

in said County, and there committed to the Care of one of the C. S. J. Clerks of M^r John Brice.

Copy of Letter N^o 24 was sent to the Deputies of this Province in Congress.

Adjourned till next Day 10 O'Clock.

[Council to Maryland Deputies.]

C. S. C.
No. 24.

To the Deputies of Maryland in Congress.

Gent^{rs}:

We some time since informed you that we had appointed a Number of Persons in each County of the Province to collect all the Gold and Silver Coin that can be got.

Within this Week or ten Days we have had Application from several of those who were appointed to furnish them with Cash to exchange, without which they tell us many People will not part with the Gold and Silver. We would willingly supply Provincial Money, but the State of our Treasury prevents us. the Demands are very considerable for raising, cloathing and paying the Troops, and furnishing Rations, to say nothing of other Disbursements. If you do not send us down the Plates and Paper soon the Treasury will be totally exhausted. therefore we take the Liberty again to remind you of forwarding them to us. With Regard to Gold and Silver we think something handsome might be collected but cannot say how much. Should the Congress approve of sending down Continental Money we will engage to return Gold and Silver for whatever they may send not exceeding £8.000 or to return the Money again, without this we apprehend Gold and Silver cannot be procured in any considerable Quantity until the new Emission of our Money, when we can supply the Collectors with Cash. We lay the Affair truly before you and must leave it to yourselves to move the Congress, or not as you may think best. We wish to hear from you on every important Occasion and are much obliged to M^r Alexander for the Intelligence he hath been so kind as to communicate to us from Time to Time. Our Troops are drawing together very fast, we should be glad to have the Arms intended for this Province as soon as possible that we may distribute them. The Manufacture of Guns goes on but slowly amongst us from the best information we can get. Pray purchase for the Use of the Province 50 Ream of Cartridge Paper and send to us by the first Opportunity. We will remit the money as soon as we are furnished with the Cost of it.

24th Feby 1776