

31.
In Council Annapolis 16th October 1779.

N^o 630. Sir, We yesterday received very pressing Letters on the Subject of Flour for General Washington's Army; they intimate great Dependence on Maryland for Supplies, the Occasion is so pressing that unless you have an Answer from Col. Blaine, ~~for~~ it, we by all Means recommend your parting from 2000 of the 3000 Bushels of Salt you have on Hand in Exchange for Wheat and Flour. We imagine a Bushel of Allum Salt ought to be given for and would command three Bushels of Wheat and other Salt in due Proportion. Do exert yourself to obtain and send forward what Flour you possibly can, no Time is to be lost. As far as you can, prevent the Salt falling into the Hands of People to sell again; pray write us frequently we are extremely anxious to hear of your being in a good Way.

Robert Buchanan Esq. We are &c.

In Council Annapolis 16th Oct. 1779

631. Sir, We shall send you by the Plater in a few Days about 250 Bushels of Country made Salt, which we request you to exchange for Wheat, one Bushel of Salt for two of Wheat, which we have no Doubt, it will readily command, as this Salt was made upwards of two Years ago, it must now be very good. We wish you to distribute the Salt as much as you can in the Exchange to make it as generally useful as may be, and prevent its being sold again for Profit, and that you'll grind up the Wheat in Flour fit for the Army, and forward it to the Head of the Bay, to be sent with the Next. We shall be much obliged to you to expedite this Business all in your Power and shall at any Time be ready to settle the Account with you with Pleasure, and inform us of your Proceedings.

Col^o Isaac Perkins We are &c.

N^o Only 200 Bushels of Salt sent.

In Council Annapolis 16th Oct. 1779.

632. Sir, We yesterday received Letters from Congress desiring our Exertions in procuring Flour for the Use of our Army and empowering us to apply Money for that Purpose. We do not know that any Continental Agent is at present acting in so capital a Part of the Country for this Business as your County. Your Letter having notified us that you did not act wth Mr. Giles whom you mention to us as having been appointed, not yet having yet applied for a License. The Occasion is so pressing that, notwithstanding your Disinclination to transact public Business, we cannot but request your Assistance and desire you will, as speedily as possible, purchase what Flour you can, and Wheat and have it made into Flour coarse, fit for the Army and send it forward, taking proper Receipts, the Account will be to settle with us. We now send you £15000, further Sums shall be paid as desired. If you cannot prevail on yourself to execute this Business, we must get you to put it into the Hands of some Body worthy of it, for it will not do to have it delayed, till we can hear from you and make another Appointment, but we much wish it to be transacted by you, write us and that fully and often.

Richard Dallam Esq. We are &c.