

No 153.

be necessary: if it should be judged necessary to have more Militia and the Time will admit of it, send an Express to us and the Assembly which induce the Opinion or, if the Occasion should be so urgent that it will not admit of the Delay, we would have the nearest Militia instantly called on advising us immediately of the Proceeding and Occasion. We hope there will be no Difficulty in your agreeing on a proper Field Officer from each of the three Counties which, we imagine, considering the Duty may probably be a good Deal dispersed, will be necessary. The Service being merely Continental, we expect Col^o Hollingsworth will manage, as to Provisions. We expect this Duty will not be of long Continuance. We have wrote to Gov^r Rodney for some of the Lower County Militia to join in this Service and if, on your Meeting you judge a less Number than we have directed, necessary, advise us of it, that we may burthen the Militia as little as possible, though we wish rather to have more than less than is barely sufficient for the Service. —

We are Sir &c

To Col^o W^m Bordley &
Col^o Jas^o Rumsey }

P.S. To Col^o Bordley.

We understand by Mr Maxwell that there is a Quantity of Lead in Chester, he supposes about 3 or 5000^{to}, of which we desire you will send over to this Place, 1000^{to} by the first favourable Opportunity. It would be proper to have Part of what you reserve run into Balls, suitable to the Bore of the Guns, & Cartridges made up in Proportion. Let the Lieut^t of Cecil have 100 Stand of Arms and, if Occasion, supply the Companies ordered on the present Service, with Powder and Ball. —

In Council Annapolis 8th April 1778. —

Sir

In consequence of Letters received from General Smallwood and Col^o Henry Hollingsworth, strongly urging the Necessity of collecting a Body of Militia to cover the Stores purchased in your State and this, in their Removal to the Magazines, the Assembly formed a Resolution, of which the inclosed is a Copy, — We have ordered two Companies of Militia on this Service from each of the Counties of Kent, Cecil and Harford, which are as many, considering the Season of the Year and all Circumstances, as can well be spared from thence, though perhaps not fully adequate to the Occasion. Col^o Hollingsworth justly impressed with the Importance of the Service, desires us to join our Request to his, for some of the Delaware Militia to act with us. We do so very cheerfully and hope the Propriety of your giving Orders for that Purpose may appear to you in the same strong Light that it does to us. —

Governor Rodney

We have the Honour to be &c