Copies

In Council 5th Nov. 1781 370

Sir

No 911. We request you to forward all the Cattle now in your Possession or that may be collected to Frederick Town, to be delivered to Mr George Murdock.

To the Commissaries of St Marys, Charles, Prince Georges, Calvert, Montgomery, Frederick & Washington Counties

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In Council 5th Nov. 1781

Sir

Colo George Quarter Master at George Town Potowmack has about 120 Head of Beef Cattle at that Post, but he has not Salt sufficient to cure them when Slaughtered. We request that you will immediately purchase 200 Bushels of Salt. Send to George Town to Colo George 50 Bushels and, if you can, put it in good Pork Barrels or Pieces. There is also about 170 Head of Cattle collected from different Counties now at Bladensburg which we shall order to Mr Murdock at Frederick

912. Town for the Use of the British Prisoners. We also will want Salt, and therefore desire you will send him 50 Bushels. If you are at a Loss to procure the Quantities of Salt you may apply as much of the publick Flour or Salt as will pay for it. We think good French Salt will answer best for the Beef, but it may be proper to have an Half Allum, the Best French.

James Calhoun Esq.

In Council 10th Nov. 1781

Sir

We have received your Letter of the 6th and having no Answer from Mr Murdock, if he should decline acting, we approve of the Offer you make to

913 do the Business in his Stead. We have ordered up a large Quantity of Cattle, and directed the Commissary General to keep the Post supplied as well as the State of the Country will afford.

Colo Thomas Price.

In Council 10th Nov. 1781

Sir

A Proportion of the Prisoners captured with Cornwallis have, as we are informed by Colo Thomas, arrived in this State, where they are to be provided for, Part of them are to be kept in Frederick Town. It is not in our Power to give particular Directions respecting them, but have referred the providing for them to yourself and Colo Thomas, to whom we have wrote more particularly

914. and have requested him to confer with you on the Subject. We have no Doubt but you will do every Thing for the Interest of the State and the Conveniency of the Prisoners. To enable you to provide for the Prisoners with their Guards we hereby authorize you to impress or Seize, if not to be procured otherwise, all Articles necessary to repair the Barracks and other Houses for the immediate Reception of them. The Guards and every Workman that can be got, ought to be employed in this Business, as well as the Prisoners. We have directed the Commissaries to send Supplies of Cattle and Flour to Frederick Town and have requested Colo Thomas to forward a Proportion to you.

Colo Moses Rawlings

In Council 10th Nov. 1781

Sir

We are favored with your two Letters of the 8th Instant. We find many Difficulties and Impediments in providing for the British Prisoners to be quartered in this State. From the late Information we received of their Destination, we are totally unprepared for their Reception. It is impossible for

915 us to give you particular Directions at this Time, and must submit the whole Management of this Business to you, recommending an immediate Consultation with Colo Rawlings, who is written to by this Opportunity, to receive as many of the Prisoners as possible at Fort Frederick. And we authorize and empower you to impress and Seize, if not to be procured otherwise all Articles necessary to repair the Barracks and other Houses for the immediate Shelter of the Troops; the Militia and every Workman that can be got ought to be employed in this Business as well as the Prisoners; the most effectual Measures will be taken to pay your Orders or