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Dear Sir

I arrived here last evening and have the honor to forward to your Excellency some letters put into my Hands at York which place I left the evening before. I also take the liberty to send to your Exc.y a Letter to Gen.l Smallwood from the Commander in Chief. who begs it may be forwarded with all possible dispatch, containing matters interesting —

You no doubt have heard of the preparations which were making at New York for the relief of L.d Cornwallis. however feeble it would have been it is clear Sir H. Clinton intended the attempt as he has within these two days past made his appearance off our Capes with a Fleet of 24 Line of battle ships and about 30 of other kinds 24 of which are said to be fire ships. The Comte de Grasse is timely anxious to get out after them

Pere. Fitzhugh.
1st Novem.r 1781

His Excellency
Governor Lee
Annapolis

MdHS 1974 [506-603]