington of the Minute Service.

Robert Hughes, Lieutenant.

Mayo Carrington, Ensign.

We the Subscribers, Committee Men for the County of Cumberland, have reviewed forty seven Minute Men belonging to the Company of Captain Joseph Carrington of the said County and find them able sound and proper Persons for Service.

Given under our Hands this 17th day of October 1775.

Rd. James.

John Woodson.

Morris Langhorne.

October 21st 1775 In Obedience to Order of Committee we the Subscribers being called upon by Capt. Joseph Carrington to review three Minute Men which he produced: We accordingly made the view and find them to be sufficient.

L. Mosby.
Rd. James.
John Woodson.

1775 Monday 23 October one OClock. We the Subscribers being called upon by Captain Joseph Carrington to view a further quantity of four Minute Men by him enlisted, Proceeded to do the same, and find them good and sufficient Men. Given under our Hands the Day and Hour above.

L. Mosby.
Rd. James.
John Woodson.
John Netherland.

The whole Company Complete.

Teste, Thomas Miller, Cl. Com.

At a Committee held for Cumberland County at the Court House the 3rd November 1775. Present, Mr. Chairman, Mr. Mosby, Mr. James, Mr. William Smith, Mr. Netherland, Mr. Joseph Carrington, Mr. Eggleston, Mr. Langhorne, Mr. Robert Smith, Mr. Hatcher, Mr. George Carrington junr. Mr. Wilson and Mr. Edward Carrington.

Resolved, that Mr. Langhorne and Mr. Calland wait on Mr. Henry Macon in Consequence of being informed of his transporting Wheat to Navigation contrary to the Resolution of the Committee of Safety, and desire he may desist from such Proceeding, and that the Chairman may inform the Chairman of Chesterfield that this Committee has received Information that Alexander Banks has stored Wheat contrary to the same.

Captain Poindexter Mosby, Captain Benjamin Wilson, Captain William Mayo, Captain Thomas Harris, Captain Miller Woodson, and Captain John Langhorne took the Oath, respectively, directed by Ordinance of Convention and qualified as Militia Captains in this County. Absent Mr. Wilson.

Captain George Carrington junr. took the Oath agreeable to the Ordinance of Convention and qualified as a Militia Captain of this County. Absent Mr. George Carrington junr.

Anthony Martin having refused to take upon himself the Office of Lieutenant under Captain Thomas Harris agreeable to his Appointment, Charles Clarke, junr. is nominated a Lieutenant under Captain Thomas Harris in the Room of the said Martin.

Lieutenant Thomas Haskins, Lieutenant John Lee, Lieutenant Alexander Guttry, Lieutenant James Drake, Lieutenant Charles Clarke junr. and Lieutenant Thomas Stegar took the Oath, respectively, as Lieutenant of the Militia of this County under their Captains and qualified agreeable to the Ordinance of Convention.

Ensign George Keeling, Ensign George Williamson, Ensign Edmund Logwood, Ensign John Harris, Ensign Richard Booker, Ensign Samuel Hyde Saunders, Ensign William Anderson, and Ensign Mayo took the Oath respec-

tively and qualified as Ensigns in the Militia under their Captains agreeable to the Ordinance of Convention.

Mr. Littleberry Mosby, Mr. Netherland, Mr. William Smith, Mr. Robert Smith and Mr. Saunders or any three of them are appointed to review Captain Edward Carrington's Company of Minute Men.

Geo. Carrington, Ch. M.

Teste, Thomas Miller, Cl. Com.

At a Committee held for Cumberland County on Monday November 18th, 1775. Present, Mr. Chairman, Mr. Fleming, Mr. Mosby, Mr. Pleasants, Mr. Harrison, Mr. George Carrington jr., Mr. Netherland, Mr. Langhorne, Mr. Eggleston, Mr. William Smith, Mr. Calland, Mr. Wilson and Mr. Charles Woodson junr.

John Burton is nominated a Captain of the Militia of this County under the Ordinance of Convention.

Jesse Merryman is nominated Lieutenant of the Militia under Captain John Burton, agreeable to the Ordinance.

Simon Gentry is nominated Ensign of the Militia under Captain John Burton, agreeable to the Ordinance.

The Committee then adjourned to Monday next nine o'Clock.

Geo Carrington.

Teste, Thomas Miller, Cl. Com.

At a Committee held for Cumberland County at the Court House on Monday the 27th Day of November 1775. Present, Mr. Chairman, Mr. Fleming, Mr. Mayo, Mr. Pleasants, Mr. James, Mr. Mosby, Mr. Netherland, Mr. Langhorne, Mr. Hatcher, Mr. John Woodson, Mr. Haskins, Mr. Eggleston, Mr. William Smith, Mr. Edward Carrington, Mr. Charles Woodson junr. Mr. Robert Smith, Mr. Wilson, John Hyde Saunders, Clerk, and Mr. George Carrington junr.

Ordered, that the Order of this Committee touching the Exportation of Wheat out of this County be rescinded, and the same is rescinded accordingly.

Ordered, that George Carrington junr. George Hancock, and Thomas Miller do superintend the Election of Committee Men this Day and observe that no Persons vote unless those who are qualified under the Ordinance of Convention, to the best of their Knowledge.

Edward Haskins and John Burton, Gentlemen, took each the Oath of a Militia Captain in this County, and qualified agreeable to the Ordinance of Convention.

William Hobson, Gentleman, took the Oath and qualified as a Lieutenant of the Militia of this County under Captain Poindexter Mosby, and qualified agreeable to the Ordinance of Convention.

George Carrington junr. George Hancock and Thomas Miller qualified by Oath to superintend the Election of Committee Men this day.

Geo Carrington.

Teste, Thomas Miller, Cl. Com.

On Monday the 27th Day of November 1775 the Freeholders of Cumberland County met together at the Court House of said County (it being Court

day) to elect a Committee of twenty one Persons, to act, agreeable to an Ordinance of the General Convention, for and during the Space of one Year: And the Chairman of the Committee, then being, received the Ballots of the several Electors, in the Presence of George Carrington junr. George Hancock and Thomas Miller, who were appointed by the Committee to judge of the Qualifications of the Persons offering their Ballots, as to their Freehold and Right of electing, and in the Presence of as many of the Committee, then being, as chose to attend: And after the several Freeholders had delivered their Ballots to the Chairman and the Poll was closed, the Chairman proceeded to read the Ballots, and George Carrington junr. and Thomas Miller to minute down and count the Number of Votes which each Person, voted for, had, in the Presence of as many of the Committee, then being, as pleased to attend; and they were found to stand as follow;

Viz.

For.....	John Mayo	210 Votes
For.....	William Fleming	207 Votes
For.....	Carter Henry Harrison	187 Votes
For.....	Beverly Randolph	181 Votes
For.....	James Pleasants	176 Votes
For.....	George Carrington	172 Votes
For.....	Edward Haskins	171 Votes
For.....	Frederick Hatcher	165 Votes
For.....	Saymore Scott	155 Votes
For.....	Thomas Harris	150 Votes
For.....	Littleberry Mosby	138 Votes
For.....	Henry Skipwith	136 Votes
For.....	Arthur Moseley	124 Votes
For.....	John Harris	113 Votes
For.....	Maurice Langhorne	110 Votes
For.....	Charles Woodson	109 Votes
For.....	George Carrington junr.....	104 Votes
For.....	Miller Woodson	104 Votes
For.....	Archer Allen	99 Votes
For.....	John Netherland	88 Votes
For.....	Thomas Davenport	85 Votes

It appeared farther that Bartlett Thompson had 82 Votes minuted down and counted to him, and 4 other Votes minuted down and counted to Bartholemew Thompson; Whereupon the said Barlett prayed that he might have the Benefit of the said four Votes, minuted down and counted to Bartholemew, to be added to his Number of eighty two, by which he would have eighty six Votes, and be elected a Committee Man in Exclusion of Thomas Davenport, who had eighty five Votes only, minuted down and counted to him; and further said, that there was no person of the name of Bartholemew Thompson within said County of Cumberland, or elsewhere, as far as he knew or believed, and the four Votes aforesaid of right belonged to him, and were given to Bartholemew, instead of Bartlett Thompson, altogether through a Mistake of the Name, or Manner of Spelling it; but as George Carrington junr. who had kept that Part of the Poll, had minuted down the eighty two Votes to Bartlett Thompson, and the four other Votes to Bartholemew Thompson, it

was left to the said Bartlett Thompson to scrutinize the Matter at another Day, if he thought proper; and John Mayo, William Fleming, Carter Henry Harrison, Beverly Randolph, James Pleasants, George Carrington, Edward Haskins, Frederick Hatcher, Saymore Scott, Thomas Harris, Littleberry Mosby, Henry Skipwith, Arthur Moseley, John Harris, Maurice Langhorne, Charles Woodson, George Carrington junr. Miller Woodson, Archer Allen, John Netherland, and Thomas Davenport were returned by the Chairman and the Examiners the Committee for the said County, and proclaimed accordingly. Whereupon the said Committee convened themselves, agreeable to an Ordinance of the Convention at the Court House on Thursday the seventh Day of December Anno Domini 1775, when there were present the following Gentlemen, viz. Beverly Randolph, James Pleasants, George Carrington, Saymore Scott, Littleberry Mosby, Henry Skipwith, Arthur Moseley, Maurice Langhorne; George Carrington junr. John Netherland, and Thomas Davenport; and being so convened, they proceeded to chuse by Ballot from among their Body a Chairman, and the Ballots, being examined and counted, fell out as follow: For George Carrington, 7 Votes; for Carter Henry Harrison, 2 Votes; for William Fleming, 1 Vote, and for John Mayo, 1 Vote: Whereupon George Carrington Esq. having a Majority of Votes of the whole Committee, then present, was chosen Chairman.

