

timore in Arms, to oppose the Distresses made under the c. c.
Militia Law, and are apprehensive that he may need Assistance from your County to reduce them to due Obedience to the Laws. If he applies for your Aid, you are to furnish it and of such as you can best rely on. It is a distressing Circumstance to be obliged to exert Force against our own Countrymen, but suffering a lawless armed Force to prevail over the Laws, would certainly and soon enslave us all.

Aquila Hall Esq^r L^t of } We are Sir &^{ca}
Harford County }

[Council to H. Hooper.]

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In Council 3^d Oct^r 1777.

Sir

The Militia of this State who are now at Camp, will soon have served their Time, and our Affairs may very probably, require that they should be replaced. We therefore request that you will order the first and second Classes of the Militia of your County to march immediately and join Gen^l Washington. As many as can, are desired to carry their Arms, and each, who go a Blankett; they will be furnished, at Camp, with the Tents, Canteens, Kettles and Accoutrements belonging to this State now in Use, but, probably, some of the Arms may be carried off or rendered unfit for Use. If Care has been taken of all we sent, those who now go, may be supplied with them also, but it will be best not to rely entirely on them. We wish as little Delay as possible.

We are Sir &^{ca}

Henry Hooper Esq^r L^t of }
Dorchester County }

[Council to A. Buchanan.]

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In Council Annapolis 3^d Oct^r 1777.

Sir.

We this Morning received yours of Yesterday and are truly sorry for the Occasion of it, wishing, as we are sure you do, to avoid the Necessity of shedding the Blood of our Countrymen. We inclose you a Proclamation, offering Forgiveness for the past, on Condition of dispersing and ceasing to oppose the Execution of the Law in future, which we desire may be printed & generally dispersed immediately. We would have had it printed here, but the Delay of the Express would have been too long. We inclose you an Order to Major Smith, also a Letter to Col^o Beatty & Col^o Hall, which you will make use of as you may find necessary and, you