

under Oath and their endeavour to get his assistance to execute what you are requested to do by the resolution, this I suppose may be easily traced.

As soon as the letter was read a motion was made to send the original or a copy of it to you which was warmly supported but it was put off till to day to make way for the Consideration of the subject of the Express and in the meantime all was ordered to be secret. Mess^{rs} Stone and Alexander who had been delayed in writing letters for the post, came into the Congress, in this stage of the affair and are, as well as myself, privy to the after transactions:

I am Gen^t Your mo obed^t Servant, Th. Johnson Jun^r

Original.

[Richardson to Council.]

George Town April 17, 1776.

The Hon^{ble} Council of Safety. Gentlemen. Your letter of 19th Feb^r did not come to hand until Friday last, I am very sensible of the honour the Convention did me, by appointing me Supervisor to the Saltpetre works for this District, but being myself a stranger to the Process, necessary for making that Article, & not knowing any person who understood it, that would undertake to carry on the Business, I thought it my duty to Resign, in hopes the Committee for this District might know, & would appoint some Person qualified for the Undertaking, accordingly some time before the rising of the Convention, I delivered M^r John Murdock, (one of our Committee) a newspaper in which was the Resolve of the Convention, concerning Saltpetre Works, desiring him to shew it to the Committee, & inform them of my Resignation; but have not heard of any other persons being appointed. Having this Occasion to trouble you, must beg leave to intrude as much further on your Patience, as to inform you, that the Convention having appointed M^r William Deakins, to a Majority, & M^r Aquila Johns to the naval service of the Province. The Geo. Town Company of Militia was left without any Subaltern Officer. The Company have nominated M^r Alex^r M^cFadon 1st M^r John Peter 2^d Lieutenants; and M^r Edward Gale Ensign, if those Gentlemen should meet your approbation, I hope you will honour them with Commissions. I am

Your most obed^t hble Serv^t
Thomas Richardson.

C. S. J.

Thursday 18 April 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

Ordered That the Treasurer of the Western Shore pay to