At a Committee held for Cumberland County at the Court House on Thursday 7th December 1775.

Present, Mr. Chairman, Mr. Randolph, Mr. Pleasants, Mr. Scott, Mr. Mosby, Mr. Skipwith, Mr. Moseley, Mr. Langhorne, Mr. Carrington junr. Mr. Netherland and Mr. Davenport.

The Committee proceeded to chuse a Clerk, when Thomas Miller was unanimously elected to act in that Capacity.

On the Motion of Edward Carrington, a Captain of a Minute Company to be raised for the County, Ordered, that Mr. Moseley, Mr. Langhorne, Mr. Charles Woodson, Mr. George Carrington junr., and Mr. Netherland, or any three of them, do review the Company of the said Edward Carrington, or any Part thereof and make a Report thereof to this Committee, agreeable to an Ordinance of the General Convention of this Colony.

Geo Carrington

Teste, Thomas Miller, Cl. Com.

At a Meeting of the Committee of Cumberland County at the Court House the 18th December 1775.

Present, Mr. Chairman, Mr. Randolph, Mr. Scott, Mr. Hatcher, Mr. Thomas Harris, Mr. Mosby, Mr. Skipwith, Mr. John Harris, Mr. Miller Woodson, Mr. Netherland, and Mr. Carrington.

George Carrington junr. is appointed Clerk of this Committee *pro Tempore*.

The Committee appointed to review the Company under Captain Edward Carrington of the Minute Service, this Day made their Report that the said Company appeared complete on the seventeenth Day of this Month, and the same is ordered to be certified to the Committee of Safety.

Mr. Mosby, Mr. Langhorne, Mr. Pleasants, Mr. Netherland, Mr. Charles Woodson and Mr. Carrington, or any three or more of them are appointed to review the Soldiers of the Minute Service under Captain Charles Fleming.

Edward Carrington, Captain, and William Moseley, Ensign, in the Minute

Service, this Day in Committee took the Oath directed by the Ordinance of the Convention.

Jesse Merryman, Lieutenant in the Militia of this County, took the Oath directed by the Ordinance of the Convention, and qualified.

A Member of this Committee moved that it might be determined whether the Committee have a Right to determine in all Cases of Election of Committee Men; and the Question being put, it is resolved in the Affirmative.

The Motion of Mr. Bartlett Thompson complaining of an undue Election and Return of Mr. Thomas Davenport to serve as a Member of this Committee is referred 'til the next Meeting of the Committee.

Geo Carrington Ch. M.

Teste, Thomas Miller, Cl. Com.

At a Committee held for Cumberland County at the Court House on Monday the 5th Day of February 1776.

Present, Mr. Chairman, Mr. Mayo, Mr. Fleming, Mr. Randolph, Mr. Pleasants, Mr. Hatcher, Mr. Scott, Mr. Thomas Harris, Mr. Mosby, Mr. Skipwith, Mr. John Harris, Mr. Langhorne, Mr. Charles Woodson, Mr. Carrington, junr. Mr. Miller Woodson, Mr. Allen, Mr. Netherland and Mr. Davenport.

On the Motion of Bartlett Thompson, praying that he may have the Benefit of the four Votes minuted down to Bartholemew Thompson and produced a Certificate sworn to before Mr. Mayo one of this Committee by Creed Haskins, who made Oath that he wrote the Ballots for four Electors, viz. Joseph Robinson, Isham Miles, Langhorne Tabb and William Daniel, and that they directed him to set down Bartlett Thompson as one on their respective Ballots, and he set him down by the Name of Bartholemew Thompson: The Evidence not appearing sufficient for the Committee to go into an Examination of the Matter; Ordered that it be continued to the next Committee. Present Mr. Harrison.

The Committee proceeded to nominate and appoint, by Ballot, a Captain for the regular Company to be raised in this County, and after each Member had given in his Ballot; Ordered, that the Clerk of this Committee do examine and count the Ballots, and report to this Committee how they Stand. The Clerk of the Committee having accordingly examined the Ballots found them to stand as follow; viz. For Charles Fleming 10 Votes, and for Edward Carrington 8 Votes: Resolved therefore, that Charles Fleming, Gentleman, be nominated and recommended as a Captain of the Regular Company to be raised for this County by an Ordinance of the late Convention. The Committee then proceeded to nominate and appoint a first Lieutenant to Captain Fleming in the Manner aforesaid, and upon the Clerk's examining and counting the Ballots found them to stand as follow, viz. For William Mosely 14 Votes; for Mayo Carrington 2 Votes; for Thomas Railey 1 Vote, and for Horatio Turpin 1 Vote: Resolved therefore, that William Moseley, Gentleman, be nominated and recommended as a first Lieutenant in the Regular Company to be raised in this County. The Committee then proceeded to vote by Ballot for a second Lieutenant to the said Company, and upon Examination of the Ballots by the Clerk, they were found to stand as follow, viz. For William Bernard junr. 7 Votes; for Mayo Carrington 5 Votes; for Horatio Turpin 2 Votes; for Benjamin Netherland junr. 1 Vote; for Charles Ballow 1 Vote; for Thomas Railey 1 Vote, and for John Clarke 1 Vote: The greater Num-

ber of Votes falling on William Bernard junr. and Mayo Carrington, the Committee proceeded to vote whether the said Bernard junr. or Carrington be the second Lieutenant; upon Examination of the Ballots by the Clerk they were found to stand as follow, viz. For William Bernard junr. 10 Votes, and for Mayo Carrington 8 Votes; the said Bernard having a Majority of the Votes in his Favor: Resolved therefore that the said William Bernard junr. Gentleman, be nominated and recommended as the second Lieutenant to the Company of Regulars to be raised for this County. The Committee then proceeded to vote by Ballot for an Ensign in the said Company of Regulars to be raised in this County; and upon Examination of the Ballots they were reported by the Clerk to stand as follow, viz. For Mayo Carrington 6 Votes; for Benjamin Netherland junr. 4 Votes; for Littleberry Mosby junr. 2 Votes; for John Clarke 3 Votes; for Thomas Railey 2 Votes, and for Horatio Turpin 1 Vote: Mayo Carrington and Benjamin Netherland junr. appearing to have the greatest Number of Votes; the Committee proceeded to vote by Ballot whether the said Carrington or Netherland be nominated as Ensign in the said Company, and after the Clerk had examined and counted the Votes, he reported them to stand as follow, viz. For Mayo Carrington 13 Votes, and for Benjamin Netherland junr. 5 Votes: The Majority of the Votes falling on Mayo Carrington; Resolved therefore, that Mayo Carrington, Gentleman, be nominated and recommended as an Ensign in the Company of Regulars to be raised in this County.

Resolved, that Cumberland Court House be appointed as the Place of Rendezvous for the Regular Company to be raised in this County.

Resolved, that Mr. Mosby, Mr. Netherland and Mr. Mayo, or any two of them, do review the Company of Regulars to be raised for this County, as the same may be recruited and made up, and that they make Report thereof to this Committee, agreeable to the Ordinance of the Committee.

The Committee then proceeded to vote for Minute Officers in the Room of Nathaniel Carrington who resigns his Place as Lieutenant of a Company raised and to be raised, as also in the Room of those Minute Officers who have this Day been appointed in the Regular Service. The Ballots for a Minute Captain in the Room of Charles Fleming lately a Captain of a Minute Company in this County being examined and counted by the Clerk, he reported them to stand as follow, viz. For William Turpin 5 Votes; for John Wily 4 Votes; for John Swann 2 Votes; for John Clarke 2 Votes; for Littleberry Mosby junr. 2 Votes; for John Mosely 1 Vote; for Hughes Woodson 1 Vote, and for Thomas Railey 1 Vote. William Turpin and John Wiley having the greatest Number of Votes, the Committee proceeded to vote by Ballot whether the said Turpin or Wiley be nominated and recommended as a Captain of the said Minute Company, and after the Committee had voted and the Clerk examined and counted the Ballots, he reported them to stand as follow, viz. For William Turpin 10 Votes, and for John Wiley 8 Votes: William Turpin appearing to have a Majority of the Votes; Resolved therefore that William Turpin, Gentleman, be nominated and recommended as a Captain of the Minute Company in the Room of Charles Fleming lately a Captain of the said Minute Company.

The Committee proceeded to nominate a Lieutenant in the Minute Service under Captain William Turpin in the Room of Nathaniel Carrington lately Lieutenant: Resolved, that Littleberry Mosby junr. Gentleman, be nominated

and appointed Lieutenant in the Minute Company under Captain William Turpin.

