

two of the swift sailing Vessels constantly before and behind to prevent any of the others running away.

March 7
Liber No. 78
p. 83

[Council to James Calhoun Esqr.]

Ibid.

We request you to forward three hundred Barrels of Bread (besides the 600 heretofore ordered) to the Head of Elk for the Troops under the Marquis, you will apply to M^r Donellan and if he has not that Quantity ready, you can [obtain] what may be wanting of William Smith Esq^r either by Loan or Purchase.

[Council to Col Hollingsworth.]

Ibid.

Finding it impracticable to procure an immediate Supply of Provision of the Meat kind to carry into Effect the present important expedition without the Exertion of the extraordinary Powers with which we are invested and having been informed that the Object of the Expedition will in all Probability be frustrated unless every Assistance is instantly afforded to enable the Detachment to move forward, We do therefore upon this Emergency authorise and earnestly request you to seize or cause to be seized 15000 of Flesh Provisions Salt and fresh being a Proportion of what is necessary for the Consumption of a Detachment of 1500 Men from the main Army under the Marquis De la Fayette going on an expedition against General Arnold; such a Quantity of Flesh Proportions Salt and fresh as will be necessary for the Consumption of 1500 Men for thirty Days. If the Owners of the Beaves prefer keeping the fifth Quarter and will have them immediately killed and the Meat sent to this Place, you will consent to it otherwise you will take them on the Hoof and Nothing except the Hide will be returned. You will give Certificates to the Owners expressing the Quantity seized and the Price thereof, if it can with Justice be ascertained at the Time of the Seizure, which shall be paid with Interest. This Business must be done with the utmost Expedition.

p. 84

[Council to Marquis la Fayette.]

Ibid.

We had the Honor to be favored with your Letter of the 5th Instant and most sincerely lament the Delay and Difficulties by which the Troops have been prevented from embarking and wish we could gratify our Inclinations by an immediate removal of every Obstacle we have impressed and sent forward every Vessel in our Power and shall continue forwarding all we can procure until there is a sufficient for Transporting the Troops with their Baggage &^{ca} Skows and Small Boats fit for landing the Cannon and the Detachment cannot be obtained at this Place. We shall order to Elk immediately the three Hundred Barrels of Bread which you require with as a great a Quantity of other Supplies as we can command. The necessary