

Peter Mesier & Wappingers Tea Party

Wednesday, August 27, 2014 3:23 PM

COMMISSION FOR CONSPIRACIES 301

house of Sam^l Goodfellow at New Concord and in a Conversation which he then had with him Goodfellow Informed the Dep^t that he had concealed a Number of Tories & supplied them with Provisions in his own house, and that a Certain Person in that Neighbourhood, was privy to it. And that Goodfellow said that he had frequently been out with the Militia in pursuit of Tories, but always took Care, not to bring them where he knew the Tories were concealed That he understood from Goodfellow, that the Tories which he had so concealed intended to go off to the Enemy.

Frost, &
£ 1., 10. —
to Jos:
Bennet
for secret
services
Joseph
Bennet's
Deposition
agst Sam^l
Goodfellow

his
JOSEPH X BENNIT
mark

Board adjourned

Friday May 23^d 1777. Board met

Present

Melancton Smith Esq^r

Peter Cantine Esq^r

Lieu^t James Grant is permitted to go home on Parol to appear before this Board in one week from this Date

Lieu^t Ja^s
Grant per-
mitted to
go home on
Parol for a
Week

John Duncan appeared, and having Voluntarily taken the Oath of Allegiance to this State.

John
Duncan
took the
Oath &
discharged

Ordered that he be discharged

Peter Messier appeared before this Board, & being duly sworn, Deposeth & saith, That on Monday last being absent from home, upon his return, he was Informed by his Wife, that during his Absence, Sam^l Hull, & Thomas Rouse, (two Continental Soldiers) together with Twenty Two Women came to the house of the Deponent's and enquired whether he had any Tea to sell, that the Dep^t's Wife answered they had, that they then asked the Price, & were answered, four Dollars a Pound, that they agreed to pay that price upon which M^{rs} Messier took them to where the Tea was, upon which the said Women said they would not give four Dollars a Pound, but would have it at their own Price, & brought

Peter
Messier's
Deposition
agst sundry
Persons for
Mobbing
him & tak-
ing his Tea
by Force

a Hammer & Scales, & proceeded to weigh as much as they chose to take, untill they had taken near One hundred weight as this Dep^t believes, for which they left about Seventeen Pounds in Money, in the hands of William Brewer. That M^{rs} Mesier requested they would leave with her a List of the Names of the Persons who had the Tea together with the Quantity each person had, which they refused, alledging they had left Money, with which she must be satisfied. That the widow Coffins the wife of W^m Fowler (now with the Enemy) the wife of Thomas Van Breamer, the wife of one Joseph Tiel, the wife of Joseph Anderson (with the Enemy) the wife of Samuel Field (with the Enemy) the wife of John Bell, the wife of John Hughson, & the wife of one M^c Kenley who works in the Ship Yard, were of the party above mentioned. The Dep^t further saith, that on Tuesday last, The said Rouse with a number of Women to the amount of about fifteen, among whom were the wife of Underhill Budd, the Wife of John Wilsey, the wife of James Lucky, the wife of Adolphus Swartwout, the wife of Tunis Wilsey & the wife of Benj^a Van Cueren, came to the house of this Dep^t & asked to buy Tea, & the Dep^t offered to sell it to them at four Dollors a pound, & they offered him 10 shillings, upon which he told them he could not take it, but that they might have it at his price, upon which One of them desired the Dep^t to weigh her a half pound & she would pay him Two Dollars for it, the Dep^t accordingly deliverd her half pound, for which she offered him five Shill^{es} which he refused to receive & returnd the money back upon which an Elderly woman desired the Dep^t to weigh her a half pound, & she would pay him, then the Dep^t desired her to give him the money & she should have the Tea, which she refused, upon which the Dep^t offer'd to throw the Tea out of the Window, whereupon the said Elderly Woman Siezed the Dep^t by the hand, upon which the said Rouse came in & Siezed the Dep^t by the Throat, & push'd him down, & offerd to strike

him on the head with his Broad Sword. And further this Dep^t saith, that on Thursday last the said Hull & Rouse together with 12 or 14 other men and a number of Women to the amount of about 20 several of whom were of the party on Tuesday, & also the wife of Benjⁿ Jeecoeks, the wife of Peter Funck, & the Daughter of Cap^t Jeecoeks, again came to the house of this Dep^t that he, on seeing them coming went into his house & fastened the Door. That they came to the window, where he conversed with them, that the men Demanded Entrance & the Dep^t Asked them their Business. They replied that they had orders from the Committee to search his house whereupon the Dep^t replied, that if they would produce any such Order, he would very freely open his Doors & suffer them to search every part of his house they then told him if he did not open the Door, they would break it, upon which they broke a pannel of the Door & entered the house, & searched every Room; after which they broke open the Cellar Door & search'd that, & Drew his Liquors & Drank of them, broke open every Cask in the Cellar and the case of his Clock & took away several trifles, & also broke a picture to the Value of £ 5. — After they had searched the house, they went into the yard & beat this Dep^t's Servants, threw Stones at & otherwise greatly abused him the Dep^t from thence they proceed to the Barn, which they also searched, and further this Dep^t saith not.

PETER MESIER

Joseph Scott appeared before this Board, & informed that in his Absence from home, a certain person by the name of Henry N Carman, had taken from him & still detains a Horse called the Bald Eagle & produced a receipt from said Carman acknowledging the same was taken for M^r Rob^t Boyd Superintendant of the Blacksmiths, & prays this Board will grant him redress in the premises.

Joseph Scott informs, that his Horse called the Bald Eagle was taken from him by one Henry N. Carman & prays for redress

Board Adjourned