The Committee then proceeded to vote for an Ensign in the Company of Minute Men under Captain Joseph Carrington, in the Room of Mayo Carrington lately an Ensign in that Company, and after the Clerk had examined and counted the Ballots he reported them to stand as follow, viz. For Thomas Railey 14 Votes; for Benjamin Netherland junr. 3 Votes, and for John Clarke 1 Vote: Thomas Railey appearing to have a Majority of the votes of the whole Committee; resolved therefore that Thomas Railey, Gentleman be nominated and recommended as an Ensign in Captain Joseph Carrington's Company of Minute Men, in the Room of Mayo Carrington appointed an Ensign in the Regular Company to be raised in this County.

The Committee proceeded to vote by Ballot for an Ensign in Captain Edward Carrington's Company of Minute Men, in the Room of William Mosely this Day appointed a Lieutenant in the Company of Regulars to be raised for this County; and after the Clerk had examined and counted the Ballots he reported them to stand as follow, viz. For John Clarke 7 Votes; for Thomas Thompson Swann 4 Votes; for John Mosely 3 Votes; for Benjamin Netherland 2 Votes, and, for John Wiley 1 Vote (Mr. Pleasants of the Committee being absent) It appearing that John Clarke and Thomas Thompson Swann had the greater Number of Votes, the Committee proceeded to vote whether of the two should be nominated as Ensign, and upon Examination of the Ballots by the Clerk, he reported, that John Clarke had 12 Votes, and Thomas Thompson Swann 5 Votes. The said Clarke having a Majority of Votes; Resolved, that John Clarke, Gentleman, be nominated and recommended as an Ensign in Captain Edward Carrington's Company of Minute Men in the Room of William Mosely lately an Ensign in that Company. The Committee proceeded to nominate an Ensign in the Minute Company of Captain William Turpin in the Room of Littleberry Mosby jr. lately an Ensign in that Company; and after the Ballots were counted as aforesaid they were found to stand as follow, viz. For John Wiley 7 Votes; for Benjamin Netherland junr. 3 Votes; for John Moseley 2 Votes; for Francis Harris 2 Votes; for John Povall 2 Votes; for Hughes Woodson 1 Vote, and for Horatio Turpin 1 Vote (Present Mr. Pleasants) It appearing that John Wiley and Benjamin Netherland had the greater Number of Votes, the Committee proceeded to vote whether of the two be nominated, and the Ballots, being examined as aforesaid, were found to stand as follow, viz. For John Wiley 12 Votes; for Benjamin Netherland junior 6 Votes: The Majority of the Votes falling on Wiley: Resolved therefore that John Wiley, Gentleman, be nominated and recommended as an Ensign in the Minute Company of Captain William Turpin, in the Room of Littleberry Mosby junr. lately an Ensign of said Company.

Colo. George Carrington, Colo. William Fleming and Carter Henry Harrison, Esqrs. are appointed to represent this County in the Committee of Amelia District.

Beverly Randolph, James Pleasants and John Mayo, Esqrs. are appointed as Substitutes in the Place of the said Carrington Fleming and Harrison respectively, in Case of their or either of their Absence.

Mr. Edward Carrington signifying to this Committee a Desire to travel from his County to different Places in the Colony, and probably to the most

distant Parts of the United Colonies of America; we cannot forbear, in Justice to that Gentleman's Character, to recommend him to the World as a Valuable Member of Civil Society, and a warm Friend to the Interests and Liberty of America. Ever since the Commencement of the present unhappy Dispute between Great Britain and these Colonies, Mr. Carrington has proved himself ready to step forth in the Common Defence—did step forth among the first from this County as a Lieutenant of the Volunteer Company raised among us—has acted his Part well in different Departments, and we think him worthy the Notice of all true Lovers of their Country. His private Character has hitherto been irreproachable, and his publick Conduct without Exception. He was elected a Committee Man for this County, and afterwards nominated a Captain to a Minute Company;—both which Places he filled well, was active, diligent, useful, and completed his Company: We therefore hope he will meet with every Honour and Preferment among Strangers, to which his Merit entitles him.

William Gay, Gentleman, is nominated a Captain of the Militia in the Room of Edmund Vaughan who was lately a Captain but now has resigned his Commission.

Mr. Harrison moved, that a Resolution he had drawn up in Consequence of some Resolutions lately published by the Continental Congress should be received by this Committee, and the same being read was accordingly received, to be transcribed by the Clerk before or at the next Meeting of this Committee.

The Clerk of this Committee is directed to apply to the Printer or any Printer within this Colony for such Speeches, Resolutions and Publications of the General Congress as may be useful to the People of this County, and to engage for fifty Copies of each Speech Resolution or other Publication of the General Congress as may be useful to the People of this County, to be paid for by this Committee.

Bernard Guttrey, Gent. an Ensign in Captain Miller Woodson's Company of Militia took the usual Oath and qualified before this Committee, according to the Ordinance of the Convention.

Robert Anderson, Gent. Lieutenant in Captain Benjamin Wilson's Company of Militia took the usual Oath and qualified before this Committee, according to the Ordinance of the Convention.

John Swann, Gent. Lieutenant in Captain George Carrington's Company of Militia took the usual Oath and qualified before this Committee, according to the Ordinance of the Convention.

Resolved, that Mr. Chairman, Mr. Fleming, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Randolph and Mr. Mayo be recommended to the Committee of Safety as a Court of Enquiry for this County agreeable to an Ordinance of the late Convention, entitled, "An Ordinance for establishing a Mode of Punishment for the Enemies of America in this Colony."

Geo Carrington

Teste, Thomas Miller, Cl. Com.

At a Committee held for Cumberland County at the Court House on Thursday the 29th Day of February Anno Domini 1776. Present, Mr. Chairman, Mr. Mayo, Mr. Fleming, Mr. Randolph, Mr. Pleasants, Mr. Mosby, Mr. Skipwith, Mr. Charles Woodson, Mr. George Carrington junr. Mr. Miller Woodson and Mr. Allen.

The Resolution drawn up by Mr. Harrison, a Member of this Committee, touching some Resolutions lately published by the Continental Congress, and received by this Committee at a former Session, being transcribed stood as followeth.

“Whereas it is notorious to this Committee, that every Artifice has been practiced, and no Stratagem unattempted, by a Sett of Men among us, who, notwithstanding their false Glosses and external Demeanour, are avowed Enemies as well to the Constitution of Great Britain as the happy Union which once subsisted between the Mother Country and her Colonies, to draw many, otherwise honest and well meaning, but uninformed People in this Colony into erroneous Opinions, and to obstruct, as far as in their Power, that Universal Harmony and Union, which we wish to establish through the Continent, have endeavored to detach them by the most dreadful Apprehensions of the probable Issue of the present Contests; and whereas it is recommended to the different Committees by the Honourable Continental Congress, to treat all such Persons with Kindness, and to view their Errors as proceeding, rather from want of Information, than of Virtue or publick Spirit; to assure them, that Necessity, not Choice, has driven us to defend, by Arms, our Rights and Liberties; and, in Order to explain to them the Origin, Nature and extent of the present Controversy, liberally to distribute among the People the Proceedings of the Congress, the late Speeches in Parliament relative to American Grievances and such other Pamphlets as tend to elucidate the Merits of the American Cause:

Resolved, that the Printers be encouraged to print in a Pamphlet the Speeches of the great Patriots in both Houses of Parliament relative to American Grievances; and that the Members of this Committee use their utmost Endeavours, to carry the above recited Resolution into Effect, and that fifty Copies of the Proceedings of the Continental Congress, and other necessary Papers be purchased at the Expense of this Committee for the Use of the County.

And whereas it is incumbent on us, particularly at this Time, to preserve Unanimity and Harmony among ourselves, and to show that we are determined to promote Merit to the utmost of our Power wherever to be found:

Resolved, that it be recommended to the Inhabitants of this County in particular, and of the Colony in general, that all Distinction of Colonies and Countries be laid aside; that there be no other Name known among them than that of Americans and that every Man, who will heartily join in this common and ever glorious Struggle for Liberty, be considered and treated as an American born.”

Thomas Miller reported to this Committee, that in Pursuance of a former Order directing the Clerk of this Committee to apply to the Printer or Printers for such Resolutions, Speeches and Publications as might be useful to the People in this County, he had purchased of Messrs. Dixon and Hunter in Williamsburg sundry Speeches of the Bishop of St. Asaph and Political Pamphlets of one Sharp, amounting in the whole of both Kinds to the Number of five dozen, and costing the Sum of two Pounds two Shillings and six Pence. That they were all of the Kind he could find in any of the Printing Offices, now on Hand; but that agreeable to the Resolution of this Committee he had endeavoured to encourage the reprinting in a Pamphlet the Speech of

Edmund Burke, Esquire, on the American Question, and some other Political Productions, which might prove entertaining and useful to the County: That the above mentioned Speeches and Pamphlets already purchased were charged to him, and brought up and distributed through the County.

The Company complete of Captain Charles Fleming, of the Regular Service, reviewed by Mr. Mosby and Mr. Netherland and others, was reported to this Committee and received, and a Certificate ordered to be granted to the said Captain Fleming.

The Regular Company of this County, under Captain Charles Fleming, is directed to march to Gloucester Court House, and to begin their march in one Week from this Time.

Nathan Glenn, Gentleman, Ensign in Captain Miller Woodson's Company of Militia in this County took the usual Oath and qualified agreeable to the Ordinance of Convention.

