

Mr Jos^a Stevenson, we understand, has some Continental c. c. Powder in his Care, in the Neighbourhood of Baltimore Town to whom we have wrote on the Subject and there is in Baltimore Town as we have been told, though we do not know in whose Care, a Quantity of Continental Powder: You'll therefore enquire who in Baltimore Town has the Continental Powder in Possession, shew him the Resolution of Congress and this Part of your Instruction, which is intended as a particular Order to any Person having the Care of the Continental Stores, to remove them to Carlile. If the Powder which lately arrived in Cap^t Martin yet remains in Town and Carriage cannot be immediately had for so large a Quantity, we direct the immediate Removal to the Continental Magazine kept by M^r Stevenson, of such Part as Carriage cannot be directly found for. The Congress has made use of the Term Military Stores: we do not know what they may consist of: If there should be Cannon, Iron shot or such heavy Articles, we do not presume they were intended to be sent to Carlile and therefore desire an Account of such may be sent us, for further Orders, the Powder must be first attended to. We intended this for the Government of every Person who has the Custody of the Continental Stores in Baltimore Town and that they should exert themselves in procuring Carriage. We imagined that the Waggon from Pennsylvania which were occasionally at Baltimore, might have been employed in the removal of the Continental Stores to Carlile and sent M^r M^cHard with Intention he should send the Powder belonging to this State in such Waggon from Frederick as came on Purpose or were down occasionally. We can but repeat our former Orders, to you particularly, which were before given generally, which you will see justified by the inclosed Resolve of Congress and inform you that we think, from all Information since received, your Attention to and Diligence in this Business, is indispensable. We are &^{ca}

M^r S^t Geo. Peale

[Council to I. McHard.]

27

In Council Annapolis 16th Ap^l 1777.

Sir,

We had no Intention that you should remove the Continental Stores; we intended, & on recurring to our Instructions, think they are very explicit, that the Continental Officers should remove them; we have wrote to this Effect to M^r Peale; we know nothing more than the Resolution of Congress informs us, though we cannot but suppose there's an Officer to receive the Powder &^{ca} at Carlile and that he has