

3<sup>d</sup> April 1778

Gentlemen of the General Assembly

The Council and I thought proper to lay before you the copy of a letter wrote by us the 20<sup>th</sup> of March to Col. Smith and his Answer of the 1<sup>st</sup> Instant received yesterday.

No. 139.

The Fact avowed and more especially the Sentiments contained in the Col. Letter renders the Matter, we think, of consequence enough for your Consideration

The General Assembly.

In Council Annapolis 5<sup>th</sup> April 1778.

Sir

150

Inclosed you have a Commission of Agent to purchase Provisions in Talbot County, you will also receive by Col. Silghman, two thousand Dollars, for that Purpose. It is essential to the Service that we should be regularly furnished with a monthly Return of your Purchase agreeable to the Act, and we request you will have what Provisions you may purchase sent on immediately either to Baltimore or the Head of Elk. The Barrelled Pork and Beef which you may get must be well examined and if there's Doubt of its keeping you must by all Means have it put into proper Order and, if necessary Salt added.

W. Samuel Sharp

We are &c

April 5<sup>th</sup> 1778.

151.

The Governour and Gentlemen of the Council request the Favor of the Gentlemen of the House of Delegates to inform them of the Names of the Magistrates who have qualified and of the Hundreds in their respective Counties

Gent. of the House of Delegates.

In Council Annapolis 6<sup>th</sup> April 1778.

Sir

152.

Mr. Winters informs us that John Hatley and William Aires, both of them Englishmen and Gun-Finishers have lately been enlisted into your Regiment and that if they are taken from him, he must break up his Gun Manufactory. he adds that theres little Probability if these Men are carried into the Service, that they will continue in it longer than they may have a favourable Opportunity of deserting to the Enemy. We are of Opinion that the general Service would be better promoted by leaving those Men with Winters, either continuing them as enlisted and he discharging their Pay &c. with additional Wages, as may be agreed by him and them or discharging them, and we request of you that something of the kind may be fallen on. For in the present Scarcity of Arms, we should be sorry that a Shop of so much Value to the Public should be discontinued.

Col. William Richardson

We are &c