

c. c. this place by water. the men under my Command are all in high Spirits. Shou'd be glad to have your Oppinion & Instructions by Return of Express.

I am Sir
Your M^o obliged Hble Serv^t
Nath^l Smith.

151

[Gov. Johnson to I. Craycraft.]

Annapolis Aug^t 23^d 1777.

I have directed Ignatius Craycraft of S^t Mary's County to purchase a Number of Black Cattle for the Public Use, they will be wanted for the Support of the Militia who is to march. Our Treasury now being removed I cannot supply him with Cash, but what he purchases shall be honestly paid for.

M^r Ignatius Craycraft.

You are to purchase what Beef Cattle you can in S^t Marys County and on the Way for the Use of the Militia which is embodying to reinforce General Washington. As you purchase on the Water Side, have them drove into the Country, and when you get a good clever Drove, send them along the Elk Ridge Landing, so that you may avoid the Rivers. You will hire careful Drivers who will not hurry the Cattle, keep an exact Account of the Cost and all Expences & advise me from Time to Time of your Success, that I may as soon as our Treasury is opened, send you Money and may know how far I can depend on these Cattle as Provision you cannot get too many at moderate Prices.

M^r Ignatius Craycraft

Original.

[B. Rumsey to Gov. Johnson.]

Sir

The Col^o of the Eighth Battalion without waiting for your Excellency's Orders upon the Enemy's appearing off the Mouth of Gunpowder ordered down two Companies to prevent the Enemy's landing and plundering the Country One of the Companies attended yesterday Evening but had not above five Guns among forty men they had scarcely arrived before they and the whole of the Battalion were ordered up by the Lieutenant of the County to Swan Creek to oppose the Enemy who have landed there

Your Excellency will no Doubt conclude that Men unarmed can be of no Service to repel an Enemy they may assist the Inhabitants in removing their Stock & portable Effects and they march with great Alacrity without Arms in full Confidence you will supply them at least to do all they can.