

confined and give us the earliest Information thereof. The Information contained in the letter is to be private.

General Bushanon.

In Council, 26th Feb. 1781.

202. Sir, Capt. Gilbert Middleton you are to proceed with the Powder, Arms and Ammunition which you have taken on Board your Vessel, to Rabbit County, which you are to deliver to the Lieutenant of that County and take his receipt on their Delivery. You are then to proceed down the Bay to the relief of William Middleton, who is immediately to return to this Place and make his Report. You are also to endeavour to make the best Observations in your Power of the Situation and Design of the Enemy; and to that End we recommend your going to the French Fleet near Portsmouth where we apprehend the most authentic Information may be procured. You are to remain below in the present Service until you are recalled by this Board, if nothing material occurs.

Capt. Gilbert Middleton.

In Council, 26th Feb. 1781.

203. Sir, We have determined to return the Plow, saved of the late Cargo to Col. Samuel Smith and have to request you will deliver it as fast as it is repacked and reweighed to him or his Order. M^r Thomas Donellan.

In Council, 26th Feb. 1781.

204. Sir, We are desirous of bringing about the Exchange of the State of the Ship captured by the British and confined in Baltimore Goal for M^r James Tucker state of the British and prize Master of the Ship now with the Enemy at Portsmouth and for that End request you to deliver the state (whose name is unknown to us) to Col. John Steward.

Daniel Hughes Esq.

In Council, 26th Feb. 1781.

Sir, Agreeable to the Resolutions of the General Assembly of the 1st of Feb. 1781. We request you to commence Suit immediately in the