

Wednesday 23^d December 1778

C. B.

Present as on Yesterday

Ordered that the western Treasurer pay to Lieut William Judah One hundred Pounds to be delivered over to Samuel Sadler to be expended in the State Hospital in Baltimore & to be Accounted for

That the said Treasurer pay to William Judah, six hundred & thirty Pounds, nineteen Shillings and ten Pence on Account and also the further Sum of One hundred and fifty Pounds on Account

That the said Treasurer pay to Abraham Faw, two thousand two hundred and fifty Pounds on Account

[Delegates in Congress to Gov. Johnson.]

Original.

Philadel^a Decem^r 23^d 1778

Dear Sir

The necessity of making some inquiry on the Subjects contained in your Letter of the 10th Decem^r and the Reference of the Resolutions of the General Assembly to the Marine Committee, upon which no Report has yet been made, has deprived us of the Honour of answering your Letter so soon as we intended

The Expedition against Florida, always was, and still is, in our opinion a dangerous and ruinous project, attended with a certain considerable Loss and Expense, without the smallest Hope of Success or advantage; And altho' Congress have not re-considered or in any way countermanded their former orders and recommendations; yet we think it not improper privately and in Confidence to inform you, that there does not appear to us any hope of Success in prosecuting this Expedition.

The re-enforcement that we have reason to expect have been sent into that Country from the City of New York; the Distance and nature of the Country through which the Troops are to pass, before they reach S^t Augustine, the place of action, joined to the Resistance they will probably meet with in Georgia, and the length of the Blockade (three months at least,) which it is said will be absolutely necessary to reduce the Garrison, fortify us in the opinion we have formed. By this we do not mean to throw impediments in the way to stop the Expedition, but simply to express our own apprehensions of the Extreme Danger, if not, total Loss of the men and vessels destined for this Expedition.

No Measures are as yet taken in this quarter for the supply of provisions and other necessaries, they seem to be left to the Chapter of Accident and the Commander in chief in the Southern Department.