

**Park Gate, January 24<sup>th</sup> 1794**  
**Governors Executive Papers - Lee**  
**Thomas Lee - Letter**  
**Box 6, Folder 8**

To His Excellency Henry Lee Esq. Governor of Virginia, Richmond  
Sir,

My neighbour Mr. Henry Dade Hoe tells me he purposes making known to the Honorable the executive his willingness to act as Commissioner in the District under the late Law for settling with the Delinquent Sheriffs.

I dare say, from the knowledge you have yourself of Mr. Hoe & his family, it would be unnecessary for me to say anything to you about him, but as he seems to wish it. I can, from my acquaintance with him say he is a man attentive to business, well acquainted with figures, has never been any way connected with the delinquent sheriffs of the district as their security or otherwise and is independent in his circumstances. Should he meet with the approbation of the Executive he will be able to give the most unquestionable security for the execution of the trust and I am persuaded will give the greatest satisfaction from his activity & attention to the business. I have the honor to be with the great esteem Dear Sir, Your most obedient servant.

Thomas Lee Sr.

**Park Gate, January 28<sup>th</sup> 1794**  
**Governors Executive Papers - Lee**  
**Thomas Lee - Letter**  
**Box 6, Folder 8**

To His Excellency Henry Lee Esq. Governor of Virginia, Richmond  
Sir,

Col. Simms of Alexandria lately shewed me a memorial addressed to the Executive, that he has drawn up and had signed by several of the tenants on the land of the Commonwealth which I have been appointed to sell. I was summoned by one of the tenants on behalf of himself and the rest to attend the taking of depositions to support the claim set forth in the memorial; not conceiving it anyway connected with my duty I did not attend, but the day after the time appointed I rode over to see some of the tenants about their Replevy Bonds and found Col. Simms still engaged in taking depositions. From the information I have received admitting any of the memorialist to be possessed of a right to the claim they set up I am sure some of the signers to the memorial have not the least shadow of a title. From the cursory reading of the memorial and depositions, shewn me, there are facts stated which I am warranted to say are erroneous, and if the Executive think of acting on the memorial I hope they will let me have an opportunity of seeing both memorial depositions & collecting such information as will put the business in a fair point of view. For my own part I cannot but think if the tenants have any right to leases that a Court of Law is the proper place for them to seek redress if they are injured. The Commonwealth by selling their right and title to the land cannot in any degree weaken or lessen the tenants claim to leases. It was in a court of law that a number had their right to lease confirmed to them when the Commonwealth last ordered the land to be sold and some of the present signers to the memorial then tried and failed in proving before a jury any title to a lease and had their claims dismissed.

I have advertised the land to be sold the first Monday in May, I postponed it to that late period because at that time the land in this part of the Country has its best appearance and will be

most likely to command a price equal to what I conceive its real value. The tenants have not yet taken their tobacco down, they promise to make payments so soon as they do which with what little I now have by me shall be forwarded to the treasury. I hope by March Court to have the accounts against the estates of Messrs. Bullit, Carr & Chapman in readiness to move against them. I have the honor to be Dear Sir, with great esteem Your very obedient humble servant.

Thomas Lee Sr.

**Park Gate, March 24<sup>th</sup> 1794**

**Governors Executive Papers - Lee**

**Thomas Lee - Letter**

**Box 6, Folder 8**

To His Excellency Henry Lee Esq. Governor of Virginia, Richmond

Sir,

The letter you wrote me on the 18<sup>th</sup> ulto has been duly received. A day or two before a writ had been served on me to stay the sale of a considerable proportion of the Bristoe Land. This induced me to postpone the sale of the whole until the determination of the suit, thinking it most advantageous for the Commonwealth. I have attended several days since, to the taking of depositions by the Tennant's Attorney. I have now to request a blank dedimus and subpoena may be shortly sent up to me for the purpose of taking some depositions on behalf of the Commonwealth. So soon as these are taken I shall do myself the honor of transmitting you as full a statement of the business as I am capable of, for the information of the Attorney General, 7 should it be thought necessary for me to attend for further information to him on the day of tryal I will do it. Several of the tenants inform me they have money to discharge their replevy bonds, but as their rents are in tobacco I have not thought myself authorized to receive anything else, it would facilitate the collection much if I was authorized to receive cash in lieu of the tobacco at the current market price. I have the honor to be Sir, very respectfully your very obedient servant.