Ordered, that Mr. Mosby do contract for the Waggon, Team, and Driver employed by Captain Charles Fleming to carry his Company's Baggage down to Gloucester Court House, after being disengaged from Captain Fleming, to proceed immediately from Gloucester Court House and go to Hampton and bring up from thence a Load of Salt for the Use of this County, and that the said Waggon, Team, and Driver be employed by the Day from the Time of leaving Gloucester Court House till he brings up his Load of Salt to Cumberland Court House.

The Committee then proceeded to go into an Examination of the disputed Election between Thomas Davenport and Bartlett Thompson, and after examining sundry Witnesses and hearing Evidence; It is considered and resolved, That Bartlett Thompson be received as a Member of this Committee in Exclusion of Thomas Davenport who hath hitherto set a Member in this Committee since the last Election; and that the said Bartlett Thompson have Notice of this Resolution.

Ordered, that the whole Proceedings of the late Committee of this County; and also of this present Committee be fairly transcribed by the Clerk in a Book or Books of Record to be kept for that Purpose: And also, that all Letters which come directed to the Chairman of this Committee, or to the Committee, for the Use of this Committee, be communicated to the Committee at their next Sitting, and filed by the Clerk of the Committee in his Office.

George Carrington

Teste, Thomas Miller, Cl. Com.

At a Committee held for Cumberland County at the Court House on Friday the fifth Day of April 1776.

Present, Mr. Chairman, Mr. Fleming, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Pleasants, Mr. Hatcher, Mr. Scott, Mr. Thomas Harris, Mr. Mosby, Mr. Langhorne, Mr. Carrington and Mr. Thompson.

Mr. Chairman laid before the Committee the Business of the Day.

It appearing to the Committee, that William Turpin, nominated a Captain to a Minute Company to be raised for this County, has not completed his Number of Men agreeable to an Ordinance of the Convention, and further that the said Turpin, by Letter, is willing to resign his Appointment; Resolved, that Littleberry Mosby junr. Gentleman, be nominated and appointed a

Captain of the Minute Company in the Room of William Turpin lately the Captain; he the said Mosby having been Lieutenant under Turpin, and it appearing that he had raised his Complement of Men as Lieutenant.

The Committee proceeded to vote by Ballot for a Captain of the Minute Company in this County in the Place of Edward Carrington, who was lately a Captain of a Minute Company (the said Edward being now disqualified by another Appointment) and upon Examination of the Ballots by the Clerk, the Votes stood as follow; For John Langhorne 9 Votes, and for John Swann 1 Vote—John Langhorne having a Majority of the Votes of the whole Committee; Resolved therefore, that John Langhorne, Gentleman, be nominated and appointed Captain of the Minute Company in which Edward Carrington was lately Captain.

John Mosby having resigned and vacated his Place as Lieutenant in the Minute Company under Captain Edward Carrington formerly of the said Company: Resolved, that John Clarke, Gentleman, lately an Ensign in the said Company, be nominated and appointed Lieutenant in the said Company of Minute Men, now under Captain John Langhorne.

The Committee then proceeded to vote by Ballot for a Lieutenant in the Company of Minute Men now under Captain Littleberry Mosby junr. and after Examination of the Ballots by the Clerk they appeared to stand as follow; For John Wiley 6 Votes; for Thomas Thompson Swann 2 Votes; for John Swann 1 Vote, and for Charles Ballow 1 Vote:—John Wiley having a Majority of the Votes of the Whole Committee; Resolved therefore, that John Wiley, Gentleman, be nominated and appointed a Lieutenant of the Minute Company under Captain Littleberry Mosby junr.

The Committee proceeded to vote by Ballot for an Ensign in the Company of Minute Men under Captain John Langhorne, and upon Examination of the Ballots by the Clerk, they appeared to stand as follow: viz. For, Robert Mosby 4 Votes; for Charles Ballow 2 Votes; for John Mosely, 2 Votes, and for Thomas Thompson Swann 2 Votes: As none of the Persons voted for had a Majority of the whole Committee and as Robert Mosby had the greatest Number and the others were equal in Number, the Question was, whether the said Mosely, Ballow, or Swann be voted for with Mosby, and it was resolved, that Thomas Thompson Swann be balloted for with Robert Mosby, and upon Examination of the Ballots by the Clerk, he reported them to stand as follow; viz. For Robert Mosby 6 Votes, and for Thomas Thompson Swann 4 Votes:—Robert Mosby having a Majority of the Votes of the whole Committee; Resolved therefore, that Robert Mosby, Gentleman, be nominated and appointed Ensign in the Company of Minute Men under Captain John Langhorne.

The Committee then proceeded to vote by Ballot as before for an Ensign in the Company of Minute Men under Captain Littleberry Mosby junr. and upon Examination of the Ballots by the Clerk they were reported to stand as follow: viz. For, Charles Ballow 5 Votes, and for Thomas Thompson Swann 5 Votes: It appearing that the said Charles Ballow and Thomas Thompson Swann had an equal Number of Votes, the Chairman agreeable to Ordinance and Rule was to determine the Matter by his Vote, which being given to Thomas Thompson Swann, he had a Majority of the Votes of the whole Committee; Resolved therefore, that Thomas Thompson Swann, Gentleman, be nominated and appointed Ensign in the Company of Minute Men under Captain Littleberry Mosby, junr.

Resolved, that Richard Allen, Gentleman, lately a Lieutenant in Captain John Langhorne's Company of Militia be now appointed Captain of the said Company of Militia in the Place of John Langhorne promoted to the Minute Service.

Resolved, that Moses Arnold, Gentleman, lately an Ensign in Captain John Langhorne's Company of Militia be nominated and appointed Lieutenant thereof under Captain Richard Allen.

Resolved, that Benjamin Allen, Gentleman, be nominated and appointed Ensign in Captain Richard Allen's Company of Militia in the Room of Moses Arnold lately Ensign thereof.

The Committee proceeded to vote for an Ensign in the Company of Militia under Captain John Burton in the Place of Simon Gentry who refuses to act in that Capacity: Upon Examination of the Ballots by the Clerk, they appeared to stand as follow; viz. For John Burton junr. 7 Votes; for Thomas Davenport junr. 2 Votes, and for William C. Hill 1 Vote: John Burton junr. having a Majority of the Votes of the whole Committee; Resolved therefore, that John Burton junr. Gentleman, be nominated and appointed Ensign under Captain John Burton of the Militia in the Room of Simon Gentry.

Ordered, that Mr. Harrison, Mr. Pleasants, Mr. Fleming and Mr. George Carrington junr. or any two or three of them, do draw up and prepare Instructions for the Delegates in Convention to be chosen for this County on next Court Day, directing them what Line of Conduct to pursue in their future Deliberations.

Ordered, that Mr. Pleasants, Mr. Mosby, Mr. George Carrington junr. and Mr. Charles Woodson junr., or any two or more of them, do review the Companies of Minute Men under Captain John Langhorne and Captain Littleberry Mosby junr. as they shall be completed, agreeable to the Ordinance of Convention.

Thomas Miller resigned his Office as Clerk of this Committee, and relinquished his Place.

Geo Carrington

Teste, Thomas Miller, Cl. Com.

At a meeting of the Committee for Cumberland County 17th April 1776. Present, Mr. Chairman, Mr. Mayo, Mr. Fleming, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Randolph, Mr. Pleasants, Mr. Hatcher, Mr. Scott, Mr. Thomas Harris, Mr. Mosby, Mr. Skipwith, Mr. John Harris, Mr. George Carrington junr., Mr. Miller Woodson, Mr. Allen and Mr. Thompson.

William Gay, and Richard Allen, Gentlemen, Captains of the Militia of this County took the Oath respectively and qualified as Captains of the Militia agreeable to the Ordinance of Convention.

William Daniel is nominated and appointed an Ensign in Captain Archer Allen's Company of Militia, in the Room of William Coleman.

Moses Arnold, Lieutenant, and Benjamin Allen, Ensign, in Captain Richard Allen's Company of Militia for this County took the Oath respectively and qualified agreeable to the Ordinance of Convention.

Geo Carrington

Teste, Thomas Miller, Cl. Com.

At a Committee held for Cumberland County at the Court House on Monday the 22nd Day of April 1776.

Present, Mr. Chairman, Mr. Mayo, Mr. Fleming, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Randolph, Mr. Pleasants, Mr. Hatcher, Mr. Scott, Mr. Skipwith, Mr. Langhorne, Mr. Miller Woodson and Mr. Thompson.

Thomas Miller is rechosen Clerk of this Committee.

Present, Mr. Carrington junr.

Mr. Harrison reported from the Sub-Committee appointed to draw up Instructions for the Delegates, in Convention to be chosen for this County, that they had drawn up Instructions for the Concurrence of the People, which he read in his Place, and being approved were received by the Committee and stood as hereto annexed.

Mr. Harrison moved that it be recommended to the People of this County strictly to observe the seventeenth Day of May as a Fast agreeable to the Resolution of the Continental Congress; Resolved therefore, that the Resolution drawn up by Mr. Harrison be received by this Committee, and the same was received accordingly and is annexed to the Proceedings of the Day, together with the above recited Resolution, being both read and approved of.

Geo Carrington

Teste, Thomas Miller, Cl. Com.

