

to the Neighbourhood of that Part of Virginia where the British Army are, for the Purpose of obtaining the earliest Information of every material Occurrence, and especially of their future Designs. we shall meet with great Difficulties in complying with the Desire of the Legislature unless you are pleased to give us your Assistance. We are so sensible of the friendly Offices you have rendered this State in a Variety of Instances that nothing but absolute Necessity could induce us to call upon you in this Occasion. We wish you to establish Riders at convenient Places between Alexandria and Richmond or near to the Place the Enemy may be and to request a Gentleman you can depend on there to furnish you with the freshest Intelligence of the Operations and Movements of the Enemy. Every Expence we will defray with the greatest chearfulness and Gratitude. We have agreed with M^r Longdon to ride from Alexandria to this State.

January 18
Liber No. 78
p. 38

[Council to William McBride, Esqr.]

Ibid.

We received your Letter of the 15th Instant by M^r Vails and cant help expressing our Concern at the Unwillingness of the People to take the new Money, however you may depend on it this Humour must soon cease and the continental Money will not long have the Preference as the Circulation of it within this State is prohibited after a particular short Day. We have sent you thirteen hundred continental Dollars and one hundred Pounds of the new Emission and expect to have it in our Power to furnish you with a further sum when the Assembly rises. You must not on any Account remit your Exertions to procure what Porcs and Beef can possibly be had in your County; whatever can be affected by us shall be done to enable you to comply with your Engagements, inform us by every opportunity of your Success and Expectations and the Impediments you may meet with.

[Council to Patrick Sim Smith, Esqr.]

Ibid.
p. 39

You will receive by M^r. Gray two hundred Pounds of the new Emission, that you may proceed in your Purposes. We wrote some Days ago relative to the Beef you have on hand, wherein we requested you to send what Number you had to Frederick to M^r Murdock, for the support of the Convention Troops which we now repeat and request you to send with all possible Dispatch. The limitation with respect to whcat, from what you mention, we think need not be obligatory at this Time, but at the same Time hope you will use your utmost Endeavours to purchase on the best Terms you can, as it is not in our Power to know the Market Price, for those Articles. The Salt shall be sent you, when Col. Wilkinson sends for the Army Accoutrements &^{ca} or there should be a Conveniency.