

593

Sir We last night recd a Letter from his Ex^{ty} Genl Washington dated the 20th of last Month inclosing a Copy of one to him from Col^o Wadsworth dated the 29th which gives alarm of Apprehensions of the Army's suffering for Want of Flour & pressing extraordinary Requests for a Supply. We do not know whether you have received fresh Instructions from Col^o Blaine on this Circumstance so unexpected by us, but whether you have or not, you may be assured that you cannot render more essential Service in your Department than in providing & pressing forward as quick as possible, all the Flour you can; it is an Object of too great Magnitude to delay, either for Formality of precise and regular Orders, or a Trifling in the necessary to apologise to Col^o Blaine, we imagine this will excite you, if not, we dare say Genl Washington's Letter will. Pray advise us of your Receipt of this and the Resolution you take in consequence of it.

We are &c

To Patrick Henry - Cecil, & }
 Rob^t Bushman Ball^o }

In Council Annapolis 9th Sept 1779

594

Sir Col^o Barret mentions to us that it may be useful to have Sam^l Chester of the Matanzas behind that he had desired, he might stay in the Post, til Orders from hence. His Diligence & success in Recruiting and the Necessity of leaving some Body who can be depended on, in the Post, induce us to desire he may be left behind and considered just as a Soldier of this State.

We are &c

Lieut. Saml. Saddle

In Council Annapolis 10th Sept 1779

595

Sir We are in Want of about 4000 Feet of 2 1/2 Inch Plank with which to repair our Gallies Pine will do, if good & cut as long as the Mills will allow. We shall be obliged to you to have that Quantity got ready for us as soon as possible and that you'll advise us when & where we may find for it. We also want about 1500 Feet of 1 1/2 and 1000 Feet of 1 Inch pine Plank, we would send for it at the same Time. If you cannot furnish us from your own Mills fully soon, we request the Favour of you to agree with some Body else for what may be deficient.

We are &c

Col. Joseph Dashiell

In Council Annapolis 10th Sept 1779

596

Sir Capt. Gale will go from hence with that Part of his Company which is here, next Monday, unless something unforeseen prevents it. He goes by Water to the Head of Elk where, or at Christen, it is expected you'll meet him with the other Part of the Company. For that Purpose, it is desirable you have a Vessel prepared and set off on Tuesday. If you get to the Head of Elk before Capt. Gale, proceed to Christen and wait there for him, he speaking a Vessel to carry the Company up Delaware. The inclosed to Mr. Calhoun is to request the Delivery of 50 Knapsacks, 50 Antennas & Camp Sticks for 5 Officers & 50 Men to go from hence. For your Part, we expect Mr. Calhoun has furnished you. These Things for Capt. Gale you'll leave with Col^o Hollingworth, if you go before Capt. Gale gets there. If Mr. Calhoun cannot furnish you, get the Deficiency of Capt. Sheperts.

We are &c

Lieut. Saml. Saddle

In Council Annapolis 10th Sept 1779

597

Genl. Yesterday we received your Letter of the 11th Inst. Inconvenient as it will be to keep a Hundred of our Militia, almost wholly Farmers, on Duty, we shall send Expresses to Frederick & Washington Counties tomorrow Morning with Orders to collect the Men with as little Delay as possible, relying that as soon as you can, you will relieve us from the Burthen. We imagine it will be best to cross the Mountain at the Black Gap avoiding Frederick Town and that we shall have Time to prepare for receiving them if they set off about Sunday or Monday Week. Col^o Dawlings, we understand has resigned he lives within a Mile of Fort Frederick and, if he would undertake it, would be a proper Person to have the Superintendance of the Prisoners.

We are &c

Board of War.