

In Council 10th Oct. 1777.

179. Sir. We are convinced that it is absolutely necessary to strengthen Genl Washington all we possibly can, and that it may produce the most unhappy consequences, if the Army should be weakened, by the Militia who are now in Service, coming away on the Expiration of their Time without being replaced. We request that you will give the necessary Orders for the March of the two first Classes of your County. We wish there may be no Delay and would have them carry what Arms they can, but such as cannot immediately procure them, may go without, and will, we expect, be furnished at Camp with every Thing except Blanketts, which they must carry with them. If any are gone from your County under the General Orders given before, then would we have only so many march now, as will make up two Classes.
Aquila Hall Esq. }
Lt. of Harford County }

We are Sir &c.

In Council 10th Oct. 1777.

180. Sir. From the Situation of our Affairs, it may, probably be necessary still to keep up a Body of our Militia at Camp, and the Time of those who are there being nearly expired, we have ordered two Classes to march from several of the Water Side Counties, but as they may not fully make up the Number requested by Congress, we desire you'll give the necessary Orders for the March of the third Class from your County. We wish this Class to be on their Way as soon as possible, that those who have already served may be soon discharged ~ So far as they can, we would have them carry their Arms but request there may be no Delay on that Account, as we expect those who carry none, may have the Arms of this State now at Camp, put into their Hands. They will be furnished at Camp with our Tents, Accoutrements & Camp Kettles, but as to Blanketts, they must carry their own, for we have none.

We are &c.

To Charles Beatty Esq. Lt. of Fred. Co. }
Chas. G. Griffith Esq. Lt. of Washington Co. }

In Council Annapolis 10th Oct. 1777.

181. Sir. We are informed by Mr Thomas Dawson who commands the Guard over the Powder lodged near Talbot Court House, that about the Quantity of 1000 wt. only now remains at that Place. As we are, from our not being intimately acquainted with the necessary Circumstances, unable to judge of the Expediency of continuing or discharging that Guard, we are to request that you will do the one or the other, as you may think the most eligible and proper. ~ If you continue the Guard, the smaller it is better on account of the Expence.

We are Sir &c.

Robert Birkhead Esq. }
Lt. of Talbot County }