

c. s. c. dale, which we request the favour of you to apply to the Account of Subsistance of that part of Captain Bealls Company Stationed at Port Tobacco.

19 July 1776

No. 63.

[Council to Maryland Deputies.]

To the Deputies for Maryland in Congress
Gentlemen.

Inclosed we send you Copies of some Letters we have Received from Colonel Barnes and Colonel Jordan, giving us an Account of Lord Dunmores Squadron having appeared near the Mouth of Saint Marys River in a hostile manner and that some of them had landed on Saint Georges Island—in consequence of these advices we have countermanded the orders to Captain Thomas and Captain Hindman, whom we wish to keep in the Province to assist in repelling the invasion. We do not expect Dunmore will stay long at Saint Georges Island—expect he will move up Potowmack, or to the Eastern Shore—perhaps up the Bay to Annapolis, or Baltimore Town. We shall send you further intelligence as soon as we receive it. Our Flying Camp are coming in almost every Day but many of them without Arms, Blankets, or any other necessaries;—a question has arrisen as to their subsistence, neither Congress nor Convention have made any provision for Rations during the time the Men are drawing together, nor whilst they remain unarmed, and unprovided with necessaries which will amount to something considerable. We intend finding Rations for the Battalion that are to supply the place of our own Regulars. We wish you to apply to the Congress and let us know what is to be done about subsistence for the other Battalions, they are all coming to us to be supplied with almost every necessary, and you may Judge our Situation is very disagreeable, not having it in our power to answer their Demands. Our Militia in a general way during this time of Invasion cannot be persuaded to lend their Arms, most of those who enlist have none of their own. We take it for granted it would answer very little purpose to send you a Number of Men unarmed and unprovided with necessaries, and therefore do not order them forward. We congratulate you on the Victory that hath been obtained in South Carolina by the Americans over the British Fleet, some of Commodore Parkers Squadron have met with a severe drubbing according to the Particulars we have heard, of which we doubt not you have more perfect information before this time. We send you the Maryland Gazette, in which are inserted some particu-