

In Council Annapolis 30th Sept. 1779.

Enclosed Copy of our Letter of the 11th Instant to Col. Bruce, will inform you of the Necessity of a Guard to be kept over the Prisoners there or on their Way thither. From what we have lately heard, the Necessity is still increased, by the Increase of the Number of Prisoners who have fallen into our Hands. Frederick County, has been a good deal burthened as well as Washington; which induces us to call for a Company from Montgomery in the next Place, which shall, if the Continuance of a Guard should be necessary, be relieved by the Militia from some other County. In Execution of this Plan, we desire you will order a full Company of the Militia of your County, of the Claper which have not yet served, consisting of one Captain, two Lieutenants, one Ensign, four Sergeants, four Corporals & 60 Privates to hold themselves in Readiness and actually to march so as to be at Fort Frederick the third Day of November next, where they are to continue on Duty for five Weeks, unless sooner relieved; they are to have the Arms made Use of by the Frederick Company.

We are &c.

Charles Greenbury Griffith }
Lt. of Montgomery County }

In Council Annapolis 1st Oct. 1779.

Sir. Mr. Randall, our State Cloathing has come from Lamp to see what Cloathing can be furnished by this State for its Troops. It seems they will probably much want Shirts, Blankets, Hats & Stockings. Notwithstanding the Importations and Purchases, Mr. Randall has received no Blankets at all, and very few of the other Articles. It seems strange to call on us at this Season for Cloathing, after the Congress have had Agents to purchase distributed almost every where, and when the Purchases might be so much better made under one general Direction; very little is in our Power. We understand that you have by you about 900 Blankets, purchased for the Continent; it is very desirable our Division should have them and we wish you may consider yourself at Liberty to let us have them; if you can on our indemnifying you, we readily undertake it, and wish you to deliver them to Mr. Randall to whom we shall be obliged to you to communicate what you can respecting Stockings, Linen for Shirts and Hats.

We are &c.

William Smith Esq.

In Council Annapolis 2^d Oct. 1779

Sir. We are called on again to assist in cloathing our Troops, we cannot do any Thing of Consequence below, to our Satisfaction, in imported Goods; we most want Shirts, Blankets, Hats & Stockings we wish you to buy up as quickly as possible you can, all Linen you can meet with, fit for Soldiers Shirts, either country made or imported, as far if you have an Opportunity, as will make 3000 Shirts, and have it made into Shirts as you get it; you'll be attentive to have them well made and washed. If you can get them on tolerable Terms, purchase as far as 1000 Blankets. If you can agree for Hats, contract as far as 1500, Stockings as far as 2000 Pair, especially if they can be soon got. Col. Johnson, on Enquiry, wrote the Governor that Hats bought were at 26 Dollars and yarn Stockings at 20 Dollars. Mr. Beatty will supply you with Money from Time to Time as may be necessary and we shall, on your Receipts, replace it here. Diligence is necessary, exert yourself and write us frequently.

We are &c.

Mr. Abraham Frazer.

In Council Annapolis 2^d Oct. 1779

Sir. We just now received your Letter of to Day. There is no armed Vessel here, nor any fit for Sea except our, she is nearly loaded. We have but a few Barks of Flour and no Bread at all belonging to the State, nor is there any Quantity in Town, we happened to have an Opportunity and have already wrote to Mr. Armistead to know if he or any Body in his Neighbourhood can immediately furnish any. The Independence, now at Ballimore is the only Galley we have in Order; we wish you to consult with Commodore Graffon, whether she would not answer the Purpose, if she will and you can engage a sufficient Number of Men, with those who belong to her, we suppose in the whole about 50 will be necessary we are very willing she should go; she may just call here to take in her Provisions and by that Time we can, on being advised you make Use of her, have the Dolphin loaded with Turnips & Potatoes to go with her. The Independence, we are afraid, will not carry