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In Council, 8<sup>th</sup> March, 1781.

247. Sir, Yours of the 8<sup>th</sup> Instant was here received. It is ~~not~~ in our Power to supply you with money, as we cannot demand the Sum you require, but as the Collectors are called on to pay in their Collections immediately we shall be enabled to comply with your Request in a few Days, in the mean Time we wish you to procure by Purchase or Loan as much Salt as you think necessary for securing the meat Provision which shall be returned or paid for in a short Time. It is not necessary at this Time to send forward the meat to Fredericks Town, you will therefore wait our further Directions thereon. The Appointment of Auctioneer for Charles County accompanies this.

Patrick Sim Smith Esq.

In Council, 9<sup>th</sup> March, 1781.

248. Sir, We are in want of Sugar to supply the Army, and request you will immediately send to this place our full Proportion of the Taxes forgoe. We have been much disappointed in not having our former requests to this purpose, attended to and flatter ourselves it will not be the Case hereafter.

John Doney and Company.

In Council, 9<sup>th</sup> March, 1781.

249. Sir, We have authentic Information from one of our Delegates in Congress that the French Ships which were in Chesapeake Bay arrived at New port Rhode Island on the 24<sup>th</sup> ult. of which we make no Doubt you have been apprised. We think it necessary to communicate to you the Intelligence we have received of the Force of the Enemies Privateers in the Bay, we are informed and from Authority we cannot Doubt that there is a Brigg of 16 Guns a Schooner of 12 Guns and two Sloops of 8 Guns each cruising together on the 6<sup>th</sup> Instant in Annemessex River in our Bay.

Margus La Fayette.