

In Council Annapolis 2^d May 1777.

Gent
No. 15. The fitting the Row Gallies is an Object we have much at Heart, as the
Public Confidence is, in great Measure, plac'd in them for the Defence of the Bay.
We therefore wish you to forward their Rigging, all you can. We are desirous the
Public should be as cheap and well served as Individuals; we cannot expect
it will be better; if you secure yourselves on a Dive, we expect to be benefitted
by a Fall in the Price of Stump, if it should happen.
Mess^{rs} Durr and Dawley } We are Gent^l Y^{rs}
Baltimore }

Gent. Annapolis 3^d May 1777.

No. 16. We have some Goods in Italia in the Hands of Mr. Stevenson, which we shall
be oblig'd to you to forward in small quick sailing Vessels; we would have them
divided in as many such as conveniently maybe. If there should be Difficulties
in shipping, the Goods immediately to the Continent, we shall be oblig'd to you
to write Mr. Stevenson to forward them to our Agent Mr. Harrison at Martinique
Mess^{rs} Norton & Beall. We are Y^{rs}

Sir. In Council Annapolis 6th May 1777.

No. 17. Inclosed you have a Resolution of Congress of the 19th Ap^l. It was
thought necessary for the Security and Quiet of the Eastern Shore, that a small
Body of Men should be ready on the Spot. Col^o Richardson's Battalion is order'd
on this Service, and we are perswaded, if we can soon raise the 300 Militia, and the
lower Counties the 100, they will, together prevent our being disturb'd by a small
Force and may, in case a more formidable one should be sent there, serve as a
Body for the Militia at large to resort to. Col^o Richardson is of Opinion with us
that the 300 had best be compos'd of Companies consisting of 1 Captain & 1 Lt
1 Ensign 1 Drum & Pipe 3 Sergeants 3 Corporals and 50 Privates each, and
that as Somerset and Worcester lie most convenient to reinforce this Body, the
Militia be got if possible from the other Eastern Shore Counties, which will be
at about the Rate of half a Company from each Battalion, a Number that can
be easily spared. You will therefore call your Battalion together, and you
and the other Field Officers of it, are to recommend a proper Person to us
for a Captain and another for Ensign of a Company, and assist them all in your
Power to enroll 30 Men who, with 20 to be enroll'd by the two Lieut^{ts} from
some neighbouring Battalion are to form one of the Companies. The Commission
shall issue on the Men being rais'd, a Capt. 20, first Lieut. 10, 2^d Lieut. 10, and
Ensign 10, and the Officers to rank as they shall enroll their Quotas.

We shall endeavour to supply the Militia with necessary Cloathing on this in
moderate Terms as the Regulars; we have Tents to supply them with, and they shall
be well treated in every Prospect, and receive the same Pay as the Continental Troop.
If any should supply themselves with good Musquets and Bayonets, we will make
an Allowance of 10^s. to such. As soon as the Men enroll, their Officers are to
march them forward to join Col^o Richardson in Somerset County. You
will be pleas'd to acknowledge the Receipt, as soon as it gets to your Hand.