

[Council to Smyth and Ringgold.]

C. S. C.  
No. 109.Thomas Smyth and Thomas Ringgold Esq<sup>rs</sup>

Gent<sup>n</sup> We have rec<sup>d</sup> your seperate favors of the 1<sup>st</sup> instant by Capt<sup>n</sup> Smyth, and transmit by him for the Committee the sum of £500 for the purchase of blankets and arms—the continental money which M<sup>r</sup> Ringgold has, we would have sent to us by the first safe conveyance—we should be fond of permitting Capt<sup>n</sup> Smyth to go beyond £4. 10. 0 for extraordinary guns, was it not that we are apprehensive of dangerous consequences from such license—as soon as a price is offered for any thing above what is customarily given, there is no purchasing at the Price which was before usually allowed, tho' the particular article bought in reality was worth considerably more, and therefore we cannot accord to his request, but hope as the number of arms which are wanting are very few, that they may be collected at not more than £4. 10—by the Time other necessaries can be procured for their marching—rifles we will allow £5. 0. 0. for. We shall give orders to the Colonel of the Eastern shore Battalion of Flying Camp militia to march his men in Companies to the Northward, when they are ready, as soon therefore as Capt<sup>s</sup> Smyth & Perkins's are prepared, they will apply to him for orders, but we shall be obliged to you, if you'll procure proper carriages for their Baggage and afford them other assistance which may be wanting. We have sent by Capt<sup>n</sup> Smyth twenty pieces of Cruder, & request you will engage proper persons to make them into Tents immediately—a sample shall be furnished from Baltimore. Your Committee will be pleased to have 500 wooden Bottles made as soon as possible for the use of the Province agreeable to the sample delivered Capt<sup>n</sup> Smyth [but in proportion to the accustomed price for wooden ware, we think 2/6 very extravagant, however we will give what is usually allowed.] We also send to your Committee 30 Camp-Kettles for the use of the Flying Camp. Knapsacks with Havresacks are already contracted for, and we expect will be completed in a very little Time. Capt<sup>n</sup> Smyth has our orders to take with him from Baltimore 400 Cartouch Boxes & Slings, 688 Bayonet Belts, & 688 Gun slings, which are to be lodged with your Committee, & we request may be delivered by them with the wooden Bottles to the Flying Camp Militia on the Eastern shore when armed. The Council are very glad to hear M<sup>r</sup> Smyth's business is so circumstanced as to admit his coming over—the earlier in the week the better, as we are much thronged with Business & some of our board are anxious to see their families before the meeting of Convention.

3<sup>d</sup> Aug<sup>t</sup> 1776