

they may eventually, with their 120 Men, be serviceable, if c. c. there's an Attack upon this Town, and, as it is impossible to guard our Shores and Rivers, we hope no Man can blame our Views to prevent such a Disposition of the little Force we have as would render the whole of it of no Consequence at all, which would certainly be the Case if we were to send the two Gallies from hence. We are endeavouring to send forward what of our Militia we can towards the Head of the Bay. A full Employment of the Enemy there will, in good Measure take them off our Backs every where else, but we have not nor can we get Arms we fear to furnish one third Part of those who are willing to March; the People in general shew great Spirit and Alacrity. There remain in the Hands of M^r W three or four Hundred Stand of Arms, lodged with him some Time ago to be cleaned; and in the Hands of M^r Smith about 100 Stand of M^r Winters's make. Col^o Richardson has been furnished with 200 stand from Annapolis, and we hope M^r Read the Gun Smith has some Arms by him. Cap^t Campbell left Annapolis a few Days ago, with thirty Matrosses including Officers, with Orders to join the Eastern Shore Militia at Chester. From the latest Accounts we have, our Van possesses Iron Hill, the Enemy Gray's Hill about two Miles east from the Head of Elk. Every Day is big with great Events.

We shall send over, with Orders to lodge at Chester, Musquet Powder Lead, Cartridge Paper & Flints, the Quantity will depend on the Conveyance we may get; if a sufficient Boat can be had, we shall send a Plenty: our Stores are a good Deal dispersed by the hasty Removal of them. We are of Opinion that strictly we cannot give to others a discretionary Power to draw out the Public Money; but surely when every Thing is at Stake, the Treasurer will not be particular or ceremonious, he and we must rely on the Equity of the Legislature, however if we have a Power or may be thought to have it, the inclosed may satisfy the Treasurer. We are

Mathew Tilghman, and	}	Gent & ^{ca}
Rob ^t Goldsborough Esq ^{rs}		

Monday 1 September 1777

C. B.

Present the Honble. Josiah Polk, John Rogers and Ths. Sim Lee Esquires.

Commission issued to Abel Heddington appointed Quarter Master to Col. Edward Cockey's Batt. in Baltimore County.

Ordered That the western shore Treasurer pay to Capt. Bailey Thirty pounds on Account of the Thirty ninth Batt. of Militia in Baltimore County.