The Instructions to the Delegates to be chosen for the County of Cumberland on Monday the 22nd Day of April 1776 to sit in the general Convention of this Colony drawn up and reported by Mr. Harrison for the Concurrence of the People, and approved by the Committee at their last Meeting and generally agreed to by the People, were annexed to the Proceedings of the Committee at the Time aforesaid and stand as follow.

“To John Mayo and William Fleming. gent. When the King of Great Britain, deaf to all the humiliating and well intended Petitions from his once loyal Subjects, not only of America, but of Great Britain also, changes his Justice into Severity; when he stoops to the low Artifice of bribing to carry despotic Designs into Effect, and his first Dignities are Marks of the first Servitude; when he prefers arbitrary Sway unknown to the Constitution which placed his Family on the Throne to the Love and Happiness of his Subjects; when the British Parliament so far sunk in Venality and Corruption as to sacrifice their most inestimable Priviledges, adding Insult to Oppression, have given his Majesty the warmest Assurances, that they will, with their Lives and Fortunes, support him in a ruinous and cruel War against us. When his Majesty, after a wanton Abuse of his Negative on our Acts of Assembly, by which he has forced the Slave Trade on us for several Years, unmindful of his Coronation Oath, has ordered his Governour, Lord Dunmore, to arm our Slaves against us, in open Violation of several Acts of Assembly which have the Royal Sanction; when an uniform System through all the Acts of Parliament in the present Reign, tending evidently to the total Destruction of American Liberty, leaves no other Alternative than a base Submission to their inhuman, impolitic and oppressive Measures, or Independancy; Actuated by a tender Regard to ourselves and to our Posterity we think ourselves indispensably obliged to declare boldly for the latter. We therefore your Constituents instruct you positively to declare for an Independancy; that you solemnly adjure and Allegiance to his Britannick Majesty, and bid him a good Night for ever; that you promote in our Convention an Instruction to our Delegates, now sitting in Continental Congress, to do the same; that they, in their Line

of Conduct, follow the British Parliament Step by Step, and since all American Property is declared forfeited to the Crown, that they shall endeavour to procure an Act of the Congress, condemning the Property of every British Subject residing beyond Sea, and every Subject not taking an Active Part in the present Contest, to the Use of the United Colonies; that they listen to no Terms of Accommodation from the British Court, without a previous Renunciation from the King of Great Britain of all Right, Title or Authority in and over these Colonies, and a formal and solemn Recognition of our Rights and Independancy, nor form any commercial Treaty, till they are satisfied of a Removal of their Ships of War and Troops from our Coasts and Seas; that they immediately open a free Trade to all Nations; that they exert themselves in procuring such foreign Assistance and forming such commercial Connexions as they, in their superior Wisdom, shall think prudent. Should any Proposals be made to you, we strenuously insist that you order the Commissioners immediately to withdraw and refer them to the Continental Congress. And whereas the necessary Expenses of the present War, from a Scarcity of Coin, must occasion an emission of a Paper Currency to so great Amount as will depreciate its Value, a great Proportion whereof will be laid out in Provisions, which we have perishing on our Hands thro' a Stoppage of Trade, every Mode which tends to remedy the Evil must deserve your Attention, we therefore, assuring you of our hearty Concurrence in the present Measures, and wishing a vigorous Opposition, recommend to you to procure an Ordinance for an immediate Assessment in Provisions when necessary, and that proper Landings be appointed for the Delivery thereof.

Since we can neither love, honour, nor esteem, but must detest the Wretch, who hath brought Fire and Sword into our Country, we conceive a manifest Inconsistency in our Act of Worship, we acknowledge his Britannic Majesty for our lawful Sovereign; we most heartily beseech Almighty God to strengthen him, that he may vanquish and overcome all his Enemies, at the same Time, begging his Protection, and that he will save us from the Hands of our Enemies, abate their Pride, assuage their Malice, and confound their Devices; thus we dishonour him, who hath enjoined us to pray with the Heart and Understanding also, and must appear to be rank Hypocrites: We therefore recommend, that so much of the Liturgy as respects the King be altered; that a Prayer for the Preservation, Happiness and Union of the Colonies be substituted, and that the Clergy be directed to use the same on Pain of an immediate Removal."

Copy from the Original, reported to, and received by, the Committee on Monday the 22nd April 1776.

Teste, Thomas Miller, Cl. Com.

The Resolution drawn up by Mr. Harrison, read to and approved by the Committee of Cumberland County on Monday the 22nd of April 1776, touching a Fast to be observed the 17th Day of May following, stood as hereto subjoined.

"Whereas Friday the 17th Day of May next is fixed on by the Honourable Continental Congress as a Day of Humiliation, Fasting and Prayer,

Resolved that it be recommended to the Inhabitants of this County piously to keep the same, that under a due Sense of God's superintending Providence we may, with united Hearts, confess our manifold Sins and Transgressions, and by a sincere Repentance and Amendment of Life appease his

righteous Displeasure, and through the Mediation of Jesus Christ, obtain his Pardon: Humbly imploring him to frustrate the cruel Purposes of our unnatural Enemies, and to prevent the further Effusion of our kindred Blood: But if Necessity constrain us to repel their hostile Invasions, that it may please the God of Armies to animate our Officers and Soldiers with invincible Fortitude, to cover them in the Day of Battle, and to crown the Continental Arms with Victory: Earnestly beseeching him to bless our Civil Rulers and the Representatives of the People in their several Assemblies, to preserve and strengthen their Union, to inspire them with a disinterested Love of their Country, and to give Wisdom and Stability to their Councils: And that the Ministers in the different Parishes be requested to prepare a Sermon suitable to the Occasion."

Copy from the Original, presented to, and approved by, the Committee.

Teste, Thomas Miller, Cl. Com.

At a Committee held for Cumberland County at the Court House on Monday the 27th Day of May 1776.

Present, Mr. Chairman, Mr. Mayo, Mr. Pleasants, Mr. Haskins, Mr. Hatcher, Mr. Scott, Mr. Mosby, Mr. Skipwith, Mr. Langhorne, Mr. Charles Woodson, Mr. Carrington, Mr. Netherland and Mr. Thompson.

The Chairman laid before the Committee the principal Cause of their convening, and informed them that they were to appoint Officers to Command a Company of fifty Men to be composed of Minute Men, or Minute Men and Militia agreeable to the Resolution of the General Convention passed the 10th Day of this Month.

Resolved, that there are now present fifty Privates or more of the Minute Men of the several Companies in this County, that they have the Liberty of chusing which one of the three Minute Captains of this County they will serve under; and that their Choice under the aforesaid Restrictions be the Sense of this Committee; when the other Captains gave up the Point in Favor of Captain Joseph Carrington who had the general Voice and Sense of the other Officers and the Soldiers: Resolved therefore, that Joseph Carrington, Gentleman, be nominated and appointed the Captain to command the fifty Men from this County under the Resolution of the Convention of the tenth Instant.

The Committee left it in the Choice of the Soldiers to nominate a Lieutenant from among the Number of Minute Officers, when Robert Hughes was chosen by the Soldiers: Resolved therefore, that Robert Hughes, Gentleman, be nominated and appointed Lieutenant under Captain Joseph Carrington to command the fifty Men as aforesaid. The Committee then resolved that the Soldiers should chuse the Ensign to command them under Captain Carrington from among the Number of Minute Officers, when Thomas Railey was chosen: Resolved therefore that Thomas Railey, Gentleman, be nominated and appointed an Ensign under Captain Joseph Carrington in the Expedition aforesaid.

John Langsdon having applied to this Committee for Leave to pass and repass through this Colony; and more especially to and from Kemp's Landing where he has a Waggon employed in the Country's Service, the Committee recommend the said Langsdon to be an inoffensive Person as far as they know; and they believe his Intentions are honest and blameless.

Ordered that the Treasurer of this Committee do refund to the several Collectors of the Powder Money their respective Quotas, after deducting the necessary Expenses and Disbursements, to be distributed among the People.

Resolved, that it be recommended to the Inhabitants of this County and others, to furnish the Company directed from this County to North Carolina, with Blankets, Potts, and all other Necessaries in their March, to be paid for by the Publick.

Geo Carrington

Teste, Tho. Miller, Cl. Com.

At a Meeting of the Committee for Cumberland County 8th July 1776.

Present, Mr. Chairman, Mr. Mayo, Mr. Fleming, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Pleasants, Mr. Hatcher, Mr. Mosby, Mr. Skipwith, Mr. Charles Woodson, Mr. Carrington, Mr. Langhorne, Mr. Allen, Mr. Netherland and Mr. Thompson.

Mr. Chairman laid before the Committee a Letter received from the President of the Committee of Safety and an Order of the Committee of Safety respecting Prisoners sent to this County which were severally read.

Ordered, that the Prisoners sent to this County by the Committee of Safety be kept at the Court House till they contract with proper Persons for hiring themselves, and Mr. Mosby is appointed to deliver the said Prisoners to such Persons as he shall approve as shall make Contracts with them for hiring them, taking proper Receipts.

The Committee being informed that Robert Scruggs of this County hath been guilty of making sundry Speeches tending to influence and inflame the Minds of sundry Persons against the Rights and Liberties of the Country, It is ordered that the said Robert be summoned to attend at the Meeting of this Committee to be held at the Court House on the fourth Monday this Month to answer the said Information.

