

In Council Annapolis 9th April 1778.

We are informed by a letter from Col^o Wallingworth of the 4th Invt^o just received, that Capt. Lee left that Part of the County, by which the stores at and in the Neighbourhood of the Head of Elk, are without any kind of Guard. We therefore request that you will immediately order the two Companies of your Militia to the Head of Elk, which by our Letter of Yesterday are desired to be called out. The Occasion is pressing and we hope there will be no Delay.

Col^o Wm. Bordley & }
Col^o Chas. Dumfry }

We are &c

In Council Annapolis 9th Ap^l 1778.

156 Sir. In consequence of the Act for purchasing Provisions, we appointed Capt. John Sterret, but he declined acting, alledging his being an Inhabitant of this County. We are sorry there has been so much Delay in this necessary Business and hope your Diligence will, as far as possible, retrieve it. Capt. Sterret had several Copies of the Act, inclosed to him which he did not return to us, but hope he will to you, as we have no more Copies of the Law. We have Money sent us by Congress, and should be glad to know, as soon as possible, what Quantity of Provisions you are likely to get and, consequently the Sum immediately wanted, which waits your Order, if not very large. It will be essential to the Service that you be punctual in your Returns agreeable to the Act, and advise us at the same Time, of the Places at which it is lodged, that we may give Directions, as to their Removal. If you purchase any barrell'd Meat, be careful in your Examination of it and that it is in good Order, or put into good Order for Keeping.

Mr. Benj^a Griffith }
Balt^o County }

We are &c

In Council Annapolis 9th Ap^l 1778.

157 Sir. We are sorry to learn that few or none of the able People in your County have paid in any Thing of their Assessments and that the Recruiting Service is suffering for want of a Fund on which to carry it on. It is a Matter of the first Consequence and we intreat your Industry in soliciting the People to pay in immediately, to enable you to pay for the Recruits. You can in nothing exert yourself, more useful to your Country, than by pushing for Money sufficient to keep the Recruiting Service alive. You have, we expect our former Directions to advance 120 Dollars to each of the Officers appointed under the Act of the last Session, and to keep advancing, on the Recruits being pass'd, so as to keep each Officer 120 Dollars beforehand. To those Orders we now add our Desire that you will advance further to each of them, fifty Dollars, so that each may have the full County at all Times for three Recruits, and further that as any of the Regular Officers in our Maryland continental Regiments may enlist Men, you repay them the fifty Dollars Bounty, on their lodging with you, the Lieutenant of the County his Certificate of their being pass'd, with their Receipt for the Money, which you will be careful to preserve as vouchers for your Account.

We are &c

David Smith Capt. of Washington
Recruiting Officers under the Act
Adam Hill
Rich^d Davis
Chas. Prather