

**Dumfries, Va. July 10<sup>th</sup> 1781**  
**Accession # 29604, Reel #2965**  
**Virginia Governors Executive Papers – Thomas Nelson Junr.**  
 To William Davis, War Office, Virginia

Sir,

I was favored with yours of the 22<sup>nd</sup> ultra. Crop Specific Tax in this County has been paid entirely mostly to Mr. William Powell at Broad Run who had delivered it to Mr. John McMillion commissioner in this county by order of Mr. Brown the remainder of the corn was delivered at this place to Mr. William Austine a deputy commissioner of issues who has issued it to the troops as they pass this place. I have desired Mr. Powell & Mr. Austine to furnish me with a particular return of the whole when they come to hand. A copy shall be forwarded to you.

For Col. Alexander & Self commissioners of the Specific Tax Prince William County and I have the honour to be with the highest respect.

Sir your most obedient servant  
 Richard Graham

**July 10<sup>th</sup> 1781**  
**Accession # 29604, Reel #2965**  
**Virginia Governors Executive Papers – Thomas Nelson Junr.**  
**To the War Office, Richmond, Va.**

Return of Militia Cavalry to be furnished by different counties in two proportions, one of the fiftieth man the other of the hundredth man, below the Alleghany.

| Counties      | 50 | 100 | Counties       | 50 | 100 |
|---------------|----|-----|----------------|----|-----|
| Hampshire     | 23 | 10  | Dinwiddie      | 16 | 8   |
| Berkeley      | 23 | 12  | Chesterfield   | 14 | 7   |
| Frederick     | 24 | 12  | Prince George  | 8  | 4   |
| Shenandoah    | 19 | 10  | Surry          | 8  | 4   |
| Rockingham    | 17 | 9   | Southampton    | 17 | 9   |
| Augusta       | 27 | 14  | Isle of Wight  | 12 | 6   |
| Rockbridge    | 13 | 7   | Nansmond       | 12 | 6   |
| Greenbrier    | 10 | 5   | Princess Ann   | 12 | 6   |
| Washington    | 19 | 10  | Henrico        | 12 | 6   |
| Montgomery    | 21 | 11  | Hanover        | 16 | 8   |
| Loudoun       | 34 | 17  | New Kent       | 8  | 4   |
| Fauquier      | 21 | 11  | Charles City   | 6  | 3   |
| Culpeper      | 30 | 15  | James City     | 5  | 3   |
| Orange        | 13 | 7   | Williams Bg.   | 2  | 1   |
| Louisa        | 12 | 6   | York           | 5  | 3   |
| Goochland     | 11 | 6   | Warwick        | 2  | 1   |
| Fluvanna      | 5  | 3   | Elizabeth City | 3  | 2   |
| Albemarle     | 17 | 9   | Spotsylvania   | 12 | 6   |
| Amherst       | 24 | 12  | Caroline       | 18 | 9   |
| Buckingham    | 13 | 6   | King William   | 8  | 4   |
| Bedford       | 28 | 14  | King & Queen   | 10 | 5   |
| Henry         | 20 | 10  | Essex          | 9  | 5   |
| Pittsylvania  | 15 | 8   | Middlesex      | 4  | 2   |
| Halifax       | 28 | 12  | Gloucester     | 17 | 9   |
| Charlotte     | 11 | 6   | Fairfax        | 16 | 8   |
| Prince Edward | 9  | 5   | Prince William | 15 | 8   |
| Cumberland    | 9  | 5   | Stafford       | 10 | 5   |
| Powhatan      | 9  | 4   | King George    | 9  | 5   |
| Amelia        | 28 | 12  | Richmond       | 8  | 4   |
| Lunenburg     | 14 | 9   | Westmoreland   | 11 | 6   |
| (Illegible)   | 22 | 11  | Northumberland | 13 | 7   |

|             |     |     |           |     |     |
|-------------|-----|-----|-----------|-----|-----|
| (Illegible) | 22  | 11  | Lancaster | 5   | 3   |
| TOTAL       | 529 | 304 | TOTAL     | 353 | 182 |

|             |     |     |
|-------------|-----|-----|
| Accomack    | 24  | 12  |
| Northampton | 9   | 5   |
|             | 33  | 17  |
|             | 353 | 182 |
|             | 529 | 304 |
|             | 975 | 505 |

¼ will be 243 125 which will be perhaps sufficient in ordinary cases.

