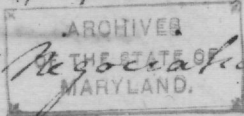


Duplicate

Sir

63

A few Days since, I received a Letter from Mess<sup>rs</sup>  
N. & J. Van Staphorst Merchants at Amsterdam,  
relative to a certain Contract concluded between  
them and M. Ridley, in Quality of Agent of the State  
of Maryland, by whom he was furnished with full Power  
to form such Engagements as he should think advan-  
geous to the above State. It was in consequence of this  
that a Contract was signed at Amsterdam the 31. of July  
1702, between the said Mess<sup>rs</sup> Van Staphorst & Ridley, by  
which the State of Maryland engaged itself to deliver  
annually 1000 <sup>lb.</sup> of Tobacco, before serving to reimburse  
the Interest of a <sup>Sum</sup> Repayment, made by the said Mess<sup>rs</sup>  
Van Staphorst on Account of the State of Maryland;  
But as this Article of Contract does not appear to have  
been yet satisfied on the part of the said State, and as  
the above mentioned Merchants experience considerable  
Loss by their Delay, and further, as no one hitherto has  
sufficiently paid Attention to the reiterated Remonstrance  
made on their Subject, especially in a Memorial presented  
on their Behalf to the Assembly of the State of Maryland  
the 28<sup>th</sup> of September of the Current Year, They have  
addressed themselves to me, desiring me to assist them  
with my good Offices, by endeavouring to effectuate the  
punctual



punctual repaying a Point, which is of the more  
Consequence to them, as they appear to have a Right to  
Demand it; The only Objection which it seems can be made  
is, that of 1600,000, which they had engaged to furnish,  
the State of Maryland hath in Reality received but one  
Half; This Objection, I say, appears to be null, if it is  
considered that this Change was ~~not~~ <sup>not</sup> made by the  
full Consent of both Parties, without its having any  
Relation whatever to the Quantity of Places now  
disputed. It does not in any manner consist with  
such an Intention, and the Words of the Contract are  
too clear to be subjected to Restriction.

It would be unnecessary to entertain your Excellency  
with a particular and circumstantial Detail of all  
that has passed in this Affair; The Contract of  
M. Nedley having been publicly approved, and the Contract  
signed between him and the said Merchants ratified  
by the Assembly of the State of Maryland, I should only  
tell your Excellency of a Repetition of Facts and  
Circumstances, which you cannot but be acquainted with.  
I have no other News, in sending this, than to  
indicate to your Excellency the Requestion which has  
been ~~just~~  <sup>lately</sup> made me, in my ministerial Quality, & if  
I ought to suppose that just Reasons, of which I am  
ignorant, have induced the State of Maryland

not reluctant to satisfy a Contract, which however appears  
to me perfectly valid, I thought it my particular Duty to  
address myself to your Excellency, requesting that you  
would communicate to me the true Nature of this  
Affair, that I may be enabled to judge, how far  
the Complaints which have been made to me, are  
well founded, and moreover that I may endeavour  
to make such Arrangements, that all Difficulties  
may be avoided, to the Satisfaction of the two  
contracting Parties.

I have the Honour to be, with the  
most perfect Consideration,

Your Excellency's most humble  
and Obed. Serv<sup>t</sup>.

Philadelphia  
27<sup>th</sup> Dec,  
1784

J. J. Van Buren

27<sup>th</sup> Decr 1784

Translation of

the Minister —

Vancouver to his

Ex<sup>ty</sup> the Governor

in answer to his Letter

is in the Intendants's Store

Book page 175<sup>b</sup>

Monsieur!

108

Dans une Lettre que Vous me fîtes l'honneur  
 de m'adresser le 31 Mars dernier, Vous me Communiquâtes  
 l'intention de l'Assemblée de l'Etat de Maryland, de pren-  
 dre en deliberation l'affaire des Ciruans van Stephorst  
 a Amsterdam, au sujet de la quelle j'ai eu l'honneur  
 d'entretenir M<sup>r</sup> le Gouverneur Baiardant ma Lettre  
 du 27 Decembre de l'année passée, et qui Vous ayant  
 été Communiquée, je prends la liberté de m'en rappor-  
 ter a Elle.

