

515. We are very sorry that the Order for Arms from the different Parts of the State, with the Enemy, we designed only for temporary Relief of that County; too much may essentially depend on us to omit requiring in the most positive Manner, that we are patet. We will send you some Powder, as soon as we possibly send a Boat at present with it. It is not in our Commission from him or to prevent its Effect, but should be that the End of its being given to him was only to enable him when he sees the very contrary Effect, he will, if he deprecates it, give it up as he accepted it, and we think you would do an essential Service to your County & Country in bringing about a Resignation

Charles Dumsy Esq. }
 Lieut. of Cecil County }

We are &c.

In Council Annapolis 1st June 1779 12 O'Clock

516. Sir, Mr. Hever, who was in the Plater look out Boat, which was ordered as late as the Mouth of Patuxent, has this Mornent come to Town, he says that yesterday Afternoon, as the Plater was taking in Water at Mr. Carrolls, they saw 3 large Ships with 2 small Vessels opening to the Mouth of Patuxent, that they endeavour'd to get out of the Mouth of the River in the Plater, but the Ships came up so fast, they could not; that Mr. Hever who commanded the Plater, said he had no Doubt that the Ships were English Men of War & the small Vessels Tenders. He (Hever) was put on Shore at Capt. Fitzhugh's & rode all Night to bring the Intelligence. He says, a little before Sun down he saw one of the Ships about Warren Island under an easy Sail. This Intelligence is very unexpected after our having heard, last Night from unquestionable Authority that the Enemy had gone out of the Bay; it can't be accounted for but on a supposition that the Enemy had turned out only to amuse us. Pray advise us whether you are likely soon to get the Arms from Elk. We shall write you again soon.

And^{rs} Buchanan Esq. }
 Lieut. of Balt^o County }

We are &c.

In Council Annapolis 1st June 1779

517. Sir, Commodore Grason has just come in, he was conveying the Vessel with Arms to Patowmack: About 9 O'Clock this Morning he saw two Ships at Anchor near James's Island, the one larger than the other, one he took for a Frigate the other a 20 Gun Ship or a 20 & a Sloop; the smallest lay on the Edge of the Channel towards the Eastern, the largest on the Edge of the Channel towards the Western Shore. As long as he saw them, they continued at Anchor, he saw no Transports, tho' he thinks no Conclusion can be drawn from thence, that they have none, or any Tenders. He left the Chester between Sharps Island & Tilghmans Island and came up in a small Boat. It would, doubtless, be prudent to send immediately for the Intelligencer, in hope to get certain Intelligence by Tomorrow, whether the Enemy have Transports or not, be attentive to our Signal Guns.

And^{rs} Buchanan Esq. }
 Lieut. of Balt^o County }

We are &c.