

Sir,

Annapolis 21st Apr. 1777.

No. 30.

We have enclosed a Resolution of the General Assembly of the 7th Instant, which the Honorable Congress will let this State have two thousand Stand of Arms. The Public Arms we had, were sent in the Hands of Smallwood's Battalion and the Independent Companies, and almost all the Arms which were good for any thing, and belonged to private People, were collected for, and sent to the Flying Camp, none of them have been returned, the few that reached Philadelphia, about two thousand three Hundred, were delivered in there, by Order of Congress, and have, as we are informed, been since disposed of, for Continental Purposes. We therefore expect that in our naked and dangerous Situation, we shall be gratified with two thousand Stand, and, if they can be spared with more, as a greater Number will most probably, in a short Time, be necessary.

We are Sir

with the highest Respect Your most obed^t. Hum^l. Serv^t

To His Exc^{ty} John Hancock Esq^r }
 President of the Congress - }

Inclosed a Copy of the Resolⁿ of Ass^{embly} of the 4th Apr. 1777.

Sir,

Annapolis 21st Apr. 1777.

31.

Inclosed is a Resolution of the General Assembly of the 19th Instant, requesting one of the Regiments raising in this State, to be stationed on the Eastern Shore. The repeated Intelligence received by Congress of our Enemy's designing to send a considerable Force into Chesapeake Bay is in some Measure confirmed by an Officer, lately exchanged and now here, who says it was lately reported in New York, that Genl. Burgoyne had arrived in this Bay, with ten thousand Troops. From His Excellency Governor Henry's Letter, a Copy of which I have taken the Liberty to inclose you, it seems to be his Opinion, that in case there should be a Descent on the Eastern Shore, Virginia can render but little Assistance, and that the Defence of that Country will be thrown principally on this State. The Advantages the Enemy possess, may prevent this State, as well as Virginia from affording any adequate Assistance to the Eastern Shore; for, the Western Shore of both States will, with great Difficulty, if at all, be able to transport Troops across the Bay: This, and the Circumstances of two of our Counties as well as Sussex on Delaware, which I believe worse than either of them, make it necessary a Regular Force should be kept on Foot on the Eastern Shore; Genl. Smallwood is of Opinion the upper Part of Somerset County in Maryland is the most proper Place, it is nearly opposite to the lowest good Water on the Eastern Shore of our Bay for Vessels of Burthen, about thirty Miles from Lewis Town, directly in the Course of Communication from thence to the most disaffected Part of Maryland, about thirty Miles from Accomack in Virginia, from whence, and from Northampton, a considerable Body of Land Militia might be expected, and not far from very well affected Parts of the Maryland Eastern Shore. The Idea is, that if Congress should be pleased to allow one of the Regiments to be stationed thereabouts, ranging Parties might be kept out even in Sussex, occasionally; that they would prevent a Junction of the Forces, and