

February 20 Munro seven pounds, nine shillings and ten pence out of the money  
 Liber C. B. set apart for Contingent Expences of Government per Accounts  
 No. 24 passed.—  
 p. 387

February 20 [W Paca in Council to Colo<sup>s</sup> Joseph and George Dashiell.]  
 Liber No. 78  
 p. 418 We hereby authorize and empower you to draw from the Com-  
 missary of ——— County, such Provisions as may be necessary for  
 the Militia under your Command, and to appoint a Forage Master,  
 to supply the Horse with Forage.

Ibid. [Council to Majr Joseph Bruff.]

Be pleased to deliver to the Order of Col<sup>o</sup> George Dashiell, such  
 Ammunition as he may want, keeping in View that Col<sup>o</sup> Joseph  
 Dashiell has a similar Order upon you, and that you are not to leave  
 your own County without Ammunition.

N B. Similar Order in Fav<sup>r</sup> of Col<sup>o</sup> Joseph Dashiell.

Ibid. [W<sup>m</sup> Paca in Council to Colo<sup>s</sup> Joseph and George Dashiell]

We have yours of the sixteenth Ins<sup>t</sup>, and are greatly distressed  
 by the Contents. We feel most sensibly, the Dangers you are ex-  
 posed to, and lament that it is not in our Power to afford you effectual  
 Relief; but you may be assured that every Thing which can be done,  
 shall be cheerfully done for your Assistance. It is too true that there  
 is no Militia Law. A Difference of Opinion between the two Branches  
 of the Legislature, respecting some particular Exemptions, has re-  
 duced us to this defenceless Situation: but we hope the Spirit and  
 Patriotism of the People of your County, will supply the Place of a  
 Law. The People exposed to Danger on this Shore, have entered  
 into Associations, the Effects of which have hitherto answered all  
 the Purposes of a Law, and it is found that they turn out with more  
 Alacrity, when they do it voluntarily. We most earnestly recommend  
 the same Measure to the good Whigs of your County, who, we doubt  
 not, will have Discernment enough to see the Propriety of continuing  
 their old Officers in Command, as making any material Change will  
 only tend to derange their Plans, and delay their Exertions. They  
 may have the Consolation to reflect, that this, probably, will be the  
 last Time they will be under the Necessity of risking their Lives in  
 Defence of their Property, and, what is still more dear, their Wives  
 and Children: for there are the best Grounds to believe, that Peace  
 is already concluded in Europe; the last Accounts from whence, of  
 the 22<sup>d</sup> December, inform us that the preliminary Articles were  
 signed, by the American and British Ministers, and only waited the  
 Assent of France, which probably would be given in a few Days.  
 You ought not, however, to depend upon Appearances, nor shall we;  
 We have, as the only Thing in our Power, made a Preposition to the