

Wednesday, October 30<sup>th</sup> 1776.

C. S. J.

Council met. Present as on yesterday

Ordered That Western shore Treasurer pay to Ezekiel Crane three Pounds, fifteen shillings for Am<sup>t</sup> Acc<sup>t</sup>

Ordered That said Treasurer pay to Capt<sup>n</sup> John Brooke two hundred and sixty Pounds two shillings and nine Pence, for Am<sup>t</sup> Acc<sup>t</sup>

Ordered That said Treasurer pay to Catharine Nixon fifteen shillings for Am<sup>t</sup> Acc<sup>t</sup>

Commission issued to Benjamin Nicholson Esq<sup>r</sup> appointed Judge of the Court of Admiralty.

Ordered That Western shore Treasurer pay to Sam<sup>l</sup> Rawlings ten Pounds for Am<sup>t</sup> Acc<sup>t</sup>

Warrant issued to Thomas Sprigg app<sup>d</sup> a recruiting Serjeant for Artillery men.

Ordered That Western shore Treasurer pay to Thomas Sprigg sixty Pounds, for recruiting Service.

Ordered That said Treasurer pay to Captain Thomas Watkins two hundred and fifty Pounds for recruiting service.

Adjourned 'till next Day 10<sup>o</sup> Clk.

[Cook to Plater.]

Original.

At Sea Ship Defence 30<sup>th</sup> October 1776.

Hon<sup>d</sup> Sir, And most worthy friend, from some of your last Expressions to me, that you expected to hear from me often, and the Pleasure it gives me to write you, shall trouble you in reading my scrawls. I wrote you on the 4<sup>th</sup> Inst. by Capt Walker in a Prize sloop, and the same day sent away a snow, which I hope both have got safe into the port of Annapolis. Yesterday at 4 P. M. took a small schooner with 40 hhd<sup>s</sup> Rum and 3 hhd<sup>s</sup> Sugar 1 cw<sup>t</sup> coffee, a few Barrells Limes &c. from Dominica cleared out for Newfound Land, but from what the Captain said, that he intended for America I have great reason to believe he intended for New York to supply the Ministerial Arme<sup>y</sup>. He says that there was at Dominica two Briggs and three Schooners that will sail in a day or two. I shall endeavour to fall in with them which may in some degree lengthen our cruize.

This minute spyed a Sail, a ship to Leeward. I'm in hopes she'll prove a prize. Since I wrote the above have spoke the Ship. She is a French Ship from St. Dominica for Marcellis which proves to be no prize. I have not the least doubt of doing something clever before I go in, altho' the time I can stay out is not a great while with safety on account of my water I have 42 days at half a gallon p man p<sup>r</sup> day but must