

of important Business which incessantly claim our Attention; no Measures have been taken for building the Vessels directed, owing to our being destitute of Money, and much of the Business cannot be executed from the same Cause; we are pleased you abound with the Materials and will very chearfully place that Business under your Direction if you think you can accomplish it; but are apprehensive that the want of Money an obstacle that impedes most of our Measures, and will also stand in your Way and prevent your doing any Thing effectual. As soon as the Acts of the last Session are published they will be forwarded & in the Manner the Law directs. It is impossible for us to ascertain with any Degree of Precision the Quantity of Provision we shall want from your shore, but are certain the whole that can be furnished will not exceed the Demands on us; the only Account we have seen of the Action between the French and british Fleets is published in the last Pennsylvania Paper. We have no official Account of the Engagement between General Greene and Lord Cornwallis Reports that we think may be relied on, say, that the Action was very severe and continued more than an Hour. General Greene retreated thirteen Miles from the Field with the Loss of four field Pieces and between two and three hundred Men killed and wounded, the Loss of the Enemy doubled that Number which made it a very dear bought Victory. General Greene remained at the Place to which he retreated three or four Days expecting to be attacked; his Men in full Spirits and desirous to renew the Battle; but the Enemy retired. We have sent to the Lieutenant of Kent the Cannon and military Stores agreeable to the list enclosed, one six pound Field Piece and a four pound, one hundred and fifty six pound Shot, one hundred and fifty four pound Shot, one hundred and fifty Musquets and Accoutrements compleat, ten Barrels of musquet Powder, one thousand flints, half a Ream of Cannon Cartridge Paper, two Barrels of damaged Powder for the select Militia in their Exercise.

April 29
Liber No. 78
p. 104

p. 105

Tuesday 3^d April 1781

Ordered that the western shore Treasurer pay to Charlotte Small seven Pounds ten Shillings due her per Account passed by the D. Aud.

April 3
Liber C. B.
No. 24
p. 66

[Council to Thomas Johnson, Esqr.]

We have received your Letter of the 30th March respecting the Continuance of the Convention Troops in this State, and entirely agree with you in Sentiments; but as the least Evil we have determined to send them to Fort Frederick. We have wrote to Col. Wood fully on the subject which he will communicate. Your Sentiments are at all Times agreeable and desirable. The Marquis Fayette is here. There was only one Action between the French and British at the 16th both suffered but the French retired to Rhode Island and the

April 3
Liber No. 78
p. 105