

Tuesday 5 March 1776.

C. S. J.

Council met. Present Mr. Jenifer, M^r Carroll, M^r Hall, M^r Tilghman and M^r Hands. M^r Smyth has Leave of Absence. 7 O'Clock at Night.

The Council being informed by the Pilot Boats stationed to gain and communicate Intelligence that a Ship of War was making up the Bay. A Letter was immediately sent by Express to the Committee of Observation for Baltimore County informing them thereof.

A Letter was also sent to Col. John Hall (vid N^o 29) And Copies of the Letter N^o 30 to Colonels Thomas Dorsey and John Weems respectively.

Adjourned till next Day 8 O'Clock.

[Council to Hall.]

C. S. C.
No. 29.

To Colonel John Hall

Sir.

We hear that the 44 Gun Man of War and two Sloops are on their Way up the Bay: the City is now weak and we judge it necessary to have all the Men drawn to Town we can for its Defence; we should be glad you will give Directions to all the Companies and Men in your Battalion that can be got ready to repair as soon as possible to Town. We shall be glad to see you as early in the morning as you can.

Mar. 5: 1776.

[Council to Dorsey and Weems.]

No. 30.

To Col^s Dorsey & Weems (respectively)

Sir:

The Council of Safety have this Moment received by Express an Account that a large Ship of War and two Tenders were this afternoon considerably above the Mouth of Patuxent, and it is supposed they are now off Annapolis; whether they entered into our River or to Baltimore is not known. But be their Destination to either Place it is absolutely necessary to have your Battalion in Readiness to march at an Hour's warning.

5 March 8 o'Clock at Night 1776

[Council to Baltimore Committee.]

To the Committee of Observation of Balt. Town
Gentlemen.

We have just received intelligence that a large ship supposed to be a 20 gun man of war and two sloops are on their