William Hudgins and Jesse Merryman to be summoned as Witnesses: And the said Merryman is appointed to serve the said Summonses.

Geo. Carrington.

Teste, Tho. Miller, Cl. Com.

At a Meeting of the Committee for Cumberland County at the Court House on Monday the 22nd July 1776.

Present, Mr. Chairman, Mr. Mayo, Mr. Pleasants, Mr. Haskins, Mr. Hatcher, Mr. Thomas Harris, Mr. Mosby, Mr. Skipwith, Mr. Carrington, Mr. Allen, Mr. Netherland and Mr. Thompson.

It appearing by an Ordinance of the General Convention of this Colony that an Oath to the Commonwealth of Virginia is to be administered to the several Committees before they act:—Mr. Pleasants from a conscientious Motive refusing to take such Oath: Resolved that a solemn Affirmation instead of such Oath be administered to Mr. Pleasants, which he accordingly made; and then the other Members above mentioned qualified by Oath.

Thomas Miller, Clerk of this Committee took the said Oath and qualified.

Robert Scruggs, having been summoned to answer an Accusation lodged against him at the last Meeting of this Committee, appeared in Person, and sundry Witnesses, having been summoned, appeared likewise.

The said Scruggs confessed he might have said many Things inadvertently before sundry Persons which might seem to reflect upon some Mem-

bers of Committee, or others concerned in the great American Struggle for Liberty; but as he is a sincere Wellwisher to the Interest of America, he is heartily sorry that any Thing he should say might tend or be construed to tend to the Injury of the common Rights of America: Resolved therefore that the Prosecution be dismissed, and the said Scruggs, upon his Confession and Promise of a cautious Conduct for the future is hereby discharged.

The Committee proceeded to settle the Allowance of the Clerk of this Committee to this day: Resolved that Thomas Miller, Clerk of this Committee be allowed the Sum of twenty five Pounds for his Services as Clerk of this Committee to this day.

The Committee adjourned 'til next Court Day.

Geo. Carrington.

Teste, Tho. Miller, Cl. Com.

At a Meeting of the Committee of Cumberland County at the Court House of the said County on the 20th of August 1776.

Present, Mr. Chairman, Mr. Fleming, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Randolph, Mr. Hatcher, Mr. Thomas Harris, Mr. Mosby, Mr. Skipwith, Mr. Carrington, Mr. Miller Woodson, Mr. Allen, Mr. Netherland and Mr. Thompson.

Mr. Chairman laid before the Committee a Letter by him received from Colo. Archibald Cary of the Amelia Battalion of Minute Men which enclosed a Letter from the President of the Council requiring a List of the Minute Men now remaining in this County. On Consideration whereof and it appearing to be impossible at this Time to make out the said List the same is postponed till the Meeting of the Committee at this Place on Monday next.

Resolved that it be recommended to the several Minute Officers in this County to do their Endeavour to complete their several Companies and that they make Report to this Committee at their next Meeting of the Number of Men enlisted in their several Companies.

The Committee taking into Consideration what Method shall be taken in distributing the Salt allotted to this County after mature Deliberation thereupon had It is considered that it be distributed to the People according to the Number of Souls taken last year—that any Persons claiming any Part thereof shall be examined on Oath what Quantity they have by them that they may have no more delivered than what will make what they have equal with others who claim any thereof.

Geo Carrington.

Teste, Tho. Miller, Cl. Com.

At a Meeting of the Committee of Cumberland County at the Court House on Monday 26th August 1776.

Present, Mr. Chairman, Mr. Mayo, Mr. Fleming, Mr. Haskins, Mr. Skipwith, Mr. John Harris, Mr. Charles Woodson, Mr. Carrington, Mr. Allen, Mr. Netherland and Mr. Thompson.

Mr. Fleming and Mr. Carrington reported to the Committee, that Mr. John Harris and Mr. Charles Woodson, Members of this Committee, had qualified before them agreeable to the Ordinance of Convention, they the said Fleming and Carrington having been before qualified.

Present Mr. Mosby. Resolved that the County's Salt be distributed among the People of this County who are in Want according to the Number of Souls

in their Families; and that they be allowed one Pint, or to make up one Pint with what they have now on Hand, per Soul, at the Rate of ten Shillings and six Pence per Bushel, dry Measure.

Resolved that Mr. Mosby measure out and distribute among the People who apply, the Salt, under the above Resolution and agreeable to the Resolution of this Committee at their last Meeting.

Geo. Carrington.

Teste, Thomas Miller, Cl. Com.

At a Meeting of the Committee of Cumberland County at the Court House on Monday 23rd September 1776.

Present, Mr. Chairman, Mr. Mayo, Mr. Pleasants, Mr. Haskins, Mr. Hatcher, Mr. Mosby, Mr. Moseley, Mr. Langhorne, Mr. Charles Woodson, Mr. Carrington, Mr. Allen and Mr. Netherland.

Ordered, that Colo. William Fleming do make particular Enquiry at Hampton, or elsewhere where the public Salt was deposited for the Use of this County, and that he ascertain the Quantity allowed for the said County; and likewise, if possible, the precise Quantity which hath been delivered out to any Person or Persons to be transported to this County, and that he make Report thereof as soon as possible.

Ordered that the ninth Day of October next be a Day fixed on to deliver to the People the County's Salt; and that they be allowed another Pint a Soul as far as it will go; and that public Notice be given of this Order.

Ordered that if any Salt be left on Hand after the ninth Day of October, Mr. Mosby do sell it to those he can treat with.

Geo. Carrington.

Teste, Thomas Miller, Cl. Com.

At Cumberland Court House the twenty eight Day of October in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy six, Mr. Chairman, Mr. Mayo, Mr. Mosby, Mr. Hatcher, Mr. Moseley, Mr. John Harris, Mr. Carrington and Mr. Thompson, Members of the Committee for the Time being of the said County of Cumberland assembled, and there being no other Members of the said Committee present, the above Members proceeded to appoint proper Persons to adjudge of the Right of any Person to vote for a new Committee to be elected to serve according to the Ordinances of Convention and the Law of the Land,—Thomas Miller and George Carrington, the younger, are appointed for the said Purpose together with Mr. Chairman, the said Miller and Carrington being sworn according to Ordinance of Convention.

Geo. Carrington, C. M.

Teste Thomas Miller, Clk. Com.

28th October 1776. Mr. Chairman, Thomas Miller and George Carrington, junr. proceeded to receive the Ballots of the Freeholders of the County of Cumberland for a Committee to be chosen and after having received sundry Ballots and the Poll being closed, they counted and minuted down the Votes to the different Persons voted for and upon Examination found them to stand as follow, viz.

For.....	George Carrington	48 Votes
For.....	William Fleming	48 Votes
For.....	John Mayo	47 Votes
For.....	George Carrington jnr.	41 Votes
For.....	Beverly Randolph	39 Votes
For.....	James Pleasants	39 Votes
For.....	Littleberry Mosby	39 Votes
For.....	Frederick Hatcher	39 Votes
For.....	Thomas Harris	39 Votes
For.....	Saymore Scott	38 Votes
For.....	John Harris	37 Votes
For.....	Charles Woodson	35 Votes
For.....	Joseph Carrington	35 Votes
For.....	Robert Smith	35 Votes
For.....	Miller Woodson	33 Votes
For.....	Henry Skipwith	32 Votes
For.....	Carter Henry Harrison	31 Votes
For.....	Arthur Moseley	31 Votes
For.....	John Netherland	30 Votes
For.....	Edward Haskins	29 Votes
For.....	Archer Allen	29 Votes

Whereupon the said George Carrington, William Fleming, John Mayo, George Carrington, the younger, Beverly Randolph, James Pleasants, Littleberry Mosby, Frederick Hatcher, Thomas Harris, Saymore Scott, John Harris, Charles Woodson, Joseph Carrington, Robert Smith, Miller Woodson, Henry Skipwith, Carter Henry Harrison, Arthur Moseley, John Netherland, Edward Haskins and Archer Allen, Gentlemen, being the twenty one Persons who had the greatest Number of Votes upon the Examination of the Ballots are returned the Committee to act for the County of Cumberland agreeable to the Ordinance of the General Convention, and the Laws and Regulations of the General Assembly.

Teste, Thomas Miller, Cl. former Com.

Here ended the Proceedings of the Committee of Cumberland. The Court of the County and the Court Martial of Field Officers & Captains taking by the Constitution and Frame of Government the Business in to their Hands which heretofore belonged to the County Committees in the unsettled State of Affairs.

Thomas Miller.

Powhatan County, 8 Nov. 1777.

Isle of Wight Committee Proceedings

At a Committee held for Isle of Wight County on Friday, the thirteenth day of January, in the fifteenth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord George, the third King of Great Britain, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith etc. and in the year of our Lord Christ one thousand seven hundred and seventy five.

Present: John Scarsbrook Wills, Josiah Parker, Brewer Godwin, Arthur Smith, the Reverend Henry John Burgess, John Mallory, Tristram Norsworthy, jun., William Davis, Goodrich Wilson, and Nathaniel Burwell Gent.

Resolved: That John Scarsbrook Wills Gent, be appointed Chairman to the Committee, and William Francis Young be appointed Clerk to the said Committee.

