

In Council Annapolis 6th Jan^y 1700

Sir:

We received your Favours of the 3^d Inst^y by Express. As the grand Object of the Act for the immediate Supply of ^{the} is to promote, procure, an immediate and full Supply of Provisions for our Army, it was necessary that the Commissioners should be vested with extraordinary Powers, that these Powers should be accurately defined, and that the Trade to be pursued by them, should be plainly delineated, which is done. We do not think that Flour and Wheat purchased for the Marine of France (privileged or exempted from Seizure), and we are certain it was not the Intention of the Legislature that these Articles should be, because such Exemption would, in a great Degree, if not wholly frustrate the Design of the Law. We esteem it our Duty to afford the Commissioners every Aid in our Power to facilitate the Execution of the Law, and therefore cannot at this Time, grant Permission to export Flour, because we should thereby restrain that extensive Operation of the Act by which alone we can obtain an immediate Supply adequate to our pressing Wants. We are sensible of its Importance, that the Marine of France should be furnished with Flour and it is with the utmost Regret, we have refused Permission and nothing could have induced us to do it but the alarming and distressful Situation of our Army, and when we have Assurance that their Wants are relieved, we shall with Pleasure, grant Licence as heretofore. The numerous Evils that would result from procrastinating the Supplies when contrasted with the Inconveniencies alluded to by you, will, we trust, evince the Propriety of our Conduct and justify our Refusal. We will send you the Account for that furnished Capt. Harrison by the next Opportunity.

William Smith Esq^r

We are &c.

In Council Annapolis 8th January 1700

Sir:

We request you to give Orders that the Drivers of Teams sent to transport Supplies for the Army by the Commissioners appointed by the Act for the immediate Supply of ^{the} be furnished with necessary Provisions and Forage for themselves and Horses.

James Calhoun Esq^r

We are &c.

In Council Annapolis 10th Jan^y 1700

Sir:

We this Morning received your Letter by Mr. Allen, We cannot think that the Information you have received and communicated to us, is sufficient to warrant a Suspension of the Act for the immediate Supply of ^{the} nor can we direct the Commissioners to cease to act according to that Law until we are ascertained that a sufficient Quantity of Flour to supply the Army, has been obtained.

Robert Buchanan Esq^r

We are &c.

In Council Annapolis 12th January 1700

Sir:

We are called upon by Col^o Rawlings for a Guard immediately at Fort Mifflin and he is directed, if he can, to procure one in Washington, if not, to call on you according to our former Directions. We request you to have this Men in Readiness to march either for the Service immediately, or to relieve the Washington Guard, as you shall be called on by Col^o Rawlings

Charles G. Griffith Esq^r
Lieut. of the Blankenbury Company }

We are &c.