

December 30
Liber No. 78
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[Council to John S. Brookes, Esqr.]

We wrote to you yesterday since which we find it necessary to direct you to send all the Cattle you procure on the Hoof immediately to Frederick Town to be delivered to M^r George Murdock for the use of the Convention Troops and desire this may be done as soon as you can make up fifteen or twenty Head.

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[Council to Major John Steward.]

The Sloop Porpus and State Boat Dolphin were fitted out and are put under your Command for the purpose of annoying and as far as in your Power expelling the Privateers of the Enemy now committing Depredations on the Trade and Inhabitants of this State within the Chesapeak Patomack and Patuxent Rivers. By Information lately received their Force consists of three Schooners of twelve four Pounders one of 6 threes and another of 4 threes, they have beside three or four Barges of considerable strength. You will act with such Caution as to avoid engaging a Vessel greatly your superiour. The length of the Cruize will depend so much upon Circumstances and Events, that we submit the Continuance of it to your Discretion with full Reliance on your Zeal Activity Courage and Judgement, you are appointed to conduct this Expedition

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Monday 1st January 1781

Ordered That the western shore Treasurer pay to Lieut Edward Eagerly of the 2nd Maryland Regim^t Thirty Pounds of the new Emission agreeably to a Resolution of the General Assembly passed the 30th of December last, on Account.

That the said Treasurer pay to Christopher Lybrant Twenty seven pounds thirteen shillings and one penny half penny of the same Emission for five Rheams and eighteen Quires of paper purchased of him for the use of the Public.

That the said Treasurer deliver to Richard Dallam Twenty eight hh^{ds} of Tobacco weighing twenty seven thousand four hundred and seven pounds net with four p Cent is twenty eight thousand five hundred and three pounds sold him at fifteen shillings specie p Cent.

That the Commissary of Stores deliver to Joseph Smith Capt in Col^o Nath^l Gist's Regiment Cloth and Trimmings for a suit of Cloaths and Linen for two shirts in part of the Articles allowed by the Gen^l Assembly for the year 1781

Commission issued to William Weems appointed Captain of the sloop Porpoise to cruise against the Pickaroons in the Bay.

Commission of Letters of Marque and Reprisal issued to William Weems Commander of the sloop Porpoise Eighty five Tons burthen navigated by eighteen men mounting six carriage Guns four Howitz