

I was on actual duty the last mail day (this mail weekly) offers the first opportunity since the enemy has appeared to write to you

With great respect I have the honor to be your  
Ob. Serv<sup>t</sup>

Thos M Bayly Lieut. Col.  
Commandant 2 Reg<sup>t</sup>.  
Vir. Mil.

His Excellency

Genl. Barlow  
Gov<sup>r</sup> of Vir.

relating to the military operations  
of the army at and in the mountains  
of the State

To Genl. Barlow  
Accomack Court House  
14 April 1814

a copy.

Accomack Court House 14 April 1814

Sir.

at 11 o'clock on Monday night the 4<sup>th</sup> Inst I received information from Captain George Scarborough that the enemy had anchored in Poconoke Sound near the mouths of Anamock and Pungoteague creeks in one large Frigate a Brig and two Schooners that having taken all the live stock from Watts and Tangier Islands. It was evident from the position that was taken an invasion of this country was intended. I ordered on duty four companies of the second Regiment and formed four camps on the bay shore one on the north and one on the south side of the mouth of Pungoteague creek one on Anamock creek and one on Chupperpie creek and ordered the other companies to be ready to march at a moment's notice. The companies on guard have been relieved after a tour of six days by four other companies. The Regiment (13 companies) I have formed in three divisions and assigned six days duty to each.

The enemy has taken soundings of the mouths of our creeks. The enclosed reports the one from Major Finney at Pungoteague the other from Adjutant Jagers at Anamock will inform you the force and situation of the enemy. It is evident he intends fixing a permanent camp on Watts &

Tenigies Islands now in his possession. Barracks and two hospitals are built a breast work is thrown up and cannon planted a fort is building, three or four vessels with lumber have been captured, when the enemy took possession of the Islands he permitted two of the Islanders to come to the main. Capt. Prop of the Albion giving them a passport, and ordered them to return an old gentleman who had been on the Island with a flag I saw last night and from him and the two Islanders I am informed that these Islands are to be their head quarters. that in a very short time they will be well fortified, their cannon landed their camp laid out on a large scale, they have a plenty of good water, and a fleet with the command in chief is daily expected with an army of ten thousand men as soon as the fleet arrives active operations would be commenced, News papers containing the President's message recommending a repeal of the Embargo was received on board the fleet four days sooner than in this country. that the news papers are regularly received I was also informed that they would land in this country to obtain ~~provision~~ <sup>provision</sup> that they know the strengths of the militia, and should land with five thousand men and had no doubt but they should ex-

perience hard fighting. Immediately upon my being informed that the enemy had registered very many on the Islands numbered their boats and canoes and would permit no one to leave the Islands without passports with orders to return, and considering these men thus situated would give the enemy all the information they could I ordered all persons coming from the Islands to be detained, the propriety of which order I wish your opinion and directions in respect to I expect to be attacked, I believe the second Regiment will do their duty, but our arms are bad our ammunition worse, In ~~boarding~~ <sup>stopping</sup> a boat at Whipsnuffie which attempted to pass. The Balls of the small arms were not thrown more than two thirds of the distance expected, we have only twenty five thousand cartridges, we have daily communication to Phi<sup>a</sup> by Wilmington to Phi<sup>a</sup>. the Price of Waggonage is three Dollars a hundred 200 miles to that city and Wilmington ammunition might be purchased to advantage if your Excellency would authorize it, I am desirous to receive from your Excellency orders directing how long the guard should be continued and the number of men on each station. Surely the drafted men from this ~~Station~~ Regiment will not be ordered from the County