

In Council Annapolis 27th July 1779

We just received your letter respecting the British Prisoners. For several Reasons we prefer marching them by Land to Philad^a for here we have no Prison which we could hold them an Hour, and they would be quite out of the Way of Exchange. Inclosed is an Order for their Route, the Distance is rather farther than we should have wished your Militia to go with them but that, we imagine they would be detained any where else, to get another Guard, and at Chester, we presume they may be instantly discharged. If there is no Spring from mispary at or in the Neighbourhood of Cambridge, is it known you can draw for the Guard & Prisoners til they get to Chester, we request the favour of you to have Provisions purchased

We are &c

Henry Hooper Esq^r
of Dor. County }

In Council Annapolis 29th July 1779

Sir By a letter received from Mr. Wm Smith, to whom the 2^d Part remaining of your Purchase was to be delivered, we are advised a Part of the Quantity he was to receive is to be forwarded for the Army and he is desirous of saving the Expence of transporting it to Balt^a and then again to the Head of Elk; wherefore we request you to comply with any Orders he may have given or may give concerning what remains in your Hands.

We are &c

Rich^d. Dallam - Mark.
Jm^s. W. Veasey & Sam^l. Gilpin - Cecil
Isaac Perkins, Gent, & H. Hollingsworth

In Council Annapolis 29th July 1779

Sir We just now rec^d a letter from Col^o Henry, of which the inclosed is a Copy & in answer thereto have wrote him to follow the Directions you have given or may give respecting the Flour in his Hands; he will probably expect to hear from you again respecting that Part which lies convenient to Delaware. We have also wrote to Jm^s Ward Veasey, Sam^l. Gilpin & Henry Hollingsworth of Cecil & Isaac Perkins of Kent to comply with any Orders you have already given or may give concerning what remains in their Hands (sent the 5th of this by Col^o Henry's Express, who goes by Way of Dock Hall. Col^o Dallam of Starford happens to be here & we have given the same Directions to him. It is certainly prudent to order such Part as is convenient, directly on the Way to its Destination without the accumulated labour & Expence of carrying it to Baltimore Town and we cannot but approve it as doubtless, every Body else will. We have no 24 Pounders, Swivel Shot or Musquet Ball that we can dispose of, at least at present and we have engaged all the Powder we can spare to the Congress. If the Board of War can spare Time to think of it, which they ought to do, as we understand it is wanted. The 6th Shot are here. We ask pardon for not answering your letter by Mr. Salhoun, the Business he and the other Gent^l were down on engroped us from the Rec^t of your Letter til they went away

We are &c

Wm Smith Esq^r

In Council Annapolis 29th July 1779

Sir There have been so many Directions about the Purchase of Flour & the Disposition of it, that the Matter is perplexed and, we fear, will not be finished to Satisfaction. The last Instruction we gave you, to forward what remained beyond the 5000 Barr^l to Wm Smith was in consequence of a Letter from Mr. Gov^r Morris, since which we have a Letter from Mr. Smith informing us he has Orders to send a Part for the Army, though we have no Advice of it from the Comm^{ts} of Congress: however there can be no Doubt but that Mr. Smith is directed as to the Disposition of the Flour and therefore we request that you will attend to any Thing you have received and may receive from him on the Subject In Order that he may be informed fully of the Circumstances of your Flour, we shall send him a Copy of your Letter. As to a further Purchase, we can say nothing to it, not having any Information of the Mode intended to be pursued for the further Supply of the Army

Wm Henry, Gent