

withholding the little and opposing their being applied to the Subsistence
N. 35 of our Army, can only be done in favour of our Enemies and, we are
determined, they shall not draw any Supplies, from this State, if it
can be prevented. — We are &c,

Col. George Dashill. —

In Council 7th Jan^y 1778.

Gent.

36. When the Militia were ordered out, the Officers who commanded
them, represented, and we believe very truly, that many of the Men
could not march, without an Advance of some necessary Articles of
Cloathing, most commonly Shoes, or Money to purchase them, and
with a View to enable the Officers to advance for such Purposes,
in small Sums to the most necessitated, Orders were drawn, by
the Council and myself, ^{on the Treasury} in favour of the Colonels or Principal Officers
who went with Detachments of the Militia. Money was advanced
by the Congress in the same Manner, and Shoes by the Council of Safety, last
Year, with the same Intention. — We are informed that, in by far too
many Instances, the Men, to whom small Advances were made, much
within a Proportion of their Pay, have deserted, and that, in settling the
Militia Accounts, no Credit is allowed to the Officers for Money advanced
in such Instances. The Officers, in such Cases, last Year, had Credit
in their Accounts and, we ~~do~~ think, on every Principle of Justice and
Policy, and we are satisfied, unless the Officers have the like Allowances
now, they, nor any others in future, will advance Money for which
they ~~they~~ will expect to be chargeable on an Event which they cannot
hinder. We therefore wish you to make the Allowance to the
Officer, unless it appears the Advance was imprudently or improperly
made. — We are Gent. &c.

The Board of Auditors.

In Council: Annapolis 4th Jan^y 1778. —

Gent.

37. The inclosed Order of Council pretty fully explains the Necessity of it.
Perhaps those who are not well affected may blame the Measure; but those
who wish a plentiful Supply for our Army and that we may not feed
and support our Enemies to subdue our own Country, we flatter ourselves
will approve and support the Resolution we have taken. We would
wish Violence to be avoided if possible, and have lodged this Power
with you from a Certainty that it will be prudently exercised. If
any Doubt or Difficulty should arise, we wish you to compare
Sentiments and act in Concert: yet if the People, whose Situations
expose their Stocks to be plundered by the Enemy, refuse to furnish
their spare Lattle, for the high Prices proposed, as such Refusal can