**Prince William County, Va. September 7<sup>th</sup> 1781**  
**Accession # 29604, Reel #9/2967**  
**Virginia Governors Executive Papers – Thomas Nelson Junr.**  
**Requesting blank commissions**

Agreeable to your letter of the 17<sup>th</sup> of July last I am to inform you we have no Delinquents on Militia Duty that are condemned to serve six months at this time; Some few formerly we had who were sent to the Army I am very strict in compelling the militia to a strict obedience to the laws, and shall continue to do so. All the clothing has not yet been brought in and the courts are enforcing a strict compliance from the delinquents agreeable to Law. I have received thirty one full suits except two half's and three pair of shoes. Pray give me orders where they are to be delivered. The waggon and team from this County has been delivered agreeable to the order of Governor Jefferson to assignee. I want a number of Blank Militia Commissions which pray \_\_\_\_\_ me with by the bearer as I have few \_\_\_\_\_ commissioned Lieut. Col. Attwell and two of my Captains are under arrest and have been so since the re---- of the last assembly. Governor Nelson ordered a General Court Martial on the Lt. Col's but his trial cannot come on until I receive a copy of the late Militia Law, which pray \_\_\_\_\_ me with by the return of Mr. Austin as injustice to these officers their trial ought not longer to be de----- . Agreeable to your orders of the 31<sup>st</sup> of last month I shall march one half of the Militia on Wednesday next to join the Marques, having received an order from Genl. Weedon on Col. Peyton for 229 stand of arms at Leesburg, and not having it in my power to get them down sooner than that day, is the cause of this delay. I wish to have our men well armed as I believe they will fight. I cannot conclude without congratulations with you on our present pr----- of finishing the campaign gloriously. I am with esteem \_\_\_\_\_ your most obedient servant.

H. Lee

**Alexandria, Va. September 11<sup>th</sup> 1781**  
**Accession # 29604, Reel #9/2967**  
**Virginia Governors Executive Papers – Thomas Nelson Junr.**

Dear Col,

Yours of the 4<sup>th</sup> inst came to hand last evening by which I am again informed of our great want of provisions but having frequently been urged by Major Claiborne on this subject, previous to the receipt of yours I had wrote in the most pressing terms to the County Commissioners, County Lieutenants & County Courts of my vicinity using the most Pointed Language I was Capable of to get them to exert themselves on this occasion, the commissioners have not the provisions, why they have not I presume rests with their Chief to account for. I can transport flour from my Station (if then People would lay it in) to almost any amount, having engaged a number of Craft for that purpose, indeed I would venture to say all the flour that is manufactured back of me, My God! Why is the Militia called out? You will very shortly have from 13 or 14,000 regular soldiers with you, the Militia ought to have been employed in threshing out their grain and the wagons by them clothed for to carry their baggage in carrying the flour as fast as manufactured to the Army or Navigation his Excellency General Washington hath with his wisdom, ordered the Battalion from this county instead of marching to Wms.Burg to repair the roads for his convoy coming on \_\_\_\_\_ (left blank) "I know the result of this want, one department will blame another and every one endeavor to throw the blame on another and in order to exonerate our department. I will understand if the commissioners will deliver it to me to transport flour for one half of the army, if each convened will do as much all will be right;" I have been informed a deputy from the State Quarter Master is coming to Dumfries & Colchester for

the purpose of collecting & issuing for the convoy coming on. I fancy this is a useless expense as I am fully prepared to furnish a sufficient quantity of hay & corn for all the wants – “You will be assured that I will exert every nerve to get flour for you to send down. I wish I had power, to Hang half these fellows that appear so stupid on this trying occasion”

With true esteem  
I am your obedient able servant  
James Henderson

**Mount Vernon, September 10<sup>th</sup> 1781**  
**Accession # 29604, Reel #10/2968**  
**Virginia Governors Executive Papers – Thomas Nelson Junr.**  
**Letter from General Washington dated at Mount Vernon**

Dear Sir,

Let me request you in very earnest terms to employ the Militia ordered out by the Governor in repairing the roads from the ford of Occoquan through Dumfries to the limits of your County. To do this & to do it well is of such essential importance that I cannot forbear urging it's in strong terms. The baggage wagons of the French & American Armies, the Cavalry & Beef Cattle will all march by this route & may be expected in the course of a few days. Neglect of or delay in the execution of this business, will not only retard the march of the wagons, but maybe productive of essential Injury to them – For dispatch & the better performance of this work it may be proper to divide the Militia into several parties under good officers strongly impressed with the necessity of the service. If the ford at Occoquan admits of improvement, I'm sure that you & Col. Wagener will use the best means of giving it. Those services well performed may, probably exempt your Militia from further service & a march to York.

