

at three and four for one, but probably will rise in Value, as Paper
 N 951. pledged for its Redemption as Specie, will shortly be sold. Indeed it can
 hardly be said to be in circulation at this time, as none of it comes in
 by Taxes, though two Dollars may be paid in Lieu of one of Specie, those
 who possess it preferring to keep it to greater Advantage. (If the Continental
 State Emission, pursuant to the Act of Congress of March the 10th 1700,
 there is in circulation £43,002. which paper currently at four and five
 for one. This too, will probably very shortly rise in Value, as the Legis-
 lature, now sitting, have it in contemplation to order Lands to be sold
 for its Redemption as Specie, independent of the Fund upon which it was
 issued; this Money is taken in Taxes at three for one, though very little
 of it is brought into the Treasury by this Means. The Emission under the
 Act of the 10th May last, has been issued from the Treasury as Specie; it may
 be paid in Taxes, or loaned to the State as Specie; though it passes for no
 more than two for one in all private Dealings. There is yet to be issued
 of this Money £110,220. 7. 2; there has been issued £20,779. 12. 10 - £16,263. 12. 0
 brought in, cannot be reissued. Your Letter relative to the subject. Duty
 on Imports, is now before the Legislature, to whose consideration, all your
 Letters have been submitted. Convinced with you Sir, that "the Superiority
 of national Resources, is the true Ground on which to hope for Success;
 and that Superior Resources, steadily and perseveringly applied, must even-
 tually attain its Object", we most earnestly hope that those who are called
 to the high Offices of Legislation in our State, will have Wisdom to adopt
 such Modes of Revenue and Expenditure, as will reduce our Affairs to Order
 and restore public Credit, and having the most perfect Reliance on your
 Zeal, Integrity and Abilities, it is among our first wishes, that their Mea-
 sures for those valuable Purposes, may be entirely correspondent with your own
 Honble Robert Morris Esq.

Sir. In Council 14th Dec. 1701

We have received Major Bailey's Letter of the 8th Instant enclosing the Pro-
 ceedings of a General Court Martial held at Frederick Town the 6th of Dec.
 1701, for the Trial of Ensign Kerr of Capt. Winchester's Company of Select
 Militia, the Sentence of which the Governor approves and orders it to be
 carried into Execution. He also mentions his great Difficulties in supplying
 Wood to the Prisoners, which he says has hitherto been done by Detigue Parties
 952. from his Guard, which cannot be the case in future, as the Men refuse to do the
 Duty. As we cannot possibly furnish Money for Wood future, and as the Ex-
 pedient has been already practised in other Places, we request that the
 Prisoners themselves may be made to cut their own Wood; a Guard should
 be turned out with the Detigue Parties of the Prisoners, to prevent
 their escaping. We have this Day wrote to the Superintendent of the
 Finances, for Cash to support the Prisoners; as our Request is reasonable
 we have Expectations of succeeding, in which case, some of your Difficulties
 will be removed.

Col. Philip Thomas.

Sir In Council 10th Dec. 1701

Having yesterday wrote you in Answer to your former Letters you have
 us with, we have now to request to you, that from the exhausted Situation of this
 State, it is not within the compass of our Abilities to furnish you with
 953 upon us, without your Assistance. We have therefore
 entreat that you will furnish us immediately with a sum of Money
 be answerable for consequences. We have with more than 1000 Men
 been assisted by the Government in furnishing them with Money, and the
 State is now in a Situation to be able to support them.