

In Council, 22^d March, 1781.

277. Sir, We have voted to Mr. Poir to impress five Waggon, which you are to have loaded immediately with Bread, if you have so much Bread or Flour without interfering with our former Orders. The Waggon are to be sent to this place. The Troops are much in want of Bread, you will therefore not delay the Execution of this Business.

Mr. Donollan.

In Council, 23^d March, 1781.

278. Sir, We had the Honor of yours of the 13th Instant, and lament that it is not in our Power to supply you with any Money. The Treasury here is exhausted, we have some ^{continental} Money in the Treasury of the Eastern Shore, but the Communications being cut off by the Ships opposite our Harbour prevents from supplying you from thence in Time as before we shall be able to convey a Letter for the Purpose, the Money will be exchanged the Moment it is in our Power you may depend that we shall most cheerfully transmit the Money to you.

Delegates in Congress.

In Council, 23^d March, 1781.

279. Sir, We had the Honor of your Excellency's Letter of the 18th Instant by Express inclosing the General's Letter from Rhode Island, containing the agreeable Intelligence of the sailing of the French Squadron. The Letters for the Marquis were immediately forwarded and we are in hourly in anxious Expectation of hearing from him and of Affairs to the Southward nothing material has occurred ~~to us~~ since our Letter of the 16th. The Troops are landed and the two British Ships which we understand are the Towey of twenty four and the General Monk of 20 Guns continue off our Harbour, they were joined some Days past by two armed chooners which went up the Bay where they plundered the Shore and made some Prizes, but yesterday they went past this place down the Bay.

President of Congress.

In Council, 24th March, 1781.

Sir, we think it proper that a fast sailing Boat should be immediately dispatched down the Bay to reconnoitre and