

C. C.
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[Council to Delegates in Congress.]

In Council Annapolis 14th Aug^t 1778.Gen^t

We are rendered very uneasy at M^r Harrison's Situation in Martinique we are dunned from many Quarters about that Debt and indeed treated illiberally our Endeavours have not proved successful; we find the Public looses prodigiously on Produce shipped to Martinique, besides M^r Harrison's undertaking to dispose of our Vessels; the only Way, as it appears to us, that we have of making an End of this very disagreeable Business and with the least Loss to the Public, is to purchase Bills of Exchange; we have understood that M^r Morris would draw on France at the Rate of £100 Sterling for £500 our Money, and we suppose the Bills would sell at Martinique for upwards of £180 p C^t we should therefore be obliged to you to endeavour to purchase Bills on France to the Amount of about 2400 £ Sterling not exceeding five for one drawn in Sets of at least four, each Bill for not more than £500 Sterling they may be made payable to the Governor and, if an immediate Payment of the Money is desired, endeavour to obtain it from Congress and it shall be immediately replaced. If Bills cannot be got on France, they would, if to be had on the French or Dutch Islands, answer as well, if the Exchange is not more against us. If Private Bills cannot be got on either Place, we wish you'd endeavour to negotiate with the Congress for Bills or a Loan, for this is a most irksome Affair to us.

M^r Morris has never called on us for the Money due to him for the Goods he sold this State; the Goods have been applied to cloath the Troops, we wish to have his State of the Acc^t that we may get the Money from Congress into his Hands. We inclose you an Account of Commissions issued here, we have but one left be pleased to forward us more they will be soon wanted.

We are &^{ca}Delegates in Congress }
from Maryland }

C. B.

Saturday 15th August 1778

Ordered that the western shore Treasurer Pay to Capt Bennett Matthews six hundred and forty Pounds three shillings and one Penny per Acc^t passed A G^t

That the said Treasurer Pay to James Brice Esq^r one hundred and sixty two Pounds, fifteen shillings for his Attendance in Council

That the Sheriff of Frederick County Pay to Col^o William