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My Dear General
June 20th 1813

I am sorry to inform you the Enemy succeeded in taking Hampton yesterday morning, after a very obstinate resistance, and no doubt great loss on both sides. The Enemy landed several hundred troops near Newport news at 4 o'clock, marched round, commencing the action with their Rockets, while the barges forty in number entered the creek, so few troops the British brave as beaver did not exceed five hundred, were overpowered by numbers, and the Rockets thrown in such way as to Confuse them; from the best information we can receive the Inhabitants had flown and little or nothing left in town but the shells of houses. I have not heard of any more than two houses burnt as yet, after finishing watering I fear they will destroy the place being apprehensive of an attack from the land side.

I have only forty casks of powder and only one barrel 32 pound shot left in the yard, no bag or canister of any description, I believe it might be procured at Richmond.