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The Committee of Observation met Monday, Jan. 29, 1776.

Upon motion, resolved, unanimously, that Messrs. Samuel Purviance, Isaac Grist, William Buchanan, Thomas Harrison, and Benjamin Griffith, to be a committee to devise and point out to the Council of Safety the best mode for fortifying and defending Baltimore Town, and to make out an Estimate of the expenses of each.

(There was list of names of persons of Baltimore who subscribed for arms and amunition which was reported at their meeting, Feb. 5th 1776. Will copy if names are desired.)

At this meeting we find the following:

Col. 1739

Whereas, the Committee appointed at the last meet ing to devise and point out the most eligible modes for fortifying and defending this Town, did, on Saturday last, report to Messrs. Samuel Purviance Jr., William Lux, John Moale, John Smith, William Buchanan, Isaac Grist, John Boyd, Benjamin Griffith, William Asquith, Thomas Harrison, James Calhoun, (Members of this Committee, and collected for this purpose,) that, in their opinion, the sum of seven thousand sixty three Pounds six Shillings and eight Pence, was requisite for carrying their plans properly into execution and the thing being referred to the Council of Safety, they declared that they were only permitted to extend the sum of six thousand two hundred Pounds for placing obstructions in the channel, and putting Baltimore Town in a posture of defence, if such a scheme should appear to them practicable for such a sum.

Col. 1739.

As it is the utmost ~~importance~~ consequence that this Town should be fortified as soon as possible, Messrs. Samuel Purviance, William Lux, Andrew Buchanan, John Moale, Jeremiah Townley Chase, James Calhoun, Thomas Harriosen, Benjamin Griffith, Isaac Grist, John Smith, John Boyd, William Asquith, William Buchanan, acting Members of this Committee, did, at the same time, enter into bond with the Honorable Daniel of

(American Archives, 4th Series, Volume 4, 1775-1776)

Column 1739 (continued.

St. Thomas Genifer, Charles Carrol, Barrister, James Tilghman,
and John Hall, Esquire, acting Members of the Council of Safety
of this province for the purpose therein mentioned.

The Committee do, therefore, highly approve of the
conduct of the above named gentlemen, and will, if the next Convention
does not allow a further sum for fortifying the Town, cheerfully assist
and contribute all in their power for laudable an end, but the
gentlemen who entered into bond, are considered as solely invested with
the power of directing and conducting the purposes for which said money
was granted.

Column 1743.

The Committee of Observation took into consideration the following Letter from the Council of Safety.

Annapolos, March 5th, 1776.

" Gentleman of the Committee of Observation:

We have just received intelligence **that** a large ship supposed to be the 44 gun man-of-war and **2** sloops are on their way up the Bay. There destination is not known, but as they may intend for your **Toown**, we send off this express, that you may be on your **giard** and make all the **preparations** in your power for your defence.

" We are, with respect, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servants,

Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer,

Charles Carrol,

T. B. Hands,

James Tilghman.

The Committee sent a boat down immediately to reconnoitre, and bring intelligence respecting the man-of-war &c., as soon as possible, and that **Captain** Nicholson be requested to order his tender on that service which he complied with.

American Archives 4th series Vol. 4 1775-1776
Col. 1743.

At a meeting of the Committee, Thursday, March the 7th
1776.

Resolved, that a breastwork be immediately thrown up at
the Point below Jesse Hollingsworth's and that the money in ,r.
Moale's hands be appropriated to defray the expense attending it.

The Committee are unanimously of the opinion, and do direct,
that all the light ships in the Harbour be immediately carried
down to Whetstone, in order to be sunk in the Channel to prevent
the Vessells-of-War from coming up, and Messrs Isaac Griest, Cap-
tain William Chace, Captains Thomas Moore, George Woolsey, and David
Stewart, together with Major Gist be appointed for that service.

Resolved, that an Express be immediately sent to Philadel -
phia, to the Congress, for an immediate supply of Powder and Lead.

Several Expresses arrived with information of the Man-of-War
with her Tenders being past Annapolis, and standing up the Bay,
and, also, that she is at the mouth of the river.

(American Archives, 4th Series, Vol. 4, 1775-76.
Col. 1744.)

Thursday, March 8th. 1776.

Capt Henry Shaaf is appointed to have the Cannon at
the Hill removed to Fell' s Point immediately.

(American Archives 4th Series, Vol. 4, 1775-1776.
Col. 1734 .)

Monday , December 18, 1775

Ordered, that a Pilot-boat be immediately stationed at Whetstone -Point; that the said Boat be armed with two swivels Guns and six Muskets, and manned with 6 men; that the officer commanding the Boat bring to all vessels, and that he do not permit any vessel to sail out without a permit in writing, signed by three Members of this Committee, which number will attend every morning from 10 to 12 oclock, (Sundays excepted .) where all masters of vessels must repair immediately after their arrival, and report their cargos, &c., and they must bring certificates from some Committee, Council of Safety, or provincial convention.

From- (American Archives: Fourth series, Vol. 5.)

March 19, 1776

Column 414.

Maryland Delegates to New-York Committee of Safety.

Philidelphia, March 19, 1776.

Gentlemen: The Convention of Maryland voted a considerable sum of money to defend the harbour of Baltimore town, the most considerable place of our trade. Fortifications and batteries are now erecting; and every means in our power to procure cannon have failed. If your Colony can spare us four eighteen-pounders, or eight twelves, or eight nines, (which shall be returned as soon as others can be procured,) they will be infinite service in defending a boom now very nearly ready to be laid across the river.

We are gentlemen, Your most obedient servants,

W. Johnson, Jun.

Samuel Chase.

William Paca.