

Battle of Great Bridge, William Woodford Letter, 1775 (page 1 of 2)

Sir. Great Bridge 9th Dec. 1775

The Enemy were reinforced about three O'clock this morning with (as they tell me) every Soldier of the 14th Regt. at Norfolk, amounting to 200 Commanded by Capt. Leslie. & this morning after Reveille Beating crossed the Bridge by laying down some plank & made an attempt to force our breast worke, the prisoners say the whole number amounted to 500. with Volunteers & Blacks, with two pieces of Cannon but none marched up but his Majestys Soldiers, who behaved like English Men we have found of their Dead Capt. Fordice & 12 privates, & have Lieut. Bettet wounded in the Leg & 17 privates prisoners, they carried their cannon back under cover of the Guns of the Fort. & a number of their Dead, I should suppose (to speak within compass) their loss must be upwards of 50. some powder & cartridges were taken, I sent an Officer to inform them & they would not fire upon our people. They should Collect the Dead & wounded, this they agreed.

Citation: Letter of William Woodford, Dec. 9, 1775, Virginia. Convention (1775: Dec. 1-1776 Jan. 20), Accession 30003, Library of Virginia

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to, & there has been no firing since, we are now
under arms expecting another attack, please
forward Doct. Browns Chest of Medicines &
Maggage down. The Convention will be so good
to excuse the incorrectness of this Letter wrote
in the greatest Hurry — I am, with great Respect
Sir
Your most Obedt Servt
Wm Woodford

N.B. but one Man
of ours wounded
in the Hand —
The prisoners inform
Lt Dunmore has got
a Reinforce ment of
Highlanders — they
expect will be up
next —
The 2 Mates of the 1st Fleet
I shall keep till further
orders — hurry
down, a Reinforce ment
& more Amunition on
this Lower part of the
Country will be there

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