

as a Guard. I received from three Waggon the other day what is supposed to be 6000 lbs. the greatest part of which I think it probable is Cannon powder and such as will be useless with Musquetry. I send you a sample of it and hope it will be found better than it looks to be. I made a trial of it in a small Cannon that we have and found it to have equal force and quickness with some English powder that I had. I have directed a Guard from our Militia and shall continue them till I have your directions which shall be glad to have by the Bearer, its very inconvenient to those who are now on that service and if they must continue you'll please to direct the number that shall compose the Guard.

I am Respectfully, Gentlemen, Your obd<sup>t</sup> Hble Serv<sup>t</sup>  
Jas. Lloyd Chamberlaine

[Dean to Council.]

Original.

Gentlemen.

Kent Island July 28<sup>th</sup> 76.

Agreable to your orders, I have marched the Company under my command to this place and am sorry to find no provision made for us. You'll please direct whoever you may think proper to find us all that is fit and necessary for a Company of men. We expected to have found some pork, which we supposed was left by Capt. Harrison, but were disappointed.

I am Gen<sup>t</sup> very respectfully  
Y<sup>r</sup> very Hble Serv<sup>t</sup>  
John Dean.

You'll please direct immediately in this matter, as we live only on what we can borrow.

[B. Mackall to Council.]

Original.

Gentlemen.

Drum Point 28<sup>th</sup> July 1776.

I left the Camp at St. George's yesterday & Major Price desired me to send to the Council, attended by a Subaltern officer M<sup>r</sup> Braithwait, who deserted from the Fleet Thursday night, and brought with him, two trunks, which shall be sent up to you as soon as M<sup>r</sup> Middletons boat returns from the mouth of Potowmack, where she is waiting upon the Defence.

I am with much respect  
Gent. your most Hble Serv<sup>t</sup>

Benj: Mackall 4<sup>th</sup>

Lieut Gray who comes with M<sup>r</sup> Braithwait desires nothing more for his trouble than his Expenses to be paid by the province.