

[Council to Colo. Thomas Gist]

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No. 22  
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Sir This Board has made an Appointment of Officers to the Regiment Extraordinary to be raised by this State, before the Receipt of your Letter of the 24<sup>th</sup> which did not reach us 'til this Day by Post. If you will be pleased to inform us in what Manner the Vacancy arose in your Battalion, whether by Death, Resignation, or Refusal to act, and the Name of the Captain whose Place Evehart is to fill, the Commission shall be immediately made out, agreeable to your Request.

[Council to Merchants in Baltimore]

Gent<sup>n</sup> We have enclosed you the Letter we have wrote to our Delegates in Congress, on the Subject of the Distresses of our Trade, for your Perusal, which we request you to seal and send forward.

[Council to Chevalier de la Luzerne.]

Sir We had the Honor to receive your Excellency's Letter of the 18<sup>th</sup> Inst. with the Act of Congress recommending to this State to grant Permission to your Agent to purchase and export to the Spanish Colonies in the West Indies 3000 Barrels of Flour for the Use of his Catholic Majesty, and have, in Conformity thereto, given Licence to M<sup>r</sup> William Smith of Baltimore Town to purchase and export that Quantity in the Manner your Ex<sup>y</sup> shall direct; and, to avoid the Inconveniences and Disadvantages that would result from a Competition between our Commissaries and M<sup>r</sup> Smith we have desired the latter not to interfere with the former, not to exceed the Prices Stipulated by the General Assembly, to be given by the Commissaries and not to buy of those Persons whose unbounded Avidity and inordinate Love of Gain, might prompt them to engross all the Wheat and Flour that can be procured, with the Design of exacting the most exorbitant Prices from the public Purchasers, and to use every other Precaution to prevent the Enhancement of the present Prices. Our Desire to promote the Military Operations in the West Indies and to comply with the Requisitions of Congress for Supplies will induce us to render every necessary Assistance to M<sup>r</sup> Smith, to facilitate his Purchase. We have already given Orders to procure & forward the Flour to be furnished by this State, for the Use of your Marine; but if from their, and other extraordinary Demands on us, we should fail to supply the Whole, we think such a Part of this Quantity as will make up the Deficiency ought to be appropriated to that Purpose, but we wish your Excellency to understand, we do not mean to keep back any of the Flour, if we can possibly furnish it.

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