

Williamsburg Jan. 13. 1781

Dear Sir

This Day the Enemy's Ships pass'd Burwell's Ferry & have fallen so far down the River, that I think they intend nothing farther on the North Side of James River at present. They yesterday landed some Troops at Cobham, in Surry, & it is said that Arnold himself was with them. If this be so ~~it~~ it is probable they intend marching by the Route of Smithfield & Suffolk to Portsmouth. I write to Gen^l. Weedon informing him of this Movement of the Enemy, that he may stop the Militia who were coming down under his Command, & who possibly may be necessary for the Defence of Gunter's Works. I shall order Part of the Troops under me to attend the Motions of the Enemy down the River, & to give Protection to the Country.

I am, dear Sir,

Your mo: Obed^t. & very able Serv^t.

Thos. Nelson Jr.

His Excellency Thomas Jefferson

Governor of Virginia

Genl Melcom
Letter rec.
Jan'y 15. 81