

a great Deal besides her Stores, but she may answer as a Convey to any other Defects you find with her. We suppose the Orders will be to deliver to the French Detachment if they can get there Time enough, or if it should have passed, to proceed after it. Would it not be well to encourage private People to send Supplies and Refreshments on giving good Security to deliver their cargoes and bring back Certificates, on your Recommendations, we should think ourselves justified in granting the Permits. The Supply to our Friends is a thing we have much at heart and wish more was in our Power; we shall gladly concur in any Measures you will recommend which may have that Effect. Would not it be well to send all the Flaws which can be got in Brisk & Laid to Landings on Delaware to be sent from thence? The Congress might recommend & we permit it, for we presume the French Fleet will make no long Stay short of New York and the less Navigation the better. If you approve the Permits to private People on Security, immediately inform us, as perhaps we may induce some to be shipped from Patuxent.

No 617

we are &c.

William Smith Esq.

In Council Annapolis 2<sup>d</sup> Oct. 1779.

Sir We have just received a Letter from the War Office dated the 27<sup>th</sup> of last Month, in which we are informed the Board of War have desired Col. Moses Rawlings to take the Charge and Government of the Prisoners Lying to Fort Frederick. We are very glad that a Gentleman so capable of managing the Prisoners is appointed to the Care and Government of them and we request you will concur, as we have no Doubt you will, with Col. Rawlings to promote the End of his Appointment by attending to his Directions from Time to Time.

618

we are &c.

Capt James Wiley

In Council Annapolis 2<sup>d</sup> Oct. 1779.

Sir We are glad to be informed by Mr. Randall and your Mem<sup>o</sup> that you go on so well with the Shirts; we wish you to proceed so as to secure about 2000; if you can increase the Quantity and better the Quality by giving as far as £6. a Yard, we are willing you should do for the Country Linen being so much more serviceable than the imported, we would give it the Preference, and if you see a fair Prospect of getting enough for the 2000 Shirts, we wish to have nothing to do with the imported Linen which Mr. Smith spoke of to you and wrote to us about, but if you cannot get the Country Linen as fast as you can have it made up, we request you to get the Favor of Mr. Smith to supply you with enough to make up the Deficiency. If you can procure them soon, purchase as far as 1000 Yards not to exceed twenty six Dollars. Any Number of Stockings that you can purchase, not exceeding 2000 Pairs, we wish you to get, if strong & good, we shall not grumble at 10 or 10 Dollars, if the Quality deserves it, go as far as 20. perhaps you might get the more if you advertised that you were appointed to purchase Stockings & Shirting for the Maryland Troops and request a Preference, some People yet amongst us would surely willingly give it. We send by this, or shall by the first Opportunity £15,000. write us of the Receipt of it and frequently of your Success; do push the Business, our poor Soldiers very much want Shirts. If you have more Linen by you than you can immediately make up, please to send it to Mr. Muir with Word that it may be made up here and Mr. Randall, who waits for it, may be the faster discharged.

619

we are &c.

Capt Geo. P. Keports

In Council Annapolis 5<sup>th</sup> Oct. 1779.

Sir We have yet no Answer to our Letter of Sunday to Mr. Smith, so that we do not know what Prospects he has of Flaws, nor did he explain to us in his Letter what Kind of Flaws he wanted or the Price. We shall send to him a Copy of your Letter from whence he will see our Adons and if his Affairs are in the Situation they too probably are, we expect you will hear from him with the necessary Information of his Arrangement of his Business to prevent as far as may be any Clashing. We intend to send over to Annapolis a small House for your 50 Barr<sup>ls</sup> & the same Boat may take the Remnant of your old Purchase, if it lies at the same Place. We have a Confidence you will be moderate as you can in the Price.

620

we are &c.

Wm. Hensley Esq.