

Committed by the Convention, but wish to have a recommendation from you of a proper person to fill the place of Mr Edmondson. We have agreed with some of the officers to allow 20/ for each pair of leather breeches furnished the troops and the remainder of the price to be deducted out of the men's wages.

The Council apprehend the Capts of the independent Companies are to provide cloathing for their men and have agreed to allow Capt A Thomas a sum not exceeding £3.5 each man and hope you will be able to clothe your men at that price. We think the price of the hats ought not to exceed 5/6 each hat but cheaper if to be got. As to blankets they will be provided as soon as possible. If you can purchase Ozebrigs for making hunting shirts at 2/ per yard we recommend it to you to get as much as will be sufficient for your Company and have them made up as soon as you can.

And are &c.

To Capt James Hindman.
Sir.

We hear that the 44 gun Man of War and two sloops are ~~in the bay~~ on their way up the bay: the City is now weak and we judge it necessary to have all the men drawn down we can for its defence. We should be glad you will give directions to all the Companies and men in your Battalions that can be got ready to return as soon as possible to town. We shall be glad to see you as early in the morning as you can.

We are &c &c.

Annapolis Mar 5. 1776.

Annapolis Tuesday 5 March 8 o'clock at night
_____ 1776.

Sir:

The Council of Safety have this moment received by express an account that a large ship of war and two tenders were this afternoon considerably above the mouth of Patuxent and it is supposed they are now off Annapolis whether they entered into our river or to Baltimore is not known. But be their destination to either place it is absolutely necessary to have your Battalion in readiness to march at an hour's warning.

To Colo Dorsey and Weems.

We are Sir yo. mo. obed^t. serv^t.

Mr Benjn Griffith.

Sir.

I fancy from what I hear that you mistook the directions I gave you. They were only that you should get the vessels ready for sinking and not to sink them immediately. I would not have them sink till you are ordered to do so by Capt Wickham.

March 9th 1776.

And are &c.

Gentlemen.

We are of opinion that the Committee of observation for the middle district of Frederick County may take proper steps to secure the public gunpowder now kept at the market house either by distributing it into different houses under the care of the owners giving security for y^e safe keeping of the same, when the Committee think necessary, or by paying a guard for the security thereof while it continues at the market house. As to any alteration of the contract for arms, this we conceive cannot be agreed to, unless by a full Council of Safety