

March 1779

Sir

401.

We are informed, by a letter received to Day from Col: Hooper, that Mister and others of his Stamp have committed a Robbery on Mr. Whiteley at his Plantation at Hoopers Straights; the Villains are supposed to have gone with their Plunder to Smiths Island. Col: Hooper proposes to find a Party of Militia after them; possibly he may want your Assistance to find the Operations of the Militia; if he should make such a Request, we wish you to give your Aid. Mister and his Gang are of the Sett who harbour in Annimézet and have plundered General Vessels as well as committed other Outrages -

We are &c.

Commodore Grason

In Council Annapolis 30th March 1779.

Sir

402.

Mr. Stevens, Sheriff of Dorchester County shewed us to Day, your Notice to him to pay up the Balance due on his Account; he says that he has not exchanged any of the Money received in his Office, though it is impossible for him to identify on Oath, the Bills he has received for the public Assessment. This Matter appears to us within the Equity of the Provision of the last Session of Assembly and, we think, you may, with Safety and Propriety, receive from Mr. Stevens the Balance in the Continental Treasury Recd: which he says he has obtained, or depositing the Money there to be exchanged.

We are &c.

Henry Dickinson Esq: }  
Sraf: of the Eastern Shore }

In Council Annapolis 30th March 1779.

Sir

403.

We received to Day, your letter of the 26th inclosing Mr. Whiteley's letter to you of the 22d. Esteeming it of high concern to the Peace and Security of the People and their Property, on the Water sides to punish such villanous Outrages as that committed on Mr. Whiteley, we wish you by all Means if in your Power, to send a Detachment of your Militia in pursuit of the Aggressors. Our Gallies are below and, if you think it necessary that they should act in concert with the Militia, you will be pleased to send the inclosed to Commodore Grason, advising him how he may best assist the Operations you may concert, though it will readily occur to you that, if you can accomplish the Business without him for a certainty, the Success of the Enterprize had better not be hazarded by the Delay which may be occasioned by calling on him. The long Delay of examining into the conduct of such Offenders and the frequency of their Escapes, seem to have left little Terror in our hearts, clearly not enough to deter the Wicked from the Perpetration of the Highest Crimes against the State; we have had too much softness and are very that there's a Necessity for a different Conduct.

We are &c.

Henry Hooper Esq: Lt. }  
of Dorchester County }