

C. S. J. Ordered That the said Treasurer pay to Oliver Whiddon six Pounds seventeen Shillings and six Pence for stocking 11 Musquets.

Copy of Letter N<sup>o</sup> 83 was sent to the Committee of Observation for Kent County; and Copy of N<sup>o</sup> 84 to M<sup>r</sup> Stephen West.

Adjourned till Monday Morning 10 O'Clock.

C. S. C.  
No. 81.

[Council to Howard and Coale.]

To Doct<sup>rs</sup> Ephraim Howard and Sam<sup>l</sup> Coale (E. Ridge)  
Gent<sup>n</sup>

We hope to have a Powder-Mill erected early this Spring and as we much depend on our Works for a supply of Salt Petre, are anxious to know how much we have already in the Province and what it may reasonably be presumed we may expect to be provided with by the Middle or last of April, and therefore request you'll immediately inform us of the Quantity of crude Nitre you have made, and what you can supply p Week. We have Great dependance on your Works from your Abilities and Assiduity, and the Sum of Money furnished you by the former Council of Safety to carry it on extensively.

24 March 1776

No. 82.

[Council to Committees.]

To the Committees of Observation of the several Counties  
(respectively)

Gent<sup>n</sup>

The great Difficulty we find in providing Blankets for the regular Forces raised for the Defence of this Province obliges us to apply to the Committees of Observation for the several Counties earnestly requesting that they would use their Endeavours to procure from the House-Keepers in their respective Counties all the Blankets or Rugs that they can with any Convenience spare, for which the Council will pay such price as the Committee shall agree on as well as any Expence that may arise in collecting them together, and when you have procured any Quantity you will send them to Annapolis to Col<sup>o</sup> Smallwood or in his Absence to the commanding Officer on the Station who will receive the same and give orders on the Council for the Payment thereof. We hope that the Friends to our Cause in your County will contribute every thing in their Power to the comfortable Subsistence of the Soldiery in this Respect; it will be an Act of great Humanity and rendering an essential Service to the Public.

23<sup>d</sup> March 1776