Je m'étois flatté, Monsieur, d'après les  
 prieres que Vous m'en aviez données, de Vous voir ici durant  
 le Cours de cet Ete, afin de pouvoir Conférer ensemble.

Sur

ARCHIVES  
 OF THE STATE OF  
 MARYLAND.

Sur l'affaire en question, mais n'ayant pas eu le plaisir  
jusques ici, et ne pouvant différer plus long temps de  
prendre à cœur les intérêts qui me sont confiés, je  
me vois réduit à la nécessité de Vous importuner par la  
présente, et de Vous prier de vouloir m'informer quels  
arrangemens l'Assemblée de l'Etat de Maryland a  
pris pour mettre fin à une Dispute, par la quelle  
les Intérêts en Hollande souffrent des pertes Consi-  
derables, qui Leur doivent paroître d'autant plus in-  
justes, qu'ils se sont faits aux pouvoirs que M<sup>r</sup>  
Bidley Leur a montrés, Cessant soigneusement les  
ordres secrets dont il étoit pourvu de la part de Les  
constituants; Si donc Monsieur Bidley a violé ou  
transgressé les limites, qui Lui étoient prescrites, C'est  
absolument Lui qui doit être la Victime de Son impru-  
dence, et non pas Mess<sup>rs</sup> Van Staphorst, vis à vis des-  
quels le contrat doit être rempli, le qui paroit aux

avoir.

avoir été le Sentiment de l'Etat de Maryland dans le  
temps qu'on n'a pas voulu d'approuver & de ratifier les  
transactions du dit Sieur Ridley.

Qu'il me flatter, Monsieur, que votre réponse  
sera telle que j'ai lieu de l'attendre, et que ces différends  
pourront être ajustés à la satisfaction des deux parties,  
après quoi J'ai l'honneur d'être avec la plus parfaite  
Considération

Monsieur!

Votre très humble & obéissant  
Serviteur.

J. G. Van Brugh

New York  
le 22 Aout 1765.

22 August 1796

From the Minister  
of the United States  
Land

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If you choose to import any Powder or Armes from Holland that  
 it best that you Report of Am<sup>t</sup>. of J<sup>r</sup> Direction in Tobacco for  
 that Market in Vessels that do not draw above 120 Tons  
 Water & Sail fast falling up Inve<sup>t</sup>. & bills of Lading as if  
 as if from S<sup>t</sup>. Luis or S<sup>t</sup>. Vinstatives bound to Hambro, the Officers  
 keeping their Journals accordingly & having on other papers and  
 Rotterdam or Amsterdam are of best Ports, on their arrival  
 at either of either of those ports, let them Report to a first  
 Officer as Bay Logger, or bound to Hambro put in their for  
 orders or in distress, if to Rotterdam let of Capt<sup>n</sup>. in undy proceed  
 up with of proper papers, & apply to Maj<sup>r</sup>. Isaac ~~Van~~  
 Hubert & Van Rykerwael desiring them to receive the said  
 Capt<sup>n</sup>. under their protection & to wait & follow my orders letting  
 nothing be landed. if to Amsterdam the same Directions  
 will do to Maj<sup>r</sup>. Nicholas & Jacob Van Maphorst and  
 you R<sup>e</sup>phine of this Max please write by first post your full  
 directions to Her Excell<sup>ty</sup> at Charles Town S<sup>t</sup>. Lawrence & Virginia through  
 by each Vessel to Holland which will be duly attended to by  
 In Obed<sup>t</sup>. Serv<sup>t</sup>.  
 Rykerwael  
 H. VAN RYKERWAL  
 28<sup>th</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup>. 1775

Mr. Gillon's Day

Emt

ARCHIVES  
OF THE STATE OF  
MARYLAND.