

M<sup>r</sup> Walter Hanson of Charles County thirty five Pounds Currenty to defray his Expences in attending the Powder Mills in Pennsylvania, or elsewhere, for Instruction ; which said Sum M<sup>r</sup> Hanson agrees to refund in Case he does not erect a Powder Mill in this Province ; but if M<sup>r</sup> Hanson should erect a Powder Mill, it is left to the Consideration of the next Convention ; whether the money aforesaid be returned or not. M<sup>r</sup> Hanson further agrees to give this Province the Preference in the Disposal of all Powder which he shall manufacture, provided he erects the said Mill.

C. S. J.

Copy of Letter N<sup>o</sup> 121 was sent to the Deputies for Maryland in Congress, and also Copy of N<sup>o</sup> 122.

Adjourned till next Day 9 O'Clock.

[Council to Smyth and Hands.]

C. S. C.  
No. 119.

To Tho<sup>s</sup> Smyth & T. B. Hands, Esq<sup>rs</sup>

Gent<sup>n</sup> Very urgent affairs of the Province require your Attendance in Council. We therefore request you will immediately join us at Annapolis.

14<sup>th</sup> Ap<sup>l</sup> 1776

[Eden to Carroll, Hall and Paca.]

Original.

Annapolis 17<sup>th</sup> April 1776.

Gent<sup>n</sup> However unwelcome might be your Errand your polite Behaviour to me Yesterday merits my Acknowledgments: And on mature Consideration of the Proposal you made to me, I find it incumbent on me to tell you that I will not accord to it, nor can I, whilst I act, in any Degree, as Governor of this Province, give my Parole to walk about in it, a Prisoner at Large, under any Obligation whatever; the Necessity must be obvious of my ceasing to act as Governor, should I become a Prisoner; neither will I voluntarily give you any Satisfaction on that head, further than that I had, and have, no Intention during these Times, of leaving the Province, whilst my continuing here can in my own Opinion, tend to preserve its Tranquility. My Resolution was, as the Letters you have of mine show, to continue here whilst I could serve the Province; nor shall the Indignity now offered to me alter it. I shall persevere in my line of Duty by what I think the Rule of Right, but not without some Chagrin at knowing myself unmeritedly the Object of Suspicion, altho' I have the Satisfaction to think that a considerable part of the most respectable Persons in the Province entertain a very different Opinion of me, than is to be inferred from your proposed Arrest.