In Council Annapolis 3d June 1777

No. 90. Sir. We have sent you the £100 by Col. Dorsey. Provisions and Prices of every Thing makes the utmost Frugality necessary; Capt. Dashfield's Hogshead of Whiskey lately, we imagine it cannot be expended, a small Allowance of Spirit must do and that of the cheapest Kind, the Public cannot afford Rum at 80/ or 85/ a Gallon for the Row Gallies, nor will it do to frequent the Markets for Beef at 15d. or 18d. per ℔ the Prices we hear it is at in Baltimore. We have some salted Provisions and while they last we had better partly at least, supply them. — We do not wish the Public to be in your Debt but we want your Accounts to see how things go on and know the State of our Affairs, and hope to be furnished with them next Week, agreeable to your Letter.

We are &c.

Mr. Jesse Hollingsworth. 3.

In Council 5th June 1777.

Gent. We now want, for the Public Use, the Cannon and Swivels you agreed

91. with the late Council of Safety to make, and desire to know whether you have them ready for Proof, agreeable to your Contract. We are sorry to be obliged to remind you of this Business, not having received a Line or Message relative to it.

We are &c.

Messrs. Saml. Dorsey Junr. & Jno. Onions Elk Ridge.

In Council Annapolis 5th June 1777.

Sir Capt. Handy tells us that he understands from Majr. Smith that he got

92. 500 Shirts, 500 Jackets & Breeches and 100 Coats. — We now send a Boat to Balt. for 100 Tents, which we suppose will be sufficient for the present, and, on her calling here, intend to send you Stuff & Buttons for 150 Coats, 100 ready made Shirts 6 ℔. Osnabrigs to make about 300 Overalls & 40 or 50 Camp Kettles, we would send more Stuff for Coats, but our Stock will not allow it; the Boat shall, as soon as we get the Things in, proceed to Cambridge. — We approve your Design of sending the Sick & Baggage by Water, but it is out of our Power to send you Vessels for that Purpose, you will therefore endeavour to obtain them. We can furnish you with Powder & Lead and, we believe, with Cartridge Paper, but we have no Stock of Cartridges made, nor is there any Body employed for making them, as we know of; the Continent ought to furnish the Ammunition and if you'll send us an Estimate of the Quantity, we will endeavour to get it from the Public Stores in Baltimore, it is much more agreeable to us to do so, than to supply it and charge it. We do not think it can be expected that the Officers should find Horses for Expresses and therefore think as they will be necessary, you would do well to buy half a Dozen at the Account of the Continent at once. As to Carriage, we have more Difficulty about it; The Expence of buying Waggons & Horses on the Uncertainty whether they may be useful or not, seems not to be justifiable — the Neighbourhood can illy supply Carriage on an Emergency. If five Waggons sufficient for