

C. S. C.  
No. 128.

[Council to St. Mary's Committee.]

Committee of St. Mary's County.

Gent<sup>n</sup>

Capt<sup>n</sup> Mantz's company being compleatly armed, as well as good marksmen were the causes that induced us to send him to occupy Capt<sup>n</sup> Thomas's Station, whom we thought it our indispensable duty to order to the Flying Camp so soon as the enemy left Potowmack river. But as you are of opinion that this Company will not answer the end for which it was sent, we have ordered Capt<sup>n</sup> Mantz to march immediately to Annapolis & have sent Capt<sup>n</sup> Berry in a Boat to the mouth of Patuxent to take in his Baggage.

We cannot, without contradicting a resolution of the Convention, order that part of Capt<sup>n</sup> Bealls Company stationed at Port Tob<sup>o</sup> to St Marys, but have ordered Capt<sup>n</sup> Forrest to take Capt<sup>n</sup> Thomas's station, and we must depend upon the militia's lending Capt<sup>n</sup> Forrest's Comp<sup>y</sup> arms until we can supply them, which, we expect, will be soon, expecting some from Virg<sup>a</sup> that we have lately imported.

P. S. We have rec<sup>d</sup> information by one of our boats that the enemies fleet had anchored in Hampton Road.

9<sup>th</sup> Aug<sup>t</sup> 1776.

No. 129.

[Council to Maryland Deputies.]

To Deputies for Maryland in Congress.

Gent<sup>n</sup> We have the pleasure to inform you that the enemy's fleet left Potowmack River on Friday last, and is gone off down the Bay; they had collected a number of small vessels which they had dismasted and left on the point of St George's Island with intention to set fire to them, but a high Tide floated them off, and they were driven on Shore near our Guard, who have taken possession of them and have found sundry goods and other effects on board to the value of three or four hundred Pounds currency; some of the Hulks may be repaired, and made fit for service—they burnt some other small vessels, and from appearances expect they are gone down to the capes—our Pilot Boat is just returned yesterday evening and says he heard at Pyanketank that the men of war had stopt in Hampton Road, and were making demands of fresh provisions and water, and promised on being supplied, to leave the Bay. The Deserters, of whom many have come over to us, inform that the Tory families are going some to the West Indies, others to Halifax, and the Roebuck to New York.

The Flying Camp are beginning to move, Capt<sup>n</sup> Good's company from Fred<sup>k</sup> will be with you by the Time this comes