April 12 the Lieutenant of Prince George's County one hundred and ninety Liber No. 78 three Stand of Armanida A three Stand of Arms with Accoutrements compleat, which is a large Proportion of what we have, but on your Application and considering the Spirit and Zeal of the Militia of Prince George's County, we have gone beyond what is the common Proportion and sent thirty Stand more with Accourrements and fifty Spare Cartridge Boxes. We approve of arming thirty of the Militia to act as Horsemen and think they render very great Services, but we have it not in our Power to furnish them with Swords.

[Council to Joshua Beall, Esqr.]

We have sent you by this opportunity an additional Number of thirty Horse to serve in your County, as they will answer on Emergencies to alarm the Country much better than Foot, and whenever we may be able to equip them, we shall do it with Pleasure, but at present it is not in our Power.

[Council to Marquis La Fayette.]

We were honored with your Letter of the 10th Instant, a sufficient Number of Militia may be always collected to deter the Marines of the armed Vessel and Privateers from landing and repel them if they should, which makes us perfectly easy on their Account, and although we coincide with [you] in opinion, while the British continue superior on the water, their Advantages are such [that] our Attempts to make opposition at any particular Point may be rendered negatory by their changing their Design, and carrying on their operations else where yet we must suggest that some Towns and Places from their Situation and other Circumstances of Moment must be greater Objects of Attention than others and more likely to be attacked. We have the strongest and most irrefragable Proof of your Zeal to advance the Interest and happiness of the States and knew that [that] alone was sufficient to prompt you to comply with our Requisition if restricted Instructions and other Objects had not made it improper. your Resolution to march with the greatest Rapidity to reinforce the southern Army imparts to us the greatest Pleasure and merits our warmest Applause, and your halting at such Points as would enable vou to give the most speedy Assistance to either of the three Towns you mention would be highly agreeable, yet we do not wish that the temporary Relief that would be derived from your Stay among us should impede your moving rapidly to the Succour of the Southern Army. We have issued Orders to Mr Poe to collect at Baltimore what waggons and Horses may be necessary for your Detachment and required Mr James Calhoun our Commissary at Baltimore to provide for your use a Number of fine Cattle and a quantity of Flour, you may depend on finding every Thing furnished agreeable to our

p. 125

Ibid.