

January 11
Liber No. 78
p. 31

bourhood of M^r Smith, we request you to enquire and to forward all you can and as speedily as possible. You will receive by of the new Emission, the Exchange we believe at present for continental Money to be from 85 to 90

Ibid. [Council to John Smith Brookes, Esqr.]

p. 32

We send you by this opportunity about 25 Bushels of Salt, which we hope will answer as the Quality of it for country Salt is very good being about 4 years old. A further Supply shall be sent as you may have occasion for it. The Demand for Beef on the Hoof for the Prisoners at Frederick Town is pressing.

Ibid. [Council Circular to the Lieutenants of the several Counties, except Baltimore.]

We have certain Information that a Party of the Enemy composed of refugees and new Levies from New York, and Long Island about 2500 or 3000 strong, headed by General Arnold took Possession of Richmond on Friday last and sent a strong Detachment to Petersburg; They have destroyed the public works near Richmond and threaten to do the same in Petersburg. Their object is plunder and after they have accomplished their Business in Virginia, it is more than probable they will visit us, every Preparative ought therefore to be immediately made to put the State in a proper Posture of Defence, and to prevent the military Stores and Provision from falling into their Hands; for the Attainment of which Ends we desire you to order the Whole Militia of your County to put themselves in Readiness to march at a minutes Warning to such Place as they shall be commanded. The Small Arms ought to be instantly examined and cleaned fit for Service, and every Step taken Disposition made vigorously to resist those Invaders of our Country, you may depend upon receiving from us every Assistance in our Power.

Ibid. [Council to Captain George Keeports.]

p. 33

We request to have all the Cannon Carriages for field Pieces under your Direction repaired with all possible Expedition to render them fit for service, where the old cannot be repaired, new ones must be immediately made, you will also have all the small Arms repaired, cleaned and made fit for the field, heavy Cannon except four which may be useful at the Fort must be removed to Elk Ridge Landing. as soon as the small Cannons are fitted with Carriages you will order Carriages to be made for the heavy Canon that they may be removed into the Country if necessary. We expect your Utmost Exertions in this Business and flatter ourselves that the workmen in Baltimore Town will readily undertake this Business. We refer you to General Buchanan for any further Directions