Thomas Lee Sr.

**Park Gate, Prince William County, January 11<sup>th</sup> 1796**

**Box 3, Folder 4, film page 0532, accession #40723**

**Virginia Governors Executive Papers – Robert Brooke**

**Recommendation of Militia Officers**

**To His Excellency Robert Brooke Esq.**

Sir,

Being a member of the Court of Prince William County, who first made the recommendation of officers to be commissioned for the second Regiment of the Militia given by the Law of 1793 to the County, and being also one who had the honor of meeting with the approbation of the court in being recommended, which subject & proceedings still remaining unconcluded and from the manner in which the court has been taxed with connivance & partiality in their proceedings by sundry memorialist to the Honorable the Executive, I feel myself as a member of that court & as an individual called on to support that character which has thus been attacked. I hope and trust, Sir, from your candor, that this letter may be laid before that tribunal who investigated the subject matter of the memorial. As a magistrate & a man I equally revolt at being governed by principles such as have been attributed to me among other members

of the Court before alluded to. That the Court proceeded in fairness I beg leave to subjoin from the records the manner of their conducting the business & as to myself I beg to leave to state my construction of the law, which has governed me in my conduct, resulting from such a view and consideration of the subject as I gave it and which will ever be the governing principal of my actions and not such unworthy motives as are pleased to be annexed to them. The Law of 1792 entitled An Act for regulating the Militia of the Commonwealth in the fifth section directs the Officers to be Commissioned for the Regiments given by that Act, to the respective Counties, to be recommended by the Courts from the Militia Officers then holding Commissioners by grades & seniorities making use of the authoritative word shall. This Law was complied with by the Court of Prince William, previous to the meetings of the Assembly of 1793, and the Officers holding Commissioners above the number necessary to fill the active posts carved out by that Law became comprised under the sixth section of the same Law, as supernumeraries, and as expressed in said section may be recommended by the respective County and Corporation Courts to supply vacancies, without either in this, the preceding clause, or any other that I could discover, having the most distant blush or looking forward to any future original appointments for these supernumeraries, indeed not ever saying that the courts should be bound down to the unequivocal recommendation of them in supplying vacancies, of course in my mind leaving it on the accustomed broad bases and constitutional ground of the Courts recommending in future those characters, when such a duty should devolve upon them, as they in their judgment might think the fittest from the community at large. The amendatory Law passed in 1793 has nothing repealing on this subject in any part of it so far as respects those counties that had acted upon the preceding Law, on the contrary the first section of the Law, which with the following section only has reference to the preceding Law, expressly states "that whereas many county and Corporation Courts have failed &c" & in the second section still keeping in view the defaulting counties directs that the several county & corporation courts shall &c" nothing in either of these clauses or any other in this Law directs how the additional Regiment given by the 16<sup>th</sup> section shall be officered, in this instance also leaving it on the constitutional ground before alluded to. Having thus briefly stated to your Excellency my reasoning on and construction of the Law I must observe that it has appeared strange to me that in issuing the commissions a different decision should be given on the same Law in different counties. I am warranted in this observation by the commissions being issued on the recommendation of the Court of Fauquier & as General Blackwell has informed me in other Counties who had not acted on the Militia Law until after the second and amendatory Law was passed; That County, to my knowledge, then recommended from the character of their county at large, without having any reference to the directions of the Law of 1792 respecting the officering the first Regiment, a Remonstrance was sent to the Executive by the old Militia Officers, notwithstanding which commissions have long ago come up for those recommended by that court, and the very desirable situation of the Militia Law being carried into effect has taken place in that County whilst in this it remains in confusion and a bone of contest and animosity existing in its place. So desirous am I to see our Militia Law attended to and carried into effect as also to see all grounds for animosity removed from among the Citizens of the County where I reside that should your Excellency and the council still continue to deem it a requisite of the Law that the supernumeraries should in the first place be commissioned for the additional regiment I pledge myself to submit to that opinion, hoping that it will be so plainly stated to the Court that no misconstruction of your meaning may take place by the interference of the officers already holding commissions in the Regiments under the Law of 1792, and who insist upon a right of rising in the Regiment now to be officered.

