

We are willing and desirous to ease the militia of your County all we can with safety to the Province, and therefore have ordered Capt. John Brooks to Drum Point, there to remain until Capt. Keale returns, or until the further order of the Council of Safety; the Contrador is to furnish rations for his men

To Col. Alexander Somerville.

We are &c

July 29th 1776.

Sir.

The Council of Safety request you'd immediately upon the receipt of this attend them at Annapolis, they want to consult you upon an affair relative to the arming, marching and equipping of the Battalion under your command.

To Col. James Mearns.

Sir. We have given your Quartermaster Mr. Severn Thibbs an order on the Treasurer of the Eastern Shore for the sum of seven hundred and fifty pounds currency, which no doubt he will deliver you, this sum is intended to pay the militia for their services heretofore, also something to your Quartermaster; the remainder to answer growing expenses of militia for which you are to render an account hereafter, the expense of the witnessage Mr. Atkinson is referred to the board of acct^s - they are not here at present. We shall lay all the accounts before them when they meet again, which we expect will be in a few days. - We doubt your acct^s is too general and that the board will expect particulars for the lumping charges; that must be left to them. We think the march of one half of Capt. Swalkin's company somewhat extraordinary, expect to hear more of it; we have already ordered you more powder, if it does not come down soon apply to Brigadier Chamberlain, who has the care of the Eastern Shore magazine and will deliver you five barrels for the use of Somerset County.

Col. George Bashiell, 29th July 1776.

Sir. we should be obliged to you, if you would inform us by letter how soon you can comply with the inclosed Resolve.

To Col. Hollingsworth.

We are &c

Sir.

30th July

Inclosed you have a copy of the agreement made between the Council of Safety and Messrs Galloway & Steward. Two galleys are not yet contracted for, and as a favorable representation has been made of the skill and diligence of the workmen in your yards and we place great confidence in you; if you can contract to build them by the 15th day of Nov^r next at farthest, and will enter into a similar engagement with the inclosed. We are inclined to give you a preference. You are desired to attend the Council to enter into a contract and receive a draught of the Row Gallies as soon as possible.

We are &c

W^{ch} Archd. Buchanan Ball

Sir. The publick service requires that you should send to this place with all the expedition you can, the Rifles by you made for the use of (the