

23  
Gentlemen should be coming from Philadelphia, so that a Guard would  
be useless, you'll avail yourself of their Company. We would have you  
call on Col. Henry at George Town & Col. Perkins near Chester Town  
and leave with them the Money that may be necessary to pay for  
and continue their Purchases, taking their Receipts, we suppose  
30,000 £ may be necessary for each. You'll take from each of them  
a Memorandum of the State of their Purchases, by which you'll  
be able to judge of the Sums wanted. We need not particularly  
recommend to you to be careful, in consequence of your Prudence  
we have requested you to go on this Business  
We are &c.

Col. William Hyde.

In Council Annapolis 21<sup>st</sup> April 1779

Genl.  
123. We inclose you a Letter for Congress which he pleased to present,  
for a large Sum of Money for the Purchase of Flour &c. for the  
Use of the Army. We have sent Col. Hyde and Mr. Howard up  
for it, we wish there may be no Delay and that you would have  
them assisted with a Carriage and, if necessary, a Guard as far,  
at least, as the Head of Elk. We do not think that less than 200,000 £  
will by any means do, we have not more than 25,000 £ of passing  
Money in the Western Shore Treasury and not a great Deal in the Eastern.  
The Price of Grain and Flour is daily rising. Our Purchaser in Baltimore  
has engaged about 5000 Bushels of Wheat from 5 to 7-10 £. We  
have ordered him to stop 'til we can see Mr. Robt Buchanan, this will  
cost upwards of 30,000 £. Mr. Dallam has purchased in Kent 500 Bbls  
of Flour, we do not know what he has done in Starford. Col. Henry  
has engaged about 1000 Bbls of Flour in Kent, he has agreed to give  
the Philadelphia Price, deducting Freight & Carriage, and some Wheat.  
We have wrote him to make his future Contracts certain, he complains  
of Purchasers coming from Delaware, amongst them, Continental  
Purchasers, and raising the Price. Col. Perkins in Kent has bought  
upwards of 200 Bbls at £15-10 the Sacks at 25. He has also engaged  
about 1000 Bushels of Wheat at the current Price when delivered &  
expects about 200 Barrels & 1000 Bushels more; we wrote him, as we  
did Col. Henry, as to uncertain Contracts. There is yet Wheat in Balt.  
Starford, Montgomery, Frederick, Kent & a little in Queen Anns, but  
we do not know where the Price will stop. We hear there's a good  
Deal of Flour in Baltimore, we expect Mr. Robt Buchanan down  
Daily and design to consult, whether the deficient Quantity may  
not be got on the Water at once: we had better procure it, even  
at an advanced Price, and save the Delay and Expence of Carriage.  
We have advanced thirty thousand Dollars on the Recruiting