From the last proceedings of the Court in this business the necessity of their being a speedy determination, so that commissions may issue, will be self evident. The Court has there divided the county into two districts and ascertains which district shall compose the 36<sup>th</sup> Regiment and which the additional, so that until this last regiment is officered the Militia will be at large without any control. I have the honor to be with all due respect.

Your Excellency's most obedient Humble  
Servant.

Thomas Lee

Alexandria Gazette 20 Apr 1820

FIFTY DOLLARS REWARD – Ranaway from PARKGATE, in Prince William County, on Tuesday, March 28<sup>th</sup>, where Francis Manuel is overseer, Negro JACOB, a small man, about 45 years of age; black with a rather yellow tinge, smartly marked in the face with the small pox; he is a timid Negro, has a down look, and rather a whining voice. His clothing as far as is recollected, was a mixed blue jersey roundabout jacket and twilled cotton and yarn pantaloons, he may have (and it is probable he has) other clothing, as he took off all he had. I will give for him, if taken up within 20 miles and brought home, ten dollars; if over 20 miles and under 30, Thirty dollars; but if over 30 miles, and brought home or secured in jail so that I get him again, Fifty Dollars. All persons are forbid at their peril harboring or entertaining said fellow.

William Stuart  
April 8, 1820

Alexandria Gazette 28 Jun 1824

MARSHAL'S SALE IN VIRGINIA, Pursuant to decrees of the Superior Court of Chancery for the Fredericksburg District, bearing date the 19<sup>th</sup> day of May, 1823 and the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of May, 1824, in a suit depending in the said court, between Charles Carroll, of Carrollton, plaintiff, and William Brent Jr. administrator with the will annexed of Daniel Brent, deceased, and others, defendants. I shall on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of July next (that being Prince William County court day) at the Prince William Court-House, expose to sale by public auction, to the highest bidder, for ready money, that portion of the PARK GAGE tract of land, situated, lying and being in the county aforesaid, which is comprised in lots No.1 and 3, as designated in the plat filed in the said suit, containing in the said two lots according to the said plat, ONE THOUSAND AND TWENTY-FOUR ACRES, TWO ROODS and TWENTY THREE POLES; it being the residue of the said PARK GATE ESTATE, after deducting the sale of that part called FLATBUSH, which was heretofore sold on the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of December last, under the former of the aforesaid decrees. The residue now offered for sale, comprehends the MANSION HOUSE, and has great advantages in fertility, aslutrity, and nearness to Prince William Court House.

Wm. M. Craig, deputy of  
John Standard, M.F.C.D.  
June 3, 1824

Alexandria Gazette 19 Sep 1828

PARK GATE FOR SALE – Having determined to remove to Warrenton in Fauquier, I would sell the FARM whereon I reside, commonly known by the above name, for a moderate price, and on an accommodating credit. It is estimated to contain 879 ACRES, and is situated 3

miles from Brentsville, (the seat of justice of the county of Prince William) 18 from Dumfries, 20 from Occoquan and 35 from Alexandria. It is intersected by Slaty Run, which affords a constant and ample supply of water for stock. The enclosures are generally in good order, and the farm is advantageously divided for cultivation, pasturage, and improvement. About 50 acres of it are in clover, and 12 in timothy. The meadow yielded this year its second crop estimated at about 25 tons. The whole tract is peculiarly adapted to the production of timothy, which grows spontaneously over it. The soil is grateful, and readily improved. The pasturage is excellent; and large stock may be raised upon the farm at an inconsiderable expense. The buildings consist of a Dwelling House, lately repaired, containing seven rooms, and a large dry cellar divided into convenient compartments, with a portico extending the whole length of the front; an office and kitchen, with two large rooms in each; a large stone dairy, and meat house; a stable and unfurnished barn; an ice house, a blacksmith's shop, servants' houses, and other useful out houses. A well near the kitchen affords a never-failing and superabundant supply of the best water. The site of the mansion, which stands upon an eminence crowned with native forest trees, is very beautiful and salubrious; the neighborhood is populous and wealthy; and the society is, in all respects, of the first order, and of the most agreeable character. This place would be an advantageous and delightful situation to a gentleman of the profession of law, or of medicine who would wish to reside upon a farm. Letters addressed to me at Brentsville, Prince William County, Va. upon this subject, will receive prompt attention.

John Macrae  
August 25, 1828