Resolved: that notice be given to the several members of this committee and that they do meet in the town of Smithfield, on Tuesday, the seventeenth day of this Instant—January for the purpose of holding a Committee for the said County.

The minutes of these proceedings were signed.

John Scarsbrook Wills, Chairman.

At a Committee held for Isle of Wight County the seventeenth day of January in the year of our Lord Christ one thousand seven hundred and seventy five.

Present: John Scarsbrook Wills, Chairman, Josiah Parker, Brewer Godwin, Richard Hardy, John Day, Arthur Smith, the Reverend Henry John Burges, Thomas Pierce, John Mallory, Tristram Norsworthy Jun., Goodrich Wilson, Nathaniel Burwell and Timothy Tynes Gent—

Resolved, that the ninth resolve made by the Continental Congress by the Clerk of this Committee, be advertised at the Court house and every publick place in this County in order to give notice to any person or persons who may be agrieved by any Merchant or Merchants selling goods, wares, or merchandise for more than he or they had done for twelve months last past, that he or they so agrieved give information thereof to any one member of this Committee, who, on considering the circumstances shall have power to call a meeting of the Committee and desire the informer to appear properly prepared to make good his charge.

The minutes of these proceedings were signed.

“John Sck. Wills, Chairman.”

At a Committee held for Isle of Wight County on Monday, the thirteenth day of February in the year of our Lord Christ one thousand seven hundred and seventy five—

Present: John Sck. Wills, Chairman, Josiah Parker, Brewer Godwin, Richard Hardy, Arthur Smith, The Reverend Henry John Burgess, Thomas Pierce, Goodh. Wilson, John Mallory, Tristram Norsworthy, William Davis, Nathaniel Burwell & Timothy Tynes, Gent—

John Sym, a merchant in the town of Smithfield, in this County acquainted the Committee that he had received by the Ship Thomas, Captain Robertson from Glasgow, two packages containing sundry pieces of Irish linen, amounting as per invoice to one hundred and fifty six pounds fourteen shillings and penny half penny sterling (charges included) which goods he desired might be disposed of agreeable to the directions of the Continental Congress, and it appearing that they arrived in this colony before the first instant, it was resolved that the linens be sold at the town of Smithfield on the twenty first instant in lotts according to the number of the invoice under the direction of John Sck. Wills, Arthur Smith, Thomas Pierce, Goodrich Willson and Josiah Parker, or any three of them, and that the money arising from such sale be applied in conformity to the tenth resolve of the Continental Congress. The Committee, at the same time, taking into consideration the defenceless state of this County, owing to a neglect of military discipline, and being also desirous of contributing according to their abilities to the encouragement of useful arts and manufactures in this Colony, came to the following resolutions. That it be earnestly recommended by this Committee to the Chief Commanding Officer of the Militia in this County to train and exercise the Militia according to law. That John Scarsbrook Wills, Thomas Peirce, Arthur Smith, Goodrich Willson & Josiah Parker, Gent, do purchase, (as soon as may be had), one thousand pounds of gun powder for the use of this County.

That a premium of twenty pounds be paid by this Committee to the first person who shall make five thousand pounds of gun powder in this Colony, on such manufacturers producing a proper certificate from the Committee of the County in which such gun powder shall be made.

That a like premium of twenty pounds be paid by this Committee to the first person who shall produce to them a proper certificate of his having made in this Colony one thousand pair of merchantable cotton or wool cards.

That the free holders of this County have notice given them to attend at the Court house in the Town of Smithfield on the second day of next month to elect delegates to represent them in Convention to be held in the town of Richmond on the twentyeth of the said Month.

The minutes of these proceedings were signed.

“John Scarsbrook Wills, Chairman.”

At a Committee held for Isle of Wight County at the Court House of the said County on Tuesday, the twenty first day of February in the year of our Lord Christ one thousand seven hundred and seventy five.

Present: John Scarsbrook Wills, Chairman, John Day, John Mallory, Josiah Parker, Brewer Godwin, Nathaniel Burwell, Thomas Peirce, William Davis and Arthur Smith, Gent—

Mr. Chairman informing the Committee that Richard Mackie of this County lately received a package of Woolens by the Thomas, Captain Robertson from Glasgow, and that the said Richard Mackie was desirous the said goods should be sold agreeable to the tenth resolve of the Continental Congress. It is therefore resolved that the said goods shall be set up in two lotts nearly of the same value to the highest bidder for ready money allowing for the difference of exchange and charges forty five per cent, that the sale thereof be conducted under the direction of John Scarsbrook Wills, Thomas Peirce, Josiah Parker and Arthur Smith Gent—or any three of them who are

directed to expose the same to sale this afternoon, and the profits, if any, arising to remain in their hands for the benefit of the poore residing in the town of Boston—

The minutes of these proceedings were signed.

John Sck. Wills, Chairman.

At a meeting of the Committee for the County of Isle of Wight at the Court House of the said County on Monday the seventeenth day of April in the year of our Lord Christ one thousand seven hundred and seventy five—

Present: John Scarsbrook Wills, Chairman, Josiah Parker, Brewer Godwin, Richard Hardy, John Day, Arthur Smith, the Reverend Henry John Burges, Thomas Peirce, John Mallory, Tristram Norsworthy, Goodrich Willson, and William Davis, Gent—

The Committee taking into their serious consideration, the resolves of the late Provincial Convention, held at Richmond in the County of Henrico do most heartily approve of them and resolve to do all in their power to put them in execution by every persuasive means.

Resolved that it be recommended to the several Captains of the Militia in this County to make application to their respective Companys for one shilling and eight pence current money, or any sum that they may generously contribute towards purchasing ammunition for the use of this County and that they also personally apply to such persons who are not on the muster roll in their several districts for the purpose aforesaid and that the said Captains account for the money so received with this Committee and render an account of the several persons who shall contribute for the purpose aforesaid—

Resolved, that on account of the small number of members in our Committee, it is recommended that ten other gentlemen be nominated and added to this Committee to assist them and that they be elected by ballot on Thursday, the fourth day of May next—

Resolved, that the free holders of this County have notice given them by proclamation or otherwise and they are desired to attend at the Court House in the Town of Smithfield, on Thursday the fourth day of May next, in order to elect delegates to represent them (when called upon) in Colony Convention for one year—

Resolved that Richard Hardy, Thomas Peirce and Arthur Smith, Gent, be appointed a sub-committee and do wait on the merchants in the town of Smithfield and purchase all the gun powder they may have to spare for which this Committee are ready to pay two shillings and six pence per pound immediately.

The Sub-committee appointed to wait on the merchants in the town of Smithfield returned and made the following report, to-wit: "That they had made application to an assistant store keeper of Mr. George Purdie in the said town who informed them that there was in the store a small quantity of gun powder; but as he had no orders from his employer he could not sell it. Resolved, therefore, that Thomas Peirce, Arthur Smith and Josiah Parker, Gentlemen, do wait on the said George Purdie as soon as he shall return to town and purchase the same and make report thereof to the next Committee. And the said Sub-Committee also made report that John Sym, a merchant in the said town declared to them that he had about three pounds of gun powder

and that he was willing to spare part of the same to any emergency reserving a sufficiency for the use and protection of his own family.

The minutes of the proceedings were signed—

John Scarsbrook Wills, Chairman.

At a meeting held for Isle of Wight County at the Court House of the said County on Monday the fifteenth day of May in the year of our Lord Christ one thousand seven hundred and seventy five.

Present, John Scarsbrook Wills, Chairman, Josiah Parker, Brewer Godwin, Thomas Peirce, John Day, Richard Hardy, John Mallory, Arthur Smith, Goodrich Willson, Tristram Norsworthy, jun., and Nathaniel Burwell, Gent—

Pursuant to order of Committee for electing an additional number of ten new members, Rich. Hardy, Gent. having been appointed to manage the election thereof this day reported that John Driver, Joseph Cutchin jun., Joshua Council, Henry Pitt, Thomas Fearn, Jethro Gale, Mills Wilkinson, William Jordan, Edmund Godwin and Thomas Smith, Gentlemen, were chosen by the free holders of this County for that purpose. Whereupon, John Driver, Joseph Cutchin jun., Henry Pitt, Jethro Gale and Edmund Godwin Gent., appeared and took their seats accordingly.

Resolved that Thomas Peirce, Nathaniel Burwell and Arthur Smith Gent., or any two or more of them do wait on Thomas Nelson junr., esq and inquire of him whether he can supply this County with one thousand two hundred pounds of gun powder, (and if so) treat with him for the same and make report thereof to the next Committee to be held for this County— And further to inform him that should he have a reason to apprehend an attack to be made on the Town of York from any enemys to the libertys of North America that we will on the shortest notice assist to the utmost of our power and ability in quelling any such attack.

Resolved that notice be given to the several members of the Committee to attend at the Court House of this County in the town of Smithfield on Monday next—

Upon a motion made in behalf of Mr. John Sym, it is hereby certified to the Committee of Norfolk Borough that the said Sym lately kept a store in the Town of Smithfield in this County and that he has removed his merchandise from the said store, which goods this Committee believes were imported agreeable to the terms of the resolution of the general Congress, but we can not take upon us to say that the said Sym hath no other goods than those he had at the town of Smithfield.

