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[Council to W. Hemsley.]

In Council Annapolis 17th April 1778

Sir

We have thought it necessary, from the Information given to us by Col^o Bordley's Letters rec^d this Morning to send 32 of our Matrosses, two Field Pieces, such as we have, and two
 170 hundred small Arms, with Directions to proceed to Chester, if the Wind serves, if not, to land at Queen's Town, sending an Express, if they stop at Queen's Town to you and to Col^o Bordley. If the Affair should grow more Serious, call on Dorset, Talbot and Caroline for Assistance and advise us by all Means, of your situation that we may if necessary, send you further Assistance from this Shore. If Things should be better, we desire that every Thing may be returned in the State they are, as we do not know where or when they will be next most wanted.

We are &^{ca}William Hemsley Esq^r

[Council to Col. Bordley.]

In Council 17th April 1778

Sir

We send you thirty two Artillery Men, two Field Pieces, such as we have, two Hundred stand of good Arms and all the Cartouch Boxes we have fit for Use about 130. We have directed that if the Wind serves they proceed to Chester Town and follow your Orders; that if the Wind will serve no farther, they proceed to Queen's Town and follow the Orders of Col^o Hemsley, dispatching Expresses to both of you, getting the Assistance of the Militia Officers to forward them towards your Rendezvous, wherever it may be. Any Provisions convenient, whether ours or Continental, must be applied, but with all the Frugality and Exactness that the Nature of the Service will permit. If you should prove too hard for the Insurgents, we would not have you stop short at the Line of
 171 our own State, but follow them 'til they are entirely broke up and we must give way to the disagreeable Necessity of making a free and effectual use of the Arms we hold in the Defence of our Country. If Things should be settled before this Supply gets over, you are to return every Thing in the same Order we send it, that it may be ready for the next Occasion for when or where it may happen we cannot foretel. It is out of our Power to supply Blankets.

We are &^{ca}Col^o Bordley