

34. ~~... and we certainly have no Power to interfere with our~~
Orders. If there was an absolute certainty of the Enemy being destined for
Baltimore, we should strongly recommend to the Virginia Troops to
join us in opposing the common Enemy, but in the present uncertainty
if we should do so and the Object & Operations of the Enemy should
be confined to Virginia, weakening the Opposition against them by keeping
back so considerable a Force would be highly censured and justly.
The Offer of your services at this Time, claims our Thanks and we
have a strong Impression of their Value; we act in a limited Sphere
nor is it the first Time where we have not been able to place Experience
in the high Point of Authority where it might be most useful.
From the Confidence we have in the Temper and disposition of
those in whom the Laws have trusted the Militia, we are convinced
that your Advice will be respected, and ⁱⁿ that the common Good &
Safety attended to. We have no Intelligence to Day other than by
Boats from a good Way below, by which we are informed, they saw
nothing. Instant Notice shall be given conveyed to Baltimore of any
Think interesting. We are &c.

Col. Saml. Smith.

In Council Annapolis 10th May 1779

469. Sir. We sent Yesterday to Balt^o 101 Barrels of Pork in the General
Smallwood which had just arrived from the Eastern Shore. We have
Reason to suspect it is not in good Order and that, unless well attended
to, it will spoil. You know every Body in Balt^o. we shall be much
obliged to you to hire proper People to overhaul & set it to rights.
Mr. Buchanan will, we expect, lend us Continental Salt for the
Purpose, we will repay it as well as the Expence. Pray get some Body
who is diligent, capable & trusty. The Pork was recommended to the
Care of Capt. Keports

Sept Hollingsworth.

We are &c.

In Council Annapolis 19th May 1779.

470. Sir. We inclose you an Order for twelve thousand Pounds to pay for the
Flour you mention in yours of the 17th. Our Treasury here cannot afford
at present, the Advance of such a Sum, so that we could not send you the
Cash by Mr. Stevens. You do not mention the Price at which you expect
the Flour, nor where it lies; Mr. Stevens says he believes that it is at the
Head of Hunting Creek; if you buy it, we wish it to continue there 'til further
Orders. We believe the Quantity wanted will be made up, at all Events, we
would not have you exceed £20. ⁴/₁₀₀ as much less as you can agree for.
We are desired to return a General Account by the first Day of next Month
to enable us to do it, mention to us as soon as possible, the exact Quantity
you agree for, where it is and the Price. It must be ready by the 5th June
as by that Time it may, perhaps, be wanted and ordered to be removed.
You will consider this Purchase as closing your Commission.
Sullivan Esq. We are &c.