

[Council to Matthew Tilghman.]

C. S. C.
No. 75.

To The Honble Matthew Tilghman Esq^r
Sir.

We are very apprehensive that we should incur the censure of the Hon^{ble} Continental Congress and of the Islanders who have stock should we make the order you request. The Resolve of Congress is full and explicit without any exception, should we extend our powers to answer your request others would expect Indulgence, and we know not where the exceptions would stop, our powers are extensive but not large enough to controul the orders of Congress. Your application may well lay over till the meeting of the Convention, which will be in a short time—we shall take particular notice of your application for an Armd Boat, and give direction to our armd Vessells as soon as they can be got ready. The Defence is going down the Bay and will be a good security against Tenders for the present, perhaps it would be prudent to sell some of your Cattle, if you want a Market, our Contractor will probably take off some of your superfluous Numbers.

25th July 1776

[Council to Barnes.]

No. 76.

To Colonel Richard Barnes.

Sir. Before your Letter and papers therein inclosed came to hand, we had received a letter from Major Price in which M^r Wolstenholme's affair was mentioned. The Council of Safety thereupon passed a General order to all the Committees of Observation, and Military Commanders not to suffer any person whatever to go out of the Province for the present, a Copy of this Order was inclosed to Major Price and your Committee—all Intercourse with the Fowey has been heretofore expressly forbid by the Convention, besides times are so much altered since M^r Wolstenholme's passport, and the Men of War have so openly Invaded this Province, that we could not discharge our Duty without passing such order, at least we thought so. M^r Wolstenholmes case may be attended with particular circumstances, he must however submit to the times. We hope both General Dent and yourself on reflection will be of opinion that we have done right. The suffering Gentlemen to go off, on Board the Men of War or Tenders or any other Vessel that may have communication with them is attended with great danger to the Colony—every means of intelligence must be cut off if possible.

25 July 1776