

In Council 17th April, 1781.

1^o 374. Sir, It is not in our Power to spare the Barge she is immediately wanted for the Defence of this Place and to transport the Goods, Patented, here to their small Ports, we therefore request you will order here immediately, we highly approve of the Spirit which we understand prevails in your County and would most cheerfully spare the Barge could we do it with any Propriety.

Donaldson Yeates.

In Council, 10th April, 1781.

375. Sir, Yours of the 10th Instant we have received and cannot but lament the want of Success in the recruiting Service in your County. Mr. Samuel Dyer & Botton is appointed to provide for, and receive all recruits raised in Queen Anne's County. It is thought most advisable to order all recruits in the State to rendezvous at this Place and Baltimore as you will see by ours on that Head to you. We are of Opinion that no Person should be received as a recruit but a Man capable of bearing the Fatigues attendant on a Soldiers Life and such as the Law directs ~~all~~ "all bodies &c." The Law is express that no Person shall be commissioned unless he has born or bears the Mark to which he is recommended, yet we have thought it necessary to depart from it, convinced that few or no select Militia will be raised unless it is done; and therefore the Returns of the Enrollment agreeably to law and your Recommendation of the Officers they will be commissioned.

William Hensley Esq?

In Council 18th April, 1781.

Sir, We received your letter of the 17th with the Prisoners, it gives us Pleasure to hear that the Militia turned out with Spirit and Alacrity on the Enemy's Appearance in Patowmack and of their good Conduct and Behaviour in capturing the Men from the Enemy's Shipping. The Price of Horses and Carriages and the retained Nations will be settled by the Auditor General on Application, it is entirely without your Department, Nothing more is to be done by you than to give Certificates for the Purchase of Horses and Carriages as either hired or improved and of the Purchase of the Nations retained by and due to the Militia. The Law to encourage the raising of Militia by the House directs that not less than fifteen shall constitute a Company including a Capt. Lieutenant and Serjeant to be appointed by the Purveyor of the Militia.