Resolved that the Clerk of this Committee do advertise that all persons who have subscribed for the encouragement of making salt in this Colony do attend on Monday next in the Town of Smithfield at the Court House in order to pay in their subscription money.

Upon an information made to the Committee that Messrs. Andrew and Richard Mackie have in their possession one half barrell of gun powder. It is therefore resolved that John Sck. Willis, Thomas Peirce and Arthur Smith Gent. do wait on the said Mackie's and request them to deliver the said powder for the use of the said County, and it is also requested that the above said Gent. pay for the same which we promise to repay, and if the said Mackie's acknowledge they have the said powder in possession and should refuse to deliver the same on a tender of ample satisfaction or the gent.,

have sufficient reasons to believe they have such powder, they are hereby directed to dispossess them of it by the most eligible means in their power, and make report of their proceedings herein to the next Committee to be held for this County.

Nathaniel Burwell Gent. dissented to the last mentioned resolve.

The minutes of these proceedings were signed.

John Sck. Wills, Chairman.

At a Committee held for Isle of Wight County the twenty second day of May, in the year of our Lord Christ one thousand seven hundred and seventy five.

Present, John Scarsbrook Wills, Chairman, Josiah Parker, Brewer Godwin, Richard Hardy, John Day, John Mallory, The Reverend Henry John Burges, Tristram Norsworthy, Arthur Smith, Thomas Peirce, Goodrich Willson, William Davis, Nathaniel Burwell, John Driver, Henry Pitt, Edmund Godwin and Jethro Gale, Gentlemen—

John Lawrence, Thomas Fearn, Mills Wilkinson, and Thomas Smith Gent. appeared in Committee agreeable to the late election of ten Committee men to be added to the Committee, & took their seats accordingly.

Pursuant to a resolve of the Committee held for this County bearing date the fifteenth day of this instant. We the subscribers agreeable thereto waited on Thomas Nelson jun. Esq. of the town of York with the said resolve who directed us to inform the Committee that he could not supply this County with any quantity of gun powder whatever, but would advise us to furnish ourselves with that Article from Baltimore in Maryland, and that he would willingly join us in the adventure. and thanked us for our proffered service to defend the Town of York. Arthur Smith, Thomas Peirce and Nathaniel Burwell.

Pursuant to a resolve of the Committee for this County, bearing date the fifteenth day of this Instant. "We the subscribers applied to Messrs. Andrew and Richard Mackie of this County for a quantity of gun powder said to be in their possession, the said Andrew Mackie from his candid behaviour fully satisfied us that no quantity of that Article remained in his possession but was removed to Sackpoint in the County of Nansemond a few days before, but that he would use the utmost of his endeavors to procure it for us. John Sck. Wills, Thomas Peirce and Arthur Smith.

Resolved that the Committee be adjourned 'till the first Saturday in June, next.

The minutes of the proceedings were signed.

John Sck. Wills, Chairman.

At a Committee held for the County of Isle of Wight, at the Court House of the said County on the third day of June in the year of our Lord Christ, one thousand seven hundred and seventy five—

Present: Josiah Parker, Brewer Godwin, Richard Hardy, Arthur Smith, Henry John Burges, Clerk, Thomas Peirce, John Mallory, Goodrich Willson, William Davis, Thomas Fearn, Jethro Gale, William Jordan, Edmund Godwin, and Thomas Smith, Gent—

Arthur Smith Gent. one of the Captains of the militia of this County this day returned an account of three pounds by him collected from the Company

under his command for the purpose of purchasing gun powder for the use of this County, pursuant to a former resolve of this Committee—

Sundry subscriptions were this day returned by the several Captains of the militia of this County amounting to eight pounds four shillings and four pence for the purpose of purchasing gun powder for the use of this County which several subscriptions are to be by the said Captains collected as soon as possible who are hereby ordered to account with the Committee for the same—

The present state of this County renders it highly necessary that a sufficient quantity of gun powder be immediately procured for the protection and the defence thereof, and as we have too much reason to fear that the neighboring Counties are in the like situation—Resolved that circular letters be wrote to the different Committees, of the County's of Southampton, Surry Sussex, York; and Nansemond informing them that we have good reasons to believe that no considerable quantity of gun powder can be had but by importation, which we have reasons to apprehend may be done on good terms, provided they will joine us in the enterprise—

Resolved that Henry John Burges, Clerk, Brewer Godwin, Thomas Peirce, Arthur Smith and Josiah Parker Gent. be appointed a Sub. Committee, to write and prepare circular letters to the different Committees of the County's of Southampton, Surry, Sussex, York and Nansemond and to make dispatch therein and make report thereof to the Committee—

Resolved that the above Gent. be appointed to receive from members of this Committee three pounds for the purpose of purchasing gun powder for the use of this County which said sum the respective members of this Committee have already subscribed for the purpose aforesaid and that they do endeavor to collect the same by the nineteenth day of this Instant.

Committee adjourned till the nineteenth Instant.

The minutes of these proceedings were signed.

Henry John Burges, Chairman, *Pro tem.*

At a Committee held for Isle of Wight County the twenty seventh day of July, in the year of our Lord Christ one thousand seven hundred and seventy five—

Present: The Reverend Henry John Burges in the Chair, Brewer Godwin, Richard Hardy, Thomas Peirce, John Day. John Mallory, Goodrich Willson, Arthur Smith, Nathaniel Burwell, Timothy Tynes, John Driver, Henry Pitt, Edmund Godwin, Jethro Gale and Thomas Smith, Gent—

George Purdie, Merchant in the town of Smithfield, in this County having been charged at a former meeting of this Committee with violating the Continental association, and being summoned to appear here this day to answer the said charge, he informed the Committee by letter that he would willingly attend, but had been informed that he was to be tarred and feathered, guilty or not guilty, for which reason he begged the protection of the Committee, as the only power he could appeal to. Whereupon the Committee appointed three of their members to wait on Mr. Purdie with the following message, to-wit: The Committee of the County of Isle of Wight grant protection to Mr. Purdie provided he appears innocent, and would be glad of his personal attendance, if not, they request him to give up the author of the report referred to in his letter, that the people of this County would tar and feather him guilty or not guilty, in answer to which Mr. Purdie begs the Committee

will excuse his personal appearance at present and would be glad to know the particular charges alleged against him. In answer to their request to be informed of the author or authors of the report attended in his letter he informs the Committee that Mrs. Purdie acquainted him she had it from some of her acquaintances.

The deposition of Gabriel Gibbs of full age taken concerning a charge exhibited against Mr. George Purdie being first sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, deposeth and saith that he purchased of the said Purdie three or four yards of Crown Roles for which he gave him one shilling current money of Virginia per yard and further saith not.

The deposition of James Peden of full age taken concerning a charge exhibited against Mr. George Purdie being first sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God deposeth and saith that he purchased of said Purdie two yards of Crown Role for which he gave one shilling current money per yard, and that he also purchased of the said Purdie three scanes of thread for which he gave one shilling current money and further saith not.

The deposition of William Flake of full age taken concerning a charge exhibited against Mr. George Purdie, being first sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, deposeth and saith that he heard the said Purdie say that every person who signed the Continental Association would be sent for to England and hanged, that he, the said Purdie would never signe the said Association unless compelled by force thereto for that he had known a number of people hanged at home for signing associations, whereupon this deponent refused to signe the said association for some time 'till at length he was applied to by John Scarsbrook Wills Gent. who informed him, this deponent that no danger could happen to him for signing the said association, that he, the said Wills would venture to be hanged for him, this deponent, if he was ever called upon for signing as aforesaid and thereupon this deponent did signe the said association, and further saith not.

The deposition of John Driver of full age taken concerning a charge exhibited against Mr. George Purdie, being first sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, deposeth and saith that he was sometime ago at Mr. Purdies store and that he saw a lady (who he does not now recollect) purchase some pins in the said store for which she gave one shilling and six pence or three shillings per paper current money, and at the same time he, this deponent purchased the same kind of pins for seven pence and half penny per paper current money, and further saith not—

The deposition of Richard Hardy Gent. of full age, taken concerning a charge exhibited against Mr. George Purdie being first sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, deposeth and saith that the said Purdie acknowledged that he had violated the Continental association by selling needles at a double price, and further saith not.

Resolved that Brewer Godwin, Thomas Peirce, Thomas Smith, Arthur Smith and Jethro Gale, or any one of them do summon George Purdie, Robert Tynes and John Sym to appear at the next Committee then and there to answer sundry complaints lodged against them.

Resolved that the above mentioned Gent. or any one of them do summon John Sterling to appear at the next Committee then and there to answer sundry complaints lodged against him.

John Armstrong personally appeared in Committee this day and made his recantation which is in words following to-wit: "Having made use of the expressions inimical to the interest of North America, I take this method publickly to declare that the words were spoke without consideration, and that I should think myself guilty of the greatest ingratitude in acting against a Country, in which I have been treated with the greatest humanity and obtained a livelihood by the generosity of the inhabitants, I am sincerely sorry that I have forfeited the esteme of the good people of this Country and hope that my future behaviour will be such as to gain their good opinion, John Armstrong".

Whereupon, the said John Armstrong signed the Continental association.

Ordered that the Committee be adjourned 'till the 7th. day of August next, at 10 o'clock.

The minutes of these proceedings were signed.

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