Expect Count de Rochambeau (Commander of the French Army) the Choe de Chartellux & their respective units at this place tomorrow on their way to join the Army below. It would be benefit to them & their horses and a mark of attention which I am persuaded would be pleasing to the Gentlemen, if this State would assist them along in their carriages from Stage to Stage. Permit me therefore to request the favour of you to provide at Dumfries the means of conveying them to Fredericksburg, where I will engage other Gentlemen to take them up – from hence they will be furnished with carriages and horses to Dumfries. With much esteem & regard I am

Your obedient servant  
G. Washington

Henry Lee Esq.  
County Lieut. Of  
Prince William

P. S. I expect the Gentlemen before mentioned, will be at Dumfries on Wednesday, if they arrive there as I expect. Be as good as to communicate so much of this letter as relates to the repairs of the road to the Lieut. Of Stafford County & in my name & behalf entreat him to attend to the business in his district. I wish particular attention could be paid to the ford at Falmouth.

G. W.

**Prince William County, September 17<sup>th</sup> 1781**  
**Accession # 29604, Reel #10/2968**  
**Virginia Governors Executive Papers – Thomas Nelson Junr.**  
**Letter from Henry Lee**

Dear Sir,

In consequence of your letter of the 31<sup>st</sup> of August I –eaughted (?) one half of my Militia amounting to 285 privates besides the proper Sergts. And commissioned officers as required to command them by the Invasion Law and had them ready last Wednesday to march, but in consequence of his Excellency General Washington letter a copy of which is herewith annexed. I have kept them on severe duty in repairing the road which were impassable for the Baggage Waggon and Artillery which has been a laborious & fatiguing duty. I saw his Excellency as he passed through Dumfries last Wednesday who directed me in conjunction with Colonel Waggener the County Att of Fairfax to view and examine the ford of Occoquan at a place called Wolf run ford, and if it was possible to make the hills there which were by nature inaccessible a way for wagons to have it done, in consequence of these orders the way was viewed and found might be made a good road with much labour, and half of my Militia draughts & all are & have been employed about that work and in a few days I am in hopes will be completely accomplished which will open a direct way from Georgetown to Dumfries and \_\_\_\_ the distance many miles besides being a much better road

and well supplied with forage being a fine fertile county well improved with meadows, the Genl. likewise advised me not to send the Militia to head quarters until I heard from him or the Governour whom he should inform of the disposition he had made of them but to hold them in readiness to march on the first call which I shall do until I receive further orders, besides we were disappointed in getting the 229 stand of arms from Cols. Peyton in Loudoun on Genl. Weedons orders I went in person to Colonel Peyton to press the delivery but he shewed me a letter from you forbidding the delivery of Public Arms but to the order of \_\_\_\_\_ board and said he should put those he had in the hands of his own Militia who were ordered on duty & were without we have not above 80 guns in the county that are anywise fit for service and about as many squirrel guns. His Excellency has ordered the Fairfax Militia who were well armed on the same Fatigue and the whole Militia except the draught from Stafford, who had marched are on faliue duty in clearing roads from Chappawamsic to Falmouth, Pray inform the Governor of the reason this Militia has not marched agreeable to his letter to me of the 2<sup>nd</sup> of this month \_\_\_ must sufficiently \_\_\_ my excuse with you and him. I am sorry to hear that the Army wants bread & will use every influence & exertion in my power to prevail on the people to thresh out their grain, this county can easily supply 60,000 bushels of wheat, a lot of the clothing \_\_\_ will this day be delivered to the Commissary to be forwarded on to Capt. Peyton shall be transmitted to you by the first opportunity; they have been ready (except some few) several months. I am in grant of some Blank Militia Commissions which \_\_\_ forward \_\_\_ with the artillery of war. I am with great regard & esteem your most obedient servant.

Henry Lee