

C. C.  
p. 2

[Gov. Johnson to Col. H. Hollingsworth.]

Annapolis 1<sup>st</sup> June 1779

Sir

I am very sorry that any Man should be brought into Difficulties by his Promptitude to serve the Public; you need not appologise for shewing my Letters, to clear up your Brother's Conduct with respect to the Flour purchased by M<sup>r</sup> Gilpin of M<sup>r</sup> May, or that sent forward to Philad<sup>a</sup> by you, under the request of the Council & myself. You are as welcome as justifiable in making use of any Thing from me, to clear up the Truth and serve the Purposes of Justice; I shall take the same Freedom, whenever necessary, with any Letters in my Power, without thinking I do amiss and now inclose you a Letter of the Honble Governieur Morris to our Delegates which they inclosed to us and was to govern us, with Regard to the Purchase & Disposition of the Flour. Presuming that the Flour was to supply the Army 'til Harvest, the Council and I had given general Directions to the Purchasers to forward it to the Head of Elk, that it might be sent forward for that Purpose, but on the Receipt of that Letter we wrote you the 26<sup>th</sup> April pressing you to exert yourself to dispatch the Carriage and gave correspondent Orders, a few Days before & after to the Purchasers. The Letter strongly conveys the Idea of its being desirable, indeed necessary to have the Flour in Philadelphia as soon as possible. I also send you a Copy of M<sup>r</sup> Morris's Letter of the 21<sup>st</sup> of April received so late as the 30<sup>th</sup>. The very Day of Receipt of it we wrote Letters to all the principal Purchasers, countermanding the former Orders and directing the Flour to be lodged at Landings on this Bay, as requested, except that which lay between the Head of Elk, which we desired to continue in the Mills, ready to be carried to Landings on either Bay. We did not imagine the countermanding Orders could possibly prevent, totally, the Effect of the first, which were in a Way of Execution. M<sup>r</sup> Reisberg writes me, 11<sup>th</sup> May, "Col<sup>o</sup> Hollingsworth D. Q. M. G. of Head of Elk was in Town last week, informing me you had requested him to take Charge of the Flour purchased by the Commissaries in your State; I beg Leave to mention that we have an Assist. Comm<sup>y</sup> at that Post and that it would be in a proper Line for him to receive the same or any other Kind of Provisions." It was improper to put the Flour in that Line, after the Receipt of M<sup>r</sup> Morris's Letter. Mess<sup>rs</sup> Reisberg & White were here the other Day, they seemed desirous that Part, at least, of the Flour purchased by the Gen<sup>t</sup> of our Appointm<sup>t</sup> should be delivered over to the Comm<sup>ys</sup> but the Matter was explained to them, that M<sup>r</sup> Morris's Order was necessary.