

Copy of Letter n^o 131. was sent to John Hanson Esq. Chairman of the Committee for the Middle District of Frederick County.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the Western Shore pay to Lieutenant Samuel Turbutt Wright \$60 on account of Capt. Beazey's independent Company.

Ordered, That the Comptroller of Stores deliver to Lieutenant Samuel Turbutt Wright three Blankets and three pieces Brittanies for Captain Edward Beazey's Company.

M^r. Purviance appeared and presented to the Council an explanation of some of the answers he made to the Questions propounded to him yesterday, which were read and Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned till next day 10 o'clock.

Friday 26th April 1776.

Council Met. Present as Yesterday, except M^r. Jenifer.

Permits granted to the boat Gimbert, Gilbert, Middleton, master, and Schooner Ranger, George Shel, Master, to pass to Baltimore Town.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the Western Shore pay to M^r. John Brice Ten pounds Currency for repairing a House for the reception of the Records of Ann Arundel County.

Capt. James Nicholson in Obedience to the Order of the 24th Instant having appeared before the Board, in consequence of Instructions he had given his first Lieutenant. The Council proceeded to hear what he had to alledge as a justification or excuse for giving said Order. He urged a conversation with M^r. Purviance Chairman of the Committee of Baltimore County, and that he shewed him a Letter from General Lee; and Captain Nicholson declaring upon his honour that he expected his officer was to act only on the water, and that he expected Captain Smith would have applied to the Council of Safety for Instructions, and having before made Concessions by his Letter of the 21st Instant, Thereupon, Ordered that Captain Nicholson be informed of the opinion of this Board that General Lee had no Authority within this Province, and that M^r. Purviance exceeded his Power in giving Directions to the purport he had done, and that he be cautioned to be more on his guard for the future.

Major Mordecai Gist in Obedience to the Order of the 24th Instant having also appeared before the Council in consequence of his Instructions to Captain Samuel Smith, and alledging he gave the same in a hurry and through inadvertency, and declaring upon his hona that he apprehended that Captain Smith when he came to Annapolis was to take his orders from the Council of Safety.

Thereupon Ordered, That he be informed as above the opinion of this Board, and that he be cautioned to be more on his Guard for the future.

Captain Samuel Smith in Obedience to the Order of the 24th Instant, also appeared before the Council, and was examined with respect to the instructions he received from M^r. Samuel Purviance, and his conduct after his arrival at Annapolis in consequence of said Instructions, in vindication whereof he presented a Representation of his Conduct to the Council in writing, which was read and Ordered to lie on the table.