

Precaution to prevent alarm by obliging the men not appear in Numbers on Deck, and causing the boat to lay at Distance whilst you go ashore with the Petto deliver'd you for the Gentlemen of Baltimore Committee who may be at Annapolis, whose Directions you'll please to follow after your arrival there.

You'll please to take Blunderbusses and any other you see necessary of arms out of Capt. Nicholson's vessel which he will readily furnish, please to consult in everything with the officers w<sup>ch</sup> Capt. Nicholson sends with you and let your Measures be kept as secret as possible from the men, at least, till it comes to the execution. I am Sir on behalf of the Comm<sup>tee</sup>

Your very h<sup>ble</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

To Capt. Sam<sup>l</sup> Smith.

Sam<sup>l</sup> Purviance jun<sup>r</sup> Chant<sup>r</sup>

Balt<sup>m</sup> 14 Apr<sup>l</sup> 1746.

On the back of the above Instructions was thus endorsed, to wit  
Sir,

You will take care to proceed with what number of men you may think necessary out of your Company, agreeable to the annexed Instructions.

Wishing you a pleasant and prosperous Voyage, am Yours truly,

M Gist

To Capt. Sam<sup>l</sup> Smith.

16 Apr<sup>l</sup> 1746

Mr. Purviance was then examined concerning the said Instructions and other matters, and his examination taken in writing (a copy whereof is filed) He was told by the President he might be furnished from the Clerk with a copy of his examination in order that he might explain which of his answers as he thought proper.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the Western Shore pay to Mess<sup>rs</sup> Daniel and Sam<sup>l</sup> Hughes two hundred pounds Currency.

Ordered, That Captain James Nicholson, Major Mordecai Gist and Captain Samuel Smith immediately attend the Council of Safety at the City of Annapolis, and that the Clerk make out and deliver to the Messenger separate Warrants to be served on them respectively.

Adjourned till next day 10 o'Clock.

Thursday 25 April 1746.

Council Met. Present as Yesterday.

Ordered, That the Person and Papers of Alexander Ross together with a copy of his examination, be sent under a Guard to the Hon<sup>ble</sup> Congress; and that Col. Smallwood be requested to appoint a Commissioned officer and two Privates to be a Guard for that Purpose.

Copy of letter n<sup>o</sup> 129 was sent to the Hon<sup>ble</sup> John Hancock Esquire President of the Congress, and Copy of n<sup>o</sup> 130 to the Deputies of this Province in Congress.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the Western Shore pay to the Committee of Observation for the Middle District of Frederick County Eighty six Pounds for the pay of the Minute Companies there.