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August 2^d. 1779

Gent. of the General Assembly. Most of the Officers of the Maryland Line, who were on the Recruiting Service, on their coming here for an Advance of the Bounty, requested to be informed by the Council and myself, what was the Allowance from State to the Recruiting Officers, alledging, I believe truly, that their Pay was not N^o 366. adequate to bear their expenses on this Business; we informed them Gent. that there was no State Allowance to the Recruiting Officers, beyond fifteen Dollars for each Recruit, but that we had no Doubt the General Assembly were well disposed to reimburse the Officers the actual Expenses at least, which they might necessarily be at in prosecuting the Recruiting Service; advised them to keep an Account of their Expenses and promised to mention the Matter to you. I do it Gentlemen under a Confidence that the bare mention of it is sufficient. I beg leave also to lay before you a Letter from Maj^t Nathaniel Smith. From verbal Conversation, from Time to Time, with General of the Officers of the Matross Company in Annapolis, they are under the like Impressions and entertain the like Expectations as the Officers of the Matrooses in Baltimore. I could wish, if it is your Pleasure to do any Thing for the Relief of those Gent. that your Bounty may be clearly and fully expressed without referring to what is allowed in the Army, of which I am, in most Instances, altogether uninformed, and thereby prevent any Misunderstanding or Un easiness from an apprehension that the Construction of the Governor & Council is not so liberal as your Intention.

Gent. Assembly.

In Council Annapolis 2^d August 1779

Sir. Your Letter of the 31st July with its Inclusives came to Hand yesterday. Chambers, by the 2^d Inst. of the 20th Chap. of Feb^d 4th Session 1777, is guilty of Treason and so are those who have afforded him any Aid or comfort, or have given him any Intelligence of the warlike Preparations of the United States or any of them. Wilmer's Deposition ought to have been more circumstantial, it does not mention how or in what Manner he was privy; his bare Concealment of the Treason of those who aided or comforted Chambers will bring him within the 3^d Inst. of the Act, and we think you ought to bind him over to the General Court. This Matter was no further before us than an a Letter from Mr. Wilmer, desiring Shely might be secured, and that he would impeach him of Treason, to which we immediately gave an Answer, advising him that an Oath was necessary previous to a Warrant issuing; that any Magistrate was competent to administer the Oath and issue a Warrant, and that if he knew of Shely's being guilty of High Treason, it was a Duty he undoubtedly owed the Publick, to apply to a Magistrate immediately to have him secured; that Letter, shewed to you, would have let you pretty well into our Sentiments. We have seen Mr. Pace on the Part of your Letter regarding Thomas Story. It will be highly proper, on his not producing a Certificate and refusing to take the Oath, which ought to be tendered to him, to commit him to Prison and certify us of it, that we may either remand him to Prison or send him back to his own State. There is no Criterion by our Laws to determine who are and who are not Residents, it is much wanted and an Act for the Better Security of the Government seems defective in not obliging new Settlers to take the Oath to this State. If Mr. Gilpin has, as we have understood, taken the Oath of Allegiance to Pennsylvania, and produces his Certificate, we do not know of any legal Way to prevent his residing in this State.

Wm. Bradley Esq^r }
Sect^r of Montgomery }

We are &c.

In Council 5th August 1779

Sir. We are very desirous of settling with our Matrooses in such a Manner as to give Un easiness. We understand the Money which was advanced them before they enlisted in Part of their monthly Pay and not as a Bounty. We shall be glad to be informed by the earliest Opportunity, what you did pay them exactly and for what Purposes, whether it was inclusive or exclusive of what they were entitled to as Matrooses, and as the Satisfaction made the Officer who went with them.

Jam^t Purviance Jun^r.

We are &c.