

landing in that quarter, but should the enemy continue there a few days, and keep the Militia on duty numbers of the Inhabitants must unavoidably lose a considerable part of their crops, their Wheat being now ready to cut. c. s. c.

Capt. Woolford is at this time with his Company on the Borders of Nanticoke near the mouth of that River, to guard that neighbourhood, where his assistance is much wanted.

I must further beg leave to inform you that our Militia are badly fitted with Arms, I am clearly of opinion, that not one half of them have effective Guns, neither have we a sufficient quantity of Powder & lead (particularly the latter) should we have occasion to make use of those articles.

I have this moment received an Express from Hoopers Straights by which I am informed that the Ship of War is now in the mouth of Nanticoke, two of the Tenders in Hungar River & one in Fishing Bay close to the shore, that the people are in great confusion, and much harassed by them. I have not the least doubt but they are in the like, or a worse situation in Somerset County. I think it my duty to give you this information as early as possible, and doubt not you will give such assistance as the exigency of our affairs require.

I have the honor to be Gentⁿ
Your most Obed^t & Hum. Serv^t
Tho^s Ennalls.

[Bracco to Ridgely.]

Port Tobacco July 2^d 1776.

Dear Sir.

I have sent the Bearer John Barnet express to Annapolis to request that you will make application to the Council for a Sum of Money to defray the expenses of providing food and other necessaries that are requisite for the soldiers under inoculation here. the Doctors tell me that it will not be proper for the soldiers to eat the Ration provided for them by the Commissary for three weeks at least, in which time their expenses will amount to near 150 pounds or there about, be that as it may a true and just account shall be rendered of the expenditure of the money in case the Council think proper to advance it. May do this business as quickly as possible. I have expended almost all my own cash and when that is gone we may whistle for provision until we can get a fresh supply. The People here follow a very good rule, not trust us farther than they can see us. Please apply also for our Subsistence from the fifteenth of March last and let me know it whether it will be granted agreeable to account rendered by