

small expence to the province, many of the guns belonging to the poorer People, who cannot conveniently pay for the repairing and putting them in proper order, could be made fit for use. Beg leave to request of your honours, that should you think it expedient, that said arms should be repaired to signify the same to us, and we will have them done in the most speedy, cheapest, & effectual manner. We are respectfully

Gen^t y^r most ob^t Serv^{ts}

Thomas Dorsey

Jn^o Dorsey

Edw^d Gaither Jun^r

Original.

[Alexander and Paca to Council.]

Phil^a 2^d Feb^y 1776.

Gent. Last night we received your Letters by Maynard, covering the Resolutions of Congress relative to the Plates & Paper for the Prov^l Currency as the furnishing Devices, is a Business to which We are entire Strangers, We have advised with Doct^r B. Franklin & shall with his assistance set the Engraver to Work in a few Days; as the Convention have ordered both Plates & Paper here, we submit to you, whether it would not be expedient to have the Printing also done by Hall or Sellers, of this we are certain, the Business would be done with much greater Expedition but in this, shall be governed by your Directions.

With Respect to Cannon, so far as we can form any Opinion from the short Time to make the Enquiry, none can be had here or from any of the Eastern Governments, they are very scarce thro' the whole Continent—a Committee of Congress of which M^r Rogers is a Member, have been appointed to make Enquiry into the Quantity of Cannon on Hand & what will be wanted & where & on what Terms they can be had; no Report is yet made, but a Letter, from M^r Chase to M^r Paca mentioning that Hughes in Fred^k had contracted with Convention to supply our Province at £32.10, being communicated to Congress, the Members of the Committee were immediately very desirous to see M^r Hughes & to know whether he would make the like Contract, for supplying the Demands of Congress; this will convince you that a Supply cannot be had from hence & that you must rely on your Resources, by casting them in the Province. M^r Paca purchased from M^r Morris 12 Guns of 6 pounds Ball for £600, by order of M^r Johnson, they would have been sent down, had not the Ice stopped the navigation.

We are with respect Gen^t Y^r hum^l servants.

R. Alexander W^m Paca.