

c. s. c. Company but leave a very great Extent of Country along the Water in a manner defenceless. What is to become of Wicomico, Clements and Britons-Bay and all down to the Mouth of St. Mary's River in Case the Men of War should pass unnoticed in the Night or in foggy hazy weather? When the Company gets well disciplined, perhaps some of them may be stationed to Advantage at or near the Mouth of Patuxent; we think best to keep them together at present 'till further advanced in military Knowledge, and that Leonard Town is the proper Station. Should you think otherwise, we should be glad to know your Reasons, that we may concur with you; we wish to harmonize in every Thing that is for the good of the County.

2^d Ap^l 1776

No. 103.

[Council to Thomas.]

To Captⁿ John Allen Thomas.

Sir.

Yours of the 18th ult^{mo} we only received the 30th We cannot conceive that any Letter that we wrote to you can justify the Inference that you have drawn, that if your Station is to be at Leonard-Town that your Company is to defend that Place only. It was preferred because it was more central than any other in the County; that you might be within a Day's March of any Part of it. But if the Committee of Observation should be of Opinion that any other Station is more convenient, we shall readily confirm and order you to it; or if they should be of Opinion, that your Company should be divided and stationed at the Mouth of Patuxent and Point look-out, we shall concur with them, when we know their Reasons for it, if we approve of them. But we presume that let your Station be where it may, that you will nevertheless march to any other Part of the County wherever it's Defence requires it. And why you should want positive Orders to do your Duty we cannot conceive; if you take Care to walk within the Line of it, you need not be under any great Difficulty to excuse yourself to the People of St. Mary's or the Public in general or to justify yourself to the whole World. Our Care has and shall be as diffusive and extensive all over the Province as it's Funds, and our Abilities will allow; and therefore we are not under the least Apprehension, but that our Endeavours will meet with the Approbation of our Constituents.

We sent you by Lieu^t Steward £150, if that Sum is short of what ought to have been sent, you have only to make up your Accounts to the 3rd of this Month and every Shilling that will be due to that Day shall be paid. We are determined to have